

## The London Constructing Excellence Club's 2015 Annual General Meeting

2014 Annual Report to Members

University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5LS 6pm Wednesday 21st January 2015

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#### NOTICE OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MEETING AGENDA





#### **NOTICE OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual General Meeting of the London Constructing Excellence Club will be held at the University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5LS at 6pm on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015

#### **AGENDA**

#### **ORDINARY BUSINESS**

- 1. To appoint a Chairperson for the meeting
- 2. To receive the Annual Report for the year 2014
- 3. To receive the Treasurer's Report for the year 2014
- 4. To elect persons to hold the following posts:
  - Chairperson: Simon Cash (who is willing to be elected)
  - Treasurer: David Hucker (who is willing to be re-elected)
  - Events Secretaries: Adrian Wilkins and David Churcher (who are willing to be re-elected)
  - Membership Secretary: Barry Dobbins (who is willing to be re-elected)
  - Website and social media: Uly Ma and Paul Greenwood (who are willing to be re-elected)
  - Club Secretary: Paul Brampton (who is willing to be re-elected)
  - Committee members without portfolio: Rachel Hain, Paolo Boccacci, Eva Aftab, and Theo Paradise Hirst (who are willing to be re-elected) and Phil Shortman, Rob Garvey and Joseph Steele (who are willing to be elected)

Paul Brampton
Club Secretary

18th<sup>th</sup> December 2014



#### **MINUTES FROM LCEC AGM IN JANUARY 2014**







#### Minutes for

# The London Constructing Excellence Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Venue:** The University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London

**NW1 5LS** 

**Date:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 commencing at 6:30 p.m

Minutes taken by: Paul Brampton

#### 1.0 Ordinary Business

- 1.1 The AGM was opened by the current London Constructing Excellence Club (LCEC) Chairman, Andrew Bowles, at 6.30pm.
- 1.2 The first item of business was to elect a Chairperson for the AGM. Andrew Bowles was proposed and seconded from the floor and the election received a majority vote of acceptance from the floor.
- 1.3 Andrew Bowles thanked the University of Westminster for hosting the LCEC's AGM.
- 1.4 LCEC's 2013 Annual Report to Members, was tabled by Andrew Bowles. The report was proposed and seconded from the floor and the election received a majority vote of acceptance from the floor.
- 1.5 Andrew Bowles tabled the 2013 Chairman's Report contained in the 2013 Annual Report. The report was proposed and seconded from the floor and the election received a majority vote of acceptance from the floor.
- 1.6 LCEC's Treasurer, David Hucker, tabled the Treasurer's Report for 2013. The report was proposed and seconded from the floor and the election received a majority vote of acceptance from the floor.



- 1.7 Andrew Bowles invited nominations from those gathered to come forward for election as LCEC officers. There were no nominations from the floor on this occasion.
- 1.8 The following were unopposed from the floor in the election of Officer's posts. Consequently proposed, seconded and elected by those present were:

Kathy Bagster, as Chairperson for the next 12 months

David Hucker, as Treasurer for the next 12 months

Paul Brampton, as Club Secretary for the next 12 months

**Barry Dobbins** as Membership Secretary and Deputy Chairperson for the next 12 months

Adrian Wilkins, Raj Nijihar, David Churcher and Simon Cash as Events Secretaries for the next 12 months

**Uly Ma and Paul Greenwood** as Website and Social Media Secretaries for the next 12 months

Rachel Hain, Paolo Boccacci, Eva Aftab, Iain Campbell and Theo Paradise Hirst as officers without portfolio for the next 12 months

- 2.0 Special Business & Any Other Business
- 2.1 There was no special business.
- 2.2 The Chairman invited items of "Any Other Business" from the floor but none were received.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 6.36pm.



#### The 2014 LCEC Committee















Chairman
Simon Cash
Cost Consultant
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Treasurer

David Hucker

Cost Consultant

Project Director

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Managing Director

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Committee Member Rachel Hain Sheppard Robson +44 (0)20 7504 1797



Committee Member Paolo Boccacci Sheppard Robson +44 (0)20 7504 1831



Committee Member Eva Aftab Mace +44 (0)20 7504 1845



Committee Member Theo Paradise Hirst NDYLIGHT 07948 270332



Committee Member **Phil Shortman** 07730 353201



Committee Member **Rob Garvey** University of Westminster



Committee Member Joseph Steele Norman Disney Young +44 (0)7824 591 413

#### Chairperson's 2014 Report

Well, it has been a bit of chop and change in the year, with Andrew Bowles passing the baton to Kathy Bagster at the beginning of the year. However, in September Kathy departed to head back 'Down Under' and I stepped in as Acting Chairman. Kathy has vowed that her move is not permanent and she hopes to be back in this country in a few years, but in the meantime, she has become a British Citizen and now knows more about the history of our country than I do!

Once again, it has been a very successful year in terms of events, together with the odd site visits and great thanks goes out to our many speakers and hosts who gave up their own time. The year culminated in the annual wine tasting in December, which saw 48 people pitching their wits against Julia Trustram-Eve and her challenging blind tasting quiz.

The September event saw record a record attendance and apologies to those who suffered the cramped conditions. Who would have thought that a talk on CDM regulation would prove to be the most popular event of the year!

We have continued to use the good facilities of the London Capital club, which has proved to be a popular venue from the feedback that we have received through the surveys that are sent out after each event and continues to give use extremely good value for money.

Again thank you to the University of Westminster allowing us to use their facilities for the AGM and January's event.

Just to show how successful the events are and a bit of useless information, in the first eight meetings of the year held at London Capital Club, attendees managed to consume:

- 121 bottles of wine;
- 173 soft drinks:
- 211 bottles of beer
- 104 bottles of water

As can be seen from the Treasurer's report, the financial position continues to be good. However, the reserve that we have provides a cushion, should we find ourselves having to seek an alternative more expensive venue for events, if the situation were to arise. However, in the year we have purchase a PA system, which has helped a lot with the sound quality at the events and we will look to make further purchases to assist continued improvement.

Membership has also increased in the year with a 14% increase in membership and I hope that we can continue to grow this in 2015. As always, we are looking to broaden the profile of membership and attendance at events and an area for improvement is to encourage more contractors into LCEC.

Having considered the cost of putting on events in 2014 and anticipate costs to increase in 2015, we have again had to consider a modest increase of subscription rates, but have offered an 'Early Bird' discount, which is equivalent to paying 2013 subscription rates, for all payments received prior to the end of February.

The website continues to improve with a new dedicated site launched last year and a big thank you to Uly Ma for the time and effort he has put in to developing and

updating the new site. In conjunction with the website, we are using Eventbrite to promote and manage the bookings for events and Mailchimp for distributing mailings. I am pleased to say that responses to the feedback surveys issued via Survey Monkey after each event have proved very helpful and provide us with good suggestions not only for ways to improve evenings, but also suggest topics and speakers for the future.

I would like to thank all my fellow officers for their hard work and dedication over the last year and thank you to all the members, for your continuing support. In addition to Kathy, sadly Raj Nijjhar is also stepping down. Raj has been a stalwart of the committee for a number of years and her input will be sorely missed. However, we have recruited a new member to the team – Joseph Steele, from NDY and extend a big welcome to him.

We have a full programme going forward into 2015 with the next event scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> February. I look forward to seeing the Club continue growing and whilst only Acting Chairman at present, I have put myself forward to take on the role of chair for the next two years with Barry Dobbins as Deputy Chairman should we be elected.

We are always keen to hear from others who may wish to become Officers, and other offers of assistance, including venues or presentations and look forward to seeing you throughout 2015.

Simon Cash

Acting Chairman – January 2015

#### LCEC Treasurer's Report for year ending 31 December 2014

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Club commenced 2014 with positive cash in the bank and has closed the financial year at the end of December 2014 with a positive gain against monies actually collected via subscription through the year.

This coupled with the cash donations received both on the door and via pre-registration through 'Eventbrite' combined with minimal monies paid to **LCEC** by central CE, provides an excess income sum of £1,891.98 compared against expenditure for the subscription year ending 31 December 2014.

I am pleased to announce therefore that despite a difficult year with increasing operational costs, the Club is currently solvent and will continue to be solvent and will carry forward to 2015 the sum of £6,480.31 (£4,588.34 for 2014). Details relating to the monetary sums identified within the following report are identified within the attached 'Income and Expenditure Account' and 'Balance Sheet' document for the London Constructing Excellence Club for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

#### Details:

The membership subscription rates for 2014 were agreed by the Officer's to be nominally increased for the first time for three years.

These revised rates, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January, for the calendar year ending  $31^{st}$  December, were agreed at 'Individual' membership at £70 (seventy pounds) and 'Corporate' membership at £230 (two hundred and thirty pounds.) Educational establishment rate revised to £150 (One hundred and fifty pounds.) An additional membership grade covering local authorities and housing organisations has been introduced and described as "Not for Profit Organisations" and the membership rate for these was agreed at £150 (One hundred and fifty pounds.)

To encourage early payment of subscriptions, an Early Bird Discount ('EBD') is offered to all future membership if the subscription fee is paid prior to the February club meeting. Corporate EBD for 2014 was £30 and the Individual EBD was identified as £10. Thirty-seven organisations and individuals benefited from the application of this EBD against their subscription. Seventy-one subscriptions were received throughout 2014.

All funds received are retained within a current account at NatWest Bank, Holborn Circus branch. There is also a Reserve Account held at the same location. It was found unnecessary to complete any fund transfers between reserve account and current account during 2014. The Club does not have a credit card facility so all payments are via cheque withdrawals from our current account and all cheques must be signed by two of the five Club authorised signatories.

Club **income** for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 was **£14,111.45** (£11,513.10) derived substantially from membership subscriptions. A contribution relating to Corporate CE membership from central Constructing Excellence was received. A nominal sum allocated against bank interest on the Reserve Account is identified. Further 'door donations' and pre-registration fees obtained from non-members attendance at events over the year provided an additional income.

Club **expenditure** for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December at £12,219.47 (£11,949.25) has been accrued principally from the cost of supporting each of the Club meetings; speaker expenses; speaker thank-you gifts; outgoing Officers' thank-you gifts; miscellaneous Officer's expenditure on lapel badges; the purchase of a portable public address system and the purchase of LCEC mobile banners. One external site visit was fully sponsored by an external organisation, with no expenditure impact on LCEC.

#### LCEC Treasurer's Report for year ending 31 December 2014 (Continued)

Details (Continued):

2014 saw the resignation of three **LCEC** Committee Officers from their voluntary posts and to thank these individuals each has received a gift in recognition of their input to **LCEC** over their period of duty. The related costs associated with these gifts is £240.45 and this sum has been included within the above expenditure.

The Club has previously registered in accordance with the requirements of HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) "Clubs, Societies, Voluntary Associations and other similar bodies" classification, and was previously categorised under the collective HMRC "Small Club" designation and set as "dormant" until 2014 for Corporation Tax purposes. Upon production and acceptance of the 2014 accounts, re-application will be again be made to HMRC to have this 'small club' designation continued. It is anticipated that this will be achieved and as such the Club will not have any liability to Corporation Tax.



David M Hucker Treasurer January 2015

#### LONDON CONSTRUCTING EXCELLENCE CLUB

#### **INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT** for the period ended 31st December 2014

| Noove  | 2014               | 2013                   |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|
| INCOME  Membership Subscriptions   |                    |                        |
| Corporate - full subscription income   | 04.000.00          | 00.000.00              |
| Corporate - Itali subscription income  Corporate - "Early Bird Discount" benefit | £4,600.00          |                        |
| Corporate - via Constructing Excellence reduced rate                             | £4,200.00          |                        |
| Educational & Not for Profit establishments                                      | £390.00            |                        |
| Educational & Not for Profit establishments reduced rate                         | £750.00            |                        |
| Individual - full subscription income  | £125.00            | •                      |
| Individual - "Early Bird Discount" benefit                                       | £420.00            | · ·                    |
| Individual - special rate benefit  | £900.00            |                        |
| 'Cash on the door' meeting collection from non members                           |                    | £89.09 2               |
| Eventbrite' income collection from non members                                   | £460.00            |                        |
| Reserve Account interest   | £1,409.70<br>£1.75 | 76 £962.25 68<br>£1.76 |
| Constructing Excellence income (2014) Note 1                                     |                    |                        |
| Constructing Excellence incoming relating to 2013                                | £100.00            | n/a                    |
| Educational subscription incoming relating to 2013                               | £300.00            | £900.00                |
| Other donations and contributions  | £125.00<br>£0.00   |                        |
| Duplicate 2014 subscriptions income Note 2                                       |                    | £525.00                |
| Incorrect income received Note 4   | £230.00            | n/a                    |
|  | £100.00            | n/a                    |
| Total INCOME:  | £14,111.45         | £11,513.10             |
| EXPENDITURE  |                    |                        |
| Web domain name purchase from Zen Internet Ltd                                   | £69.43             | n/a                    |
| AGM costs (University of Westminster)  | £439.00            | 1 £979.30              |
| Club venue meeting costs (London Capital Club)                                   | £9,108.33          | 9 £7,141.00            |
| Club venue meeting costs (Sir Robert McAlpine site)                              | £0.00              | 1 n/a                  |
| Club venue meeting costs (Cafe Royal Hotel)                                      | n/a                | £800.00                |
| Speaker's travelling / costs   | £986.35            | £664.43                |
| Equipment purchase (Mobile PA set & banners)                                     | £599.15            | n/a                    |
| Operational costs providing Club events  | £198.44            | £965.97                |
| Officers' meetings costs & Conference attendance fees                            | £90.00             | n/a                    |
| Officers' lapel badges   | n/a                | n/a                    |
| Outgoing Officers' gifts   | £240.45            | £334.46                |
| Lapel badges for meetings  | £123.32            | £134.40                |
| Subscription refunds Note 2  | £230.00            | £900.00                |
| Meeting attendance refunds Note 3  | £35.00             |                        |
| Refunds Note 4   | £100.00            |                        |
| Miscellaneous, postage etc   | £0.00              | £29.69                 |
| Transfer between Reserve Account and Business Account                            | n/a                | n/a                    |
| Total EXPENDITURE:   | £12,219.47         | £11,949.25             |
| Excess Income/(Expenditure)  | £1,891.98          | -£436.15               |

#### Notes:

- 1 Income obtained from central CE against National CE members who have nominated LCEC as their Club
- Duplicate 2014 subscription received from Waterman Structures 2
- This refund represents duplicate on the door payments received where individuals are members of an organisation who have already paid a corporate membership fee
- This represents a repayment to itcConcepts who have paid a membership rebate invoice in error

#### LONDON CONSTRUCTING EXCELLENCE CLUB

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

#### as at 31st December 2014

| C    |      | A      |
|------|------|--------|
| قامة | rrem | Assets |

| Current As  | 55612  |                        |                        |
|-------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Cash        | at bank:  Reserve account (31 December 2014)  Current account (31 December 2014)                     | £3,507.57<br>£4,930.23 | £8,437.80              |
| Current Lia | abilities  |                        |                        |
|             | nce receipt during 2014 against 2015 subscription SOM - Individual membership                        |                        | (£75.00)               |
| Outsta      | anding lodgements for Club expenses  Chq 000362 - Julia Trustram Eve invoice 1502 for December event | £631.09                |                        |
|             | Chq 000365 - Simon Cash for Mailchimp costs relating to November & December event                    | £32.82                 |                        |
|             | Chq 000366 - David Hucker re Spabreak.com voucher ref Z-KEMCWQ re gift for outgoing officer          | £105.00                |                        |
|             | Chq 000367 - Plus Display Limited for second set of two banners                                      | £213.58                | £982.49                |
| Other       | liabilities Offset liability against reserved CE anticipated income for 2014                         |                        | (£900.00)<br>£6,480.31 |
| Net Assets  |  |                        |                        |
| Repres      | sented by:   |                        |                        |
|             | Retained income brought forward from 2013  |                        | £4,588.34              |
| Add:        | Excess income / (expenditure) for year 2014  |                        | £1,891.97              |

Signed:

David M Hucker Treasurer 31st December 2014 Signed: C

Simon Cash Chairman (Acting 2014) 31st December 2014

£6,480.31

#### Club Secretary's 2014 Report

This is a brief overview of the more significant developments and/or governance issues discussed at the LCEC Officers' meetings during 2014.

At the **January** meeting it was discussed and agreed that LCEC members who have paid LCEC (and in respect of which a subscription payment has been received from Constructing Excellence) should be credited the sum received from CE unless they agree to waive it. It was agreed that Rob Garvey and Phil Shortman should be coopted to the LCEC Committee. The meeting was also noteworthy as it was the final committee meeting chaired by Andrew Bowles.

The **February** meeting was the first to be chaired by the new chairperson, Kathy Bagster. It was also the first meeting to be attended by the new committee members, namely Rachel Hain, Paolo Boccacci, Eva Aftab, Iain Campbell, Theo Paradise Hirst, Phil Shortman and Rob Garvey.

At the **March** meeting, Kathy Bagster advised the committee that she would be moving back to Australia in September and would need to relinquish the chair for a new chairperson.

At the **April** meeting the committee was advised by the treasurer, Dave Hucker, that he, Kathy Bagster and Barry Dobbins were the authorised signatories for the LCEC back account. David Churcher was authorised to invest in audio equipment for use at LCEC events.

In view of Kathy Bagster's impending return to Australia, it was agreed at the May meeting that Simon Cash should also be made an authorised signatory for the LCEC bank account.

At the **June** meeting Dave Hucker advised that Laurence Hooker would like to join the committee.

At the **July** meeting the committee discussed the challenges posed by social media in the context of LCEC site visits. It was agreed that we do not need to implement a blanket restriction relating to the taking of photographs and their publication on social media, but the person organizing the event needs to ask their host whether they have any objection to information about the site being posted.

The Club Officers took their annual holiday in August.

At the **September** meeting it was agreed that if non-members arrive at LCEC events then they will be required to pay at the door. It was agreed that Mailchimp should also be used by LCEC and the small cost was justified. The committee was advised the London Capital Club had changed its terms and conditions.

At the **October** meeting the treasurer proposed, and the committee agreed new subscription rates to take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 as follows:

- 1. Individual subscription rate of £70 be increased to £75 with an early bird discount of £5 revising the £75 to £70;
- 2. Corporate subscription rate of £230 be increased to £250 with an early bird discount of £20 revising the £250 to £230;

- 3. A second corporate membership rate of £200 (permitting entry to 4 persons) with no early bird discount; and
- 4. Educational rate of £150 be increased to £175 with an early bird discount of £25 revising the £175 to £150.

Simon Cash took the chair following Kathy Bagster's departure.

There is nothing significant to report from the **November** meeting.

At the **December** meeting it was noted that the press is reporting that the company behind the London Capital Club is in difficulty with the result that LCEC may be forced to look for an alternative "home" if the London Capital Club changes hands or closes its doors.

#### **Paul Brampton**

Club Secretary, January 2014

#### **Events Report**

During 2014, the Club held 12 events (excluding August for the customary holiday). Nine of these were at our usual venue at London Capital Club, but in addition we held the 2014 AGM/January meeting at the University of Westminster, and we also had two site visits during the year in April and June.

The Club has continued to use Survey Monkey to canvass feedback after events and also to seek suggestions for future topics to be covered. This is a very useful way for the Club to keep in touch with event attendees and the Committee would urge everyone attending an event to complete the short survey that is circulated after every meeting.

Registrations at this year's events have been very high, with some events at the London Capital Club being full to capacity. Our record during the year was to welcome 94 attendees to the October event on CDM, proving that this topic is still very much at the front of the industry's mind. Satisfaction with both the speakers and the venues for meetings continued to be very high, with responses of Excellent or Very Good comfortably above 80% across all events.

January: AGM + What is constructing excellence and what will define it in the future? The 2013 AGM was chaired by Andrew Bowles as the outgoing Chairman of the Club, after 10 years at the helm. Andrew summarized the activities of the previous year. Kathy Bagster of Morgan Sindall was elected as the new Chairman of LCEC.

Four panelists kicked off the new year with a debate on the shape of excellence in construction and their views of the challenges for the next 10 years. The speakers were:

- Russell Durling Derwent London, Senior Project Manager
- Julian Robinson London School of Economics, Director of Estate
- Martin Ball University of Westminster, Senior Lecturer Construction Project Management
- Calvin Coughlan London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Capital and Asset Manager

February: CE Award winner – The Low Carbon Zone, Peckham Oliver Schneider, Managing Director at The Facility, spoke about The Low Carbon Zone project which won both the "Performance in Use" and "Sustainability" categories at the Constructing Excellence in London and the South East Awards. The scheme involved retrofitting energy saving measures to reduce fuel poverty and aesthetic improvements to transform over 140 houses located within the Peckham Area Renewal Zone.



## March: CE Project of the Year – The Shard

Adrian Thomson, Associate Director at Mace, explained why this building won the Constructing Excellence "Project of the Year 2013" award and what made the building truly special. Mace introduced innovative construction techniques and rethought some of the basic principles of construction to deliver the tower in record time. This included building the first 23 storeys of the core before the basement was fully excavated and the first use in the world of an inclined hoist.



### April: Site visit to 240 Blackfriars

240 Blackfriars Road is a 236,000 sq.ft development by The Great Ropemaker Partnership, a joint venture between Great Portland Estates and The BP Pension Fund. This was a members only site visit.

Speakers were Great Portland Estates and Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, the architects for the project.

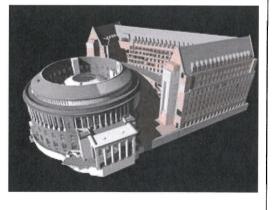
#### April: A new model for collaboration – BS 11000

This event introduced the recently published standard BS 11000 "Collaborative Business Relationships", by building on the foundation laid by the Egan initiative in the late 1990s and 2000s. Paul Greenwood of Greenwood Consultants presented this topic, explaining the framework of the standard and the benefits of its use.



## May: BIM – does it really do what it says on the tin?

Graeme Tappenden
of the Government
BIM Task Group and
Martin Quinn of Great
Portland Estates gave
a great presentation
on the lessons that
are being learned
from the
Government's trial
projects and by other
clients on their BIM
projects.



|  | The target of Level 2 BIM on all centrally-procured public projects looms ever larger, and this was a timely review of how well some of the ambitions for BIM are actually being delivered in practice. This included not just the design and delivery of the construction project but also the use of BIM information to improve facilities management.  |  |
|--|---|--|
| June: Site visit to<br>the Bloomberg<br>development site   | Paul Gregory of Sir Robert McAlpine guided LCEC members around this development in the City of London. The event illustrated the complexities of constructing a major office development on a city centre site, and was widely appreciated by all those who attended.   |  |
| July: Upcoming changes to EU procurement   | Alan Saunders and Cora Marler of Sweett Group gave a presentation on how the procurement landscape within the EU is changing. Particular focus was given to how these changes will affect construction procurement within the UK. While targeted at public sector clients, the event also attracted many supply chain members.  |  |
|  | Alan leads the Procurement and Supply Chain Management Team at Sweett and Cora is a consultant specializing in the procurement sector.  |  |
| September: New Part L and RIBA Plan of Work – impacts for building services and the whole project team | This event covered two recent changes that affect the industry's approach to design and delivery of new buildings. These changes could be seen as just affecting the design community, but in fact there are implications for the whole delivery team, and also for the project strategies that clients adopt.  |  |
| project team   | The speakers were David Bleicher of BSRIA and David Churcher of Hitherwood Consulting. David B explained what the latest changes to Part L were and how these affect the approach to design, for example by laying greater emphasis on passive measures to reduce energy consumption. David C talked about how the new Plan of Work and switch to using BIM has affected the design deliverables required from the building services sector, and how BSRIA has defined exemplar 3-d models representing design detail at the key RIBA stages. |  |
| October: CDM<br>Regulations 2015   | Philip Baker took us through the changes that have been published by HSE to the CDM regime. These are due to come into force on 1 April 2015. The main changes that Philip explained are:   |  |
|  | <ul> <li>Simplification of the structure of the Regulations to better reflect the construction process.</li> <li>The inclusion of domestic clients within scope of the Regulations.</li> <li>Changes to the thresholds for the appointment of coordinators and notification.</li> </ul>   |  |
|  | A change to the co-ordinating role to embed it more   |  |

clearly within the project team.

 Removing the requirement to explicitly test for competence and replacing it with the need to ensure people have received the information, instruction, training and supervision

# November: An update on the Government Construction Strategy 2025

Peter Hansford, Chief
Construction Adviser, gave this important presentation on what the Construction Strategy 2025 means and how the objectives within it are going to be achieved. He also explained that the Strategy is intended to put the UK construction sector at the forefront of global construction, and updated the audience with progress made so far.



## December: Wine tasting

Julia Trustram Eve,
Marketing Director of
English Wine
Producers, entertained
and educated us at
the Festive LCEC
event on 9th
December. The quiz
this year took a slightly
different turn, inviting
us to choose the



correct description of the wine we were tasting. *Nil points* for your correspondent who couldn't tell his Champagne from his Prosecco. That aside, it was the usual entertaining and enjoyable end to the LCEC event year.

Adrian Wilkins/David Churcher

15<sup>th</sup> January 2015

#### **Membership Secretary Report**

#### Who attended in 2014

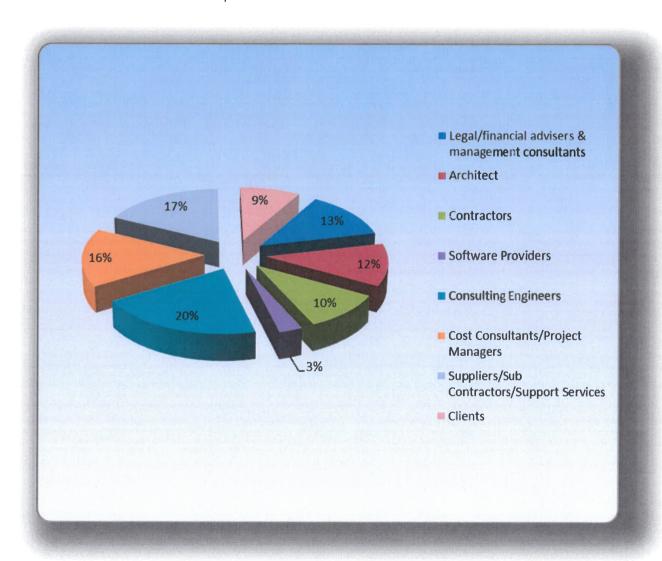
2014 saw the number of member organisations increase by around 10%.

- 52 companies/individuals renewed from 2013
- 50 companies took up corporate membership.
- 21 individuals took up personal membership.
- There were 4 new individual memberships, 1 new educational membership and 14 new corporate memberships.

There was a high level of attendance at events from member organisations with multiple representatives taking benefit of the corporate membership rates. From organisations who did not renew membership in 2014, individuals continued to attend, choosing to provide door donations. The event flyers are circulated to around 1400 individuals who have either attended in the past or expressed a preference to attend.

#### **Membership by Sector**

The mix of members for 2014 was split as follows:



#### **National Constructing Excellence Members**

New rules came into effect in 2012 from National Constructing Excellence. These rules are included this year as a reminder. You will recall that in past years, National CE fully funded corporate membership out of your national subscription fee. This no longer applies and they will only part contribute to regional clubs. Their new rules are summarised below.

Constructing Excellence seek to create attendance at a wider number of clubs. Therefore, Constructing Excellence will now pay up to £100 per club toward the membership fee of a Constructing Excellence National member at Corporate member grade of a Club, and there will be up to 5 such payments available according to National member grade, as follows:

| National<br>Member<br>Grade | (Value of work procured pa) | Suppliers Grading (Full time employees) | Maximum No. of Club<br>membership Contributions of<br>£100 each |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Huge                        | £1bn                        | 1001+                                   | 5   |
| Large                       | £501m to £1bn               | 251 to 1000                             | 4   |
| Medium                      | £101m to £500m              | 51 to 250                               | 3   |
| Small                       | £51m to £100m               | 11 to 50                                | 2   |
| Micro                       | <£50m                       | <10                                     | 1   |

For National members to pursue payment by Constructing Excellence, you need to advise the Club of your membership requirement and confirm your requirement to:

Colm Quinn at Constructing Excellence colm.quinn@constructingexcellence.org.uk

Colm will be able to advise whether the member has any funds left, or whether uptake has been already taken in other regions.

We are still trying to recover fees for 2014 from National CE for some of you, even though National CE have confirmed eligibility and agreed to pay. Payment recovery is proving difficult. National CE are not automatically making payments as in previous years.

In the first instance, National members should provide full payment to the LCEC to suit membership requirements. When payment from CE has been received, the balance for the fee reimbursed by National CE will be reimbursed.

#### **New Faces**

We were pleased to see many new faces and non-members at the events, who we thank for providing both door donations to the club and to broaden the marketing network that the club offers. It is good to see that some of the new faces have become regulars over the recent few

months and we will continue to offer the club benefits to non-members over the year ahead. We would also like you to consider whether it would be worth joining as an individual member or corporate member, especially if you are a regular attendee.

#### **Spread the Word**

The club continues to offer a diverse series of topical events and visits which we hope you have found interesting, as well as providing a venue to meet fellow professionals that is not too formal and conducive to friendly networking. We are sure you will agree with us that the quality of the speakers has been of a very high standard and that they have brought to you different areas of excellence which we have all taken something away from to apply in our own businesses, or at least provided food for thought.

As a non-funded club, we would like to take this opportunity to ask you to promote your club and what you have taken from it to your colleagues and fellow work friends from other areas of the business, so that we can continue to grow and promote excellence in London. It is your club and increased membership is key to its future.

We look forward to seeing you all again in 2015 and hope you can help us by spreading the word to your colleagues and your wider teams on your various construction related projects, who will no doubt appreciate looking for ways to provide better services from the lessons you and they can take away from these events. 2014 was highly successful in our capital and 2015 looks set to be similar with all of us experiencing growth. 2015 will be an excellent time to make new contacts and network with likeminded, forward thinking professionals.



Barry Dobbins

Membership Secretary

January 2015

barry.dobbins@watermangroup.com

#### **Website and Social Media Reports**

#### LCEC Website Report 2014

The Club committee decided that there should be a dedicated website rather than using the blog site. As such, investigations to suitable web hosts were undertaken and Zen internet was selected as the ISP. Several designs were examined the committee decided on a London skyline silhouette as its banner (see below).



The website went live in July 2014 and has been revised for 2015. We had 3,953 visits accessing 6,887 pages and a total of 29,730 hits over 2014.



Activities to be completed will include an archive page for the events of the past years.

Please scan the QR code on the left to visit the London Constructing Excellence Club website.

(You may need a barcode scanner app on your phone)

#### 2014 Meeting Feedback Report

#### Introduction

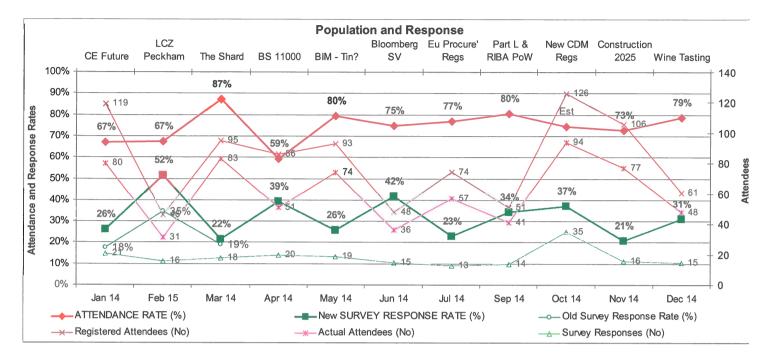
Following each event, we undertake a survey in order to capture attendee satisfaction, improvement items and ideas for future events.

#### Meeting Attendance and Survey Response

On average, 82 people register for each meeting and c61 people attend, giving a mean attendance rate of c74%. The highest attendance event this year was for a presentation on the New CDM Regulations, where c94 people attended. It should be noted that the turnout rate for the Christmas wine-tasting event was, again, significantly below expectations, with c20% of people registered not turning up, incurring unacceptable costs for the Club and disappointment for those who were unable to book a ticket. Thus, the Committee have decided that members who register for the event should be charged a deposit (to cover fixed costs), which will be refunded upon attendance.

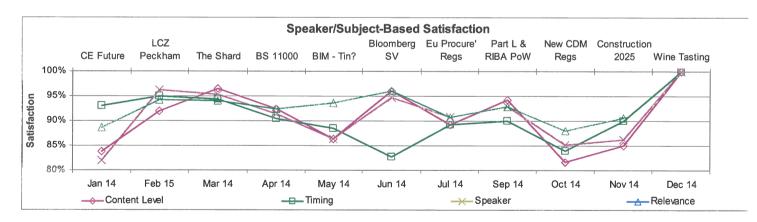
On average, 18 people complete the survey after each meeting, giving a mean response rate of c32%. Whilst, the survey response rate is acceptable, the

Committee is conscious that a higher response rate always provides greater credibility to the reported results.



#### Speaker/Subject Performance

The Club remains fortunate in continuing to attract high-calibre speakers to speak on pertinent topics. On average, survey respondents scored their satisfaction with the Content of meetings at c89%, and with the Speakers at c89%. Other than the Christmas wine tasting, the highest scoring events for Content were The Shard presentation and the Bloomberg HQ site visit, both achieving satisfaction scores of 96%. Similarly, the highest scoring event for Speaker, was the Low Carbon Zone Peckham, which achieved a satisfaction score of 96%.

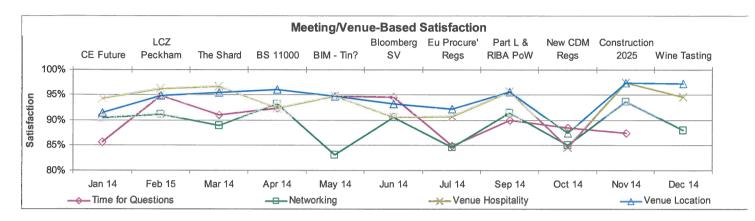


#### Meeting/Venue Performance

The Committee continues to review and learn from meeting feedback. On average, survey respondents scored their satisfaction with the Time for Questions at c88%, and with the Networking at c87%.

The Committee expects to continue to hold the majority of Club meeting at the London Capital Club. During the year, feedback was received following several well

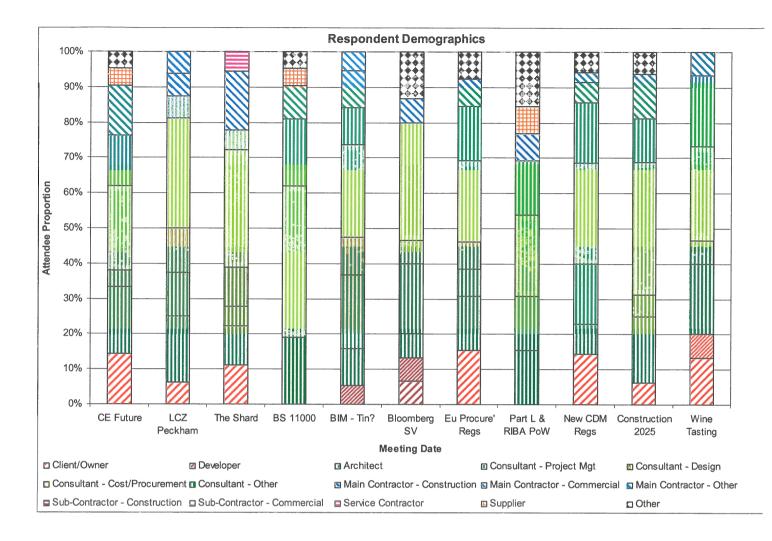
attended meetings on the topics of: crowding, room temperature and ability to hear the speaker. Thus, during the year, the Committee has made several changes to meeting arrangements, including: hiring additional space, when appropriate, and purchasing radio microphones and a mini-PA unit for use when the turnout is expected to be high. On average, survey respondents scored their satisfaction with the Venue Hospitality at c91%, and with the Venue Location at c91%.



#### Respondent Demographics

Constructing Excellence is a "cross-sector, cross-supply chain, member led organisation operating for the good of industry and its stakeholders". Thus, as a CE Club, we monitor the demographics of our membership.

Survey respondents, who include both members and non-members, identified themselves as belonging to the following generic industry groupings: clients and developers, 9%; architects and other consultants, 75%; main contractors, 9%; subcontractors, suppliers and other supply-chain members, 3%; and others, 5%.



Paul R Greenwood

15th January 2015

#### 2014 Social Media (Twitter) Report

#### Introduction

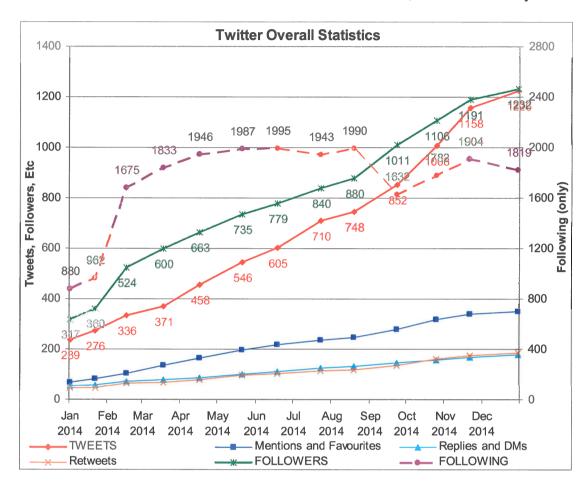
Last year the Committee established @LondonCEClub to help: publicise events, provide feedback to speakers, and rebroadcast pertinent messages from other Constructing Excellence sources.

The performance of the twitter feed is analysed and reported each month, using conventional output measures (eg. number of followers, mentions, replies), which have been used for this report.

For the last three months, data has also been captured using Twitter Analytics, which provide a wide variety of output/outcome measures (eg. number of engagements and engagement rate), which may be used in future reports.

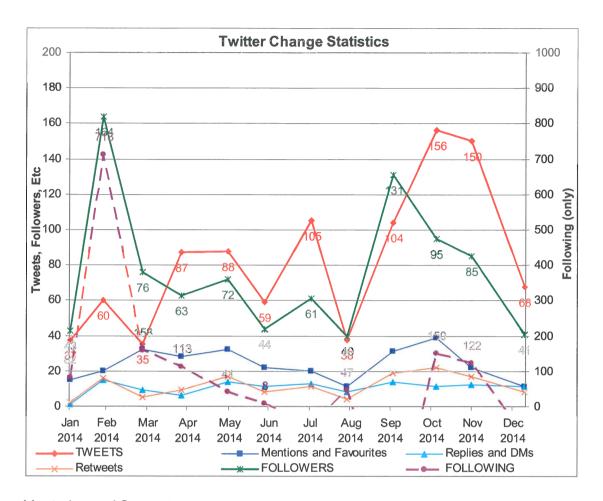
#### Overall Analysis

The Club continues to attract a steadily increasing number of followers through the process of targeting followers who, it is hoped, will follow the Club's twitter feed. Thus, the number of followers has increased from c320 to c1,230 over the last year.



#### Monthly Analysis

The twitter account is regularly, but not particularly actively, maintained. Potential followers are frequently identified and followed in an opportunistic manner. Apperiodically, a burst of administrative action is used to attract larger numbers of new followers (eg. spikes in February, July, September and December). Typically, organisations/people in London and the South-East, that are already followers of Constructing Excellence, BIM, architecture, property, housing, infrastructure and engineering Twitter feeds, are targeted. All following is managed within Twitter's ceiling of 2,000.



#### Mentoring and Support

Thank you to all who have followed us, or RT'd our messages, this year. In particular, thanks go to the following for their advice and/or Twitter feeds before/during our meetings:

- @Rob\_Garvey
- @EEPaul
- @TimRFitch

#### Paul R Greenwood

15th January 2015