

Bradwell Site

Draft Minutes of the 50th Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting

The Lodge, Minerva Centre, Mundon
Wednesday 8th December 2010

Present:

LCLC Executive:

Brian Main
Cllr John White
Mrs Lisa Reece-Ford
Dr Louise Franks

LCLC Chairman
Deputy Chairman
LCLC Secretary
Clerk

LCLC Members:

Dave Barritt
Cllr Brian Beale
Cllr Geoff Betts
Rosanna Briggs
Paul Chilcott
Cllr Peter Clark
Cllr Tim Drain
Paul Drew
Keith Drysdale
Adrian Fluker
Patrick Haley
Cllr John Harrison
Stephen Nicholson
Dave North
Cllr Stephen Savage
Dick Sexton
Cllr Tony Shrimpton
Cllr Peter Spires
Tai Tsui
Nikki Turner
Ian Vaughan
Paul Walker
Cllr Sylvia Wargent
Michael Webley
Paul Wilkinson
Cllr Sally Winter

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
Maldon District Council
St Lawrence Parish Council
Essex County Council
Magnox South Site Inspector
Mundon Parish Council
Bradwell Parish Council
Bradwell Site
Bradwell Site
Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council
Bradwell Site
Heybridge Parish Council
NII Inspector
Bradwell Site
Maldon Town Council
Bradwell Site
Maldon Town Council
Mayland Parish Council
Maldon District Council
Bradwell Site
Bradwell Site
Essex County Council
West Mersea Town Council
Environment Agency
Bradwell Site
Althorne Parish Council

Bold type - denotes voting members

Members of the public in attendance:

David Bragg



1. INTRODUCTION

- 2124 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those present, in particular new members and visitors including:
- Sally Winter – Althorne Parish Council
 - Paul Wilkinson – Bradwell Site
 - Dave Barritt - Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
 - Paul Chilcott - Bradwell Site
 - Stephen Nicholson - NII Inspector
- 2125 All attendees were asked to ensure that they had signed in and, if an elected representative, to check that their name was highlighted appropriately.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2126 L Reece-Ford confirmed apologies had been received from:
- Anthony Baker – Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust
 - Cllr Les Barclay – Cold Norton Parish Council
 - Cllr Robert Boyce – Essex County Council
 - Cllr Tracey Chapman – Essex County Council
 - Cllr Tony Cornish – St Lawrence Parish Council
 - Ian Clarke – Mersea Island Resident
 - Colin Daines – Colchester Borough Council
 - Catherine Draper – NuLEAF
 - Amanda French – Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
 - Kevin Jones – GO-EAST
 - Paul Kennedy – Food Standards Agency
 - Karl Littlewood – Environment Agency
 - Cllr Robert Mitchell – Braintree District Council
 - Cllr Michael Pudney – Steeple Parish Council
 - Cllr Lynn Robinson - Latchingdon Parish Council
 - Cllr Nolly Urquart - West Mersea Town Council

3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 2127 The minutes of the 49th Meeting of the LCLC held on 9th June 2010 were considered and approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 2128 There were no additional matters arising to those already on the Agenda.

5. SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2129 D. Sexton opened his presentation by thanking attendees, emphasising the importance of two way communication between the community and the site. He outlined the content of his presentation as follows:
- Bradwell site team
 - Safety and environmental performance
 - Accelerating into early Care and Maintenance
 - 2010/2011 programme of work
 - Re-integration of Magnox South and Magnox North
 - Community news
- 2130 D. Sexton added that he was happy to engage in dialogue throughout and encouraged individuals to ask questions as they arose.



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- 2131 D. Sexton provided a comprehensive presentation, with animation, describing each topic in detail. Safety was described as the priority on site with emphasis on “doing it right first time, every time”.
- 2132 Attendees were pleased to note today’s press release confirming that extra funding had been earmarked to accelerate the decommissioning of the site into care and maintenance. D. Sexton provided details of the current plan timeframes and contrasted this with the original plans from which it was clear that the timeline for entering care and maintenance had been reduced from 2027 to 2015. It was noted that the critical factor was Fuel Element Debris (FED) dissolution and Cllr Clark questioned whether the initial time slippage of two months would be caught up. After some discussion about funding and the FED process itself, this was confirmed with some confidence. Cllr Wargent questioned the nitrate discharge to the estuary resulting from the FED process and heard that this was to be less than 10% of current levels with no build up anticipated over the two year period. It was confirmed that the Environment Agency were involved in ensuring that the FED process was as environmentally benign as possible.
- 2133 The appearance of the site during care and maintenance was questioned and attendees heard that the reactor building would have a structure built around it that would be clad in weather proof material, meaning that the height of the building would nominally increase. It was noted that the underground voids left by the turbine hall and by the empty ponds would be covered and potentially used during final site clearance for the disposal of the rubble generated at that time. The disposal of graphite was questioned and it was noted that no suitable mechanism was currently available.
- 2134 There was a discussion about the possibility of consolidating waste from several sites and it was confirmed that current plans do not allow for storage of consolidated waste on the Bradwell site. There followed some debate about the recycling of skips to make yellow MiniStores and the continuing issue of the design for these being compatible with the proposed deep geological storage facility.
- 2135 Removal of the barrier wall, scheduled to commence during Spring 2011, prompted a dialogue concerning the related pipe work and attendees noted that these would not be filled but plugged at each end.
- 2136 During the commentary regarding community support, Cllr Beale specifically thanked the site for supporting the recent Halloween Event.
- 2137 D. Sexton closed by inviting questions and clarified that the new Managing Director for Magnox Ltd would be Neil Baldwin, based in Daresbury.
- 2138 Cllr Harrison expressed interest in visiting the site and it was agreed that anyone interested in a tour should provide their details to L. Reece-Ford for a convenient date to be organised. There was some discussion about inviting all of the Parish Councils and concern was expressed that this may generate more interest than could be easily catered for.
- 2139 Cllr Beale led a formal thank you to D Sexton and the staff at Bradwell Site. Having noted that the previous Bradwell Deputy Site Director, John Grierson, had been appointed as Site Director at Chapelcross, members agreed that the Chairman should send him a letter of appreciation from members.

6. ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR DECOMMISSIONING

- 2140 P. Haley advised that this was in response to paragraph 2118 of the last minutes which stated: “B Beale commented that an accelerated decontamination process would have implications on the surrounding infrastructure. He questioned whether any analysis of this had been gathered. D. Sexton advised that investigations had been carried out already and an environmental impact analysis drawn up. B. Beale sought clarity as to when this was formulated adding that traffic flow had increased significantly in the area over recent years. After some discussion it was agreed that this topic should be an agenda item for the next LCLC meeting.”



- 2141 P. Haley explained that the original consents were for up to 40 Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements per day with an average of 25 HGV movements per day over a 5 day week agreed in 2003. The impact of the accelerated plan for moving the site in care and maintenance has been evaluated with the following outcomes:
- Overall the number of vehicle movements would be significantly reduced due to the introduction of new technologies and processes.
 - Even at peak times, the limit of 40 HGV's /day would not be exceeded.
 - For specific projects the average of 25/day over a 5 day week might be exceeded. Permission for this will be sought.
- 2142 P. Haley described the following mitigating events:
- Where possible all movements would be scheduled to avoid peak traffic times.
 - HGV's would be restricted where possible to using main roads only.
 - Prevention of shedding of waste by use of sheeting as appropriate.
 - When the site was muddy, wheel washing would occur to prevent transfer of mud onto roads.
- 2143 Cllr Beale asked about recycling and heard that inert waste could be used on site or recycled by local contractors.
- 2144 Cllr Spires sought clarification, and it was confirmed, that a vehicle movement was a return journey.
- 7. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY (NDA) UPDATE**
- 2145 It was noted that Amanda French, the NDA representative, had given apologies to this meeting.
- 8. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY (NDA) DRAFT STRATEGY**
- 2146 D. Sexton advised that the accelerated plan for decommissioning was embedded in this document.
- 2147 B. Main advised that the National Stakeholder Group meeting had debated this draft strategy and that as there had not been a local consultation, he had, with the deputy chair, formulated responses on behalf of the LCLC to two key considerations. Attendees received written copies of these and noted that they related to the storage of consolidated waste and to socio-economic funding.
- B. Main read out the responses and attendees noted the following:
- There would be considerable opposition to importing and storing additional waste at or near the Bradwell site.
 - Suggest allocating funds based on the merits of each application.
- 9. NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS INSPECTORATE (NII) SITE INSPECTOR'S REPORT**
- 2148 Stephen Nicholson introduced himself as the new site inspector and attendees noted that his background was waste and decommissioning. He confirmed that the Site Director's presentation was fair, with appropriate emphasis on safety and mitigation of hazards. He emphasised that as an independent regulator that his role was to challenge and probe the site on an ongoing basis.
- 2149 S. Nicholson commented on the importance of ensuring that yellow MiniStores were compatible with the proposed deep geological storage facility. In response to a later question, he explained that although these were being used in Germany that the circumstances for their use were unique to the UK and that they had to be adapted accordingly to gain a letter of compliance. The impact of the degradation of the contents and container during storage was debated and D. Sexton confirmed that the integrity of the containers would be monitored until disposal could be achieved.
- 2150 Attendees attention was drawn to the written report from the NII with description of the inspections undertaken and outcomes noted as satisfactory.



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- 2151 B. Main sought clarity of the initials ND and heard that this meant the Nuclear Directorate, which was under the umbrella of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and included the nuclear inspectors. This was confirmed as funded by the Government.
- 2152 Cllr Harrison questioned the impact of changing inspectors and this was described as broadly advantageous as different skill sets and experiences meant that rotating inspectors enabled a different view of the same issues.

10. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA) SITE INSPECTORS'S REPORT

- 2153 In the absence of an EA representative at the meeting, P. Haley summarised that there had been three visits of the site inspector since the last LCLC meeting, primarily to consider the impact of the accelerated plan. All reports reflect site compliance.
- 2154 The re-integration of Magnox South and Magnox North has necessitated a permit variation and it was noted that the EA are currently considering the proposal for the transfer of permits to the new Magnox Ltd.
- 2155 Attention was drawn to recent publication of the independent Radioactivity in Food and the Environment Report (RIFE) which reflected that dose to the public from the Bradwell site was 0.098mSv with a limit of 1.0mSv, less than 10%.

11. NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS GROUP (NSG) FEEDBACK

- 2156 It was noted that Chairman and Deputy Chairman had attended. Chairman advised that the cost of the meeting was prohibitive and was unlikely to continue in its present format speculating that there would be a shorter meeting held annually instead of bi-annually. The current format of LCLC meetings was noted as being economic and effective.
- 2157 Chairman reported that the Chairs forum had considered socio-economic funding. The outcome of visits by many SSG Chairman to both Sellafield and Dounraey was that there was unanimous understanding as to why the funding was diverted to these regions and an agreement to drop any opposition to this continuing. The Chairman reiterated that he continued to press for the removal of the stated policy of prioritising the allocation of funding to specific regions and allocate funding according to the merits of each application taking into account the economic needs of each specific locality.
- 2158 Chairman advised that the NSG had agreed to write to thank Richard Griffin, formerly the NDA Stakeholder Relations Manager at the NDA.
- 2159 Tony Fountain, CEO of NDA, was noted as reporting to the main meeting that the NDA had been well supported financially given the current economic climate. He had described the new strategy as being more streamlined with a focus on milestones towards a final end state to enable each site to recognise step changes.
- 2160 Deputy Chairman added that Bradwell was a flagship site and commented on the importance of the LCLC pushing the case for accelerated progress into care and maintenance.
- 2161 Cllr Wargent questioned whether the stakeholder groups would become extinct and Chairman confirmed that the importance of communicating with stakeholders was well recognised and that these meetings would continue to be supported, albeit in the most economical way. There was some discussion about the current costs for the LCLC meetings.
- 2162 The current amicable and enviable relationship between the site and the LCLC was debated and noted as a stark contrast to the experience of other Magnox sites. D. Sexton added that he is always asked about the community opinion of activities on site and that the strong community support enables the site to move forward. Cllr Beale added that he found the LCLC meetings invaluable for keeping the community informed.



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2163 Cllr Shrimpton expressed his view that a higher proportion of the socio economic funding should be allocated to this area and that it was the duty of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to forcefully put this to the NDA. Chairman reminded attendees that the quality of the application was key and that he continued to press for fair consideration.

12. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMME UPDATE

2164 This was noted as covered under Agenda item 11.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2165 Cllr Savage drew attention to the Essex County Council Waste Development consultation that had ended on 02.12.10. and questioned whether the site was aware of this. It was confirmed that the site had no knowledge of this and some of the more obvious errors in this document were commented upon. After some debate, it was agreed that Cllr Savage and the Chairman would work together to formulate a letter of complaint to Essex County Council.

2166 A. Fluker raised concern about contaminated waste being contained within a landfill site at Asheldham asking that this be investigated and profiled. D. Sexton clarified that as a contractor to the NDA he was responsible for Bradwell site. D. Sexton said that any outcome that may be associated with the site would have to be brought to the attention of the NDA for resolution. B. Main clarified that the regulations for the disposal of very low level waste had changed over the years and that any contamination at this landfill may result from disposal from some time ago.

2167 Cllr Beale raised concerns about the impact of the site closing in terms of the erosion of local facilities, like banks and post offices.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8th June 2010 at 10:30.

15. LUNCH

Chairman closed the meeting at 13.25.

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

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