



**MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY BUSINESS UNITS NATIONAL
ORGANISING COMMITTEE HELD 17TH JANUARY 2006, AT SILVAN
HOUSE**

Present: Alistair Gillies Chair, GMB
Andrew Stewart Secretary, Prospect
Roy Laird Member, GMB

Minute Secretary: Andrew Stewart Secretary, Prospect

Apologies: Bruce Hamilton Member, PCS
Norrie Russell Member, T & G
Eric Williams Member, T & G
Edward Shephard TUS Secretary
Robert Beaney TUS Chair

1. Introduction

A.G. welcomed all to the meeting but expressed his concern over the amount of apologies for a meeting that had been organised several months in advance.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising From Last Meeting

a. External Trawls

This was discussed at length in the light of the current trawl for the PB5 post at Stirling going straight to external recruitment given an agreement reached at the last FBUSC in September. It was decided to bring that this would be dealt by the chair prior to the next FBUSC meeting in February.

Action A.G.

b. PMS Guidance

RL and AS sought to resolve this matter as it had been on the agenda for an overly long period. RL stated this was mainly due to his ill health, and would be ready for the next FBUSC. AG sought clarification on current progress. RL detailed part of the problem was in the amount of guidance that was available and trying to condense this down to an A5 short form guide.

Action AS / RL

c. FCE Update

AS gave a quick briefing on this, asking whether this item should be brought up as an agenda item at the next FBUSC to finalise discussions that had taken place and to examine the review process.

Action AS

d. Employee Survey

AG gave a briefing on the above and discussed the main points of the survey, which had not been available for the previous FBUSC. All agreed to take these points forward to the next FBUSC and seek some dialogue on the action plan being formulated by Business Units.

Action AG

The meeting was halted at 11.00am to discuss an urgent personal case that had come to a head. The meeting resumed 11.40am.

4. Health & Safety

RL discussed an issue that may arise due to new legislation on “Working at heights” and asked if this could be brought forward to the next FBUSC. All agreed to discuss this further after RL furnished details on the subject prior to the next FBUSC.

Action RL

5. Pay Update

RL gave a briefing of the action plan being discussed by all partner unions. RL also spoke of the disappointment felt by all partner unions with regards to the decision to impose the pay award at the end of December. RL also spoke of the need to inform members of the implications of management’s decision, and the action being taken by their unions. It was decided that in light of the discussions taken place that the matter should be discussed at the next FBUSC.

Action AG

6. Date of Next Meeting

Colleagues of the BUNOC would be contacted shortly to reach an agreed date prior to the September FBUSC which all could attend.

Action AS