



# THE INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS

FOUNDED 1918 INCORPORATED 1924

## Norfolk and Suffolk (No.5) Branch

President: Eddie Meelan M.I. FireE

Secretary: Simon Hewitt

### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date: 28 January 2009

Venue: Princes Street Fire Station, Ipswich

### **PRESENT:**

Joe Warns (JWa)  
John Hubble (JH)  
Simon Hewitt (SH)  
Jon Wilby (JW)  
Simon Hewitt (SH)  
Dale Mason (DM)  
Paul Field (PF)

### **APOLOLGISE:**

Eddie Meelan (EM)

The minutes of 14 May 2008 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **BRANCH FINANCE**

The accounts stand at £3,385.87.

It was agreed that a fresh look be taken to set up a system where Suffolk Branch members could pay subs through their wages.

**DM**

### **PRESIDENCY**

At present there does not appear to be any interest shown from Norfolk in taking on the role of President.

It was suggested that the Branch forms into one Branch, where the Branch Officers will be appointed from both Norfolk & Suffolk, remaining for a 2 year period, they would then

be re-elected or replaced, rather than changing the Presidency every two years between Norfolk and Suffolk.

This was in principle agreed by the meeting.

The Branch Constitution would have to be revised and this would then have to be approved by the Branch at the next AGM.

## **TREASURER**

JH has expressed his desire to stand down at the next AGM as treasurer. He has been on the Branch Committee for 14 years, 12 as Treasurer. SH thanked him for all his hard work.

JW felt that Norfolk should contribute to the committee and agreed to take over the responsibility of the Branch Treasure.

JH currently is responsible for the collection of CPD funding, this would also be taken over by JW. Currently there are 171 IFE Members in the Norfolk & Suffolk catchment area, the branch benefiting £1 per head each year.

Due to Suffolk Branch Members currently paying their subs by cash, JW did not want to be responsible for the collection for the collecting of subs from Suffolk and felt that Suffolk should be responsible for this, DM agreed to take on this responsibility.

## **BRANCH AGM**

It is proposed that the Branch AGM will be held on 20 May 2009.

At present the venue still has to be confirmed, but Mike warden has been approached to see if it could be held at Adastral Park, Martlesham.

The title was agreed as 'High Rise – High Risk'

The speakers which have been asked to take part are:

- David Manthorpe – Akron Brass and has been involved in research regarding hose sizes for high rise buildings.
- Paul Hardy (DO Fire safety Herts.) – To speak on Structural elements in new high rise buildings.
- Bob Stephenson has not been approached, but he would speak on the 'Harrow Court' incident and cover the fire investigation, what was found, the tests carried out and the conclusions arising out of the investigation.

The programme is as follows:

- 1000 – AGM
- 1100 – Registration
- 1130 – Bob Stephenson
- 1230 – Buffet
- 1330 – Paul Hardy
- 1430 – David Manthorpe

When the venue has been confirmed with Mike Warden (Adastral Park), the date will be published with further information being sent out later.

**SH**

A poster would be produced to sent out by April 09

**DM**

## **EXAMINATION**

A copy of the draft document which will be presented at the Fire Strategy Group in Suffolk was distributed. This document will detail what is being asked for, who it affects, the key issues to be considered, the resources and risk implications and the time scale. It is proposed to introduce IFE examination as part of the promotion process and to test underpinning knowledge and demonstrate competency. The time scale that is proposed will be submitting it in April 09 for approval so that preparations can begin for examinations in 2010. This proposal is for Suffolk only. The Branch would be kept informed of the out come. In some Brigades, IFE papers are recognised within the ADC process. It would be good to see the Brigades support this to enhance awareness and skill.

**SH**

A package called 'learnPro' which is currently used in Norfolk is a good package which will aid study and support and can be accessed via e-learning. The package for individuals is £15.00 per person or £5,000.00 for the Brigade. This will be brought to Suffolk to see how this leaning package could be used.

**SH**

## **FUTURE BRANCH VISITS**

The past visits to Windsor Castle, Swiss-Re and BT Tower were successful visits. A report of the visits is on the Branch web site and has been sent to IFE HQ for the e-news letter and Journals.

It is proposed to arrange visits to London for the non-uniformed members in the beginning of this year. This is subject to Mike Warden arranging.

The following visits were proposed for 2009/10:

- BBC Centre – London
- Wembley Stadium – London
- Klaxo-Smith – Stevenage
  - These will be subject to Mike Warden arranging.
  
- Bacton Gas Terminal

**JW**

Wattisham Airfield and T5, Heathrow have not been followed up as yet.

Date of the next meeting:

- Date – 15 April 2009
- Venue – Diss
- Time – 1430 hours

The meeting closed at 1555 hours.