



279th Meeting of the IOSH Thames Valley
Branch held on 21st May 2018 at the University of
Reading

Members present: Stewart Andrews, David Armstrong, Paul Beaumont Vince Butler, Jane Brown, Charlie Cribbes, Graham Dandridge, Tim Dixon, Achilleus Iheozor-Ejidfor Joe Fullbrook, Laura Graure, David Heath, Brian Horne, Grahame Jamieson, Zusanna Lalanne, Brian Middlemiss, Richard Mumford, Kelly Nicoll, Graham Parker, Tyrone Partridge, Alan Poole, Jim Prowse, Steve Pulling, Aline Manot Ronceray, Deb Steer, Greg Szurek, Steve Turner, Chris Williamson.

Apologies for absence: , Nick Bathurst, Rebecca Russell Chris Stops

Visitors: Bridget Leathley, Yvonne Reyes.

Matters arising : The branch twitter account is now working - @iosh_thames for users. It will only be successful if we do use it. Graham will put news and branch details on it.

Members questions and anecdotes.

A member recommended reading the interim report from Dame Judith Hackett on the Grenfell fire.

Steve Pulling reminded everyone that the Thames Water Safety Hub has lots of current items of unusual occurrences and useful information for all to access.

Forthcoming meetings : There is a visit to the Diamond Light source on 18th June 2-4.30pm.

Contact the branch secretary to register. Kevin Bridges of Pinsent Masons will give a legal update in the evening of 18th June at Reading University.

Topic for the evening: Group discussion on effects of Brexit.

The subject was introduced by Bridget Leathley from Metropolitan Branch. Bridget has recently written an article in the IOSH magazine. Her slides will be available from the Secretary.

The members were then split into 3 groups, to discuss the following questions :

Post Brexit, what piece(s) of UK / EU legislation or regulations could cause concern in the way our businesses operate if it was repealed and why ?

There are a number of regulations and agreements which if not reciprocated post Brexit, could cause a problem, such as REACH, medicines, radionuclide's. However these could also cause problems for the EU so it's in everyone's interest to sort it. We could repeal some less than effective regs –Manual handling operations, DSE were mentioned.

Many of our IOSH members work for companies who operate throughout Europe. Post Brexit, what difficulties could arise in terms of working in the EU ?

Not thought to be a problem – there will continue to be a mutual need for us to work there and visa versa

Who cares about Brexit, surely we are working on a moral global stage where borders don't matter.

There could be a race to the bottom – cutting costs in all areas including Health & Safety. Our stance should be to 'hold the moral high ground'

The slides are in the document library of the Thames Valley branch microsite.

Reply to: David Heath, Branch Secretary

Heath410@btinternet.com Tel: 01628 634523