SOCIETY OF CONSTRUCTION & QUANTITY SURVEYORS

**MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 68 OF THE SCOTTISH REGION**

**HELD ON FRIDAY 12th MAY 2017**

**IN**

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL’S OFFICES, DUNDEE HOUSE,**

**DUNDEE**

**In attendance:**

 Y Bell Fife Council

 I Reid Aberdeen City Council

 B Minnis North Lanarkshire Council

 E Milne Moray Council

 S Taylor Moray Council

 I Anderson Stirling Council

 A Kidd Dundee City Council

 D Henderson Angus 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 G Millar

W Gwynne J Quigley

J Kilgour G Hill

R Johnston

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 67th Meeting held in the Stirling Council’s Offices in Stirling on the 10th February 2017 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 7th March 2017 in the RICS Offices, Princes Street and was chaired by the SCQS President William Gwynne. The Past President, Alan Stokes, is to continue to meet with SPACES to find out what this Group can offer SCQS. He will also attend SPACES Board Meetings. The Honorary Treasurer is to research the appointment of an Independent Financial Advisor to assist SCQS with the best use of the current financial bank savings. The last NSR Board Meeting was on 25th April 2017 in NSRM’s Offices in Aylesbury. The proposed amendments to the current Agreement between SCQS and NSRM were discussed and a draft will be submitted to SCQS Council for final approval. Monthly sales figures are again being provided by NSRM. SCQS is receiving the agreed monthly royalty from NSRM. 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**

Alan Sansom provided an update on current SBCC activities. Discussions had taken place on Home Owner Contracts. There had been a proposal to set up a taskforce to look into payments and Project Bank Accounts. It is intended to review Collateral Warranties, but this was on hold pending conclusion of the Third Party Rights Bill. New Forms produced by JCT are being checked to see if major or minor adjustments are required to current SBCC Forms. There are differences in Minor Works north and south of the border. SBCC are not allowed to draft their own Forms of Contract apart from adjusting JCT Forms to suit Scottish Law. BIM Working Group, a new protocol has been circulated which may lead to approval/acceptance from those organisations involved. JCT were looking to replace Retentions with Trust Funds. However, there are different Trust Laws north and south of the border. Possible threat to SBCC from NEC, however, there is currently no Scottish Law version of NEC. It would appear that Scotland Excel use NEC which does not comply with Scottish Law. Use of “equal and approved”, rules from Procurement Officers do not allow the naming of one specific manufacturer, but examples can be given following a detailed specification. The BIM model is based on the names of products. Brian Minnis is taking over from Alan Sansom as the SCQS representative on SBCC.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

No formal correspondence to report.

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

**Project Bank Account Seminar.** SCQS will host a free joint seminar with the SCE Group Scotland and SBCC on the morning of 14 June 2017 in Stirling Council’s Offices, Viewforth, Stirling. Speakers will include Professor Rudi Klein, CEO, SEC Group, Colin Judge, Scottish Government and representatives from SBCC and the Royal Bank of Scotland. The aim is to/ /look at PBA’s from the Local Government Client side. SFT have also shown an interest in attending. As an aside no members attending the Meeting were using PBA’s. The PBA Legislation written for the Scottish Government is currently not mandatory for Local Authorities.

**Community Benefits.** Some Council’s are using Procurement Guidance Notes for contracts over £500k, which include for example, the employment of apprentices. It is difficult to check if the Community Benefits are being carried out. SFT have approved documentation on Community Benefits which will apply to the Council’s with HUB involvement. One positive example was the use of site hoardings which were decorated off-site by local school children. Some contractors have also provided materials to local groups

**Budget Savings/Cuts.** These were affecting staff numbers which in some cases could impact on HUB Projects as Council staff were not available to monitor work on site. Some Council’s are focussing maintenance on essential items only as a means of making savings.

**NBS Create.** There were mixed views of the usefulness of NBS Create.

**Scottish Procurement Alliance.** SPA initially applied a charge a 3% rate upfront with rebates given at the end of the year, however this rate has now been reduced.

**NRM.** NRM was not generally being used by Councils.

**Iain Reid.** Iain advised that he was retiring, but that he would appoint a successor to attend future SCQS Meetings.

**10. CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING IN 2017**

6 October in the RICS Offices, 125 Princes Street, Edinburgh (including the AGM), starting at 10.30am.

Alan Forsyth FRICS

Chief Executive

SCQS

1 June 2017