

Bradwell Site

Minutes of the 52nd Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting

The Lodge, Minerva Centre, Mundon
Wednesday 7th December 2011

Present:

LCLC Executive:

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

LCLC Chairman
Deputy Chairman
LCLC Secretary
Clerk

LCLC Members:

Cllr Brian Beale
Cllr Geoff Betts
Mark Chevis
Cllr Peter Elliott
Cllr Adrian Fluker
Amanda French
Patrick Haley
Bill Hamilton
Steve Henry
Cllr Ivan Joslin
Duncan Lewis
Jenny Lewsey
Karl Littlewood
Cllr Peter Marshall
Cllr Ian Milligan
Cllr Stephen Savage
John Sherringdon
Cllr Tony Shrimpton
Cllr Nolly Urquart
Paul Walker
Cllr Sylvia Wargent
Michael Webley
Cllr John White
Paul Wilkinson
Sophie Winter

Maldon District Council
St Lawrence Parish Council
Magnox Ltd
Burnham Town Council
Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Bradwell Site
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
EDF Energy Press Officer
St Lawrence Parish Council
Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
Maldon District Council
Environment Agency
Steeple Parish Council
Bradwell Parish Council
Maldon Town Council
Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
Maldon Town Council
West Mersea Town Council
Essex County Council
West Mersea Town Council
Environment Agency
St Osyth Parish Council & Tendring District Council
Bradwell Site
Bradwell Site

Bold type - denotes voting members

Members of the public in attendance:

David Bragg
Norma Creighton
Lynn Hartley
Mr Foss
Mr Greenshields
John Harrison
Mr Hobdon
Dick House
Lynn Ponder
Tony Ponder
Mr Wade



Local Community Liaison Council

1. INTRODUCTION

2203 The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those present, in particular new members and visitors including:

- Norma Creighton – Member of the public
- Lynn Hartley – Member of the public
- Steve Henry – EDF Energy Press Officer
- Dick House – Member of the public
- Cllr Ivan Joslin - St Lawrence Parish Council
- Duncan Lewis - Essex Fire & Rescue Service
- Cllr Ian Milligan - Bradwell Parish Council

It was noted that new Councillors have a right to vote and that a copy of the Constitution was available to any new attendees.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2204 Lisa Reece-Ford confirmed apologies had been received from:

- Cllr Leslie Barclay - Cold Norton Parish Council
- Andrew Blowers - Member of the public
- Cllr Robert Boyce – Essex County Council
- Kathy Brown – Braintree District Council
- Colin Daines - Colchester Borough Council
- Cllr Tim Drain - Bradwell Parish Council
- David Fisher - Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils
- Cllr Heather Glynn - Rochford District Council
- Stephen Nicholson – Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Cllr Michael Pudney – Steeple Parish Council
- Belinda Troup – Golder Associates

3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

2205 The minutes of the 51st Meeting of the LCLC held on 8th June 2011 were considered and approved subject to the addition of Cllr Tony Shrimpton to the LCLC Members attendance list.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

2206 The following matters were arising:

2188 re meeting the Socio Economic Manager: members noted that Mark Chevis, Magnox Communications Support Officer, was present and would address the meeting today regarding the Socio-economic scheme under agenda item 10.

2185 re progress with the fuel element debris dissolution: Members heard this would be within the Site's report, Agenda item 5.

2194 re the river survey: Chairman advised that Allan Bird had not provided details. Paul Wilkinson suggested that Karl Littlewood of the Environment Agency (EA) or Patrick Haley, Magnox Environmental section may be able to comment and Nolly Urquart agreed to ask questions during section 7 of the Agenda.



5. SITE'S REPORT

2207 Paul Wilkinson (PW), Deputy Site Director introduced himself and passed on the apologies of Dick Sexton, Site Director explaining that he was hosting an executive review on site.

2208 PW outlined the content of his presentation as follows:

- Safety
- Bradwell Team
- Environment
- Care and Maintenance preparations
- Projects
- Sponsorships and Donations
- What's next?

PW provided a comprehensive presentation, with animation, describing each topic in detail.

2209 Safety was described as the top priority on site and the excellent safety record drawn to attendees' attention. Effective control and supervision, particularly in this phase of considerable demolition work, was emphasised and a description of the safety improvement programme provided. PW described the ten tools of human performance, listed below, and how all staff, contractors and agency workers were being trained in this area:

1. Pre-job briefing
2. Post-job briefing
3. Self checking and STAR
4. Peer-checking
5. Independent verification
6. Procedure use, adherence and place-keeping
7. Task observation and coaching
8. Questioning attitude
9. Use of operating experience
10. Communication techniques

John Harrison (JH) commended this approach and stressed the importance of workers having the right mind set.

2210 PW advised that the site has over 700 workers currently of which 250 are Magnox employees. Ensuring the safety of those unfamiliar with the site has led to the introduction of a hat sticker system to enable new workers to be readily identified and given extra care.

2211 The site has won a National training award for their Health Physics and Radiological Protection Techniques Programme. Attendees noted that local people are undertaking this course, enabling them to work within the nuclear industry.

2212 With regards to the environment, PW advised the following figures for recycling:

- 97.3% of non-hazardous waste
- 66.75% of hazardous waste (asbestos waste cannot be recycled)
- 100% of inert waste

The Site was a finalist in the Chartered Institute of Waste Management Awards.

2213 Pictures were used to show the transition into Care and Maintenance accompanied by a comprehensive commentary explaining key changes and a schedule demonstrating progress.

2214 Sylvia Wargent (SW) questioned what was planned for the graphite core of the reactor unit. PW advised that this would remain *in situ* until final site clearance. In response to a question about reactor building end state, PW explained that the cranes would be removed and the height of the building would remain the same.



- 2215 PW provided details of the barrier wall removal and this was noted to be in two phases, the first phase is to remove the two ends which will be completed in January 2012. SW sought clarification of the process being deployed and this was described. Brian Main (BM) asked whether the concrete outlets would be retained and PW explained that this would remain until near the end of the programme when they would be removed. Small culverts will be run down the concrete outlets and used to discharge effluent.
- 2216 Boiler house and reactor building deplant was described and attendees noted that boiler house 2 was nearing completion after removal of 300 tonnes of material, the vast majority of which had been recycled. PW confirmed that this was inert material that had been carefully characterised to ensure that the recycling routes remained uncontaminated. Boiler houses 1 and 3 to be deplanted next.
- 2217 Pile Cap deplant was described and over 200 tonnes of material noted to have been removed from reactor 2 alone. Mr Foss asked whether the charge machine had been removed and heard that this was scheduled after the radioactive shute had been removed, with waste material segregated and recycled where possible.
- 2218 A video of the demolition of the turbine hall and a final picture of the void remaining were displayed and it was noted that clean, non-recyclable aggregate could be deposited within this void during final site clearance. Adrian Fluker (AF) asked if spoil from other locations could be disposed of in this manner and PW advised that this disposal route would be restricted to waste from the site or from the immediate vicinity. Nolly Urquart (NU) questioned whether aggregate could be recycled and PW advised this would be used to backfill. Ian Milligan (IM) asked how flooding of the void would be prevented and Patrick Haley (PH) explained that water would either be pumped out or drainage holes utilised.
- 2219 Site artefacts, like the turbine hall clock, were noted as being given to the local Museum of Power and Brian Beale (BB) expressed his support for retaining these items locally. Stephen Savage (SS) questioned whether the clock was still working and heard that the interior was currently a void.
- 2220 PW explained how the Fuel Element Debris (FED) had been accumulated. A single facility to remove FED, pass this through the dissolution process and separate the radioactive material met with design difficulties and this process became behind schedule. PW explained in detail the alternative approach being implemented to bring the programme back on schedule and the following separate stages were noted:
- Early FED retrieval to a buffer store to commence January 2012. This enables characterisation of FED and enables progress without dependency on the other stages.
 - Dissolution using nitric acid.
 - Abatement of residue liquid to separate radioactive material from benign liquid, the latter to be disposed of into the estuary.
- 2221 AF commented on the process in use at Dungeness and questioned whether safety had been compromised by separating the process into three stages. PW reassured attendees that safety had not been compromised. JH questioned whether the outcome of the divided process was the same as the initial single system and heard this was identical and offered the same volume of waste reduction. BB commented that using dilute nitric acid for the dissolution was 10-15 times faster than the carbonic acid dissolution process being implemented at Dungeness. PW confirmed that dilute nitric acid would be used.
- 2222 Dave Bragg (DB) asked if FED dissolution was the most problematic area and PW confirmed that this was the critical pathway for progress of the site to Care and Maintenance.
- 2223 BB commented on the conduit of the benign material into the estuary and noted that this would be via the small culverts previously discussed (para. 2215). JH questioned when the centre part of the barrier wall could therefore be removed and later in the meeting PW confirmed that this was planned for late 2014. The content of the benign effluent was questioned and PH explained that the abatement process would trap the radioactivity and any heavy metals, leaving essentially clean water containing Magnesium salts. He added that river water already contains Magnesium salts. On request, he confirmed that this effluent would be benign.



- 2224 PW used pictures to describe the deplant of the circulator halls and attendees noted that these would then be used to temporarily house the MiniStores until the intermediate level waste store was available. Attendees noted that each MiniStore could contain up to 25tonnes and that a cross site transporter had been procured. PW described the resin and sludge removal and treatment process and the ponds deplant and decommission process. PW commented that the next phase was agreeing how to seal the floor of the ponds effectively.
- 2225 PW described the low level waste skips and how much of this low level waste is disposed of at Drigg. Transport of skips via train was debated as access to the station at Southminster was noted to be problematic because of parked vehicles. The Integrated Waste Strategy was described and attendees noted that the site is bounded by the Radioactive Waste Safety Case.
- 2226 Transition arrangements were described and it was noted that the site works closely with Maldon District Council to encourage business enterprise. Recognition that the demise of the site will lead to significant job losses has led to resilience workshops and planning for future training.
- 2227 Attendees heard that the parent company, EnergySolutions, had spent £10,000 sponsoring local community projects and a list of some of these was provided.

PW described the next steps for the site with target dates and these were noted as follows:

- ILW weather protection building (intermediate storage facility); piling has commenced.
- FED removal commences January 2012
- FED process design complete and dissolution process commencing July 2012 onwards
- Deplant boiler houses 1 and 3 commencing early January 2012
- Deplant reactor building rooms in next six months
- About to start charge machine deplant from reactor 2
- Resin and sludge retrieval from the vaults ongoing
- Complete ponds centre bay by sealing within next two months
- Pond water treatment plant deplant practically complete
- Reactor building cladding to be undertaken in next six months

- 2228 NU questioned whether the total figure for the carbon footprint for the demolition process could be provided. PH advised that an annual figure is being collated but that a total figure was not yet available as no site had yet achieved Care and Maintenance. The Berkeley site was noted as still having FED to deal with generated from the research facilities as well as the power generation. This was discussed further and led to a question about whether the cladding material for the reactor building was to be made of a photovoltaic substance to enable electricity generation. This was discussed and Mark Chevis (MC) advised that the Magnox innovation scheme were investigating this possibility.

6. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION REPORT

- 2229 Chairman advised members that no representative for the ONR was present today. He drew attention to the quarterly site report dated July to September 2011, reading excerpts as appropriate and concluding that this regulator appeared satisfied with the site. He sought members concerns and none were forthcoming.

7. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA) REPORT

- 2230 Karl Littlewood (KL), EA Inspector for the site, was welcomed to the meeting. KL drew attention to the report dated June to November 2011 and explained the rationale behind the permit variation applications detailed therein.
- 2231 SW expressed concern that an increase to the gaseous discharge limits for tritium and C¹⁴ had been requested and this led to a thorough debate about how the limits had been set and varied during the lifecycle of the site and the process required to gain a variation. The context of the increase was explained as in the order of tens of micro sieverts (µS) and attendees noted that the principal dose to members of the public was 1000µS, with a typical single site limited to 300µS.



- 2232 KL described site inspections undertaken and in particular the Compliance Inspection involving five site inspectors where no non-compliances were identified but advice was given to enable future improvements.
- 2233 Attention was drawn to the recent publication of the Radioactivity in Food and the Environment Report (RIFE) which was noted to contain all the environmental monitoring data undertaken during 2010 throughout the UK. The Chairman drew attention to the Food Standards Agency letter that advised that the analysis of food samples taken around Bradwell in 2011 showed no unusual levels of radioactivity and that the majority were below the detection limits.

8. CHAIRMAN'S FEEDBACK

- 2234 Chairman advised that the NDA have been working upon the decommissioning programme and restructuring themselves and the way they communicate. He reported that he had attended the recent National Stakeholder event, noted to cost approximately 10% of the cost of previous events, with the Vice Chair. The Chairman also attended a June meeting of the same group and a meeting hosted by EnergySolutions and he summarised what he had learnt from these, noted below:
- Majority of decommissioning programmes now in place and the revised Magnox Optimised Decommissioning Programme (MODP) has led to a saving of £1billion and an overall time reduction of 30 years across the fleet.
 - CEO of the NDA is stepping down at Christmas 2011.
 - Correlation between funding and delivery meant acceptable funding levels achieved during the Government spending round.
 - Response to the Japanese event has included a review of the emergency response plans and stress tests for all UK nuclear and non-nuclear facilities.
 - Restructuring of the NDA organisation has led to a reduction in running costs by 30%.
 - Socio-Economic Development Plan 2011-15 produced and applications from other sites noted to be robust however, those from Bradwell require further development. Chairman asked the NDA to consider strategies for the transition at Bradwell.
 - Site clearance was debated including deciding an appropriate level of clean-up for each site depending on end state.
 - Awaiting the deep geological repository noted to underlay all discussions.
- 2235 NU asked about clean up and what levels would be required for new nuclear build. Chairman advised this was more about ensuring that the community were confident that clean up would be effective.

9. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AGENCY UPDATE

- 2236 Bill Hamilton (BH), Head of Stakeholder Relations, introduced himself and described his role. He drew attention to the NDA monthly updates available in hard copy at this meeting and electronically on the NDA website. He commented on the following key areas:
- Bradwell features on the front cover of recent stakeholder magazines.
 - Site Director's report describes the practical success story at the Bradwell site.
 - Key topic at the National Stakeholder meeting was strategic waste management with the recognition that decommissioning sites generates vast quantities of waste and that sensible solutions need to be implemented.
 - Transition of the site to Care and Maintenance will lead to significant job losses. The Energy Act of 2004 set up the NDA and established a legal obligation for the provision of socio-economic funding. However, the NDA are not a regeneration agency, they simply allocate funding based on bids received. Successful bids are transformational in nature with local buy-in and other forms of funding.
 - Site end-use principles will be consulted upon during 2012 to ensure that effective planning is in place.
 - Geological disposal facility (GDF) falls under the Managing Radioactive Waste Safely programme run by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC). The only community that is considering whether to volunteer to host a repository is West Cumbria with a decision expected in 2012.



- 2237 Questions were invited and Ian Milligan (IM) commented that at GDF seminars the information available was comprehensive yet little was available outside of these meetings in the public domain. BH advised that the focus was to enable the West Cumbria community to be kept well informed and that this was dissipated through various media in this locality. BM commented that all information was available electronically. BH added that this was a Government initiative managed via DECC, with the NDA as technical advisors. MC advised that a DVD about the GDF was available and that copies would be brought to the next meeting.
- 2238 NU questioned what will happen if West Cumbria decided not to volunteer and a debate about the best way to progress ensued. In summary, BH explained that volunteer communities will be sought and then assessment of suitability undertaken.

10. SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCHEME

- 2239 Mark Chevis introduced his presentation by saying that the way that socio-economic funding is managed is changing. The following key points were noted:
- Magnox Optimised Decommissioning Programme (MODP) requires an assessment of the socio-economic implications for local communities and led to the development of a Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP). Copies of the SEDP for 2011-15 are available at this meeting for attendees.
 - The SEDP details the key elements of the MODP and clearly identifies Bradwell as one of the two sites being moved into early Care and Maintenance.
 - Magnox sites have been prioritised in terms of the relative impact of the MODP and opportunities for alternative employment. Bradwell was noted to be one of three sites that would benefit from further socio-economic development work in the short to medium term.
 - Key change to the management of the funding is that Magnox will manage a large proportion of the funding via a single on-line application process.
 - New scheme will be implemented from 1st April 2012 with three levels of funding of less than £10,000, between £10,000 and £100,000 and over £100,000. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.
 - Keith Drysdale is the Transition Manager at the Bradwell site and he is meeting with the CEO of the local Council to discuss how closure will affect the local economy and local employment.
 - The revised socio-economic arrangements meet the legal requirements of the Energy Act 2004.
- 2240 Questions were invited and BB commented on the history surrounding socio-economic funding advising that the basis for funding previously was to mitigate the impact of a site closing and that when Bradwell had ceased generating power this had meant a loss of £19million to the local area. He quoted from the SEDP 2011-15 regarding Bradwell "The index of Multiple Deprivation shows that the locality is relatively affluent" and argued that the description for the Dungeness site "The index of Multiple Deprivation shows that the locality has some pockets of deprivation" was a far more accurate description of the Bradwell locale. He argued that the larger value funding had not been made available to Bradwell but had been allocated to the Sellafield area. He questioned the criteria that was used for this decision and suggested this was to encourage the community to accept less palatable aspects of the nuclear industry like waste repositories. BH refuted this emphatically explaining that socio-economic funding was derived from site efficiencies and that for the purposes of accounts there was a target figure listed of £10million per annum but this had never been spent because the bids had not been received. He stressed that it was the responsibility of the community to develop ideas into schemes and apply for this funding. Magnox will support the community with developing these schemes but involvement of local stakeholders was vital. He stressed that the money was available, that in the SEDP 2011-15, Bradwell had been prioritised but to access funding, the community had to bid for it with transformational schemes.
- 2241 Members commented that previously, guidance about how to bid has been sought and that bids had been submitted but to no avail. BB emphasised the importance of understanding what the criteria is for a successful bid. MC advised that additional information will be published in readiness for the launch of the new scheme.



Local Community Liaison Council

- 2242 AF expressed support for the comments made by BB and added the concern that many local businesses rely on external contractors and from 2015 there will be no-one contracted to the site.
- 2243 Attendees debated how to move forward and agreed that an LCLC sub-group needs to be established to liaise further and ensure appropriate applications for funding are made. MC advised that in addition to the LCLC sub-group that an invitation to the LCLC Chairman and another member will be extended for them to sit on the review panel that will consider the application and provide information about the local impact of the bid.
- 2244 Amanda French advised that she can provide contact details for those involved in bidding for socio-economic funding at the Berkeley and Trawsfynydd sites.
- 2245 Attendees agreed the LCLC sub-group should have the following members:
- Brian Beale
 - Tony Shrimpton
 - Stephen Savage
 - Adrian Fluker
 - Peter Elliott
 - Jenny Lewsey
 - Brian Main
- 2246 MC added that as the Magnox socio-economic coordinator for the South East he was happy to assist this sub-group, would provide contact details and attend sub-group meetings on request.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 2247 New Nuclear Power Environment Agency Update – Karl Littlewood advised that the EA will host a meeting to describe their regulatory role for new build from 14.00 at the Minerva Centre today.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 13th June 2012 at 10:30. Venue to be confirmed.

13. LUNCH

Chairman closed the meeting at 13.35.

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

Note: The email address has changed to: bradwell.communications@magnoxsites.com. Please note the previous magnoxsouthsites.com email address will not work from April 2012.