

## Minutes of 66<sup>th</sup> UK Bridges Board meeting held on 15 September 2021

Hazel McDonald	(Chair) Transport Scotland
Liz Kirkham	ADEPT/Gloucestershire County Council
Richard Fish	Bridge Owners Forum
Colin Ferris	Infrastructure Northern Ireland
Jason Hibbert	Welsh Government
Neil Loudon	Highways England
Keith Harwood	Hertfordshire County Council, ADEPT Bridges Group
Nicola Head	Transport for London
Fred Hartley	Canal & River Trust
Bob Humphreys	CSS Wales, Gwynedd Council
Nick Burgess	London Underground
Donald MacPherson	SCOTS/Aberdeenshire Council
Gary Kemp	Department for Transport
Satbir Gill	Hounslow Highways representing TAG
Stuart Molyneux	Salford City Council, representing Metropolitan Councils
Shalini Kumar	CIHT (Secretariat)
Justin Ward	CIHT (Secretariat)

### 1. Welcome, introduction, apologies

Liz Kirkham welcomed everyone to the meeting. Liz handed over to Hazel McDonald who is taking over as Chair of the Board. Apologies were recorded for Colin Hall from Network Rail and Kevin Dentith who represents ADEPT Bridges Group. The Board thanked Liz for her contribution and leadership to the UK Bridges Board.

### 2. Update on existing research projects

Bob Humphreys gave an update on Masonry Arch research project; this should be released shortly.

**Action: Bob Humphreys to update Justin Ward and Hazel McDonald when the Masonry Bridge Arch Assessment Guidance is finalised for coverage in Transportation Professional and links on UKRLG website**

### 3. Future research UKRLG

Keith Harwood outlined how the research proposals for UKBB had been developed. Gary Kemp said DfT was not able to confirm funding until the CSR.

**Action: Richard Fish to take the UKBB research proposals to BOF for prioritisation and feedback to UKBB**

**Action: Board members to consider procurement lead routes for future research projects**

### 4. Boundary guidance

Neil Loudon updated on the boundary guidance document saying this would be finalised shortly.

**Action: Neil Loudon and Justin Ward to work on publication on UKRLG website and coverage in Transportation Professional**

## **5. MCHW Review**

Neil Loudon gave a presentation on National Highways initial plans for a review of MCHW.

**Action: Neil Loudon to share the slides on the MCHW Review for reference by UKBB members [completed]**

## **6. BICS update**

Neil Loudon noted that work is ongoing to improve the scheme. National Highways have provided some additional resource to support the BICS scheme.

## **7. BOF update**

Richard Fish provided an update on the work of BOF.

## **8. ADEPT Bridges Group**

Keith Harwood noted that ADEPT and Canal & River Trust have agreed how CRT recover costs from local authorities with an aim of improving collaboration. This is now published on the UKRLG website. There was a discussion on sub-standard bridges and Network Rail

**Action: Hazel McDonald to write to DfT regarding sub-standard bridges and Network Rail**

## **9. UKRLG minutes**

The Board noted the minutes.

**Action: Hazel McDonald to highlight bridge sector views on risks of collapse and the need for investment (given that on a risk rating, the likelihood of collapse is low but the impact would be high) to Asset Management Board chair.**

## **10. UK Bridges Board minutes**

The minutes were noted.

**Action: To add two standing items: 1) guidance/standards and 2) asset management**

**Action: Keith Harwood and Richard Fish to work with CIHT on updating website content for UKBB**

There was a question on the carbon management toolkit.

**Action: Gary Kemp to confirm position of funding for a carbon management toolkit**

## **11. AOB**

**Action - LoBEG documentation & consistent element inventory – Nicola Head to share for views from UKBB members**

**Action - Infilling of old bridges – Hazel McDonald to speak with Justin Ward and Neil Loudon following concerns raised by UKBB members over a recent incident of an infilling of a bridge that appeared to be ill judged by Highways England (as then called)**

**Action: Other bridge inspector training/competence schemes – Neil Loudon to work with UKBB member Bob Humphreys in his capacity as Adept representative on BICS steering group**

**[post-meeting note: Action: Colin Hall to finalise Network Rail Parapet Protocol Document]**

**Action: Dates for 2022 to be established – Hazel McDonald**