



## Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

### Minutes of the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2005 at Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, High Street, Annan.

- In Attendance:** Cllr Ian Lindsay (Chair)  
Avril Mitchell (Secretary)  
Cllr Sean Marshall  
Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie  
Cllr Chris Carruthers  
Cllr Allan Graham  
Cllr Michael Dickie  
Martin Grey (NDA)  
Dr Isabelle Watson (S.E.P.A.)  
Mike Travis (Chapelcross Site Manager)  
Dr Andy Feltham (Head of Safety, British Nuclear Group)  
Alistair Laird (Commercial Manager, British Nuclear Group)  
Dave Wilson (Project Delivery Manager, British Nuclear Group)  
Len Moore (Federation of Community Councils)  
John Rogerson (T.G.W.U. Convenor)  
Janice Rough (Education Officer)  
Neil Erskine (D&G Fire Brigade)  
Paul Allan (Creca Village Hall Committee)  
Paul Giles (HR Manager British Nuclear Group)  
Inspector Alan Glendinning (D&G Constabulary)  
Ashley Smallwood (Scottish Enterprise D&G)  
Steve Southam (Annandale & Eskdale Council)  
Cllr Wilma Paterson
- Apologies:** David Mundell MP  
Dr Elaine Murray MSP  
Dr. Ian Tait (NII)  
Dr David Breen (D&G Health Board)  
Dr Jean Vickers (Director of Public Health)  
Cllr Tony Turner  
Insp Robert Gibson (Emergency Planning, D&G Constabulary)  
Billy McVinnie (Annandale & Eskdale Fire Brigade)
- Present** Debbie Cairns (British Nuclear Group)  
Archie Dryburgh (T&G District Committee Chairman)  
James Nelson (Seafield)  
Alistair Smith (Creca village)  
John Hulme (Observer for British Nuclear Group Hunterston)  
John Vincent  
Dave Armstrong

## **1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the December Meeting of the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group.

## **2. Endorsement of new SSG Members and new SSG Secretary**

The SSG endorsed the following new members : Councillor Michael Dickie ; Councillor Roger Grant ; Councillor Lavinia Vaughan ; Councillor Marjorie McQueen ; Councillor Denis Male ; Janice Rough, Education Officer ; Ashley Smallwood, D&G Enterprise.

Chairman welcomed Avril Mitchell as the new Secretary and gave thanks to the former Secretary, Thomas Docherty for his services. It was agreed that a letter of thanks would be sent to Thomas Docherty (**Action – SSG Secretary**). He also thanked Sean Marshall for his help during the changeover.

## **3. Announcement and Apologies**

The Chairman gave apologies as listed above

## **4. Minutes of the two previous meetings held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005 and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2005**

The minutes of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September were agreed as a true record (Proposed by Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie; Seconded by Len Moore).

## **5. Matters Arising from meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005**

The decommissioning update by Dave Wilson on the Cooling Towers demolition will now be included in the Site Managers report.

The suggested meeting for the NDA Annual plan was superseded by the NDA strategy on the special evening meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2005. This incorporated Cllr Ogilvie's suggestion to hold evening meetings giving members of the public an opportunity to attend.

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

Mike Travis gave a Powerpoint Presentation welcoming any questions. Other management members were present to answer any questions in their specialised field. Points of his presentation included:

- Safety statistics: one lost time accident-overall good performance
- Good open culture in event reporting. E.g. Laundry issue: significant investigation and significant action was taken so that this would not happen again.
- Health: sickness absence down to six days per employee per year. Excellent stress awareness programme on site, S.W.I.F.T. (Stress working information team). This is a great help with the changes taking place at Chapelcross.
- Environment: In October 2005, the Health & Safety Executive gave formal permission for Chapelcross to start decommissioning. He added that a new Environmental Manager Julie Robinson had been appointed.

- Security: The full scale exercise in November went extremely well. This involved the Dumfries & Galloway Police, Office of Civil Nuclear Security and the CNC (Civil Nuclear Constabulary).
- POSC: (post operational case) was submitted on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2005. This involves the release of staff on Voluntary severance, retraining and new procedures.
- NDA contract: British Nuclear Group are three quarters into the first year of being a contractor. Learning curve on both sides of the fence.
- Effluent line: Photos were shown to show the improvements to the effluent line. A description was given of a possible alternative to remove limescale deposits within the pipeline. If this proposal was viable, a new filter house will not then be required.
- Hazard reduction-pictures showed
  - a) Removal of irradiated fuel to Sellafield
  - b) Removal of Magnox depleted uranium to Capenhurst
  - c) Removal of all chlorine, a highly toxic chemical to the manufacturer.
  - d) Carbon Dioxide (Co2) now removed and the old tanks will be disposed of as conventional scrap.
- Another four pictures showed the building progression of the Flask handling facility.
- Dave Wilson, Transition Manager at Chapelcross, added that ex RAF Building 25 had been the 30<sup>th</sup> building to be demolished on the site.
- Gate monitor is now installed. This will provide reassurance that all vehicles leaving site are free from contamination.
- Socio-economic funding - Figures were given as to the amount spent and sponsorships involved
- Successful meeting of the Suppliers forum.

John Rogerson asked why the Trade Unions had not been involved with the manning issues concerned with POSC. Mike Travis replied that the Trade Unions had been involved via the involent groups, and that there were some outstanding issues that had to be collectively worked on.

Archie Dryburgh advised Mike Travis that Co2 was still being used for fire extinguishers on site. Mike Travis added that it was the cooling Co2 that had been removed but agreed that there was a small quantity of Co2 contained in the fire extinguishers.

Steve Southam asked if any work had been done on Milnby Weir. Dave Wilson replied that once the exact ownership of the Cooling Towers had been decided, they would look at the options available. Ronnie Ogilvie asked if there would be any public consultation as there was 50 years of ecology behind the Cooling Towers. Dave Wilson added that if the NDA were the owners he would be sure that the public would be consulted, but Scottish Water may have other views.

Paul Allan asked if there might be a problem with the particulate coming down to the strainer pit after the Cooling Towers had been demolished. Mike Travis added that particulate would be removed at the source. Cllr. Sean Marshall asked if the clean strainer pit would be regularly monitored and cleaned. Mike Travis thought that that would be a good idea, however once cleaned, the pipeline would have significantly less build up. He also added that consultation processes as to access etc. were still going on.

Archie Dryburgh asked how the training improvement pack was progressing. Paul Giles added that there was money in the budget for training and that they were looking at releasing staff for training. It was explained that many people had started in their new roles and training profiles were in place and that there will be no reduction in training.

Len Moore queried the source of funding for the community benefit. Mike Travis replied that the funds were a flow through from the NDA. He gave feedback from the Socio-Economic Stakeholder Event held the previous evening adding that the NDA were receptive to receiving applications of the right type. The chairman added that all applications to the NDA would come through the SSG. He also added that contractors should be included in all Health and Safety statistics at Chapelcross. Mike Travis agreed.

## **7. Other Reports from SSG Statutory Bodies**

### **SEPA- Dr. Isabelle Watson**

Isabelle Watson referred to the pipeline issue as one of the main focuses on the work that SEPA has done. The release of the particulate on to the beach at Seafield was her main concern. This was a result of the October 2005 flooding due to excess rainfall in a very short space of time. She added that there are tight controls on what the site is allowed to discharge and how much radioactivity could be present in the liquid effluent. Therefore the release of limescale from the pipeline was a concern.

SEPA carried out two further inspections of the pipeline and there were no significant findings, but SEPA will continue to monitor it, as well as the routine monitoring carried out by Chapelcross. She added that SEPA were not content that it happened, but are content that there are no significant hazards at the site at the moment. She mentioned that there were other minor issues such as waste but the systems in place at Chapelcross were just as good as any other industrial institution.

She gave a description of the SEPA 'Haddock survey' held in July as well as explaining that all SEPA 2004 results can be found in their comprehensive report 'Radioactivity in food and our Environment'.

Cllr. Sean Marshall asked Dr Watson if SEPA would give their approval to the preferred option of the alternatives to the filter house. She replied that there would be no formal stamp of approval but SEPA would have to be reassured that there were conditions of authorisation which would require the best practical means. Mike Travis added that SEPA would be involved in all consultations. Dave Wilson explained that Chapelcross will perform a best practical environmental survey and he had taken all her comments on board.

Archie Dryburgh asked Dr Watson if SEPA had considered using the hard core from the demolition performed at the North site. She explained that the waste and water team were looking into this as she thought recycling was important. Dave Wilson added that they are already screening the rubble.

The Chairman asked Dr Watson if she could describe the size of the particulate. She replied that it was about the size of a fingernail. Like limescale in a kettle.

### **NDA- Martin Grey**

Martin explained that although there had been a few setbacks, everything was back on track and the NDA is very satisfied so far. The Life Cycle Baseline (LCBL) Plan had been submitted on time. The lack of continuity in the Near Term Work Plan (NTWP) had been a huge learning exercise.

6,000 copies of the NDA strategy had been distributed to various bodies within the UK and 40 presentations had been made around Britain. The consultation period ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2005. All 275 sets of comments will be considered where possible. He added that the process of deciding what the site end states would be, had been taken out of the consultation. This will have to be looked at separately.

It involves.

- What will it look like physically
- When will it happen

He added that the draft strategy would be submitted to the Government at the end of 2005. This is expected to be approved by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006. He said that there had been an administrative change and as Site Programme Manager he will be the lead person at Chapelcross.

John Rogerson explained that the Trade Unions were disappointed that the NDA had not shown any support on the pensions issue and the sale of Westinghouse and British Nuclear Group. This may result in ballots. Martin Grey replied that the sale came from the British Nuclear Group themselves. The NDA have given their views and it is up to the Government to decide.

### **Annandale and Eskdale Council-Steve Southam**

Steve recorded his thanks to both the NDA and British Nuclear Group Chapelcross for their help in the socio-economic development. He said that their approach was exemplary.

### **8. NDA National Stakeholder Meeting**

Cllr. Ogilvie and Cllr. Marshall gave a verbal account of attending the first 2 day conference held in Manchester explaining that it had involved a lengthy process with over 100 people in attendance. They highlighted that each of the 19/20 SSG had ambitions for a new nuclear power stations or a centre of excellence for decommissioning on their respective site.

The NDA have said that it is up to the SSGs to determine what the end states will look like. It was suggested that a Sub-group should be set up to give a realistic submission to the NDA.

***(Action – SSG Secretary)***

Cllr Ogilvie added that he had also attended the Scottish National SSG in Edinburgh recently and the discussion from that forum would help determine whether there was a need for a separate Scottish SSG Forum.

### **9. Timetable for SSG meetings**

All agreed to proposed dates (meetings to be held in Council Chambers, Council Offices, Annan)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006 – 10am**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006 – 7pm**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2006 – 7pm**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006 – 10am**

## **10. Chapelcross Sub-Groups**

Paul Giles, HR Manager gave feedback on the Socio-Economic Stakeholder Event held the previous evening. He reported that it had been an extremely successful evening. There had been some very positive comments from members of the NDA. He added that the SSG has been given a great opportunity to use funding provided by the NDA. The SSG is in the controlling line and will manage the project development for Chapelcross. He suggested forming a Sub-Group to cover:

- *Direct funding*
- *Joint funding*
- *Sponsorship*

Paul Giles added that this sub group will affect the SSG in two ways

- 1) Approval for project funding will always come back to the SSG
- 2) The SSG membership will be expanded out.

John Rogerson asked if members of the workforce would be included in these groups. Dave Wilson stated that appropriate bodies would be brought in for consultation depending on the specific project and in specific areas.

Mike Travis added that this Sub-Group will be doing the 'leg work' and no decisions will be made by the Sub-Group.

Insp. Glenndinning announced that this group could develop further partnership working and be of great benefit to Annandale & Eskdale.

Archie Dryburgh asked if this Sub Group might affect SWIFT, CARE and other groups already formed at Chapelcross. He was told it would not.

Martin Grey explained that the prime points for release of funds would be

- Decommissioning
- Impact of decommissioning on the Socio-Economic Project
- The criteria for the allocation of funding will depend on the strength of the case and the need of the area. It is a catalyst for projects to move forward

The chairman confirmed the formation of the Sub-Group and the Sub-Group members were elected. It was also agreed that appropriate bodies would be brought in for consultation depending on the specific project.

### **Socio-Economic Project Sub-Group Members**

*Ashley Smallwood, Scottish Enterprise D&G*

*Steve Southam, Annandale & Eskdale Area Manager, Dumfries & Galloway Council*

*Janice Rough, Education Officer, Dumfries & Galloway Council*

*Paul Giles, HR Manager, Chapelcross*

*Cllr. Sean Marshall, Communications Manager, Chapelcross*

*Cllr. Ian Lindsay, SSG Chairman*

*Dave Wilson, Projects Manager Chapelcross*

The Sub-Group members for the CORWM group were also nominated and agreed :

### **CORWM Sub-Group Members**

*Mike Travis, Chapelcross Site Manager*

*John Rogerson, T.G.W.U. convenor*

*Cllr. Allan Graham,*

*Cllr, Ronnie Ogilvie*

*Ian Lindsay, Chairman*

*Cllr. Sean Marshall*

*Dave Wilson, Projects Manager Chapelcross*

### **11. Review of the SSG Constitution**

It was agreed that in view of new membership and voting rights, an amended constitution will be compiled by the Secretary for endorsement at the next quarterly SSG on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006.

**(Action – SSG Secretary)**

### **12. SSG visit to Chapelcross and other proposed visits**

The proposed date of Friday 17 February for the visit and itinerary was agreed.

### **13. Feedback from the Chapelcross Employee Survey.**

Paul Giles gave a short Powerpoint Presentation on the results of the survey carried out by the Chapelcross employees. He stated that 33% of the workforce had responded and the overall figures gave a positive message. Chapelcross now needs to conduct more discussions with individuals who indicated a willingness to work for future community relations projects on behalf of Chapelcross.

### **14. Any Other Business**

Cllr. Ronnie Ogilvie asked if Scottish BioPower were still interested in siting a Biomass Plant at Chapelcross. Martin Grey advised him that the company are waiting for a slot from Scottish Power which may not be until 2009. Les Moscow of Biomass had advised him that their main focus of activity was at Glenrothes now.