



**MINUTES OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION TRADE UNIONS'  
FORESTRY BUSINESS UNITS  
30<sup>TH</sup> SEPT. SILVAN HOUSE**

<b>Present:</b>	Alistair Gillies	Chair GMB
	Bruce Hamilton	PCS member
	Roy Laird	GMB member
	Lawrence Villa	Unite member
	Norrie Russell	Unite member
	Name	Position/Union
<b>Minute Secretary:</b>	Andrew Stewart	PROSPECT
<b>Apologies:</b>	Eric Williams	Unite member
	Paul Bullock	Unite member

**1. Introduction**

Alistair welcomed and thanked all for attending this meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies received from Eric Williams.

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were read and recognised as a true record of the meeting.

**4. Matters Arising From Last Meeting**

**a. D.P. REVIEW**

**AG** stated that this item still had outstanding issues; **LV** agreed and said in particular the following were areas of concern.

1. Working day for operators.
2. Length of shift.
3. Whole body vibration.

Discussion took place and it was decided to seek clarity on the WBV, as staff were unsure of the implications. We would also speak to the FCTU chair Robert Beaney to find out how the operator meetings were progressing. It was also noted that meetings were to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October at West Argyll, and on the 10<sup>th</sup> November at Aberdeenshire F.D. **AG**, **RL**, and **LV** were asked to draft reports on the meetings and reply to the FCTUBU secretary so that they can be distributed and discussed by the FCTUBU members.

**ACTION AG, LV, RL.**

**b. FCE temporary H & S officer.**

After discussing this item it was agreed that we would be place it on the agenda for the FBUSC on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, for an update.

**ACTION AG**

**c. Wales update.**

It was decided to seek advice from members at Chirk and Crychan.

**ACTION. AG LV**

## **Matters arising continued**

### **d. Light Vehicles.**

This item dealing with a query from the FCTU office was answered at the last FCBU.

**DISCHARGED**

**e. Safety Glasses.** This item was to be discharged as it had been answered at the last FBUSC. Safety Glasses would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

**DISCHARGED**

### **f. Workshop manager Balnacoul/Longman.**

**AG** voiced the concern of members over the length of time members had been on TRA, after discussion 3 years was the maximum TRA could be used. Although **AG** expressed again members concerns and with respect to the Balnacoul review left members concerned over the commitment to this workshop.

**DISCHARGED**

## **5. DISTRICT REVIEW.**

All expressed concern over the implications of the review for Business unit staff, particularly with the review of MES following on. It was agreed **AS** would contact FCTU chair and seek further information.

**ACTION AS**

## **6. Balnacoul Workshop review.**

**AG** attended meeting with I Hood, Jeff Livingstone, and John Thomson as part of the review group, the options were to close the workshop, no change, and move to the Huntly site. Options from the review group would be taken before the FCMB. Following the FCMB management decide to have a complete review of MES as detailed in an email from J. Livingstone on the 17<sup>th</sup> September. A sub group, and terms of reference to be agreed at next FBUSC.

**ACTION ALL**

## **7. FCBU AGENDA.**

This item was dealt with by email due to leave considerations at MES Stirling and the FCTU being asked to submit agenda items by the 26<sup>th</sup> September. Although further items have been added, to be taken under AOCB at the FBUSC namely the following.

H & S H& S posts

FCE LSC minutes, again minutes are not being agreed prior to the FCTU receiving them.

FCE machine working hours, and travel time to work sites.

## **ACTION AS, AG, BH.**

### **8. FCTU PID document.**

Documents produced by FCTU Sue Gillingwater were distributed and welcomed. The FCTU accepted the challenges as laid down by Sue after discussion with the FCTUBU, although an update was agreed to be sent to Sue, as the MES review, the fallout from the DP review, and FCE issues would now be given precedence. It was also agreed to contact Sue to seek contacts within PSS to allow them to attend the business units staff council.

### **Action AS**

### **9. PMS REVIEW**

AS distributed papers received from the FCTU and discussion took place on the how staff, and the FCTUBU could interact with the review, it was agreed that **AS** would liaise with FCTU chair Robert Beaney and seek an update at next main FCTU meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> October.

### **ACTION AS**

### **10. Health & Safety**

Although no issues were extant, it was decided to seek an update on the FCE H & S post.

### **11. AOCB**

- a. Letter from J. Livingstone 17<sup>th</sup> September, this item was discussed under item 6.
- b. Machine hours, this item was discussed under agenda item 7.

### **12. Date of Next Meeting**

**TBC**