

Bradwell Site

Minutes of the 51st Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting

The Lodge, Minerva Centre, Mundon
Wednesday 8th June 2011

Present:

LCLC Executive:

Brian Main	LCLC Chairman
Cllr John White	Deputy Chairman
Dr Louise Franks	Clerk

LCLC Members:

Cllr Leslie Barclay	Cold Norton Parish Council
Cllr Brian Beale	Maldon District Council
Cllr Geoff Betts	St Lawrence Parish Council
Cllr Robert Boyce	Essex County Council
Cllr Roy Bryant	Tillingham Parish Council
Cllr Peter Clark	Mundon Parish Council
Cllr Tony Cornish	St Lawrence Parish Council
Cllr Anthony Cussen	Maldon District Council
C Doak	Maldon District Council
Keith Drysdale	Bradwell Site
Cllr Peter Elliott	Burnham Town Council
Cllr Adrian Fluker	Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council
Amanda French	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Cllr Heather Glynn	Rochford District Council
Patrick Haley	Bradwell Site
Darren King	Golder Associates Ltd
Cllr Michael Pudney	Steeple Parish Council
Cllr Stephen Savage	Maldon Town Council
Dick Sexton	Bradwell Site
Cllr Tony Shrimpton	Maldon Town Council
Nikki Turner	Bradwell Site
Cllr Nolly Urquart	West Mersea Town Council
Paul Walker	Essex County Council
Cllr Sylvia Wargent	West Mersea Town Council
Sophie Winter	Bradwell Site

***Bold type - denotes voting members**

Members of the public in attendance:

David Bragg
B Fogg
John Harrison
David Rogers
Alan Tyne
J Wade
Roy Webb



1. INTRODUCTION

- 2168 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those present, in particular new members and visitors including:
- Amanda French – NDA Site Programme Manager (replacing Clive Woods)
 - Cllr Heather Glynn – Rochford District Council (replacing Cllr Michael Starke)
 - Darren King – Golder Associates (in place of David Collier)

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2169 N. Turner confirmed apologies had been received from:
- Tony Baker – Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust
 - Colin Batchelor – Braintree District Council
 - Rosanna Briggs - Essex County Council
 - Kathy Brown – Braintree District Council
 - Charles Clarke
 - Moyia Clarke
 - Ian Clarke
 - David Collier (Darren King attending in his place)
 - Colin Daines - Colchester Borough Council
 - Cllr Tim Drain - Bradwell Parish Council
 - David Fisher - Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils
 - Paul Kennedy – Food Standards Agency
 - Karl Littlewood – Environment Agency
 - Dr Stephen Nicholson – Office for Nuclear Regulation
 - Averil Price – Chelmsford borough Council
 - Pauline Rampling - Essex & Suffolk Water
 - Lisa Reece-Ford – LCLC Secretary
 - Selwyn Runacres - Food Standards Agency
 - Michael Webley – Environment Agency

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 2170 B. Beale expressed his thanks to the site for the recent site visit. This was endorsed by the Chairman and J. Harrison who added that he was disappointed with the turnout of LCLC members. It was noted that of 8 members booked, 6 had attended the site visit. There were no additional matters arising to those already on the Agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 2171 The minutes of the 50th Meeting of the LCLC held on 8th December 2010 were considered and approved.

5. RECONFIRMATION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2011/12

- 2172 Chairman sought opinion from the members on whether they were happy to reconfirm the current Chair and Vice-Chair emphasising that alternative nominations were welcome. Members indicated their agreement to endorse the current postholders. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were reconfirmed for the forthcoming year.

6. SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2173 D. Sexton opened his presentation by drawing attention to the Magnox Optimised Decommissioning Programme pamphlet, explaining that this summarised what was happening with all the Magnox sites and pointing out that Bradwell was the lead site in the fleet decommissioning programme. He outlined the content of his presentation as follows:
- Safety
 - Environment
 - Care and Maintenance
 - Projects
 - Community
 - Sponsorships and Donations
 - What's next?
- 2174 D. Sexton provided a comprehensive presentation, with animation, describing each topic in detail.
- 2175 Safety was described as the priority on site with added emphasis that this was construction type work undertaken by a workforce that included external contractors not necessarily familiar with the tight regulations and processes found within a nuclear facility. The ethos of 'doing it right first time, every time' was described in some detail.
- 2176 Attendees were advised that a fire near the turbine hall had occurred and that it had been glorified in the local press. A detailed description of how the incident had occurred was provided and in summary this was due to the unexpected presence of Titanium, a flammable metal, within a condenser. There was no release of radioactivity, no resulting injuries and the incident was reported to the NDA and the ONR who advised no further action was necessary and all Magnox sites were made aware of the incident. There was some debate about the media reports and the rumours that abounded and members noted that the site had distributed a press release and that Essex County Fire Service had published a report of the incident within the hour on their website and sent a copy to other Boroughs for distribution to customer service centres. N. Urquart suggested circulating a press release to Parish Councils in the future. D. Sexton advised that the key cause was that the presence of Titanium tubing in the condensers was not anticipated and therefore not recognised as a potential hazard in the risk assessment. D. Sexton concluded that despite robust safety procedures, occasional issues would arise and was inherent in the work being undertaken.
- 2177 D. Sexton described the training of young Bradwell employees and how the site is building the next generation of workers for the nuclear industry.
- 2178 P. Haley advised that the site didn't win the National Environmental Leadership Award for which they were nominated. He re-iterated the Heavy Goods Vehicles movements described at the previous meeting (paragraph 2141 and 2142). He added that a traffic survey had recently been undertaken that had revealed increased traffic movements through Maldon and fewer movements through Burnham. The most significant factor was found to be an increase in the volume of traffic due to the enlarged workforce on site. P. Haley described the car-share scheme, possible bus service and the cycle-to-work scheme all being considered to mitigate the increased volume of commuter traffic. Concern was expressed about the routes taken by the HGV traffic and this was debated at some length. Members noted that the demolition of the turbine hall was causing a peak in HGV traffic currently but once complete, an overall decline in HGV movement was anticipated. The possibility of utilising the Blackwater Estuary for the movement of heavy loads was debated and Chairman advised that this had previously been thoroughly investigated and was not feasible. The use of freight trains was also discussed and the issue of an appropriate route from station to site was raised.
- 2179 D. Sexton explained the parking arrangements on site and A. Fluker questioned whether the site would continue to provide public parking for sea wall access. It was noted that measures were in place to reserve parking for visitors and for public use but that this was not always possible.



- 2180 D. Sexton described progress towards Care & Maintenance, a passively safe, low cost, essentially de-manned site and gave a detailed explanation of the FriGeo technology being currently deployed to remove radioactive sludge from the centre bay of the ponds. Other projects were described including the Circulator Halls deplanting and preparation for use as a temporary MiniStore area and the detailed categorisation, decontamination and deplant of the heavy equipment in the Reactor Building. Members heard that the Turbine Hall was on target to be fully demolished by October 2011.
- 2181 S. Wargent questioned what was planned for the graphite core of the reactor unit and P. Clark asked the same question about the boilers. D Sexton advised that both would be stored *in situ* until an appropriate disposal route was established. P. Haley addressed questions about the use of voids for disposal of materials on site stressing that these could not be considered as landfill sites, and that only clean, recyclable aggregate could be deposited in them. Members agreed they could be a useful resource for the final clearance phase.
- 2182 R. Bryant questioned the financial costs involved and A. French advised the following budget figures for the site:
- Current fiscal year = £74 million
 - Decommissioning to Care and Maintenance = £400 million
 - Overall to final site clearance was = £724 million
- 2183 H. Glynn referred to the recent fire, reminding members that the problem was that the knowledge that the condenser had been re-tubed with Titanium had been lost, and questioned how the site were ensuring that the record of hazards would not be lost in the 80-100 year gap planned between Care & Maintenance and Final Site Clearance. D. Sexton advised that meticulous records were being compiled and would be shared with regulators.
- 2184 The visual impact of current projects on site was raised and D. Sexton advised that cladding was likely to be seen in the next 12 to 18 months.
- 2185 D. Bragg questioned progress with Fuel Element Debris (FED) dissolution and heard that this was in the design and build phase and was on target, with much activity to ensure the appropriate Environment Agency permits were in place for testing the process in 6 -12 months time.
- 2186 M. Pudney added his thanks to Energy Solutions on behalf of the East Essex Food & Farming Group for recent sponsorship.

7. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY (NDA) UPDATE

- 2187 Members received the NDA Fact Sheet; copies circulated prior to the meeting and available on each table. A. French provided a verbal update, summarised below:
- NDA staffing reduced by 1/3rd
 - Bradwell site has delivered £63million worth of work at a cost of £52million.
 - Business Plan for 2011-14 now published (spend £2.9 billion for 2011/12, £12 billion total)
 - Bradwell to receive £74 million for 2011/12
 - Bradwell to receive a total of £400 million to enter Care & Maintenance by 2015
 - NDA Strategy Document published April 2011, reflects Bradwell final site clearance by 2092.
 - National Engagement Plan published on website
- 2188 B. Beale raised the subject of socio-economic funding, expressed his disappointment that funding to regenerate the area was reneged upon and questioned how this could be re-instated. A. French advised that Jonathan Jenkin was the Socio Economic manager for the NDA and suggested a meeting with him. B. Beale asked for this to be arranged prior to the next LCLC meeting with support from S. Savage.

8. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (PREVIOUSLY NII) REPORT

2189 Chairman advised members that no representative for the ONR was present today. He drew attention to the quarterly site report, reading excerpts as appropriate and concluding that this regulator appeared satisfied with the site. He sought members concerns and highlighted the website details where these could be relayed.

Add'l Item FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY REPORT

2190 Chairman drew attention to the report received, referred members to the website for further details and reminded all that the full report was due for publication later in the year.

9. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA) REPORT

2191 In the absence of an EA representative at the meeting, the Chairman summarised the report which concluded that there was no environmental impact due to the fire incident.

2192 Chairman advised that the site had received one enforcement and P. Haley explained that a consignment of radioactive waste had been sent to an incinerator that had the correct permit to receive and burn that waste, however, the site did not have the correct permit to dispatch the waste to that incinerator. There was no environmental impact, however, this did reflect on the supervision arrangements on site.

2193 J Harrison commented that the paragraph describing the fire incident was technically inaccurate.

2194 N. Urquart questioned why the report contained no information about the health of the river, in particular an increase of invertebrate life. Chairman asked for details and it was agreed that N. Urquart would ask Allan Bird to contact the Chairman with the appropriate details for further investigation.

2195 A. Fluker asked how the discharge pipes are kept clear of weed and heard that the outfall and inlet pipes are periodically used to draw and discharge fluids to keep the pipes clear. It was confirmed that chlorine was not used.

10. CHAIRMAN'S FEEDBACK

2196 Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting about the re-combined Magnox organisation. He drew attention to the Magnox Optimised Decommissioning Programme pamphlet and in particular the introduction by the Managing Director and the new structure for managing the sites in three categories; accelerated decommissioning, decommissioning and fuelled, adding that Bradwell was in the former. Chairman added that he felt that as a result of re-organising the rate of progress to care and maintenance for each site, that socio economic funding would be reviewed.

2197 Chairman gave an overview of the LCLC members' visit to site, giving details of the safety culture clearly evident. Chairman thanked the site for enabling this tour and encouraged other members to attend future visits.

2198 Members questioned whether the site could encourage more employment of local unskilled workers and D. Sexton responded that they did encourage local contractors and the employment of local workers wherever possible.



11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 2199 NDA Factsheet – B. Beale questioned whether this could be made more widely available. Chairman suggested that it was taken to the planned Community Update Meetings:
- Bradwell Village Hall Wednesday 22nd June at 18.30
 - Mersea MICA Centre on Monday 11th July at 18.30.
- 2200 Site Visit – B. Beale added his view that the tour revealed the extent to which the site has been demolished. He questioned whether components that might be of interest to societies and organisations, like the Horological Society and the Museum of Power, be made available to them. This was agreed.
- 2201 Refuting inappropriate press – R Bryant questioned why the LCLC did not refute inaccurate reporting and letters in the local press. Chairman advised that this action could compromise the impartiality and integrity of the LCLC and suggested that the site or the regulators were better placed to refute inaccurate press.
- 2202 New Nuclear Power Environment Agency Update – Chairman advised that the EA have offered to update the LCLC with details of their regulatory role for new build. As the NDA are not involved with new build and they fund the LCLC meetings, he suggested that inviting the EA to update during the LCLC meeting was inappropriate. He asked whether members would like a post LCLC meeting, funded by the EA, to provide the update. Members agreed to this. Members questioned whether this follow on meeting would be open to the public and agreed that the EA should decide this as they would be the host.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 7th December 2011 at 10:30 – venue to be confirmed at a later date.

13. LUNCH

Chairman 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 Site and its neighbours.

All correspondence to the LCLC should be addressed to: The LCLC Secretariat,
C/O Communications Team, Magnox Ltd, Bradwell Site, Bradwell-on-Sea,
Southminster, Essex, CM0 7HP.
Tel: 01621 873548 email: bradwell.communications@magnoxsites.com