SOCIETY OF CONSTRUCTION & QUANTITY SURVEYORS

**MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 67 OF THE SCOTTISH REGION**

**HELD ON FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2017**

**IN**

**STIRLING COUNCIL’S OFFICES, TEITH HOUSE,**

**KERSE ROAD, STIRLING**

**In attendance:**

 J Quigley Clackmannanshire Council

 W Gwynne South Lanarkshire Council

 B Minnis North Lanarkshire Council

 G Millar East Lothian Council

 I Anderson Stirling Council

 G Hill Fife Council

 A Sansom Hon. Secretary

 A Forsyth Chief Executive

**1.** **APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice calling the meeting was approved.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

C Judge D Henderson

I Reid E Milne

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 66th Meeting held in the RICS Offices in Edinburgh on the 23rs September 2016 were approved.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

It was agreed that any Matters Arising would be covered by the Agenda.

**5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

There was no Report.

**6. SCQS EXECUTIVE REPORT**

The last Council Meeting was held in Edinburgh on 6th December 2016 in the RICS Offices, Princes Street. The new SCQS President is William Gwynne, The Treasurer is John Fergie and the Secretary is Alan Sansom. Alan Forsyth continues as Chief Executive. Alan Forsyth to send the Minutes to/

/ Amy Sansom so they can be put on the new website. The President, Alan Stokes, is to continue to meet with SPACES to find out what this Group can offer SCQS. All future Council Meetings will be hosted at the RICS Offices in Edinburgh with both telephone and TV links available for those who are unable to travel

**7.** **SBCC/JCT UPDATE**

The Update Report from Alan Sansom, which had been previously e-mailed to Members was discussed (Update is attached). The main topics were Project Bank Accounts and the possible removal of Retentions. The point was raised as to whether Main Contractors were paying their Sub-Contractors on time.

 BIM is being pushed, but the protocol has still not been agreed. New SBCC website is still being fine tuned. The SBCC Annual Seminar had been well attended.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

No formal correspondence to report.

**9.** **OPEN FORUM/ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

**Future of SCQS.** Possible closer working with SPACES is being explored with the past President, Alan Stokes, acting as liaison. There are currently no SCQS Region Meetings in either England or Wales. It is important to avoid a repeat of FPS. Possible future opportunities for joint Seminars, but who would organise? The new “Scottish” SCQS website needs to be made available to Members in England and Wales. A push is required in Scotland to persuade Members to use it on more occasions. The problem lies in how do we stimulate interest? If Members are interested they could offer more information etc for inclusion on the website.

**Community Benefits.** SFT dictates their requirements, but each Council has its own rules. Employment Skills template, CITB Skills Plan is incorporated in contracts over £1m. The main problem is how to police impact and measure performance. Some Contractors are organising projects for the local community. However, the cost will be included in the tender which begs the question as to whether it might be more beneficial for Council’s to deal with this directly and save the cost to improve the quality of the project. If Contractors fail to deliver what happens? Are Community Benefit clauses enforceable under the Conditions of Contract?

**Procurement.** There would appear to be variations between Councils on the level/threshold for the use of Quick Quotes. The SG states for use in contracts up to a value of £500k. Regulated Procurement over £2m requires full drawings and B of Q’s before tender. Frameworks, there is a cost to Councils in using Scotland Excel. BCIS future trends for inflation, there are 3 variations, Brexit in, out or halfway. Material prices have risen following the Brexit decision with the value of the pound falling against other currencies. Tender prices have increased with, for example, additional costs for timber kits and M&E equipment. There has been a 15/20% rise in imported goods. Some Councils were experiencing a lack of tender returns.

Use of NEC which is based on the ICE Form of Contract, Scotland Excel uses NEC, which it is claimed by some to be less confrontational than SBCC.Alan Sansom reminded the Meeting that NEC is not drafted for Scottish Law.

**10. CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS IN 2017**

12 May in Dundee and 6 October in Edinburgh (including the AGM). All the Meetings start at 10.30am and the actual venues will be advised.

Alan Forsyth FRICS

Chief Executive

SCQS

23 February 2017