

Attendees: Chair: Shaun McCarthy (Action Sustainability), Dale Turner (Skanska), Julia Barrett (Willmott Dixon), Dan Evans (Speedy Services), Carol Williams (Laing O'Rourke), Marcus Bennett (CITB), Malcolm Dare (National Highways), Ian Heptonstall (Action Sustainability), Hilary Hurrey (Action Sustainability)

Graham Edgell (Morgan Sindall) remotely but issues with sound meant unable to attend eventually.

Apologies: Joanna Gilroy (Balfour Beatty), Keith Chanter (EMCOR)

1. Review of actions

Hilary reported that all actions were complete or being discussed as part of the agenda.

2. Technology Update

Ian gave a summary of the Moodle upgrade so far.

- Titus have produced a milestone document which was included in the pack. Ian now receives weekly progress updates and the first two milestones have been completed.
- Two full time developers are dedicated to complete the project between now and December.
- Action Sustainability has just recruited a Moodle developer who will work directly with Titus to add to the resource given to the upgrade project. This will also enable the School to understand and have ownership of the code base and for Titus to understand the workings of the School better.
- To mitigate risk, planning for the worst case scenario, would be to create our own team and we own the code. The recruitment of an in house developer is a start towards that.
- Steve, Action Sustainability's Head of Technology, had daily meetings and is working very closely with Titus to ensure that progress is being made. Action Sustainability is treating the project and Titus as a partnership to minimise risk later on down the line.
- Titus has a proven track record of meeting major project deadlines.

Actions

- The Board will be kept up to date regularly on progress.

3. Upper School

The group will be announced at the summit to gain interest and potential members.

Actions

- Hilary will write a script and liaise with Julia (or Dan) on timings and call to actions.

4. Initiatives update

Ian and Shaun talked through and updated the group on the various initiatives that the School has undertaken/ running, namely:

1. Future Workforce Group update
2. Retrofit programme & Natwest
3. Diversity Tool
4. Carbon Calculator
5. HVO
6. Solar Panels

Comments/ feedback:

Future Workforce:

- The Board agreed that we devote some resources to developing partnerships with colleges. The aim is to service 10 this year. Seven have signed to date with a good pipeline. The School's content will help to upskill future generations, improving the quality of new entrants. In addition we aim to broker long terms relationships between Partners and local colleges. of the relationship between the School and college Partner organisations was to ensure that the colleges can engage with what industry want.
- CITB have just launched a programme called 'Explore Construction: Build and exciting future in Construction'. The aim is to engage and support students to learn about the industry. In conjunction to this, there is also a new grant available for employers to help recruit and retain those joining the industry.
- Need to look at the geography of the colleges and map them to where Partners and projects are located to help the mechanism of joining colleges with Partners.
- School could act as a non-competitive lever to put colleges and Partners in touch with each other.
- It is important to recognise those who are already working in the industry that need upskilling in areas such as Retrofit, this is an important area for colleges.

Retrofit & Natwest

- Retrofit programme set to launch on 7th November. Sponsored by NatWest to the sum of £250k.
- Conversation around the retrofit programme led to conversation around RAAC and the design for end-of-life materials. What should / can the School do around these issues? Research should be taken by speaking with the materials Partners for their feedback. These are the sorts of issues the Upper School should consider.

Diversity Tool

- The Diversity Tool has had record number of reporting individuals this year which is great news and a best practice example of collaboration. A special thanks to Morgan Sindall for their excellent work on this.
- The team are trying to widen the reach of the tool into housebuilding and construction so it is not just infrastructure focused.
- The Tool will also need to focus on sole traders and the smaller organisations as the results may not necessarily represent industry as a whole.
- Build UK is now recommending the Diversity Tool ad Carbon Calculator to its members and networks.
- The vision for reporting data is not to use just one tool but the ability to be able to bring data points together for many tools. Essentially reporting will only happen if people are willing to use the relevant tool.

HVO

- This paper is due to be published in November.
- It was agreed that it is so far giving a very balanced view on HVO. It was important that there was guidance in this paper what the options are to allow people to make informed decisions.

Solar Panels

- The solar panel report has been launched recently. The key is to also communicate this information and there are several supporting webinars where the report is being communicated to ensure that it is read.

General

- Conversation also took place around the topic of lean which has changed to 'Operational Excellence' in the School. It was discussed how important this topic was for the industry and also how important language is around this topic. Changing from lean to operational excellence makes the topic more meaningful to members. In turn this means that interest in the resources and learning should increase.
- All these initiatives represent the types of projects that the Upper School/ Think to do Tank should explore.

5. Board Elections

Hilary gave a recap on the Board elections; the profile; suggested timescale; amended wording in the process to explain it is a yearly process.

It was suggested that, outside of the current process, should it be considered in the future that if a member of the Board, who was very active and was providing lots of value, left a Partner organisation, should they be allowed to continue to be part of the Board? The Board representatives were selected on their individual profile, not company so this should be considered.

Agreed

- The wording just needs tightening up slightly when explaining the annual process.
- The process and profile was agreed.
- Julia has kindly agreed to volunteer to support the Board elections process. One more member of the Board is required.

Actions

- One more volunteer from the Board is required for the elections process. Hilary will reach out to all Board members.
- Hilary to revisit the highlighted wording.

6. 50K Strategy: progress

Hilary gave a recap of what the delivery team were doing to reach the target of 35K active individuals. Good progress has been made this year, but there is still a way to go!

7. AOB

There was no AOB declared.

Next Board meetings:

Wednesday 8th November, 1pm – 4pm (face to face) at Willmott Dixon Interiors Offices, Willmott Dixon Interiors, The Bailey, 16 Old Bailey, EC4M 7EG