



## Bradwell Site

### Minutes of the 45th Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting Held at Minerva Centre, Mundon

Wednesday 25 June 2008

**Present:**

LCLC Executive:

**Brian Main**  
**Cllr John White**  
Miss Rhiannon Williams

**LCLC Chairman\***  
**Deputy Chairman**  
LCLC Secretary

LCLC Members:

Anthony Baker  
**Cllr Brian Beale**  
**Cllr Geoff Betts**  
**Cllr John Bouckley**  
**Cllr Robert Boyce**  
**Cllr Peter Clark**  
Tony Cornish  
Martin Court  
Colin Daines  
**Cllr Tim Drain**  
Ian Drinkwater  
Keith Drysdale  
David Fisher  
John Grierson  
Patrick Haley  
**Cllr John Harrison**  
Simon Hayward  
Paul Hetherington  
Ian Hill  
Rachel Hutchinson  
Tim Jones  
Simon King  
Nigel Knee  
Jenny Lewsey  
Chris Lloyd  
Phil Matthews  
Martin Pearce  
Averil Price  
Lisa Reece-Ford  
Andy Rutson-Edwards  
James Tott  
**Cllr Sylvia Wargent**  
David Warner  
• denotes voting members

University NHS Foundation Trust  
**Maldon District Council**  
**St Lawrence Parish Council**  
**Colchester Borough Council**  
**Essex County Council**  
**Mundon Parish Council**  
St Lawrence Parish Council  
Tendring District Council  
Colchester Borough Council  
**Bradwell Parish Council**  
Althorne Parish Council  
Bradwell Site – EHS&Q Manager  
Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils  
Bradwell Site – Deputy Site Director  
Bradwell Site – Head of Environment  
**Heybridge Parish Council**  
Bradwell Site – Commercial and Finance Manager  
Magnar South – Communications Manager  
Essex Wildlife Trust  
Braintree District Council  
Magnar South – Head of Communications  
Woodham Mortimer Parish Council  
British Energy  
Maldon District Council  
Environment Agency  
Magnar South – ILW MiniStores Project Manager  
British Energy  
Chelmsford Borough Council  
Bradwell Site – Communications Support Officer  
Tendring District Council  
Magnar South – Socio-Economic Co-ordinator  
**West Mersea Council**  
NDA

Members of the public in attendance:

Mr Allan Bird  
Mr David Bragg  
Mrs Val Mainwood  
Andrew Blowers  
Charles Clark  
Moyia Clark



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1768 The Chairman opened the meeting by stating that this was the Annual General Meeting of the LCLC and apologised for the oversight on the agenda. During the Annual General Meeting it will be necessary to address the reconfirmation of office.
- 1769 The Chairman welcomed newcomers to the meeting including: Peter Clark of Mundon Parish Council, Simon King of Woodham Mortimer & Hazeleigh Parish Council, Rachel Hutchinson of Braintree District Council, Nigel Knee and Martin Pearce of British Energy and Tony Cornish of St Lawrence Parish Council, John Harrison is now representing Heybridge Parish Council, Ian Hill of Essex Wildlife Trust and David Warner of the NDA. New members of the public were also welcomed including Moyia Clark, Charles Clark, and Andrew Blowers.
- 1770 It was noted that Bobby Teague has now moved away from the area and will be no longer attending meetings.
- 1771 Brian Main also mentioned that Rhiannon Williams is in the process of putting together a newcomers pack for the future.

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1772 Rhiannon Williams confirmed that apologies were received from:
- Cllr Jean Allen – Bradwell Parish Council
  - Mr Bruce Archer – Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) Site Inspector
  - Ms K Brown – Braintree District Council
  - David Collier
  - Cllr Tony Cussen – Maldon District Council
  - Catherine Draper - NuLeAF
  - Cllr Peter Elliot – Burnham Town Council
  - Mr Adrian Fluker – Asheldham and Dengie Parish Council
  - Cllr John Jowers – Stanway & Pyefleet
  - Cllr Peter Martin – Essex County Council
  - R Rampling – Essex and Suffolk Water
  - Selwyn Runacres – Food Standards Agency
  - Mr Oly Serrano – Bradwell Site Director
  - Cllr M Starke – Rochford District Council
  - June Thompson – Essex County Council
  - Paul Walker – Essex County Council
  - Mr M Webley – Environment Agency
  - Mr Clive Woods – NDA Site Programme Manager
- 1773 Apologies were also received from representatives from: Purleigh Parish Council, Woodham Walter Parish Council, Little Braxted Parish Council.

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 1774 The minutes of the 44th Meeting held on 19 March 2008 were agreed with an amendment made to show that John Bouckley presented Colchester Borough Council.



#### 4. MATTERS ARISING

- 1775      **1718** - V Mainwood expressed her disappointment that her request to have the name of the group 'BRARE' after her name in the minutes was declined. She said that this was important to her as she speaks not in a personal capacity, but a representative of the community group and read an extract of an email which she said was a response from B Main following the request. V Mainwood outlined the history of her relationship with the LCLC by explaining that she had applied for membership of the group on behalf of Bradwell for Renewable Energy (BRARE). On this particular occasion she was simply asking for the group's name to be put in brackets after her own name in the attendees list of the minutes. She had supplied references from two local councillors as to the group's authenticity. Consequently she was at a loss as to why this request had been rejected. V Mainwood subsequently left the meeting.
- 1776      In response to Val Mainwood's comments, B Main explained the history surrounding the issue which included his various attempts to obtain a list of members of the group in an effort to verify the membership and constitution of the group. B Main advised the meeting that he was concerned that no verification of membership or evidence to suggest that membership elections took place was available and he was troubled by the fact that the group did not appear to be open and transparent.
- 1777      B Main explained that his greatest concern would be to endorse a group/body by recognising that they exist, but where their membership cannot be validated. B Main considered that V Mainwood was seeking recognition for being part of a group and her contribution be weighted by the fact that she represents a group.
- 1778      B Main stated that he values V Mainwood's contribution enormously. He agreed with Chris Lloyd that she is an active representative of the public and that he is not closing the door on V Mainwood, but that he is concerned with the precedent that might be set. B Main said that he believes that this LCLC meeting is unique in allowing and actively encouraging members of the public to participate during the meeting to be inclusive.
- 1779      B Beale stated that the LCLC prides itself on being open and transparent and stated that its representation is most important for its credibility. He felt that it should be borne in mind that requests for information could be made under the Freedom of Information Act.
- 1780      Charles Clark said he is currently chairing a group on West Mersea and appreciates the difficulty groups have confirming the legitimacy of their members. He did not consider that V Mainwood was claiming voting membership and considered that it be a positive thing that groups such as this declare their position.
- 1781      S Wargent felt that V Mainwood was implying that we were in the pockets of the NDA however B Main did not feel V Mainwood's comments were interpreted as such and stated that Bradwell LCLC has a reputation for being independent.
- 1782      J Bouckley considered that this matter showed a defect in our constitution and felt that this should be discussed through the sub-group rather than at this meeting. B Main advised the meeting that this matter had previously been discussed by the LCLC sub-group, and that the decision of declining the request was unanimous.
- 1783      B Main confirmed that only publically elected representatives of the people have voting rights at the LCLC. B Main confirmed that the sub-group have reconfirmed that their previous decision has remained unchanged.
- 1784      B Main put the matter to a vote. The results against allowing the representation of the group BRARE after V Mainwood's name was 10/5 against with 2 abstentions.



- 1785      **1722** – Following the presentation on Fuel Element Debris (FED) at the previous meeting, S Wargent advised that she had written a report to update the public. B Main encouraged other councillors to also provide a verbal or written report to their council's. B Main is in discussion with R Williams regarding the production of a sheet to act as an aid memoir for councils following the LCLC meetings.
- 1786      **Item 7 – Socio Economic Funding Distribution Update.**
- 1787      B Beale stated that at the May NDA conference in Edinburgh it became evident that a fund of £10M available for Socio Economic Funding was in fact intended for sites that were shutting down for the purpose of regeneration of local villages along with the input of the LCLC and Councils. B Beale said that there was a lot of discussion as much money was in fact given to sites such as Cumbria which are not shutting down.
- 1788      B Beale asked whether the NDA would indicate what the remit was for the distribution of the £10M.
- 1789      **Item 9 – Expressions of interest for NDA assets.**
- 1790      D Warner confirmed that the NDA issued a request earlier this year inviting expressions for land, property and plant and the NDA are in the process of writing and having discussions with organisations concerned. This exercise closed in April and they are now evaluating expressions of interests received. A Blowers asked that the public be kept informed of progress of discussions and would like to see a presentation organised for local people as to what NDA and British Energy intentions are for the site. B Main said that he is satisfied that they have every intention to do so and drew attention to the fact that representatives of British Energy were in attendance, although it is not the remit of this meeting to discuss new build.
- 5.      SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
- 1791      John Grierson, (deputising for Oly Serrano) provided an overview of the site's activities and explained that Bradwell's main focus has been on hazard remediation. The asbestos project, which is coming to an end, has seen a total of 2,228 tonnes of asbestos being removed from the Boiler Houses which equates to 368 skips to landfill. Scaffold removal was postponed in the area in order to prevent disturbance to a pair of nesting peregrine falcons found on the roof of Reactor 1. Due to the legal protection that the peregrines are afforded, the site have been monitoring the birds remotely. Unfortunately the eggs have not hatched so the site are currently liaising with Natural England to obtain a licence to recover the eggs for analysis.
- 1792      The Ponds deplant and demolition project has seen the removal of the North and South end bay mobile platforms and decontamination, removal and disposal of the 2 tonne skip crane mast. In addition there has been the decontamination and retrieval of 117 fuel skips, 56 fuel skip liners and 18 basket inserts from the Ponds. This is part of an ongoing process which will eventually involve the de-watering of the Ponds.
- 1793      The Circulator Hall Characterisation project has also seen the removal of 16,000 litres of lube seal oil, 143 tonnes of scrap metal for recycling, and the removal of three gas circulators and associated circuits.
- 1794      Regarding the Opportunity for Dissolution project, a 1/3 scale test rig has been built to conduct trials on uncontaminated mixed Magnox cans and splitters which were successfully dissolved. The Site continues to work on the design development and HAZOP studies.
- 1795      The construction of the Low Level Waste (LLW) Management Facility building is also making good progress with the steel structure having been erected and the bison flooring being laid.



- 1796 J Grierson went on to explain that the site has achieved its fourth Gold RoSPA medal and following an audit run by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Service (OHSAS) Bradwell were the first of the Magnox South sites to receive a triple accreditation. Site staff have undertaken IOSH Managing Safely and Working Safely training.
- 1797 Magnox's parent body, EnergySolutions has also provided donations to the Burnham Squib Regatta, Tillingham School for the purchase of outdoor play equipment, Museum of Power towards an exhibit on nuclear power and has supported fundraising events in aid of Essex Air Ambulance. A donation has also been made towards the refurbishment of Bradwell Village Hall.
- 1798 J Grierson went on to explain that at the last LCLC meeting there was a presentation on the NDA's programme of Safe Secure Sites (S3) which has been developed in response to the NDA Business Plan. The NDA asked Magnox to undertake a strategic options analysis for Safe Secure sites. There has been a lot of assessment work on the site and organisational workshops as well as engagement with regulators.
- 1799 The site received an enforcement notice from the Environment Agency following investigation of an incident which occurred when dispatching what was understood to be 28 drums of clean oil off site which activated a gate monitor. In a multi-barrier defence process this was the last barrier and J Grierson confirmed that no material left the site. The site immediately implemented a waste embargo and reviewed quality plans arrangements and implemented an improvement plan.
- 1800 J Grierson delivered a presentation in relation to the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) MiniStores project. J Grierson explained that Magnox are exploring opportunities to innovate decommissioning processes. Each site has intermediate level waste which needs to be stored for approximately 40 years before it can go to a repository. The current strategy is to build a concrete waste store at each site. Within the store, waste would be packaged in thinner 'NIREX' containers. After use the stores would need to be demolished and disposed of as waste.
- 1801 ILW MiniStores have the potential to be used for interim storage on sites, transportation and final disposal to the national repository when it becomes available. ILW MiniStores boxes are built from 30% recycled steel from the nuclear industry and are currently being used throughout the world. Because of the thickness of the walls these boxes are self shielded with no technical equipment requirement for a building around them unless you decide to place them in existing buildings or under weather protection. They could offer more flexibility to the decommissioning programme with the ability to buy individual boxes as and when they are required and the boxes are stackable.
- 1802 An example of an ILW MiniStore was available for attendees to view following the meeting in the car park as well as an example of a NIREX container. Initial business case work has shown that this strategy has the potential to accelerate hazard reduction. This is now being looked at in more detail.
- 1803 In response to J Bouckley's question, J Grierson confirmed that there were no plans to incinerate low level waste at Bradwell.
- 1804 J Bouckley also asked that higher than expected levels of tritium have been reported in air monitoring. J Bouckley said that it has been suggested that the reactors at Bradwell are being vented which might lead to this high level. P Haley confirmed that 'blow downs' of the reactors are no longer conducted.
- 1805 A Bird asked whether the ILW MiniStores could be used instead of the dissolution process. J Grierson confirmed that the potential is there, however options are being left open at the moment and dissolution studies are ongoing.



- 1806 S Wargent – asked whether the ILW MiniStores could withstand earthquakes. P Matthews responded by stating that the weight of the boxes were 18 tonnes when empty. Dropping tests have been conducted from 9 metres and they have withstood these tests.
- 1807 P Matthews confirmed that the boxes can be made by recycling radiologically contaminated material which would normally go to LLW disposal in the UK. The manufacturers can recycle both clean and contaminated metal.
- 1808 J Harrison raised concerns regarding unrepresentative testing. P Matthews responded by stating that there are three different sized models available in the UK. The boxes have undergone a range of different tests depending on the level of radiation and the structural nature of the contents.
- 1809 J Grierson confirmed that the LLW facility at Bradwell is to be a processing facility where LLW waste can be cleaned up and sized reduced before going to Drigg. There are no plans at the moment for it to be a permanent store of waste.
- 1810 In response to a question concerning ILW storage, J Grierson confirmed it was the intention to store ILW on site until a national repository becomes available. J Grierson confirmed that there is no intention at this moment for Bradwell to be a reception centre for waste from other sites either for processing or storage and confirmed that the guidance provided by the NDA is currently 40 years.
- 1811 A Blowers raised his concerns regarding the length of time it is taking for a national repository to be built for ILW and asked what plans are in place beyond this date as it has implications for Bradwell. B Main made the point that Bradwell site could not be expected to answer a question which is in fact a national issue.
- 1812 In a response to a question concerning the number of MiniStore boxes required at Bradwell J Grierson advised that this would depend on which strategy is taken forward for fuel element debris, but could be in the region of 300-400 boxes.
- 1813 In answer to a question relating to the life span of the boxes, technical approvals in Europe for the boxes are around 500 years for above ground storage.
- 1814 P Matthews confirmed that all waste streams would go through pre-processing before being stored in ILW MiniStore boxes to ensure maximum efficiency.
- 1815 M Clark asked what the implications would be if the water level rose. P Matthews confirmed that vigorous processes have to be completed to demonstrate that these boxes are safe by testing against all eventualities including flooding, fire and explosions. There are several thousand units already used worldwide however it is important that these are checked for suitability for the UK under UK legislation, regulators and stakeholders.
- 1816 T Drain asked what the projected timetable was for dismantling the Turbine Halls and completing the building of the storage facility. J Grierson confirmed that the new LLW storage facility is currently being built; the Turbine Halls are due to be demolished between 2019 and 2020.
- 1817 The suggestion was made to paint the ILW MiniStore boxes a colour other than yellow. P Matthews said that currently the manufacturer only produce in yellow but there are a number of things that could be done to improve their visual impact.
- 1818 B Beale said that Bradwell used to incinerate LLW such as gloves and wondered whether the majority of LLW can be reduced with advances in modern technology in the future. P Haley said that when the site stopped using the incinerator at Bradwell other alternative measures were put in place at an alternative site.



1819 B Beale made the point that the government are asking for areas in Britain be offered for deep storage repositories. These would have to be geologically safe areas and felt we should watch any progress with interest. B Beale asked that this be included on a future agenda for the NDA to respond.

## 6. NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP UPDATE/NDA LCLC GUIDELINES

1820 B Main summarised some highlights from the NDA Stakeholder group but said that a report would be available in due course.

1821 B Main said that there was a lot of discussion about how the NDA were going to develop their strategy. During breakout sessions it was suggested that their strategy should be based around: setting realistic targets; predictability of funding; providing visible progress; maintaining confidence and credibility. B Main said that the NDA recognise that they need to manage stakeholders' expectations. The suggestion of having a 'lead site' was split amongst those present, but a virtual site was suggested as a possible alternative.

1822 B Main referred to the draft NDA paper 'Results of the Review of NDA's local arrangements for Stakeholder Engagement' which required comments by 30 June. B Main invited individual members to make comments by emailing [brian.main1@talktalk.net](mailto:brian.main1@talktalk.net) within the next couple of days to enable him to respond on behalf of the LCLC.

1823 B Beale summarised other items of interest:

- 1824
- (1) It was the general opinion that all persons representing an SSG at conferences should be remunerated the same as Chairman.
  - (2) There was concern that a government minister was absent and raised the question whether an opposition spokesperson should attend in their absence.
  - (3) Safe storage of Intermediate Level Waste – There was discussion as to whether waste should be removed from the reactors if it is safe to be left in there.
  - (4) Impact on road networks which changes over time.
  - (5) It was recognised that Sellafield are absorbing a lot of funding.
  - (6) The importance of national and local stakeholder groups and their constitutions.
  - (7) Site security is currently being looked at very carefully.

1825 B Beale said that it was recognised that all SSGs wrote to Ian Roxborough and this resulted in funding being secured for three years for nuclear decommissioning and the NDA admitted that they would try to be more realistic about future plans.

1826 The NII Site Inspector could not attend this meeting however B Main stated that his report indicates that all is ok. The meeting were also in receipt of Chris Lloyd's, Environment Agency report.

## 7. SOCIO ECONOMIC FUNDING DISTRIBUTION UPDATE

1827 James Tott explained that he co-ordinates the Magnox South Socio-Economic scheme and hopes to raise awareness of its existence and encourage submissions from appropriate groups.

1828 D Warner stated there are different programmes of support for the community (1) Central (2) via site funding/site licence companies (3) through Energy Solutions' sponsorship and donations.

1829 With regard to the Central NDA funding, D Warner explained that this is under a policy approved by government which provides approximately £10M. This is administered by the NDA and is available to anyone who applies. There are no restrictions however there are four priority areas including Cumbria, North and South West Scotland and North Wales which are areas particularly dependent on the nuclear industry skills, employment etc.



- 1830 Details are available from the NDA website however if groups have aspirations to apply for this funding please contact either D Warner or C Woods who can provide advice on how the best possible case can be made to access the funding.
- 1831 With regard to Magnox South funding, J Tott explained that the Energy Act places requirement on NDA to consider impact of its activities. A single process for making applications for funding is through Magnox South. The level of funding available is up to £175,000 for five sites. This amount is not intended to be split equally between in the sites. This is an increase on the funding received last year which was £130,000.
- 1832 B Beale stated that concerns were raised at the National Site Stakeholder Group regarding the allocation of funding which is designed to mitigate deprivation of sites shut down by providing socio-economic support. He said there was tremendous opinion that the criteria is not being interpreted in the way it was intended and said it was considered to be unfair that Bradwell and Sizewell had not received sufficient funding.
- 1833 D Warner explained that funding for projects need to be applied for as it cannot be handed out for unspecified purposes. The policy states there are areas that are given priority however this does not exclude this area for funding.

- 1834 B Beale stated that this message has not been successfully communicated to parish councils and asked if the NDA could discuss with them the type of projects that can be supported and the kind of funds that might be available to support such applications.

#### **8. CHANGE OF DISCHARGE AUTHORISATIONS – EA/SITE**

- 1835 In the absence of A Fluker who requested that this item be included on the agenda, it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

#### **9. RECONFIRMATION OF CHAIR FOR THE COMING YEAR**

- 1836 T Drain proposed that B Main remain as the LCLC Chairman for another year and D Fisher seconded this motion. The proposal that J White remain as Vice Chair was also passed.
- 1837 It was agreed that 'Our Response to Request for comments concerning Changing of Constitution' be added to the next agenda. It was also agreed that the start of the next meeting be considered as an AGM, providing an opportunity to discuss implications of the constitution. This will be followed by the usual LCLC Meeting.

#### **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1838 B Main advised the meeting that a new Chief Executive is being appointed for the NDA.
- 1839 B Main has received a letter from Bob Churchill wishing to receive details about the LCLC's major concerns. B Main replied to him expressing disappointment with the slow down of decommissioning activities and expressed the view that the NDA needs to restore confidence and expressed an interest in the treatment of waste at Bradwell.
- 1840 B Main has received a letter from a Magnox South graduate and invited the meeting to read the letter and advise B Main if a scheme comes to mind.
- 1841 C Clark asked whether this forum has any interest in new build. B Main said that the purpose of this meeting is to liaise between the public, NDA and the site on Bradwell's decommissioning activities. This meeting is funded by the NDA. Where activities regarding new build might impinge on these activities they might be discussed but the group does not have a direct remit to discuss new build. C Clark asked whether this should be discussed in the future.



- 1842 Representatives of British Energy were in the audience and B Main suggested that it might be appropriate for people interested in new build to have a separate discussion after the meeting.
- 1843 B Main confirmed that British Energy wish him to know what is happening so they can achieve the fullest as possible consultation.
- 1844 When asked the question whether British Energy have submitted an interest of assets to NDA, representatives from British Energy confirmed that a response has been made in relation to a number of sites. The NDA will not release details of who has expressed an interest at this stage.

**11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

- 1845 Proposed as Wednesday 3 December 2008 at the Minerva Centre at 10:30.  
It was agreed that the time and venue should remain unchanged.

Brian Main closed the meeting at 13:15.

The Bradwell Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) is an independent, local community body acting as a link between the Bradwell Reactor Site and its neighbours.

All correspondence to the LCLC should be addressed to: The LCLC Secretariat,  
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