



Site Stakeholder Group

Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

Minutes of the Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group held on Friday 2 December 2011 at Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, High Street, Annan

In Attendance: Cllr Ian Lindsay (representing Annandale East) (Chair)
Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie (representing Annandale South) (Vice Chair)
Jill Callander (SSG Secretary)
John Grierson (Chapelcross Site Director)
Cllr Sean Marshall (representing Annandale South)
Willie McNairn (2km Resident Representative)
Harry Brown (2km Resident Representative)
Frank McGowan (Chapelcross Union Convenor)
Kelly Anderson (NDA)
Karen Bratton (EHSS&Q Manager, Magnox Limited)
Mr Jim Nesbitt (Representative of Fed of Comm Councils)
Ewan Young (Scottish Government)
Chris Brown (A&E Economic Regeneration)
Martin Brown (Representative of Fed of Comm Councils)
Chris Kemp (Office for Nuclear Regulation, ONR)
Lucy Denvir (Dumfries & Galloway NHS)
David Gurney (Civil Protection and Emergency Planning)
Cllr Michael Dickie (representing Annandale North)
Hugh Fearn (SEPA)

Apologies:

Cllr Roger Grant (representing Annandale North)
Cllr Gail MacGregor (representing Annandale North)
Dr Will Munro (Food Standards Agency Scotland)
David Mundell – MP
Cllr Allan Graham (representing Annandale East)
Carolyn Dunlop (National Farmers Union)
Cllr Ted Brown (representing Annandale North)
Ross McWhirter (Scottish Enterprise)
Cllr Archie Dryburgh (representing Annandale East)
Jamie Fergusson, (Service Manager, Area Framework, D&G Council)
Dr Elaine Murray – MSP
Ewan Green (Operations Manager, Economic Development)
Michael Aldersey (D&G Fire and Rescue Services)
Inspector Alan Hill (Civil Nuclear Constabulary)
Sgt L Robison (D&G Police, Emergency Planning)
Jonathan Burgess (Cumbria County Council Emergency Planning Officer)
Graham Cooke (Rural Payments & Inspections Directorate)
David Irving (D&G Constabulary)
Iain Campbell (Dumfries & Galloway Fire & Rescue)
Cllr Richard Brodie (representing Annandale South)

Present: Kirsten MacLeod, Magnox Ltd, Caroline Hill, Magnox Ltd

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

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

2. Announcement and Apologies

The Secretary gave the apologies as listed.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The September Minutes were proposed by Frank McGowan and seconded by Cllr Sean Marshall

Jill Callander addressed all of the Actions from the previous minutes.

- ❖ Action on Jill Callander to write a letter of thanks to Kitsons on behalf of SSG – [Action Complete](#).
- ❖ Action on Kelly Anderson to discuss with the NDA Skills Manager if the reorganisation of the NDA had affected the input in the Skills Academy – [Action complete](#).
- ❖ Action on Kelly Anderson to ask if the NDA were satisfied with the recent feasibility study - [Action complete](#).

There was one amendment to the September Minutes, Item 7, Other Reports to SSG Bodies – apologies were passed to Chris Kemp by Jill Callander as there was some draft notes left printed on this section of the Minutes. These will be deleted.

4. Chapelcross Site Director's Report

John Grierson presented his report; giving updated programmes of work, using the attached presentation slides (*see copy attached to Minutes*).

John Grierson took the opportunity to discuss a recent event on site where a contractor was injured. Fortunately the contractor was not seriously injured. The work being carried out was suspended and the staff involved in the project were stood down immediately. A full investigation is currently being carried out. He reiterated that safety is the main priority at Chapelcross.

John Grierson informed the SSG of changes in workforce at Chapelcross with Richard Murray (Services Manager) leaving to take up the post as Engineering Manager at Oldbury. He advised the group that a new Waste Manager was to be appointed and Ewan McDonald was now in place as Transition Manager.

John again updated members with regard to a chemical solvent issue and reported:

- Last SSG, we discussed some of the challenges associated with land and ground water management and the monitoring we do through the borehole network, it is an area that I want to include in each brief to the SSG to provide more visibility of this programme.
- We highlighted some of the remediation activities, including the former armature treatment building and the source removal technique used to dispose of soil containing chemical solvents, following its earlier detection in the developing borehole network.
- These chemicals solvents were disposed to ground in the early phase of the station life, this is a problem that is encountered on many industrial sites. There is no radiological aspect to the remediation, it is purely chemical.
- Following this we extended our borehole network towards the site perimeter and detected positive results.
- We then negotiated access to private land adjacent to the site boundary and installed additional boreholes, within some of these boreholes we have detected positive results.
- The results initially were inconsistent, but we have now established a consistent trend

- The next phase is to install additional boreholes off site to inform our decision making processes on remediation techniques, which may include natural attenuation to physical intervention to accelerate the attenuation process.
- All work has to date and will be in the future undertaken in consultation with affected land owners, key stakeholders and regulatory authorities.
- Remediation of any industrial sites, including nuclear sites does present challenges, my job on behalf of the customer is to ensure we implement environmental restoration programmes.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Ian Lindsay enquired how it was possible to conclude that the solvent was not radiologically contaminated and also asked where the boreholes were situated.

John Grierson informed the Group that all samples taken are analysed for radiological contamination. He explained that there are a few boreholes along the perimeter of the site and in farmers' fields adjacent to the site about 250m from the site.

Lucy Denvir asked what measures of enhancing the natural attenuation were being investigated to accelerate the remediation of the chemical solvent programme.

John Grierson explained that initially, data would be collected, and then following a collation of this information, a decision would be made to use the appropriate techniques required for remediation.

Cllr Frank McGowan asked who are the regulators on this issue?

John Grierson informed the group that Dumfries and Galloway Contaminated Land Officers are the regulator, supported by SEPA, and Chapelcross is fully engaged with all of the parties to help resolve the issue as efficiently and satisfactorily as possible.

Cllr Michael Dickie asked for reassurance that we are covering all aspects with the boreholes around the site.

John Grierson confirmed that the areas where the challenges have been identified have boreholes set up and are monitored on a regular quarterly basis.

Cllr Frank McGowan asked if results are being reported to people involved / affected i.e. farmers etc. and what impact the chemical solvent issues would impact on them.

John Grierson addressed this by reiterating that all work was undertaken in consultation with the affected land owners, key stakeholders and regulatory authorities. He confirmed that letters were being issued this week to the landowners to keep them informed.

Cllr Sean Marshall asked for confirmation that his understanding was correct - that there were two affected landowners and that the issue related to a chemical and not radiological.

John Grierson confirmed both statements were correct. He added that this type of historic solvent contamination is common across industrialised sites and indeed there are other sites with similar problems in Dumfries and Galloway. John informed members that the specialist who is working on this project has worked across many nuclear and industrial sites and is one of the best in his field with the ability to bring the programme forward. He reiterated that this was a conventional chemical issue, and reassured the SSG that Magnox are actively looking for this using the boreholes.

Cllr Lindsay asked if there was any danger to humans or farm stock.

John replied by saying that only direct contact with undiluted chemicals has established health risks; therefore risks to the wider environment in this context are perceived to be small. Boreholes have been established in the 8-10m depth range, but in the future groundwater monitoring boreholes may be installed deeper than this.

Cllr Frank McGowan asked if there were any times scales with regards to the chemical solvent remediation programme.

John Grierson said, following specialist advice, he was aiming for next summer to get boreholes in place. Once these were in place collection of data and trending of results should lead to remediation, hopefully within two years.

5. NDA Reports & Updates

NDA monthly updates for September, October and November have been circulated with the agenda and minutes prior to the meeting.

Kelly Anderson informed the group that Tony Fountain, NDA Chief Executive was moving on to a new post and would be leaving at the end of the year. No replacement has yet been appointed.

The Ministry of Defence consultation relating to the dismantling of nuclear submarines is currently taking place. This consultation is asking for views from stakeholders as to where the decommissioning of submarines should take place as well as where the waste from these operations should be stored. Currently the options being considered are MOD, Industrial and NDA sites. The link can be found via the NDA website. (www.nda.gov.uk).

Questions and Observations

Cllr Sean Marshall asked what the time scale was for comments for the consultation of sites for storage of ILW and if they were looking for long or short term storage.

Kelly said no decision would be likely until 2013 but as NDA Sites were being taken in to consideration any views and comments would be welcomed.

6. Update from Scottish Sites Meeting 26th October 2011, Edinburgh

John Grierson Chapelcross Site Director, Jill Callander SSG Secretariat, Ronnie Ogilvie SSG Vice Chairman and Cllr Sean Marshall attended the meeting at the Scottish Government Buildings in Edinburgh.

Cllr Marshall reported that both Scottish Magnox Sites (Chapelcross and Hunterston) had given presentations to update the attendees of the current progress being made at the sites and that following discussions it was very clear there were many synergies between the groups attending which added value to the purpose of the meeting.

7. Update from NDA National Stakeholder Meeting 23/24 November in Manchester

Chairman Lindsay discussed the SSG Chair's Meeting, run by the NDA which he and Vice Chairman Ogilvie had attended. There had been a concise update on the Fukushima Event amongst other topics and Chairman Lindsay highlighted how many of the other Magnox sites were very envious of the Chapelcross socio-economic programme, taking time to congratulate the Team involved on their hard work, as well as the amount of time and effort they all put in.

Vice Chairman Ogilvie reported that Tony Fountain was questioned with regard to Chapelcross waste going to Cumbria. Tony responded by saying "the NDA and regulators were in talks and he was quite confident of a successful outcome".

Vice Chairman Ogilvie also said that at the meeting there had been a discussion regarding the security arrangements used by Magnox, and there was a possibility that this would be outsourced. John Grierson

was asked if this will be happening at Chapelcross, and if so, would there be opportunities for current staff to take on these roles. Frank McGowan asked for clarification on the issue of out-sourcing for security by Magnox, and expressed his concern at the issues being discussed.

John Grierson responded advising that currently Chapelcross utilise CNC as a “guard force” and that Magnox as a company have aspirations to reduce the need for this in parallel with the reduction in hazard at sites. The two sites which are currently looking at outsourcing options are Chapelcross and Hinkley. Chapelcross has currently gone out to tender for this and will collate the information regarding costs. He is currently awaiting a response from the collective unions for clarity as to what will happen in the future. John Grierson will update the SSG once further information is available.

8. Other reports from SSG Bodies ONR, SEPA, CNC, Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise etc.

ONR Quarterly site report from 1 July 2011 – 30 September 2011 and SEPA Report from October 2011 – December 2011 to Chapelcross SSG were circulated with the Agenda and Minutes prior to the meeting.

ONR

Chris Kemp addressed the group highlighting the enclosed report from 1 July 2011 – 30 September 2011. He discussed his recent visit to Chapelcross in October including an inspection of the blower houses along with the Site Safety Representatives. He has had a recent meeting with Magnox and SEPA to discuss future waste projects on site. There has been a focus this quarter with regard to the safety case for removing skips from the second pond at Chapelcross. Secondly, the Site is revising it's operating rules which are derived from the safety case i.e. rules which govern temperatures in the reactor vessels, and it is hoped that this exercise will be fully completed within the next few months.

Jill Callander informed the group that information had been forwarded from ONR with regards to the Fukushima Report recently issued. ONR have undertaken to provide community briefings, with the first being in Bristol on 12th December 2011. Others areas were being looked in to, but no dates have been allocated. Anyone interested in attending one of these sessions please contact Jill. Any further information will be circulated to SSG members when available.

SEPA

Hugh Fearn referred to a brief report from SEPA. Since this has been issued, a further update on the chemical solvent issue has been produced and this will be available for the next SSG meeting.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Ogilvie asked Chris Kemp if he felt that the role of the Safety Officers was aimed at re-energising people's awareness of safety.

Chris Kemp referred Cllr Ogilvie back to his report and reiterated that renewing peoples awareness of safety was not a bad thing, but also commented on how Chapelcross has a good system for reporting and learning from incidents and that the recent event involving a contractor at the Site, although regrettable, he felt that there were no radical new lessons to be learned from it.

Cllr Ogilvie commented on recent excessive rainfall and asked Hugh Fearn if he wondered if water levels being higher than normal were causing any additional problems to Chapelcross Site.

Hugh Fearn explained that the effect of flooding will have some impact but that SEPA provided appropriate flood warnings and that it was the responsibility of the local council to provide flood defences.

Willie McNairn asked if SEPA continued to take samples from the Creca area. Hugh Fearn confirmed that they were indeed still taking samples

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY COUNCIL EMERGENCY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Cllr Lindsay asked for a report from the Dumfries & Galloway Council's Emergency Planning Department on how things have progressed at Chapelcross and for an update on any implications to the public regarding exclusion zones etc. David Gurney was invited to give a presentation to the Group at the next meeting – David Gurney agreed that this would be arranged.

David Gurney gave a short briefing on the scheduled Level 2 Exercise in February 2012. This exercise will be looking at the main risks which we might face should an event occur. He explained that it is becoming more and more difficult for Chapelcross to manufacture a scenario of an incident with the reduction of hazards at the site, and that he sensed Magnox were apprehensive to produce this as it puts into the public realm the possibility of an incident. However this must be done to exercise the emergency planning systems in place. Following previous exercises it has been agreed to split the response centre into two bases in Dumfries. One at the Police Head Quarters at Cornwall Mount, and the other based at the Bunker situated at the Council Buildings. Chapelcross will be involved to test arrangements currently in place. David Gurney confirmed that there would be the opportunity for one or two members of the SSG to observe the exercise if they wished.

Cllr Marshall asked if the SSG could have feedback on how the scheduled exercise goes and Mr Gurney agreed to report back at the next quarterly meeting of the SSG scheduled in March.

Scottish Government

Ewan Young thanked those who attended the Scottish Sites Meeting. Updates on Scottish Government Policy updates were given as below:

Scottish Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy

Meetings of both the Project Board and the Technical Advisory Group have taken place since the last meeting of Chapelcross SSG.

Non Nuclear Industry Low Level Waste (NNI-LLW) Strategy Consultation

- Final strategy document has been circulated to respective UK and Devolved Administration Ministers for approval.
- Once Ministerial approval has been obtained the Strategy will be published
- Publication will be by the end of 2011
- Publication will be on DECC website with links from Scottish Government website

Non Nuclear Industry Low Level Waste Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NNI LLW NORM) Strategy Consultation

This consultation is being led by The Scottish Government Radioactive Waste Team with support from SEPA Radioactive Substances Unit.

- Project Board and Technical Advisory Group have met and further meetings are being organised
- Project Initiation Document (PID) and draft Work Plan (WP) have been agreed in principle, subject to timetable agreement for respective work packages
- Workshop on the consultation for the benefit of the NORM industry being arranged
- Workshop likely to be held in Spring 2012
- Workshop will discuss content of work packages
- Invitation list will be formulated by the Technical Advisory Group
- Site Stakeholder Group's will be advised as to date of workshop and given opportunity to attend

The Scottish Government will continue to engage with stakeholders to develop the Strategy and its Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Health Board

Chairman Lindsay invited Lucy Denvir to comment on any of the issues being raised. Lucy thanked the Chair and confirmed that she found the information being discussed very informative but had nothing else to add.

9. CX SSG Education/Community Support Sub Group

Sean Marshall reported on funds allocated through the Community and Education Support SSG Sub Group. Details of funds allocated have been distributed in Meeting Minutes prior to the SSG Meeting.

Questions:

Chairman Lindsay was supportive of what the SSG Education / Community Support Group are doing and was hopeful that we would continue to have these funds available, in particular the Sports Academy funding from EnergySolutions.

10. Magnox Limited New Socio-Economic Process

A short presentation was given by Sean Marshall, Magnox Communications
(See copies attached to minutes)

Sean Marshall informed the SSG of the “go live” date for the Magnox Limited New Socio-Economic Process of 1st April 2012. Sean informed members that each site will be allocated £10,000 for smaller ongoing community projects. He assured the SSG that the criteria will be sent out with a copy of the socio-economic policy and emphasised that the elements of young people, economic impact, community fabric and community enhancement will satisfy criteria, and that for larger projects, an online application which would be appraised centrally would deal with applications requesting up to £100,000 funding.

Questions and Observations

Cllr Frank McGowan asked for clarification as to whether there was more money being put in by NDA

Sean Marshall informed the group that £350,000 is currently made available across the Magnox sites by the NDA annually and the potential is for this amount to be doubled. This gives the opportunity to get larger projects funded with applications from £5000 - £20,000. All members agreed of the importance that we continue to ensure that smaller projects are not missed and funding for these would come from the allocated site funds of £10,000.

Cllr Lindsay asked if small groups would have to apply online.

Sean Marshall responded by saying that decisions on the smaller projects will be made straight away by a site panel and larger grant application would go through the central Socio-economic Panel.

Jill Callander questioned that if funding was being allocated centrally would it be on a first come, first served basis.

Sean Marshall confirmed that basically this would be the case and that it would be beneficial to communicate the information regarding funding to communities as soon as it is available.

Cllr Ogilvie raised his concern that, although there would be more funding, there would be a lot of competition and he was concerned that central allocation of funding would result in funds not being divided up equally. He also asked what would happen to the education budget, and specifically the Chapelcross SEE (Science, Environment and Enterprise) projects which are featured in the press.

Sean Marshall assured the group that every month a Magnox Socio-economic Panel will meet to assess funding applications. This new online system is being put in to place to speed up the process of funding. With regards to the current funding allocated to education for the Chapelcross SEE Project, it may be up to the Chapelcross Site to apply for this with an application for £20,000.

John Grierson reiterated that this was a real opportunity for the community and added that the Chapelcross Site would certainly try to support applicants.

Cllr Ogilvie enquired if the Magnox Optimised Defuelling Programme would support, or threaten our socio-economic policy.

Sean Marshall explained that by 2017 we will have seen over 300 people go from the site and together with the support of the Beyond Chapelcross Project it is important for us to still support and maintain community fabric.

Chris Brown asked that in terms of socio economic applications through CoReS sub group would the new system supersede this.

Sean Marshall responded by saying that larger funding applications would still have to apply to the NDA.

Willie McNairn asked if Annan Museum, who are hoping to put an exhibition towards the end of the school year for local schools, could approach Chapelcross for funding.

Sean Marshall responded by saying as long as the project application met the socio-economic criteria there is the potential for the application to be successful.

John Grierson assured the SSG that Chapelcross would continue to help with applications.

11. CoReS Update

Chris Brown provided an update from CoReS.

Gretna Masterplan is now complete and the projects for a hub in Central Avenue, improving the Registry Office and upgrading the Richard Greenhow Centre are now well underway.

The Annan Masterplan is developing work at the Bridge at the north entry to Annan and also the Railway Station Gateway. The Annandale Distillery refurbishment is receiving support with regards to road realignments as part of planning consent and there may be the possibility of identifying a building for bonded warehouse storage.

Work is underway with Annandale Distillery in terms of developing a visitor centre, hopefully opening towards the end of 2012.

The Lockerbie Masterplan will be one of the first main tasks of the new GLA Project Officer who starts next Monday. The Plan will be developed in the same way as Annan and Gretna in terms of setting up a Steering Group and commissioning work. We also have a good level of interest from the private sector for sites in Lockerbie on looking at inward investment.

The Beyond Chapelcross Project is making good progress and Beverley Bamford has been in post now for 2 months. Don Taylor, the new GLA Project Officer takes up the post on Monday 5th December 2011 and the Administration Officer will be in post before Christmas. 37 local businesses have already been in touch, including a number of one to one meetings with businesses. Beverly is working very closely with the Chapelcross Transition Workforce Group and Trade Unions at the Chapelcross Site.

A recent meeting was held with Scottish Power Renewables who are one of the largest developers in terms of wind turbines in Dumfries and Galloway. Scottish Power Renewables are keen to investigate to see if there are any links in terms of skilled workforce at Chapelcross, or transferable skills for turbine develop and it is hoped that a meeting may be arranged in the future with John Grierson and his staff. Work has also been done through Skills Development Scotland who will look at how links can be made with the Chapelcross Workforce Transition Group in terms of careers advice and training and development packages. This will be particularly helpful at looking at careers advice and over the next 12 months we are looking at running surgeries on Chapelcross site.

In terms of business support, progress is being made with a marketing plan which will be finalised and will be available in January / February 2012. This will have it's own website, Facebook page and Twitter account, etc. It is hoped that there will be a form of retail support through a "shop doctor" type approach similar to Mary Portas giving advice regarding marketing, visual merchandising and profitability. This project will be funded through D&G Council.

Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie discussed the ethics strategy for staff at Chapelcross, in particular the age profile and specifically the impact of recent developments with retirement age being raised.

Chris Brown responded by saying this was one of the main reasons she was keen to have Skills Development Scotland on board with the Beyond Chapelcross Project to help support us in terms of skills development, utilising current skills, employability and career advice to look at every person who comes forward to be given a "good onward journey" .

Cllr Frank McGowan asked what schedule we were looking at for governance meetings of the Beyond Chapelcross Project.

Chris Brown informed the group that the first meeting will be at the end of January 2012 and that one of the first things they will be looking at doing will be work plans for every member of the team which will be clarified with John Grierson for authorisation. This would ensure that this aligns with aims and objectives of the project and will be reported at the Governance Meeting also.

Cllr Sean Marshall added that he felt it was very important for close working between the Beyond Chapelcross Strategic Steering Group, Beyond Chapelcross Project Delivery Board and Chapelcross Transition Sub Group, and also for information to flow through to the Chapelcross SSG and CoReS Meetings.

12. Any Other Business and Public Forum

Jill Callander proposed the dates for the SSG Meetings 2012. These were to be on Friday 2nd March, Friday 1st June, Friday 7th September and Friday 7th December 2012.

13. Public Forum

No comments

14. Next Meeting.

Friday 2nd March 2012 at 10am in Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall.