

PORT HEALTH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Minutes

Port Health SIG Open Members Meeting

1st July 2009

Trafalgar Room
HMS Nelson
Portsmouth

In attendance

Ian Murray	Chairman	MOD
John Robinson	President	Manchester PHA
Roger Cork	Vice President	Swansea Bay PHA
Terry Nevin	Vice President	Retired
Mark Ball	Vice President	F S A
David Jones	Hon Secretary	Portsmouth PHA
John Ambrose	Hon Treasurer	London PHA
Jimmy McLean	Regional Councillor	London Division
Marc Carrington	Regional Councillor	West Coast Division
Bill Arnold	Regional Councillor	West Coast Division
Tim Ashley	Regional Councillor	East Coast Division
Linda Gower	Member	Portsmouth PHA
Jason Coward	Member	Cardiff PHA
Gary Gould	Member	MOD
Iain Pocknell	Member	Crawley B.C.
Alister Witt	Member	MOD (RN)
Warren Haynes	Member	MOD (RN)
Paul Naylor	Member	MOD
Matthew Palmer	Member	H.P.A.
Mike Northeast	Member	Retired
A Hall	Guest	Manchester PHA

Meeting commenced 11:15 am
Meeting finished 15.45 pm

12/09 Apologies

Ivan Bratty	Nic Vines	Ronnie Alexander	Ian Lee
Laurie Dettman	Brenda McRory	Jack McQuoid	Colin Daines
Ken Wolstenholme	Phil Eastrel	Louise Storey	Geoff Smith
Tony Baldock	Martin Waker	Kelly Scott	John Pegg
Wendy Cull	Bryan Shaw	Tim McKillen	Roy Kaye
Robin Catchlove	Alison Willis	Mark Holden	Jon Avern
Robert Bond	Chris Melville	Nigel Emery	Jo Hackwood
Bev Edmondson	Tony Sprackling		

13/09 Minutes of the Port Health SIG Meeting –B.A Offices 11th February 2009

The minutes were proposed by Roger Cork and seconded by Terry Nevin as being a true record of the meeting. This was agreed by the members present

14/09 Matters arising

Item 58/08 (as in minutes) Ship Information Management System (SIMS)

John Robinson reported that the APHA Board is expected to endorse the project at its next meeting on 14th July 2009 and it is hoped to go live shortly afterwards. There have been many changes to the system since the launch of SIMS. They hope to allow authorities to use P.C's rather than PDA's. Now on Version 8 of the scheme

Item 62/08 Student Resource Pack

John Ambrose reported that the working group is due to meet next week to finalise the case studies. Iain Pocknell has offered to help with an airport imported food case study. Peter Wright (CIEH) has prepared a handbook of information for students and has asked for each Regional/SIG Management Board to visit those universities that run accredited courses and speak to the Freshers re membership etc. It was agreed that the SIG would ask its Regional Councillors to contact the universities in their Region and encourage the students to join the SIG.

15/09 Correspondence

The Secretary reported that a profile on the Port Health SIG appeared in the May issue of The Environmental Health Journal.

16/09 Hon Treasurer's Report

John Ambrose reported that the current balance stood at £12,284.53p (this includes the money received for the recent IHR Seminar but before any expenses have been paid out). The FSA have been reimbursed the £3,000 that they gave for the Study Tour. This year's funding has been received from CIEH along with a VAT refund of £383.78p

17/09 Regional Policy Co-ordination Group – Chadwick Court – 5th May 2009 attached fact sheet/briefing notes.

A copy of the briefing notes of the meeting was made available to members although there was no one available from the SIG to attend. It is hoped that a member of the Management Board will attend the September meeting.

18/09 Meeting of Region SIG Chairman & Secretaries Chadwick Court 9th June 2009 - see notes and action points

The Secretary gave the meeting a summary of the briefing notes. The main points covered included streamlining administration of regions, branches and SIG's, Roadshow update, Funding for 2010 and Core Competencies. Mark Ball suggested that a Policy Officer from CIEH attend a future SIG meeting to brief members. Secretary will progress the matter.

19/09 Feedback from IHR Seminar

The Seminar was a success with 53 paying delegates attending There was a very positive feedback on the quality of the speakers who came from UK, Germany Holland and Belgium. It is hoped to make around £1,000 profit for both the SIG and APHA after expenses.

20/09 APHA Update

John Robinson reported that as from 1st June 2009, Sandra Westacott (Southampton PHA) has taken over the position of Chief Executive of APHA. Sandra will undertake the role 2 days/week

Iain Pocknell reported that the APHA Airport Committee is dealing with such subjects as the registration of aircraft as food premises. There has been some reluctance from certain airlines

to register but most have now done so. Other topics discussed include supply and distribution of water and disinsection of aircraft.

Ged Burden (Southampton PHA) is currently redrafting the "Good Practice Guide for Aircraft.

Discussion took place within the meeting regarding the lack of a forum for operational staff at airports and airlines. The consensus was that APHA should take the lead in building up connections with the airline industry while the SIG would be happy to provide support and expertise.

21/09 CIEH Boards/Committees – SIG rep update

Policy & Development Board: Jon Avern's No report

Education & Professional Development Committee: Donna Baldwin No report

Qualifications Board: Tim McKillen attended a meeting at Chadwick Court on 22nd April 2009. The main matters discussed were CHGL, their products & services along with developing the ELP and professional examinations to support specialist and hybrid qualifications

22/09 Any other Business:

Bursaries: It was agreed at yesterday's M.B meeting that the SIG will offer 3 x 1 day places to this year's APHA Conference due to be held in Newcastle from 8-10th September. The bursary will cover one night's accommodation and up to £50 towards travelling expenses

Seminar Secretary: A vacancy has arisen for the post of Seminar Secretary. As the post is up for re-election in February 2010, the Secretary will invite applications for a casual appointment until that date

Terry Nevin attended a meeting of the International SIG on behalf of the Port Health SIG on 30th March 2009. Representatives from all Regions and SIG's were asked to attend to relaunch the group. Terry will continue to update the SIG on the development of the Group and possibly look at carrying out a joint meeting with them in the future.

Mark Ball gave an update from the FSA. The Agency has been consulting over its 5 year Strategic Plan and it is likely that imported food will form the key strand. Other topics being considered include looking at a national Port Health Information Management System and the formation of a small "Emerging Risks Unit" that will help try and identify trends in contamination/import issues and target those foodstuffs for increased surveillance.

Mark is moving post to Brussels in August - Rob Griffen will be his replacement.

23/09 Date & Time of next meeting

Belfast PHA has kindly offered to host the next meeting It is due to be held sometime in November. Full details will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Vote of thanks

The Chairman thanked Alister Witt and his colleagues from the RN for kindly hosting today's meeting. Following a buffet lunch and presentations, members were given a tour of HMS Victory.