



**THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DEMOLITION CONTRACTORS LTD
83RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE LANDMARK HOTEL, LONDON, NW1 6JQ
GRAND BALLROOM**

**FRIDAY, 23RD MARCH 2024 COMMENCING AT 9.45 AM. PROMPT
Refreshments served from 8.45 a.m.**

***** APPROVED MINUTES *****

In Attendance:

John Lynch	NFDC President / Newline Midlands Ltd
Gary Bishop	NFDC Vice President / Bromley Demolition Ltd
Duncan Rudall	NFDC CEO
Lesley Ransome	NFDC CFO
Alex Ellison	NFDC Marketing Manager
Iain Kirk	NDTG Group Training Officer
Carl Payne	NFDC North East Regional Chairman / BDB Dismantling Ltd
Mark Nicholls	NFDC Midland & Welsh Regional Chairman / Apex Demolition
Ashley Grant	NFDC London & Southern Regional Chairman / Wessex Demolition & Salvage Ltd
John Connell	NFDC North West Regional Chairman / Connell Brothers Ltd
Craig MacWilliam	NFDC Scotland & Northern Ireland Regional Chairman / MacWilliam Demolition Ltd
Robert Collard	NFDC London & Southern Regional Representative / R Collard
David Hull	NFDC North East Regional Representative / Ron Hull Demolition Ltd
William Sinclair	NFDC Scotland & Northern Ireland HLVP / Safedem Ltd
William Crooks	NFDC HLVP / Cawarden Company Ltd
David Clarke	NFDC HLVP / Clarke Demolition Co Ltd
John Wring	NFDC HLVP / Wring Group Ltd
David Darsey	NFDC HLVP
Iain Kirk	NDTG Group Training Officer
Invited Guest	
Julie White	Build UK/The Drilling & Sawing Association
Joel Vincent	The Drilling & Sawing Association
Graham Watts	Construction Industry Council
Jan Andresen	HSE
Vernon Watson	IDE President
Danny McShee	Kennedys Solicitors
Naomi North	Kennedys Solicitors
Shona Farrell	NDTG Scotland

NFDC Members

Andrew Horton	Albion Jones Ltd
Noel McLean	Armac Demolition Ltd
Danny McGee	Balicrest Ltd
Mat Hinds	Bath Demolition Ltd
Nick Brown	Brown & Mason Group Ltd
Mason Brown	Brown & Mason Group Ltd
Jack Brown	Brown & Mason Group Ltd
Chris Charlton	C J Charlton Group Ltd
Bob Jackson	C Jackson & Sons (Bedford) Ltd
Adrian Grew	Cabcare
Michael Callaghan	Callaghan Demolition Ltd
Mike Bossom	Capital Financial (UK) Ltd T/A Asset Funder
Lee Brenard	Capital Financial (UK) Ltd T/A Asset Funder
Carl Byford	Capital Service Group Ltd
James Cullip	Capital Service Group Ltd
Ross Craig	Central Demolition Ltd
Iain Sneddon	Central Demolition Ltd
Gary Renouf	Clarke Demolition Co Ltd
Ian O'Connor	Clifford Devlin Ltd
Mark Carless	Colemans
Dave Murphy	Collins Demolition Ltd
Chris Lythgoe	Collins Demolition Ltd
Mark Riley	Connell Brothers Ltd
Barry Connell	Connell Brothers Ltd
Karol Zloty	DDS (Demolition) Ltd
Michael Hennessy	DDS (Demolition) Ltd
Wesley Ray	DDS (Demolition) Ltd
Archie Ray	DDS (Demolition) Ltd
Mark Cheeseman	Demarec UK Ltd
Paul Birch	Demarec UK Ltd
Jos Boerdonk	Demarec UK Ltd
Lee Rowbotham	Demex Ltd
Simon Ogden	DSR Demolition Ltd
Charles Cheriton	Econ Group Ltd
Karen Hawtin	ECY Haulmark Ltd
Richard Yarwood	ECY Haulmark Ltd
Matthew High	Embassy Demolition Contractors Ltd
Stuart Accleton	Erith Contractors Ltd
James Scholey	European Metal Recycling Ltd
Greg Common	European Metal Recycling Ltd
Alex Murrell	European Metal Recycling Ltd
Carol Bridgland	Fenchurch Insurance Brokers Ltd
Jamie Coyne	Fenchurch Insurance Brokers Ltd
Matt Giddings	Global Machinery Solutions

Jeff Balmer	Hampshire Environmental Services Ltd
Jack Rumbol	Havio
Jack Musto	Haywood Crushing Demolition Ltd
David Cobern	Haywood Crushing Demolition Ltd
Tony Hill	Hill Demolition LLP
Tom Fitzsimmons	Hill Demolition LLP
Ryan Noon	Howard Stott Demolition Ltd
Howard Stott	Howard Stott Demolition Ltd
Danny Byng	Hughes & Salvidge Ltd
Lewis Smith	Hughes & Salvidge Ltd
Sam Percival	Inmalo - International Markets (London) Ltd
Dan Simpson	Inmalo - International Markets (London) Ltd
Belinda Boughtwood	Inmalo - International Markets (London) Ltd
John Freeley	J Freeley Ltd
Sean Freeley	J Freeley Ltd
Paul Deacy	Keltbray Ltd
Karl Larcombe	M&M Demolition Co Ltd
Sophie Davis	Matthews (Sussex) Ltd
Kevin Bowerman	Maylarch Environmental Ltd
Javier Lafuente	Maylarch Environmental Ltd
Tom McGee	McGee Group (Holdings) Ltd
John Rimmer	Morrisroe Demolition Ltd
Chloe Bint	Morrisroe Demolition Ltd
Bobby Corsinie	Morrisroe Demolition Ltd
Nathan Loader	Mutley Plant Service Ltd
Carl Dinnage	Mutley Plant Service Ltd
Hollie Mills	New Era Energy
Pete Hart	Number 8 Resourcing Ltd
Kelly Matthews	Paragon Business Finance Plc
Andy Green	Portsmouth Demolition & Salvage Ltd
Daniel Green	Portsmouth Demolition & Salvage Ltd
Chris Goodfield	Prichard Demolition Ltd
Ryan Lee	Redhead Demolitions Ltd
Luke Ward	SANY Heavy Machinery (UK) Ltd
Phil Stock	SANY Heavy Machinery (UK) Ltd
Victor Mallett	Global Machinery Solutions Ltd
Lee Goswell	Shorts Group Ltd
Ben Milward	Shorts Group Ltd
Gary Short	Shorts Group Ltd
Andrew Hope	Shorts Group Ltd
Mark Treanor	Southern Demolition Co Ltd
Tom Bishop	Syd Bishop & Sons (Demolition) Ltd
Mark Clements	T L Dallas (City) (incorporating Buckingham House)
Sharon Haskill	T R Demolition (UK-International) Ltd
Chris Ivey	The Health & Safety People
Mark Horsley	The Metal Recycling Group Ltd

Sean Jobson	The Metal Recycling Group Ltd
Nathan Pidgley	Total Metal Recycling Ltd
Ian Pidgley	Total Metal Recycling Ltd
Stella Wright	Total Reclaims Demolition Ltd
Mark Cross	Total Reclaims Demolition Ltd
Ewan Cross	Total Reclaims Demolition Ltd
Gary Kettel	Total Waste Management Ltd
Victoria Cook	UK Site Hoarding Ltd
Oliver Bassett	UK Site Hoarding Ltd
Jamie Afnaim	Unimetals Trading Limited
Tom Sloan	Unimetals Trading Limited
Mike Weaver	Weaver Demolition Ltd
Chole Lawless	Windsor Waste Management Ltd
Sean Heron	Worsley Plant Ltd
Callum Poole	Worsley Plant Ltd
Adrian Nixon	Worsley Plant Ltd
Kevin Moore	Worsley Plant Ltd
Tom McDonnell	Pinner

AGENDA ITEM	COMMENT	ACTION
1.	<p>President’s Welcome – John Lynch The President welcomed the members to the 83rd AGM of the NFDC.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence – John Lynch » Noted as received at Resurgam House. Apologies for absence were received from Charmaine O’Connor – P P O’Connor Group, Ross Redhead of Redhead Demolitions Ltd and Daltons Demolitions Ltd.</p> <p>Apologies received by NFDC Head Office prior to AGM Meeting: Dean Manders – Valori London Ltd, Mark Hodgson – Best Demolition Ltd, Salina Hardman – Greenfield Demolition Nationwide Ltd, Keith Plenty- KCP Demolition Ltd, Rob Eastaff – Anglian Demolition & Asbestos Ltd, Phil Farnham – Cardiff Demolition Ltd, Downwell Enabling, Liam O’Donnell – KDC Veolia Decommissioning Services UK Ltd, Jerome Greenbank – Lowery Demolition, Campbell Associates Ltd, Leigh Harris – Sany Heavy Machinery (UK) Ltd, Indeco (UK) Ltd</p> <p>» Please ensure you sign the attendance register. The President reminded the members to sign the attendance register.</p>	
3.	<p>Notice Convening – John Lynch » (Issued on 26.02.2024 in accordance with the 2005 Memorandum & Articles of Association).</p>	

	<p>The notice convening the meeting was issued on the 26th February 2024 in accordance with the 2005 Memorandum and Articles of Association.</p> <p>The President informed the members that the meeting would be recorded to aid the production of the minutes of the meeting. Recordings will be deleted once the minutes have been transcribed.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes of the 82nd Annual General Meeting Held on 24th March 2023 – John Lynch The minutes were circulated to all members in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>It was proposed that the minutes of the 82nd Annual General Meeting be accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by: John Wring Seconded by: William Sinclair</p>	AD
5.	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes – John Lynch There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.</p>	
6.	<p>President’s Report – John Lynch The NFDC President delivered his report.</p> <p>The last twelve months have been very eventful within the Federation. The new CEO, Duncan Rudall, has had time to settle in and find his feet. JL was pleased to say that DR’s enthusiasm has been infectious around the whole of our organisation. The NFDC are in the first year in the new office in Hemel Hempstead, and the President took the opportunity to thank all the NFDC staff for their enthusiasm and hard work that they have shown for the benefit of all the NFDC members.</p> <p>The President was pleased to announce that a new second Vice-President, Adrian Corrigan – GBM Demolition Ltd, had been elected on the previous day; a round of applause was given from the floor. The President reported that this was a temporary, twelve-month position due to the previous second Vice-President, Simon Barlow, having to resign from the position at short notice. JL added that a vote on the permanent second Vice-President role would take place next year.</p> <p>The President presented the Chain of office to the second Vice-President, Adrian Corrigan; a round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>The President reported that, sadly, the NFDC had lost some prominent, well known demolition contractors over the past year. The NFDC had welcomed both new Corporate and new ISP Members over the past year, and membership numbers of the NFDC remain stable.</p>	

The NFDC had run several seminars across the UK in conjunction with the HSE, and the President thanked Jan Andresen of the HSE for making this possible. The seminars have been a great success and have outlined to clients their roles and responsibilities under the CDM regulations. The President expressed thanks to Vernon Watson, President of the IDE, and John Woodward, of C&D. The President thanked Duncan Rudall, NFDC CEO, adding that the seminars would not have been possible or as successful without DR's hard work.

The NFDC will continue run the seminars across the UK over the next twelve months, and the President noted that the NFDC have received a lot of positive feedback from the seminars, and that some major clients have now stated that they will only use NFDC members.

The President thanked the NFDC National Council for the support that they have provided to him in his role and in, particular expressed thanks to Gary Bishop – NFDC Vice President and Simon Barlow – 2nd Vice President.

The 2023 NFDC Annual Convention was held in Killarney and was a great success, and the NFDC had welcomed the General Secretary of the EDA, and the President of the NDA to the Business Meeting held at the event, and both had shared the problems that the demolition industry is currently facing in their own countries, which are the same problems that NFDC members are experiencing in the UK. The President reported that the demolition industry in Europe has seriously slowed down, more so than in the UK. JL was very proud that the Secretary of the EDA had commented that the NFDC was an example to the rest of the countries in the EU, adding that NFDC members do not give themselves enough credit. The President had enjoyed catching up with members from across the UK.

The President reported that, in order to save money, the 2024 Annual Convention would be organized in-house, and Lesley Ransome - NFDC CFO/Company Secretary will lead on the organization of the event. The President was excited to announce that the 2024 Annual Convention will be held in Rome, and Alex Ellison – NFDC Marketing Manager will provide further details later in the meeting.

The President congratulated Thompsons of Prudhoe and Colemans for winning at the World Demolition Awards, which JL stated was a fantastic achievement for the two NFDC members, adding that the NFDC stand tall on the world global stage.

The National Council has received legal advice that the NFDC Articles of Association are not fit for purpose and are contradictory. The President reported that the Articles of Association were first produced over eighty years ago, for a small Federation working from tiny offices. JL was proud that the NFDC is no longer a small organization, but a professional Federation. To protect all the NFDC Members and the members of the National Council, the

	<p>Articles of Association will need to be updated, and the President was hopeful that he would have the support of the Members to complete this task. Duncan Rudall will discuss this in more detail later in the meeting.</p> <p>The President thanked all the NFDC employees and staff for all their hard work over the past twelve months and was pleased to report that the NFDC staff members will join the Members at the Awards Luncheon.</p> <p>The President expressed special thanks to Lesley Ransome, who continues to go the extra mile on behalf of the NFDC, not just as a Chief Financial Officer, but ensuring that the operation runs like a well-oiled clock.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Annual Accounts of the Federation & Appointment of Auditors – Lesley Ransome</p> <p>Lesley Ransome, NFDC Company Secretary & CFO, introduced herself to the meeting, explaining that her main responsibility is to oversee the financial transactions that take place during the year, and to ensure that the NFDC stay within the parameters of the annual budgets.</p> <p>Hillier Hopkins, the NFDC accountant, had undertaken a financial audit for the year ending 31st October 2023. LR was pleased to report that Hillier Hopkins had confirmed that all internal controls and procedures had been followed correctly and no concerns had been raised. The accounts will be filed at Companies House following the AGM, in accordance with the 2005 Articles of Association.</p> <p>The reported turnover for the 2023 financial year was £996,000, an increase on the previous year of just over 1%. The pre tax net profit was £109,000. Direct costs had been reduced by 46%, which was mainly attributed to a reduction in the production of publications. There was a 15% reduction in auditing fees. There was a minimal increase in overheads at 4.8%, and LR reported that increases in such things as rates and legal and professional fees had been cancelled out by the reduction in advertising, trade subscriptions, etc.</p> <p>At the end of the 2023 financial year there were 135 Corporate Members and 88 ISP Members.</p> <p>Discussing the sale of the old NFDC premises, LR reported that Bull Homes had been unable to complete on the agreed date. The National Council had agreed to provide Bull Homes with a variation, which extends the completion date to the end of March 2024. During the last twelve months Bull Homes have paid all the building and utilizes costs at the premises. Interest on outstanding monies has been charged on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The NFDC are in the process of purchasing an investment property from Bull Homes for the sum of £390,000. This purchase will be offset against Bull</p>	

	<p>Home’s outstanding balance of £500,000 and the NFDC anticipate receiving the final payment of £110,000 will be received from Bull Homes within the next month.</p> <p>During the financial year, over £114,000 had been donated to 41 deserving charities, the donations were very well received and enabled the charities to continue the incredible work that they do. LR stated that none of this would have been possible without the generosity of the NFDC members. LR reported that 17 members had run the London Marathon and had raised an additional £45,000 which was donated to four charities, the Snowdon Trust, DEBRA, Macmillan, and the Alzheimer’s Society.</p> <p>LR reported that 17 members will run the London Marathon in 2024. On behalf of the NFDC President and all members of the National Council, LR wished all runners the very best of luck, and thanked all those taking part for their continued support.</p> <p>LR proposed that Hillier Hopkins be reappointed as the NFDC auditor for the financial year ending the 31st October 2024.</p> <p><i>Carried by a show of hands.</i></p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>ACTION: LR to reappoint Hillier Hopkins as NFDC Auditor</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Chief Executive’s Report – Duncan Rudall</p> <p>A minute’s silence was observed in remembrance of Mr. Terry Brown who had recently passed away.</p> <p>Duncan Rudall reported that the seven months since he took up the CEO role had been very busy.</p> <p>DR thanked the staff of the NFDC and NDTG for all their hard work and support.</p> <p>DR attended the regional meetings where he had been made very welcome. DR stated that there had been good debates, some complaints at the regional meetings, and some very interesting topics had been discussed, all of which were proactive and things that the NFDC can move forward.</p> <p>DR has spent a lot of time building relationships with external organisations. The NDTG will partner with NDTG Scotland to look at a neurodiversity bid, which DR felt was a very important area for the industry to look at.</p> <p>DR reported that the Wood Waste position statement would be removed in May 2024. DR urged the members to share any wood waste testing results</p>	<p>8</p>

	<p>with the NFDC. The NFDC will share this with the WRA, who will use the data to support discussions with EA.</p> <p>The ESA have brought in a new guidance note around asbestos packaging and carrying waste to the tip. DR noted that some people have been turned away from tips because waste was not in sealed skips or the correct bags. DR noted that not all waste comes under ADR. DR has met with the ESA, and the DGSA expert, and the HSE. The HSE asked DR to circulate a poll to NFDC members asking what is defined as a skip and what is defined as a bin. DR noted that, to date, he has not received enough responses to the poll, and it will therefore be recirculated to the members; DR urged the members to complete and return the poll. DR added that NFDC members deposit around 270,000 tons of material per annum, noting that it is very time consuming to put this waste into skips, adding that using skips also increases exposure for operatives. DR reported that the ESA has now repealed the notice, but DR noted that this may be brought back going forward. Once DR has received the information from the poll, he will arrange a further meeting with the ESA to try to reach some common ground on how they will accept bonded waste material.</p> <p>The NFDC seminars that were run in 2023 were very successful. The NFDC had also delivered the seminar to the Principal Contractors Forum in Yorkshire, and to the HSE. DR reported that a client who had attended the seminar had removed a non-NFDC contractor from site. DR discussed the importance of contractors being competent, having the right insurance, the right training, and competent staff. The contractor who was removed from the site has now applied for NFDC membership and has accessed the NDTG for training. Further seminars are planned to take place in London, Bristol, and Scotland during 2024. DR would also like to deliver a seminar in Northern Ireland. DR encouraged members to invite their clients to attend the seminar.</p> <p>DR and Iain Kirk NDTG Group Training Officer had met with the HSE, and there had been twenty-five senior HSE inspectors in attendance, and DR and IK had delivered a two-hour seminar talking about demolition plant and what they are used for and grades of concrete. There was very open discussion with regards to drop zones. DR stated that NFDC members are forced to erect scaffolding where they do not necessarily want to put scaffolding, and the HSE had stated that if a client of a local authority insist that the members do this in a particular way then NFDC members could report them to HSE. DR reported that it had been a very successful day.</p> <p>DR discussed the need to recruit new members to the NFDC. Since the beginning of January 2024, the NFDC has received twenty-three corporate member enquiries. Five of these are currently applying for NFDC membership. A further six are now taking the membership forward. Ten ISP Member enquiries have been received, three of these are now members of the NFDC. DR commented that membership is growing in the right direction.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>DR</p>
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	<p>DR reported that he had enjoyed visiting different sites and working with the EDA and the EDI. DR reported that, across Europe, the embodied carbon topic is driving the projects, or not, adding that a lot of European demolition companies are on shutdown as the carbon issue is prohibiting the start of projects. Many countries in the EU now require that a carbon assessment be completed in advance of the project, and DR felt that it was only a matter of time before this became a requirement in the UK. The NFDC and NDTG are assisting the EDA to develop a training programme within the thirty member states and have bought into the card system.</p> <p>DR reported that he would like to see NFDC members attend the 2024 annual convention, and further information would be circulated following the AGM.</p> <p>DR had attended the NDA convention in San Antonio, adding that the NDA has invited more NFDC members to the 2025 convention and DR would be pleased to see NFDC members attend.</p> <p>The NDTG has grown over the past few months and has taken on a tender to deliver training within prisons. The NFDC is looking to its members to provide employment for participants following their release from prison. Prisoners are undertaking training in asbestos awareness, the CCDO labourer course, traffic marshal, CLOCS traffic gateman, banksman, and being provided with PPE, and are therefore leaving prison as trained and qualified operatives. The NDTG are working with Shona Farrell, NDTG Scotland, to try to deliver a similar programme in Scotland.</p> <p>NDTG trainers delivered 211 courses to 1,373 candidates over the last six months; 124 of which were delivered online. Nineteen approved training providers have delivered 220 courses to 1,274 candidates and have delivered 14 online courses.</p> <p>The NDTG are working with Mick O’Brien – Lowery Demolition to provide a training centre to deliver around thirty categories of demolition plant training. DR was hopeful that further satellite sites could be set up across the UK.</p> <p>DR reminded the members that their staff can access fully funded NVQ Assessor training, and urged the members to contact the NDTG if they would like to discuss this further.</p> <p>DR reported that operatives who undertake the Chargehand course can sit an additional exam and also gain the SSSTS qualification. Those who undertake the Supervisor Course can sit an additional exam and also gain the SMSTS qualification.</p> <p>DR reported that he had received a lot of support from the Regional Chairmen.</p> <p>DR invited questions from the floor; no questions were put forward.</p>	
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	<p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>ACTION: DR to re-circulate Asbestos packing Poll</p>	DR
9.	<p>Marketing Report – Alex Ellison Alex Ellison reminded the members to sign the attendance register.</p> <p>AE was pleased to report that two new members of staff have joined the Marketing Team, Jake Grimison, Marketing Executive, and John Grover, Part-Time Graphic Designer.</p> <p>AE discussed the results from the PR agency stating that the NFDC had been included in editorial content across a range of publications. AE added that the NFDC are featuring in wider publications which reach members’ clients. AE stated that this promotes the demolition industry as a whole and champions the NFDC’s five areas of focus.</p> <p>AE reported that the new member area of the NFDC website was launched during the previous week; AE played a video to the meeting, highlighting the key features of the new member area. AE reported that a new bookmark feature had been added to the resources. The website pulls through more membership details, so that members can be confident that the NFDC has the correct information for their company.</p> <p>The 2024 NFDC Annual Convention will be held in Rome; AE played a video to the meeting. The 2024 Annual Convention will be held in the Rome Cavalieri, a Waldorf Astoria Hotel. The golf tournament will be held at the Marco Simone Golf and Country Club. A welcome dinner will be hosted on the terrace overlooking the pool. The Half Yearly Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, followed by lunch; an excursion to the Vatican Museum has been organised for partners and guests. The black tie and gala dinner will be held at the Villa Miani on Saturday evening. A buffet will be organized on Sunday evening. Live entertainment has been organized throughout the weekend.</p> <p>AE reported that there are still sponsorship packages available for the 2024 Annual Convention; members should contact Lesley Ransome if they would like to discuss this further.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>The President expressed his thanks to Fenchurch Insurance Brokers Ltd and Green Power Plant Hire who have provided sponsorship for the Annual Convention.</p>	
10.	<p>HSE Awareness – Jan Andresen Was unavailable to speak.</p>	

<p>11.</p>	<p>Build UK Presentation – Julie White and Joel Vinsant from DSA</p> <p>The President report that Julie White has taken over at Build UK and is keen to work with the NFDC going forward.</p> <p>Julie White reported that they have eight offices nationwide and can cover from Newcastle to Plymouth.</p> <p>Julie White reported that she also has a role in the Drilling and Sawing Association which, like the NFDC, promotes the industry, setting standards and procedures, and marketing themselves to the construction and civil industry.</p> <p>JW reported that she was pleased to have been made Chair of Build UK in September 2023, noting that Build UK is the largest trade association that sits over the whole of the construction industry.</p> <p>Build UK make procedures, ask for the levy, and push apprentices through the industry. Julie White reported that she has a seat on the Prime Minister’s Business Council, and discussions are around what the industry needs, how to get more apprentices into the industry, and how to promote opportunities in the industry to school leavers.</p> <p>Julie White reported that SMEs employ 99.9% of people in the Country. Julie White stated that for every pound spent on construction, two pounds go back into the greater economy.</p> <p>Julie White reported that it is expected that growth in the economy will be small in 2024, but it is moving in the right direction, but noted that inflation, materials costs, and labour costs are challenging. Globally, it is expected that there will be an 8% growth in the industry in 2024, 7% in 2025, and a further 7% in 2026.</p> <p>Julie White reported that she was hopeful that the NFDC would reinstate its membership of Build UK, adding that Build UK are currently working on new initiatives, for example, working with their clients to ensure that they are using Build UK Members.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>The President reported that the NFDC had left Build UK as the NFDC had asked if Build UK would rule that Build UK Members must use NFDC Members for demolition projects. JL added that the NFDC had been paying £17,000 per annum but had felt that they were not getting value for money. JL added that the NFDC members are the elite of the demolition industry and thought that Build UK contractors should have to use competent contractors. The President asked if Build UK could provide any assurance that they would make this part of the criteria for their members, should the NFDC reinstate their Build UK</p>	
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	<p>membership. Julie White discussed Build UK Gold, which will start from the clients down, and Build UK will monitor qualifications, training, etc., adding that Build UK could then push this from the clients and main contractors.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>Joel Vinsant from the Drilling and Sawing Association presented to the meeting.</p> <p>The DSA are working on upskilling the workforce, maintaining high standards and professionalism, and on changing the perception of the industry, and to recognize the industry as a highly skilled trade. The DSA’s affiliation of collaboration and development establishes a community of practice that is essential to ensure correctness on sites.</p> <p>Joel Vinsant discussed the challenges and opportunities that the industry is currently facing.</p> <p>JV discussed the use of technology in the industry, stating that the industry will become more efficient with the use of technology. JV outlined the new innovations and technologies that need to be brought on board. JV stated that embracing these factors will be key to maintaining a competitive edge in a rapidly evolving market.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>Julie White thanked the NFDC for inviting her and Joel Vinsant to speak at the AGM, adding that she looked forward to working with the NFDC going forward.</p> <p>Julie White invited questions from the floor; no questions were put forward.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>CIC Presentation – Graham Watts Graham Watts of CIC presented to the meeting.</p> <p>Graham Watts stated that he had presented to the NFDC during the 1990s, adding that the meeting had been very formal and old fashioned, adding that he has been struck by the ‘go ahead’ organisation that the NFDC is now referring to DR’s presentation, GW stated that he liked the focus on quality of membership, rather than quantity.</p> <p>Graham Watts was happy to share his slides with the attendees following the meeting.</p> <p>GW reported that there are 350 associations and professional bodies in the construction industry, adding that it was important to have a structure that</p>	

	<p>pulls all the different bodies together, noting that the number of associations is increasing.</p> <p>CIC was formed in 1988 and is a body that is formed from professional institutions. The name was changed to the Construction Industry Council in 1991. GW stated that the CIC view the NFDC as a professional organisation and was pleased to hear the NFDC President discussing the professionalism of the NFDC members. GW reported that he was delighted that the NFDC had rejoined CIC in 2024 and was hopeful that the NFDC will play an active part in the organization. CIC reported that while only professional bodies can join the CIC, companies can be associated with the CIC.</p> <p>GW reported that the CIC are facing the same issues that the NFDC are concerned with but noted that the CIC do not get involved in demolition related issues unless the NFDC asks them to do so. GW stated that the CIC concentrates on generic issues that are of relevance across the industry, and these are dealt with by a series of panels and groups within CIC. GW stated that the NFDC can be involved in any of the groups. GW stated that the CIC had set up Diversitas last year, and this was concerned with providing opportunities and mentoring for black professionals in the construction industry.</p> <p>GW reported that there has been significant fragmentation in the contracting sector, adding that there is now a much tighter knit arrangement for the supply chain for the contracting sector. GW reported that since 1991 the CIC, Build UK, and the CPA have worked together to lobby the Government.</p> <p>GW discussed the Construction Leadership Council, stating that the CLC provides a single voice to Government, and GW added that the CLC is supported by Government. GW reported that the CLC had come into its own during Covid, acknowledging the work of the CLC and the support of Build UK to develop site procedures, and persuading Government that the industry should remain open during the Covid-19 Pandemic. GW stated that the industry is represented by CIC representing professionals, CDM representing manufacturers, and Build UK representing the supply chain. There are more than twenty Government departments associated with the construction industry.</p> <p>GW reported that the CIC will do their policy work either through the CSE or the all-party parliamentary group for excellence in built environments, which the CIC host and run. The CIC updates its members via regular communications and regular newsletters, GW added that NFDC members have access to this information.</p> <p>GW discussed two reports that the CIC has produced and the policy successes that were achieved through the reports.</p>	
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	<p>GW reported that the CIC provides training facilities for university students at CITB in Bircham Newton. GW added that this facility allows students from different disciplines to work together to build a scale model of an iconic project. GW recommended that the attendees visit this facility to see the process in action, adding that it is one of the best examples of practical training in the industry.</p> <p>GW discussed the report that was produced after the Grenfell tragedy; the report establishes standards and competence frameworks across twelve disciplines within the industry. GW advised the members to read the report, noting that it is free to download, adding that the competence standards would become requirements from the 6th April 2024.</p> <p>GW reported that CIC are compiling a living report about where RAAC is and in what buildings, noting that RAAC is present in a large variety of buildings, but in a very small minority. A report had been produced on the issues related to investigating and assessing RAAC and had produced a statement of frequently asked questions. GW reported that the 30-year lifespan of RAAC that has been reported in the media is nonsense, adding that the issue is that the integrity of RAAC is compromised by poor maintenance. GW added that the report will be published in the next four to six weeks and will be freely available via the CLC.</p> <p>Questions were invited from the floor; no questions were put forward.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>The President reported that he had received a text message from Jan Andresen who, unfortunately, would not arrive until the luncheon.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>Kennedy’s Solicitors Presentation – Danny McShee Danny McShee thanked the NFDC for inviting him to present to the AGM.</p> <p>DM stated that he had worked for Kennedy’s Solicitors for thirty years and had spent that time specializing in the HSE and health and safety. DM stated that this is the most unpredictable time that he has worked in in respect of enforcement.</p> <p>DM stressed the importance of companies being able to demonstrate safety as part of the thinking when undertaking decision making.</p> <p>DM outlined the types of offences Kennedy’s deal with in regard to enforcement and prosecutions.</p> <p>There has been a big increase in fines for cases that are pursued and also a lower threshold for custody for individuals.</p>	

	<p>GW discussed corporate manslaughter, stating that if the way that activities are managed or organized within a business causes a person’s death then the company becomes guilty of corporate manslaughter. GW added that corporate manslaughter requires a breach to involve the senior management of the organization. GW discussed a recent case where an NHS Trust has been charged with corporate manslaughter.</p> <p>GW reported that a number of companies are being investigated in relation to the Grenfell Tower and there are likely to be charges of corporate manslaughter in respect of this incident.</p> <p>GW also discussed the incident at the Brixton Academy, adding that it feels that there is intent to reinvigorate the offence of corporate manslaughter.</p> <p>GW discussed the sentencing guideline for health and safety offences that came into force in 2015. GW displayed a slide showing the top ten fines for 2022 and 2023, noting that the fines have almost doubled in 2023.</p> <p>GW noted that the prosecution of individuals is quite rare. GW presented a case study in relation an incident which happened in December 2016 and went to trial in June 2022.</p> <p>Naomi North presented to the meeting, stating that she represents companies and their drivers who are involved in serious road traffic collisions, adding that she had seen a real increase in the number of cases she is becoming involved in. Naomi discussed the impact of serious accidents on all parties involved, adding that the police investigation can be very intrusive and can last up to three years. If a driver for an organization is involved in a serious or fatal collision the vehicle could be seized for up to two years.</p> <p>Naomi discussed recent changes to the law, stating that drivers could be imprisoned for life for causing death by dangerous driving. There is a new offence of causing serious injury by careless driving which was introduced in 2023 which could carry a penalty of up to two years imprisonment and an automatic twelve-month disqualification from driving. Naomi noted that there may also be serious implications for the employing company, adding that such incidents can have an impact up to the top of a business. Naomi advised the members to be mindful of what they document if an incident occurs as this could be used in evidence. Naomi discussed the large number of professional drivers that she represents that are still using a handheld mobile phone while driving. Discussing hands free devices, stating the research states that using a hands-free device is the same as driving at the drink drive limit and hands free is still not safe. Naomi advised the members to fit hands free devices in their vehicles, but to minimize any phone contact with the driver.</p>	
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<p>14.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>DR thanked all the speakers. DR added that he was hoping that Kennedy’s would be able to present to some of the Regional Meetings.</p> <p>» Articles of Association - Review of 2005 Articles</p> <p>DR reported that Kennedy’s had reviewed the Articles of Association in 2014 and BTMK had recently reviewed the documents. The NFDC solicitor had reported that the Articles of Association are inadequate, and do not function in line with the workings of the NFDC.</p> <p>Lesley Ransome has been working on the Articles of Association. DR reported that the NFDC have submitted the amended Articles of Association to BTMK who have come back with a response, and clarification on what can and cannot be added to the Articles of Association. The revised Articles of Association will be circulated to all Regional Chairmen. DR and LR will attend each Regional Meeting to get feedback from the members on the revised Articles and answer any queries. The final version of the Articles of Association will be put to a vote of the full membership.</p> <p>DR stressed the need for the regional members to input into this process, noting that a decision needs to be made at the regions as the NFDC cannot continue to work with the Articles of Association in their current form.</p> <p>DR asked that the Regional Chairmen push for members to attend the regional meetings and asked that all members present attend their regional meetings.</p> <p>DR and LR will attend the April 2024 regional members and will then provide feedback to the May 2024 meeting of the National Council. DR added that the National Council does not really want to take the Articles to the regions twice but will send them back to the regions if necessary. DR stated that the National Council are looking to finalise this work by the end of 2024. DR added that the document needs to be finalized and updated by the end of October / November 2024 so that a vote can be taken in January 2025.</p> <p>Once the Articles of Association have been finalized and voted on, the NFDC Rules will be updated to bring them in line with the revised Articles of Association.</p> <p>DR stated that he believes his role is to get the members on a level playing field with tendering work for clients. Linking up with Graham Watts from CIC is a good thing for the NFDC to do as CIC can speak to Government, stressing the importance for the NFDC to be involved as much as possible with such organisations.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p>	<p>DR/LR</p>
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	<p>The President thanked DR. JL stressed the need to finalise the update of the Articles of Association. In 2021 Kennedys had done a lot of work on the Articles in conjunction with David Keane, (a NFDC HLVP and former NFDC President) and the NFDC are now completing final amendments as another firm of solicitors have informed the NFDC that the document is not fit for purpose and no longer aligns with the NFDC Rules. JL would be grateful for the assistance of all members in finalizing the Articles of Association.</p> <p>The President reported that Ashley Grant of Wessex Demolition and Chairman of the L&SC Region is inviting all NFDC Corporate or ISP member to attend the L&SC Raceday on Friday 26th April 2024 at Sandown. Members should contact Ashley Grant, Alex Ellison, or the team at Resurgam House if they would like to attend.</p> <p>The President urged the members to book their places for the NFDC Annual Convention 2024 as soon as possible. JL added that he would like to see all the NFDC members in attendance. The NFDC are looking for sponsorship for the event, and those interested in sponsoring the event should contact Lesley Ransome at NFDC HQ.</p> <p>The President invited question from the floor; no questions were put forward.</p> <p>A round of applause was given from the floor.</p> <p>ACTION: Article of Association to be circulated to the Regional Chairman</p>	
<p>15.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting To be confirmed.</p>	