



## Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

### Minutes of the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, High Street, Annan

**In Attendance:** Cllr Ian Lindsay (representing Annandale East) (Chair)  
Avril Campbell (Secretary)  
Mike Travis (Chapelcross Site Director)  
Dave Wilson (Chapelcross Deputy Site Director)  
Cllr Sean Marshall (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Archie Dryburgh (representing Annandale East)  
Cllr Richard Brodie (representing Annandale South)  
Keith Riding (NDA Chapelcross Site Programme Manager)  
Les Davies (Chapelcross Site Inspector - NII)  
Paul Giles (Chapelcross HR Manager)  
David Orr (SEPA)  
David Mundell MP  
Elaine Murray MSP  
John Rogerson (Trade Union representative)  
Steve Southam (D & G Council)  
Murray Bainbridge (Scottish Enterprise D & G)  
Paul Allan (Creca Hall Chair)

**Apologies:** Len Moore (Federation of community Councils)  
Cllr Michael Dickie (representing Annandale North)  
Insp Robert Gibson (D&G Constabulary)  
David Gurney (D&G Council)  
Cllr Gail McGregor  
Elizabeth Gray (Scottish Executive)

**Present:**

Bob Geddes (Dumfriesshire Newspaper Group)	Nigel Monckton (Chapelcross,)
Willie McNair (Blackhills Farm)	Michael Osborne (Chapelcross)
Jill Callander (Chapelcross)	Gordon Anderson (Chapelcross)
Dave Johnstone (Civil Nuclear Constabulary)	Addison Benson (Chapelcross)
David Armstrong (Beechwood Farm)	Frank McGowan (Chapelcross)

### 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the December meeting of the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group and gave a particular welcome to Keith Riding as the new NDA Site Programme Manager for Chapelcross. The Chairman then asked for all mobile phones to be on silent and gave details on the emergency fire procedures.

### 2. Announcement and Apologies

The Secretary gave the apologies as listed above. The Chairman also welcomed David Mundell MP and Elaine Murray MSP. He announced that there would be a special meeting presented by Terry Selby on the NDA draft Business Plan following the SSG and everyone was invited if they wished. Cllr Marshall added that Border TV would also be attending.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

The minutes were endorsed by Cllr Ogilvie and seconded by John Rogerson.

### **4. Matters arising from the minutes**

- The chair explained that he and Cllr Ogilvie were unable to attend the CORWM consultation in Leeds due to too short notice for attendance.
- David Orr and Willie McNairn had settled their discussion out with the meeting.

Cllr Ogilvie commended John Wallace on the good programme 'When the Towers came Down' shown on Border TV.

Cllr Marshall added that John could not attend the meeting but had sent a copy of the DVD to Chapelcross.

### **5. Chapelcross Site Director's Report**

Mike Travis gave his yearly report using the attached presentation slides (*see attached to minutes*).

He gave details on the significant achievements at Chapelcross throughout 2007 and outlined the main priorities for 2008. He added that Steve Creamer CEO of Energy Solutions was excited at what could happen at Chapelcross Site.

He finished by announcing that he was leaving Chapelcross to work in a Business development role for Energy Solutions and that Dave Wilson would take over the role of Site Director as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January.

The chair thanked Mike for his presentations and for all the good work that he had done for Chapelcross. and welcomed Dave Wilson as the new Site Director.

#### Questions and observations:

John Rogerson asked if could see any problems getting the first element out by next year.

Mike Travis replied that Chapelcross must get it right as it was part of the overall Magnox operating work plan. Because of this, defuelling at Chapelcross would take 4 years instead of 2years.

John Rogerson asked if the moving of timescales would affect the number of people on Site.

Mike replied that the organisation of the site would have to be looked at as the Site moved forward.

Archie asked if there were opportunities for the workforce to deplant the site.

Mike replied that it was not as difficult as running the reactors and with retraining there would be opportunities for that.

Cllr Ogilvie asked if there was any progress on the issue with the asbestos removal.

Mike said that a little progress had been made in that he had received a statement from the Scottish Office stating that the expected date for implementation for the revised level would be August 2009.

Cllr Ogilvie asked if the asbestos would be stored on site till then.

Mike agreed but added that most of the asbestos would be radiologically clean and the small percentage of contaminated asbestos would be sent to repository in Drigg.

Cllr Dryburgh asked if there were any opportunities for the workforce and site now that Energy Solutions owned the site.

Mike explained that Energy Solutions want to own and operate facilities in the fuel cycle e.g. reprocessing plant, metal melting, incinerating low level waste, disposal site and this was what they were looking at.

The Chair asked how dependent Chapelcross was on Sellafield for defuelling

Mike replied that Chapelcross could not work without Sellafield as the fuel had to be despatched there. Work was being done to improve facilities for reprocessing but it was an aging plant and the slightest thing could upset the appplecart. However everything was going well at the moment.

Cllr Marshall asked Mike how he envisaged the next 3-4 years at Chapelcross with reference to the economic regeneration and losing a large percentage of the workforce.

Mike replied that it would be a gradual change. There might be an opportunity for Voluntary Severance terms (VST) if the NDA fund it. In terms for potential for the site it is a time for action; tangible change can only benefit the community. There was great potential for the site

Paul Giles added that the key thing is the funding. It does not mean there will be a significant reduction in employees but an opportunity to get new people into the industry.

Cllr Ogilvie thanked Mike for his style and delivery at the SSG meetings by being very open and honest and added that other sites such as Dounreay and Hunterston had followed his example.

Willie McNairn asked about access to the pipeline.

Mike replied that there were no real restrictions in place for people walking there.

Cllr Marshall commented that not all the pipeline was accessible but there were no restrictions.

Murray Bainbridge asked Mike, in his new role what developments were available for Chapelcross

Mike replied that it was early days and there were no plans yet but it was important to stay in contact with the Scottish Enterprise.

Cllr Marshall mentioned that Energy Solutions were keen to have new ideas for the site.

Mike reiterated that there was a lot of potential at Chapelcross.

John Rogerson asked if Energy Solutions was considering new build at Chapelcross.

Mike replied that Steve Creamer was interested in new build whatever it was.

Paul Allan asked Mike if he would ensure that the local residents were involved as early as possible before any decisions were made for any development at Chapelcross.

Mike replied that it was the NDA who owned the Site.

Paul then directed the request to Keith Riding.

David Mundell MP added that he was very committed to new build at Chapelcross and hoped that the Scottish political difficulties were overcome but added that there were other opportunities which would also be welcome

Mike explained that Energy Solutions was interested in waste treatment facilities and the site already had good access, water supply, large land area which offered a lot of potential. Chapelcross 2 was not now the main priority but there is a real opportunity

David Mundell MP added that these opportunities must be taken when the workforce is still in place. They were a valuable asset and the local economy would suffer if there was no workforce.

Mike stated that there was potential of early Site clearance at Chapelcross.

Cllr Dryburgh asked if the Chapelcross workforce could be transferred to Calder hall

Mike added that that was a real possibility as the workforce would not have to be retrained.

## **6. NDA Chapelcross Site Programme Manager's Report**

Keith introduced himself as the new NDA Site Programme Manager and gave the members details of his past history. He added that he was keen and proud to be involved with Chapelcross and looked forward to a long relationship with the site. He wanted to support the site as best he could and to be involved with NDA and Scottish Enterprise in assisting to help develop the industry park.

### Questions and observations:

John Rogerson asked what his involvement with the trade unions would be.

Keith answered that his first port of call would be with the Site director but there would be opportunities for dialogue with the Unions.

Cllr Marshall commented that at the National Stakeholder Group meeting there had been concern with the number of changes of the NDA representatives. He was pleased that there would be a long relationship not just on site but off site as well.

Keith explained that the NDA had paid money for him to relocate so take Chapelcross site very seriously.

Cllr Ogilvie stated that in the past he was disappointed with the lack of profile from the NDA and now welcomed any local profile.

Keith explained that it had been a hectic three years for the NDA and that time had been spent becoming the intelligent customer. They now had sufficient information and understanding to develop the business and move forward.

## **7. Other reports from SSG Bodies**

### **SEPA – David Orr**

David referred to the commencement of environmental monitoring in the area. He reminded the members that this was nothing to do with activities at Chapelcross but was associated with discharges from Sellafield

His second point was that SEPA had finally received an application for authorisation from the site. He explained that SEPA was an open and transparent company and the process of this application involved

public participation. He added that they will be seeking the views of the public in the spring and he encouraged any comments on the site's plans

### **NII – Les Davies**

Les Davies explained that the NII had published their quarterly written report which had been distributed along with the agenda and was happy to answer any questions on the report or any other matters.

#### Questions and observations:

Cllr Ogilvie referred to the 10 year periodic Safety Review mentioned in the report. He said that Chapelcross had changed dramatically in the last ten years and that the safety plan will be completely different

Les said that there were still safety issues to address.

David Orr added that the site had a good safety record and the site had made commitments to SEPA and if followed through will have a good environmental performance.

John Rogerson asked Mike Travis on his views on shadow working.

Mike Travis replied that the intention is for Site Licence Company Magnox Electric, which is split into North and South, to have a trial commissioning period to run as separate companies. After 6 months, a licence will be granted to form 2 separate entities.

Cllr Dryburgh announced that he was pleased that SEPA has said that they will challenge and support the company and did David see any real challenges ahead.

David explained that the major challenge was that of cultural change, managing waste in a structured way. He added that the Site had devised a draft improvement plan and this will set standards to demonstrate that they are competent.

Les added that the site is continually striving to improve and that they will point the way forward in some areas. He added that the aging plant may influence the programme of decommissioning.

Mike Travis said that it would be good to provide an overview of the environmental improvement plan and Safety Review at the next meeting.

**ACTION:** Dave Wilson to provide an overview of the environmental improvement plan and the Safety Review

David Orr commented that he was concerned that certain skilled people may leave on VST.

Cllr Ogilvie added that the succession plan was vital.

## **8. Chapelcross SSG Sub-Groups update**

**Several SSG Sub-Group meetings had taken place since the last SSG meeting, and the appropriate minutes of the Sub-Groups had been circulated to members. Chairman asked for endorsement of the decisions made at these meetings.**

### **• Socio-Economic**

The Chair of the group, Paul Giles, gave an overview explaining that the goal of the Socio economics Sub group was to secure funding from the NDA as soon as they could. He added that there had already been a couple of preparation sessions when the group had shortlisted a number of projects from the 20 they had looked at. They had also looked at governance arrangements. There was only one preparation session left on 19<sup>th</sup> December. He explained that an evening session had been arranged for the 10<sup>th</sup> January with Terry Selby and two representatives to talk very broadly about regeneration in the area. Key stakeholders such as David Mundell MP and Elaine Murray MSP have been invited. Should there be positives the response will be reported at the next SSG

**ACTION:** Paul Giles to report response from the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> January

Steve Southam explained that any opportunities must be worked on quickly. The Corridor Regeneration Steering Group (CoRes) meeting was to be held the next Friday and that the group were to present a refreshed look at the strategy which will demonstrate that there is a real plan for the regeneration of the area. He said that when the projects are put forward it wasn't just the Socio economic funding that was important but also the bigger picture. He added that Early Site Clearance at Chapelcross was to be promoted which would show that we are ready and willing for new regeneration in this area.

Murray Bainbridge continued that any projects put forward for NDA funding would compliment the wider regeneration objectives. With permission from the NDA, they were particularly looking at the development of the non licenced area of Chapelcross site which incorporated the old runway approx 15 acres, which would be a suitable location for an Industrial Park. He added that also linked to the Socio

economic funding was funding for a facility to start a business incubation (hatchery) for nuclear related issues involving the supply chain initiative.

Cllr Marshall said that the common thread running through the local authorities was economic regeneration within the GLA

Cllr Brodie asked if Katalyst was the blue print for the GLA as there had been little progress made in the GLA so far.

David Mundell MP replied that he understood Cllr Brodie's concerns but advised that he was pleased that Terry Selby had agreed to engage with Katalyst as a property development company which had been set up as part of the regeneration plan. He added that it was very important for the NDA to engage with them. He regarded this as a step forward. He welcomed the initiative and event on the 10<sup>th</sup>. He stated that they must go forward with concrete proposals to attract funding immediately.

Paul Giles supported David's statement.

Cllr Dryburgh said that it was a good opportunity for the future of Chapelcross and would Energy Solutions be involved with funding and training opportunities.

Paul Giles explained that Energy Solutions was making £175, 000 available this year to be divided between the five Magnox North Sites and added that Chapelcross had already placed 8 bids.

- **Community Support**

The Chair of the group, Cllr Marshall gave a verbal update on the sub group's activities since the last meeting. The minutes from the meetings on the 31<sup>st</sup> August and 26<sup>th</sup> October were endorsed.

- **Education Support**

Cllr Marshall spoke on behalf of Janice Rough and gave an update on the educational activities since the last meeting. The minutes for the 14<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> November were endorsed.

## 9. **Update on the National Stakeholder Group Meeting on 22-23 November 2007**

The chair stated that he and Cllr Marshall found that it was good to meet and discuss items with other members of the SSGs. He added that the NDA Draft Business Plan would be discussed at Terry Selby's meeting which followed.

Cllr Marshall found that members from the nuclear sites were concerned that there was very little time to discuss the Draft Business Plan before the end of January 2008.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. There were none.

## 10. **Proposed dates for next year's meetings**

After some discussion the dates were decided as follows:

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	10am	Council Chambers, Annan
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	Council Chambers, Annan
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	10am	Council Chambers, Annan
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	10am	Council Chambers, Annan

## 11. **Any Other Business and Public Forum**

Cllr Ogilvie felt that there should be a review of the formation of the SSG sub committees with a restructure which was more representative as to where we are now. The Chair agreed to look at this point.

**ACTION: SSG Chair to review the formation of the SSG sub groups**

Cllr Dryburgh referred to the formation of the new constitution

Cllr Marshall said that it was mentioned at the NSG that it would be best to wait until the NDA guidelines were published. He added that it may be a good idea to look at the Subgroup formation at the same time.

The Chair welcomed Lee Scott from P7 at St Mungos Primary School. Mike Travis presented Lee with vouchers and a framed picture for his painting 'Gone but not forgotten' which depicted Santa Claus flying over Chapelcross with the caption "Where are my favourite Towers"?

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.