



Minutes of the Soil Stabilisation Task Group Committee Meeting held at Buxton on Tuesday 22nd May 2007

Present: invitation)	Andy Armstrong	AA	Con-Form (by special
	John Bateman	JB	Independent Stabilisation
invitation)	Chris Clear	CC	British Cement Association
	James Charlesworth	JC	Extrudakerb (by special
	Martin Cornell	MC	Geofirma
(observer)	Chris Duffell	CD	Highways Agency
	Jonathan Earle	JE	Buxton Lime Industries
	Paul Edwards	PE	Scott Wilson
	Steve Foster	SF	British Lime Association
	Hedley Greaves	HG	Buxton Lime Industries
	Simon Harding	SH	Con-Form
	David Jones	DJ	Britpave (stand in Chairman)
	Bryan Magee	BM	The Concrete Centre
	Craig Notman	CN	Mid Sussex Testing
	Lindon Sear	LS	UKQAA
Jonathan Smith	JS	Geofirma	

ACTION

1 **Apologies for Absence**

Graham Davey, John Ferguson, Gerry Howe, Al Mcdermid, Alex Kidd, Kevin Harding, Ken Smith, Andrew Thorpe

2 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes agreed as full and correct.

3 **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere**

DJ confirmed that Alex Kidd has emailed to say that the stabilisation checklist has been included in HA74 as appendix E. Chris Duffell (CD) confirmed that HA74 was published on 18 May 2007.

4 **Health & Safety**

No updates.

5 **Membership**

5.1 Update

John Kennedy has resigned from Britpave. The Soil Stabilisation Task. Group extended its thanks to John for his invaluable contribution over many years.

6 Subgroup Reports

6.1 Promotions Committee - SF Chairman

Website : www.soilstabilisation.org.uk

See separate minutes.

6.2 Remediation & Contamination Committee - CC Chairman

CC commented that the Environmental Industries Commission (EIC) members are finding that deployment licences are taking much longer than expected to be processed and granted. EIC is to raise a complaint with the EA regarding this.

EIC is also supporting the introduction of an alternative to WAMITAB for mobile sites.

A discussion followed regarding the categories of waste requiring a licence. AA confirmed his conversations with EA that "all sites treated with powder require a licence". Others in the group disputed this approach, and stated that by working closely with local EA officers, the need for licensing could be avoided.

CC stated that a discussion was taking place within Government regarding the removal of landfill tax exemption for remediated land. This may be replaced with another incentive.

6.3 Technical R&D (including HA update) Committee - CN Chairman

CN highlighted his work in collaboration with SWPE on swell testing, which shows that the European volumetric test gives a much better indication of pass / fail than the soaked CBR (confined sample).

There followed a discussion regarding the direction and funding of future research. Funding may be available from SSTG member organisations if requested. A further discussion on the treatment of ground containing sulphates ensued. The Britpave guidance document suggests a 1% max. threshold for treatment, but some members will treat higher than 1% if appropriate methods are used.

HA update – CD advised that the HA will be issuing a series of documents on the specification for ground investigation (yellow book), which will eventually also incorporate HA74. HA74/07 is now published.

HA is funding swell testing research at Nottingham SWPE and PFA / binder treatment of sulphate bearing soils at Dundee University.

There is a new HA framework for research contracts using a number of approved research partners, including TRL, WS Atkins, Scott Wilson etc in order to achieve more collaborative research with industry. Any research must help to achieve stated HA targets (journey time and journey reliability focussed). CD suggests that the SSTG keep in touch with Alex Kidd re potential research projects.

6.4 Recycling of Existing Pavements Committee - GH Chairman

No report - no attendee. DJ is to contact GH to ask if this subgroup should continue.



6.5 Contractors Sub Group (Third Party Accreditation)

HG gave a summary of the Contractors Sub Group meeting held on 20 March 2007. The sub group felt that a system derived from the stabilisation checklist should be used to form the basis of an audit system.

DJ introduced James Charlesworth (JC) of Extrudakerb (Chairman of the Britpave Barriers Group) to discuss their experience of their accreditation system. JC advised that the Barriers Group had put together a 10min presentation on accreditation for Britpave Council and suggested that the SSTG does the same. The Britpave accreditation system for concrete barriers was put together and runs alongside the HA sector accreditation, which is more training focussed. The HA system requires companies to have ISO9001 and ISO14001. Costs of the concrete barrier system were suggested as around 10K for setup and 1K per audit.

A discussion re auditing and accreditation was held and no agreement was reached.

DJ summarised the SSTG's current position

- There will be no notification regarding accreditation on the website
- The SSTG will continue to discuss accreditation and see if an agreement can be reached.
- If agreement can be reached, a presentation will be made to Britpave Council.

7 Any Other Business

TCC seminar in Leeds not well subscribed at present (approx. 20 pre-booked).

CC advised that BCA members reported a 10.9% rise in the volume of cement sold for stabilisation between 2005 / 2006.

2005	65,000 tonnes
2006	72,000 tonnes

8 Date of next meeting

Next Promotions Committee meeting 6 pm on 4 September (venue to be agreed)..

Next Main Committee meeting at 10am on 5 September 2007 at Geofirma.