

# Bridge Owners' Forum

## Who, what, why?

# www.bridgeforum.org

BridgeForum - Owners' Forum

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### BOF

Bridge Owners' Forum

#### Terms of Reference

The following terms of reference were agreed unanimously at BOF27 and submitted to the UK Bridges Board for consideration:

1. Promote co-operation, collaboration and partnership amongst bridge owners
2. Identify technical and research needs/priorities to promote good practice in the management of the bridge infrastructure
3. Disseminate information
4. Recommend research priorities avoiding duplication
5. Provide technical advice/support to the UK Bridges Board and bridge engineers on issues affecting the bridge infrastructure

#### Meetings

Meetings of the Owners Forum take place three times a year.

Meetings are usually held in Cambridge at King's College, but occasionally take place at venues provided by member organisations.

Report No.6 to the Bridges Board on the activities of the Bridge Owners Forum (BOF) for 2008/09

#### Participating Organisations

- BRB (Residuary) Ltd
- Canal and River Trust (responsibilities transferred from British Waterways)
- ADEPT (Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport - formerly CSS)
- CSS Wales
- Department for Regional Development (Northern Ireland)
- Department for Transport
- Highways Agency
- LoBEG (London Bridges Engineering Group)
- London Underground
- Manchester Ship Canal
- Welsh Assembly Government
- National Roads Authority (Ireland)
- Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
- Railway Paths Limited
- SCOTS (Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland)
- Serco Docklands Limited (Docklands Light Railway)
- Sustrans
- Tamar Bridge (Representing UK Large Bridges Group)
- Transport Scotland
- Transport for London

Many of these organisations are also represented on the UK Roads Liaison Group Bridges Board.

Minutes of Bridges Board meetings are available.

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Consultants' Forum

Researchers' Forum

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# Owners' Forum Meetings

## Introduction

Meetings of the Owners' Forum take place three times a year at [King's College, Cambridge](#).

Useful information for those attending meetings:

- [Travel Directions](#)
- [Accommodation in Cambridge](#)
- [AV Equipment](#)

## Summaries of Past Meetings

2000: [BOF1](#)  
2001: [BOF2](#), [BOF3](#), [BOF4](#)  
2002: [BOF5](#), [BOF6/BCF2](#), [BOF7](#)  
2003: [BOF8](#), [BOF9](#), [BOF10](#)  
2004: [BOF11](#), [BOF12](#), [BOF13](#)  
2005: [BOF14](#), [BOF15](#), [BOF16](#)  
2006: [BOF14](#), [BOF15](#), [BOF16](#)  
2007: [BOF20](#), [BOF21](#), [BOF22](#), [BOF23](#)  
2008: [BOF24](#), [BOF25](#), [BOF26](#)  
2009: [BOF27](#), [BOF28](#), [IBF2009/BOF29](#)  
2010: [BOF30](#), [BOF31](#), [BOF32](#)  
2011: [BOF33](#)

2000

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Owners' Forum

Background

Meetings

[BOF62: November 2019](#)

[BOF61: May 2019](#)

[BOF60: March 2019](#)

[BOF59: January 2019](#)

[BOF58: November 2018](#)

[BOF57: May 2018](#)

[BOF56: March 2018](#)

[BOF55: January 2018](#)

[BOF54: October 2017](#)

[BOF53: July 2017](#)

[BOF52: March 2017](#)

[BOF51: January 2017](#)

[BOF50: November 2016](#)

[BOF49: May 2016](#)

[BOF48: January 2016](#)

[BOF47: November 2015](#)

[BOF46: May 2015](#)

[BOF45: January 2015](#)

[BOF44: October 2014](#)

[BOF43: May 2014](#)

[BOF42: January 2014](#)

[BOF41: October 2013](#)

[BOF40: May 2013](#)

[BOF39: January 2013](#)

[BOF38: September 2012](#)

[BOF37: May 2012](#)

[BOF36: February 2012](#)

[BOF35: September 2011](#)

[BOF34: May 2011](#)

[BOF33: February 2011](#)



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IBF

International  
Bridge Forum

**Bridges 2020**


**Management for Long-term Bridge Performance**

King's College, Cambridge, UK

13th - 16th September 2009


**Introduction**

The inaugural International Bridge Forum took place at King's College, Cambridge in September of 2009. In addition to members of the Bridge Owners' Forum from the UK and Ireland, delegates attended from Australia, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United States of America.

 **Participants**

(PDF File 21KB)

**Agenda**

 **Agenda**


(PDF File 92KB)

**Minutes**


Minutes of the forum are in preparation. The minutes will be posted here after a draft has been approved by all the participants.

**Presentations**


**Session 1 - Bridge Asset Management**

 **Introduction - Bridge Asset Management**


Bill Valentine (Transport Scotland, UK) (PDF File 4.05MB)

 **Risk-based Bridge Asset Management in New Zealand**


Rudolph Kotze (New Zealand Transport Agency, NZ) (PDF File 18.58MB)

 **Bridge Management in Ireland**

Liam Duffy (National Roads Authority, Ireland) (PDF File 6.52MB)

 **National Overview of Bridge Condition and Management: Japan**

Masahiro Shirato (Public Works Research Institute, Japan) (PDF File 2.26MB)

 **Long-Term Bridge Performance - LTBP Road Map**

Malcolm Kerley (Virginia Department of Transportation, USA) (PDF File 1.87MB)

**Session 2 - Inspection, testing and monitoring & Condition evaluation**

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What does the website do at the moment?

- informs others about what BOF does
- lists members of BOF
- provides contact details for BOF
- repository for BOF documents (eg minutes of meetings)
- a database of historical information (bridge collapses, HA reports, bridge research etc)

How well does it do it?

- many links are broken and different info in different places
- some pages not populated at all
- difficult and cumbersome to navigate
- are contact details up to date, and is the contact person the most relevant?
- no link to social media

What does it do for BOF's profile?

- old-fashioned/out of date
- inwardly-focused
- not open to engaging with the public
- overall it has a negative impact

What does it **need** to do?

- inform others about what BOF does
- list members of BOF
- provide contact details for BOF and **social media links**
- ~~repository for BOF documents (eg minutes of meetings)~~
- ~~a database of historical information (bridge collapses, HA reports, bridge research)~~



# DISCUSSION.... ...QUESTIONS?

- short-term/long-term fix?
- agree or disagree with comments?
- what should be on the website?
- how to resource (time and funding)
- admin volunteer?

# SOCIAL MEDIA



# BOF on Twitter

BridgeForum

UK Bridges Board Minutes

Bridge Owners Forum (@BridgesForum)

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twitter.com/BridgesForum

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356 Tweets



**BOF**

Bridge Owners' Forum

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Following


**Bridge Owners Forum**

@BridgesForum Follows you


A Forum of Bridge Owners across the UK and Ireland promoting and promulgating bridge related research, developing best practice and supporting UK Bridges Board.

📅 Joined December 2017


82 Following 297 Followers

 Followed by Andy Matthews, RWDI Bridges, and 33 others you follow


Search Twitter




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**Colin Caprani** @ccaprani Follows you

Follow

**Charlotte Rourke** @CharlRourke

Follow

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Show all

What does the Twitter account do at the moment?

- tells the public what BOF does
- shares relevant tweets (bridge collapses, research, reports etc)
- provides a means of contact for anyone finding BOF through Twitter

What doesn't the Twitter account do?

- reactive rather than proactive (being proactive is more time-consuming!)
- doesn't tag or mention others to draw their attention to relevant content
- not much original content
- doesn't link to the website (probably for the best...!)

What does it do for BOF's profile?

- opens it up to an infinite audience (in theory!)
- highlights ongoing issues of concern to BOF
- offers the opportunity for dialogue
- engaging with a younger audience
- overall it has a positive impact



# DISCUSSION...

# ...QUESTIONS?

- who should you be following?
- who do you want to connect to?
- what should you be talking about?
- social media volunteer(s) or other ways to spread the load?

# WHAT ELSE? FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- forward planning for future launches – eg Grand Challenges?
- talking about meetings/presentations/research etc more widely
- relationships with the mainstream media - pitching articles
- create a Linked In group or page for BOF

# BUT IT'S NOT JUST THE BIG THINGS...

- **engaging** with @bridgesforum Twitter posts
- adding 'member of @bridgesforum' to your email signature

ANY QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!

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