

**West Midlands HAUC Materials and Technology Group  
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014 - 10am  
Stablearth (UK) Ltd**

Present	
John Crowther	Telford and Wrekin Highways
Phil Baker	Nu-Phalt
Darrell Williams	National Grid
Karl Stopps	Balfour Beatty Utilities
Matt Rhead	Stablearth (UK) Ltd
Gez Romano	Warwickshire County Council
John Vaughan	LMS (PN Daly)
Phil Cartmail	Staffs County Council
Emma Loach	Staffs County Council
Russell Thomas	Stablearth (UK) Ltd

Agenda Item		Action
1.0	<b>Apologies and Updates</b>	
1.1	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graham Smith - National Grid Gas</li> <li>• Jane Harris - Intaspire Ltd</li> <li>• Bob Lloyd - Worcestershire County Council</li> <li>• Andy Ward – Amey</li> <li>• Gareth Yanulevitch - Amey</li> <li>• John English – Balfour Beatty Utilities</li> <li>• Steve Waldron – S&amp;R</li> <li>• Richard Cutler – National Grid Gas</li> <li>• Justin Holt – LMS (PN Daly)</li> <li>• James Warwick – Instarmac Group plc</li> <li>• Ian Humphries - Morrison Utility Services</li> <li>• Nick Russell Kier MG</li> <li>• Hannah Haeffner</li> </ul> <p><b>Updates</b></p> <p>From John Crowther that he is now working for Telford and Wrekin Highways while still carrying out some training. WM HAUC Materials Group confirmed they are still happy for him to continue as Chair.</p> <p>Jane Harris has now started her own consultancy company but wishes to continue as Secretary for the Group. WM HAUC Materials Group confirmed that they are still happy for her to continue as Secretary.</p> <p>John Crowther thanked Stablearth for hosting the meeting.</p>	

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Closure of Actions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<p><b>WMHAUC Website.</b></p> <p>There has been 6 months of improvement carried out on the website</p> <p>The old web site has been removed in preparations for the launch of the new one.</p> <p>Aldercross are looking after the new web site.</p> <p>BL has seen the new mock up and is providing update information to populate it.</p> <p>Any questions for the group will go to the centre and be sent out rather than the web site containing individual contact details.</p> <p>KS confirmed he was happy to publish Balfour Beatty best value documents on the web site.</p> <p>All documents to go on the web site to be circulated to the group for approval.</p> <p><b>Keep as an agenda item for the next meeting to discuss how site will be populated.</b></p>	<b>BL</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<p><b>ESPOT Indicator</b></p> <p>KS questioned the accuracy of the system and whether it can ever replace the need for coring. After general discussion JC agreed to discuss future plans with Dave Regan. Unless there is any sign of a development, the intention is to remove this item from the minutes by the next meeting</p>	<b>JC</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<p><b>Footway Boards</b></p> <p>Ian Humphries and John English to be asked for feedback at the next meeting as they were not present. KS commented that practicalities make it difficult to move forward. The general comments were, is this a topic for the Group to be dealing with or should it be passed to HSOG?</p>	<b>IH/JE</b>
<b>2.4</b>	<p><b>Structured Coring Programme</b></p> <p>Karl Stopps mentioned the Affinity Water report which is more of a research document than best practice. PC felt that the report could be misinterpreted if read as a stand alone document.</p> <p>Not everyone in the Group had seen the document.</p>	
<b>2.5</b>	<p><b>WRAP and Testing</b></p> <p>JC/ PC intend to form a sub group to look at this issue.</p> <p>KS feels that NJUG need to push the issue forward nationally to ensure a consistent approach. He feels it is too difficult to set up small scale recycling, especially mobile recycling.</p> <p>NJUG would like a high level meeting with the EA.</p> <p>JC stated that Permasoil was an example of the difficulties of insitu recycling as despite the A9 process there are clearly failure sites.</p>	<b>JC/PC</b>

PC agreed it was a difficult situation and that there is ongoing discussion as to the best way of testing placed material for CBR. He felt that the human element is the most significant part of insitu methods.

KS feels the way forward for Balfour Beatty is to take photographs, so teams have evidence of the work they have undertaken and they are going to do this on their Affinity Water Contract.

RT agreed that all insitu methods needed comprehensive training and supervision and detailed site records.

PC commented that from a Local Authority point of view identified non compliances have been ahead of performance failures (S2), but performance problems are likely to occur past the guarantee period. Clay treatment on site is the biggest issue as it is difficult to carry out.

Group agreed that A9 approval doesn't stop individual sites from failing against the specification.

## 2.6 West Midlands HAUC Materials Awareness Day

JC confirmed the day was organised for Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at Worcestershire County Hall and asked the group to help promote it to colleagues. There was a general discussion about if air voids was covered in too much detail, but group agreed it was ok.

RT agreed that Stablearth would bring a stand.

RT

## 2.7 Worcestershire HAUC

PC had enjoyed Phil Sabin's talk. PB asked why then weren't promoting their material. KS confirmed that it wasn't a permitted material under SROH. PC questioned why they didn't try to develop a material against a permitted spec. KS said material was developed to provide 100% air void compliance and AI thought it was the only way to achieve this.

## 2.8 West Midlands HAUC Roadshow

Next year's WMHAUC Roadshow will take place on 9th and 10th September 2014 at Wolverhampton Race Course, Dunstall Park, Wolverhampton. Timed demonstrations are planned to be carried out throughout the day to promote more visits to the demonstration area. Currently looking for delegates and companies to attend.

PB & JC would like a WM HAUC Materials Group stand.

**The stand will be an Agenda item for the next meeting**

## 2.9 Feedback from Morgan's

Hannah Haeffner informed the meeting that Severn Trent and Lafarge Tarmac are planning to carry out a project in Nov-Dec 2013 on the A45 Toll Bar. **This item to be removed from the Agenda but check with HH first**

HH



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**3.2 WMHAUC Materials Group Structure, Funding and Venues**

It was agreed to keep meetings to 4 per year.

JC buildings and venues are becoming an issue for sponsors to provide for the size of group.

**JC to try to find a venue and funding for lunch, preferably somewhere central. To contact Andy Wilkins Chair of HAUC.**

JC feels KS is a key part of group as he engages with the wider HAUC community. Other members of the group should ideally be kept to 1 per Company, Utility and Local Authority

**JC**

**4.0 AOB**

JC – Asked about experience of Low Temperature Asphalt  
WMHA are currently looking at the possibility of more wide spread use.

PC stated that to be used under SROH it would need some sort of agreement as the mixture complies but not the temperatures.

**Might be something to consider as part of SROH review.**

Although it can be difficult to hand lay so that might be an issue.

**PC – to try to get minutes of the WMHA meeting to see if they are useful.**

KS – gave everyone a pick list of materials for review by the next meeting.

**PC**

JC – agreed that lists like that had been useful in the past especially for PSV.

**ALL**

**5.0 Date and venue of next WMHAUC Materials Group Meeting.**

Now confirmed

Next meeting date Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014, Start time 9.30am.

Venue at Solihull MBC, Solihull Civic Suite, Homer Road, Solihull, West Midlands. B91 3QZ

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