



## Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 13th September 2013 at Council Chambers, Annan Town Hall, High Street, Annan

#### **Present:**

Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie (representing Annandale South) (Chairman)  
Cllr Craig Peacock (representing Annandale East and Eskdale) (Vice Chairman)  
Jill Callander (SSG Secretary)  
John Grierson (Chapelcross Site Director)  
Brian Hughes (Magnox HUB Director)  
Pippa Waterman (Magnox Stakeholder Manager)  
Frank McGowan (Chapelcross Union Convenor)  
Bill Hamilton (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, NDA)  
Cllr Sean Marshall (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Archie Dryburgh (representing Annandale East and Eskdale)  
Jim Nesbitt (Representative of Federation of Community Councils)  
Willie McNairn (2km Resident Representative)  
Martin Brown (Representative of Federation of Community Councils)  
Chris Brown (D&G Council, Economic Development, Business & Enterprise Manager)  
Gordon McMiken (Scottish Govt Rural Payments and Inspections Division)

#### **Apologies:**

Karen Bratton (EHSS&Q Manager, Magnox Limited)  
David Stone (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, SEPA)  
Ewan Young (Scottish Government)  
Chris Kemp (Office for Nuclear Regulation, ONR)  
David Gurney (D&G Council Safety and Resilience)  
Jonathon Burgess (Cumbria Resilience Unit)  
Harry Brown (2km Resident Representative)  
Sgt Carol-Ann Campbell (Dumfries and Galloway Police)  
Iain Campbell (Dumfries and Galloway Community Fire and Rescue)  
Lucy Denvir (NHS)  
Alistair McKinnon (Scottish Enterprise)  
Cllr Peter Diggle (representing Annandale North)  
Cllr Ian Carruthers (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Stephen Thompson (representing Annandale North)  
Cllr Dennis Male (representing Annandale East and Eskdale)  
Cllr Richard Brodie (representing Annandale South)  
Elaine Murray (MSP)  
David Mundell (MP)

#### **In Attendance:**

Sheila Adams (Minutes)  
Simon White (UK Nuclear Restoration)  
Sharon Liptrott (Press, D&G Standard)  
Rod Edgar (Press, DNG Media)

**1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing Brian Hughes, Magnox HUB Director, and Pippa Waterman, Stakeholder Manager.

**2. Announcements and Apologies (including Declarations of Interest)**

The Secretary gave the Apologies as listed above.

Councillors Dryburgh and Marshall confirmed that they are employed by Magnox and were attending the meeting as Councillors.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

The Minutes of the meeting of 7th June 2013 were approved as a true record and proposed as such by Mr McNairn and seconded by Mr Marshall.

In respect of Action points from the previous meeting:

The Secretary had circulated a paper on Biological Reductive Dechlorination, in response to Cllr Thompson's query. Action complete.

The Secretary read the following information from an email from Ewan Green regarding Broadband coverage:

"The total Broadband coverage is estimated at 94% which is an excellent outcome for the region. The Council will work with those communities (the final 6%) to develop ways to enhance connectivity." Action complete.

It was not known if Cllr Ian Carruthers had progressed the action to speak to the Council's Chief Executive regarding Dumfries and Galloway's lack of representation on Nuclear related Committees – *Action carried forward.*

The Minutes of the Higher Activity Waste Policy meetings are still in draft and will be circulated when finalised – *Action carried forward.*

**4. Chapelcross Site Director's Report (including update on Magnox Socio-Economic Scheme)**

Mr John Grierson presented his report using the attached presentation slides.

In summary:

There had been three minor injuries on site within 24 hours, despite these being very minor incidents Mr Grierson intended to stand the site down in the next week for a safety reinforcement reminder. For the first time in seven years, the site had three consecutive days at full occupation with no personnel on sick leave.

Safety Indicators have returned to green after some challenges in the previous quarters.

Mr Grierson advised that Chapelcross Site has been transferred to a different working Group within Magnox and the Site Director now reports to Mr Dave Wilson, former Site Director at Chapelcross. The workforce at Chapelcross is gradually reducing as planned, as is the number of agency staff.

Environmental monitoring frequency has reduced from monthly to three monthly due to the reduced activity on site. Chapelcross has now been verified fuel free. No elements were found in the testing indicating the job had been carried out diligently. Intermediate Level Waste stainless steel has all been moved to Sellafield.

The transition is approaching the next big milestone which will be Monday 30th September 2013 at 5.00 pm when Chapelcross officially becomes a Decommissioning Site. The number of staff in the Transition Case Management Group has reduced from 40 to 19. Staff are being informed of new arrangements such as accommodation, lockers, reporting Officers etc. The timescale for the bedding in of the new organisation is December 2013 – March 2014.

The Contractor delivering the asbestos removal programme recently went into administration but has been bought over by another Company which has allowed the same teams to remain on site at Chapelcross. The stripping of asbestos from Reactor 4 is 85% complete and Reactor 3 60% complete. Quotations have been requested for Reactors 1 and 2.

Thirty pond skips have been removed since the last meeting, some of which will go to Sellafeld for reuse. The Waste Department has been very productive delivering some key projects over the past few months.

The Socio-Economic Scheme has seen a healthy number of applications, with various stakeholders benefitting from funding, such as 'Let's Get Hooked on Fishing', cycling, tennis and Riding of the Marches.

All bidders in the Magnox / RSRL Competition have now visited the site, some 2 or 3 times. Bidders have the opportunity to return to the site during September but Mr Grierson indicated that none were expected to request further visits.

Mr Grierson concluded his presentation by reiterating, as always, that safety is the top priority for Chapelcross site.

### **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Dryburgh asked about emergency arrangements from a first aid perspective and was surprised that Access Control Points are still being used. Mr Grierson confirmed that Emergency Planning Zones are in use as well as Access Control Points.

Cllr Marshall asked if there was likely to be compulsory redundancies of any of the 19 staff remaining on Transition Case Management. Mr Grierson reassured Members that he expected no compulsory redundancies and staff will continue to be considered should suitable vacancies become available within the site, or at another site where possible. Case managers are working with the staff concerned and also looking at internal and external opportunities.

Mr McNair commented about traffic lights outside his house 10 days ago which was reduced the speed of the traffic, allowing offloading of drilling equipment. Mr Grierson confirmed that borehole drilling had started this week and the traffic lights would be part of a Traffic Management Plan to ensure safety. Cllr Marshall added that there had been dialogue with Elected Members of the Council on this subject.

Cllr Dryburgh asked about removal of the Graphite Handling Facility, and in particular the asbestos roof and the implications of this. Mr Grierson explained the structure of the building and advised that the Contractor would be on site for 10 week ensuring that all safety aspects were put in place.

Referring to the asbestos Contractor going out of business, Cllr Peacock asked what influence Magnox has in keeping existing personnel from Contractors when obtaining new tenders. Mr Grierson described the process of assessing tenders which includes a Performance Bond, Health and Safety Review, Review of Finances, and the Team on site. Magnox has no control over sub-contracted staff leaving but most will stay until the end of the contract. Most of the Team employed by the Company which went into administration have remained on site with the new employing Company.

## **5. Magnox HUB Team Presentation**

Mr Hughes gave a presentation explaining the process and plans for the Care and Maintenance phase, in which Chapelcross Site will be the last of the ten Magnox sites to enter. Bradwell will be first to enter Care and Maintenance in 2015 and a Box Type Model will be used, with 5 storage facilities on the site. As Chapelcross is last to enter the process, it is hoped that any teething problems will have been resolved by then. All sites will be safe, secure and comply with regulatory legislation and requirements. The sites will still hold

licences and will still be bound by legislation. Regulators must be satisfied at all stages of the process.

Sites will be managed remotely through a small off-site central Hub Team. Remote monitoring will be done by way of an alarm system and there will be no continuous on site presence. This is possible due to safe storage and removal of hazards systematically from sites.

For safety reasons, there will be minimal site access with planned regular maintenance and inspection regimes built into a 5 year Inspection Programme. Remediation work will also be identified, with annual inspections of equipment undertaken. Ad-hoc visits and safety visits will also be carried out when required (for example, weather conditions). The supply chain is very important here with national and local support.

Mr Hughes confirmed that the model will be flexible and is in its infancy with much work still to be done.

### **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Marshall asked about the perimeter of the site as Chapelcross has a large footprint. Mr Hughes responded that costings have been based on existing conditions but it may be possible to shrink the footprint of the site when it reaches the appropriate time.

Cllr Marshall asked about the possibility of going into full Care and Maintenance rather than entering a interim care and maintenance phase. He also enquired as to where in the UK the Central Control Room would be located and suggested that Chapelcross would be an appropriate Hub. Mr Hughes responded that the assumption is that by 2028 office space will be hired for the Hub. The location is not too important and has not yet been decided – it will largely be determined by personnel.

Cllr Dryburgh also asked if Chapelcross could enter Care and Maintenance earlier and Mr Hughes confirmed that the flexible model allows for this but cost plans would have to be reviewed.

Cllr Dryburgh considered that it may be an asset for the site to retain its licence if Government policy changes because of the no new-build policy. Mr Hughes replied that the timescale gives flexibility and there is enough time for decisions to be made if policy should change in the next few years.

Cllr Marshall asked if the Intermediate Level Waste and Reactor areas could be separated. Mr Hughes replied that they would be located within one fenced area. To separate to two different areas would depend on cost benefits.

Cllr Peacock asked about the length of timescales for contracts being awarded as some contracts are 20-40 years long and circumstances can change considerably over such a long time span. Mr Hughes responded that decisions are made on commercial strategy at the prevailing time.

Cllr Marshall referred to concerns over remote management and asked for assurances regarding safety. Mr Hughes explained the procedure which would involve three fences, a sterile zone, cameras, detectors, cast iron storage and assured Cllr Marshall that the site would be extremely low risk.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hughes and Ms Waterman for attending the meeting and presenting to Members.

## **6. NDA Reports**

Mr Hamilton advised that the Competition Team will be locked down in November to analyse the Competition tenders in secret. Bidders names are not revealed to the assessors with

Companies known only as Bidder X. It will now be very quiet until a formal announcement is made in Spring 2014.

The first five years of the Sellafield contract expires in March 2014 and the NDA has until September 2013 to decide on the way forward.

The Government's announcement on 12th September of the launch of the 'Managing Radioactive Waste Safely' consultation only applies in England and Wales.

The National Stakeholder Event will be held in October, to which all stakeholders will be invited to the Bradwell site.

### **Questions and Observations**

Mr McGowan asked about the Sellafield contract and Mr Hamilton advised that Sellafield is a 17 year contract. With the current Magnox / RSRL competition, the NDA has been advised that the industry cannot support another competition at this time.

Cllr Dryburgh asked if the NDA, as a Government body looking at best value, had a view on Care and Maintenance at Chapelcross being brought forward. Mr Hamilton replied that it was necessary to wait for the outcome of the Competition to see what proposals the winning bidders might have.

Cllr Marshall referred to the West Coast Main Line and asked what impact it would have if an unsuccessful bidder challenges a decision. Mr Hamilton explained that the NDA competition is very different and it has never had, and does not expect, a legal challenge, due to the rigorous procedures followed. There is a transition period after the announcement of the Preferred Bidder to allow time for challenges without delaying any other timescales.

## **7. Other reports from SSG Bodies - ONR, SEPA, CNC, Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Emergency Planning, etc.**

### **Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division**

Mr McMiken was present in the audience and confirmed that he had nothing to report.

### **Scottish Government**

In Mr Young's absence, the **Secretary read the following report, provided** by Mr Young:

Scottish Nuclear Sites Meeting: The 11th meeting of the Scottish Nuclear sites is scheduled for Thursday 24 October at the Scottish Government offices in Edinburgh. Chapelcross and the SSG are well represented and their attendance is always welcomed.

Scottish Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy: Following the update in June, the Scottish Government has developed a number of 'Next Steps' papers in response to the Strategy Skeleton Outline document which was agreed by the Project Board at their April meeting. These papers which were discussed at the July meeting identify work packages which are required to inform different sections of the Strategy. The NDA, regulators, waste managers and other stakeholders have been engaged as appropriate and work on the different issues is now underway. The next meeting of the HAW Project Board will be held at the end of October at which point it is hoped substantial headway can be reported on work package progression.

Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill: This Bill was introduced to Parliament on 27 March 2013.

Main milestones since last update in June are:

- Paul Wheelhouse, Minister gave evidence to RACCE Committee (5 Jun)
- SEPA/SG facilitated a Stakeholder Workshop on the new enforcement measures and SEPA's new regulatory charging scheme (11 Jun)
- We've been influencing at a UK level (e.g. through regular meetings with DEFRA and other DAs working on similar (but not as good!) better environmental regulation programmes) and EU level (e.g. during Commissioner Potocnik's visit to Scotland 19-20 Jun)
- Following feedback from stakeholders and the committee we've been looking to develop our programme for implementation, i.e. when we will implement the integrated permissioning and new enforcement measures the bill will enable. Will update on this later in 2013
- Supporting Fergus Ewing and Derek Mackay as they give evidence to EET committee on Part 1 of the Bill (our stuff is all in Part 2) on 11 Sept.
- Timetable – EET committee expect to report on stage 1 before October recess, so stage 1 debate will take place sometime before then. Stage 2 early November.
- Stage 2 amendments expected to help deliver recommendations of environmental crime task force and as a result of the consultation on the national litter strategy proposals.
- Planning a further stakeholder workshop on the new regulatory charging scheme later in 2013.

#### **ONR**

In the absence of Mr Kemp, his report was circulated to Members with the meeting papers in advance of the meeting.

#### **SEPA**

Mr Stone was not present at the meeting but had provided a report which was circulated to Members with the meeting papers in advance of the meeting.

### **8. External Meetings and Invitations**

#### **NDA Magnox/RSRL Competition – Stakeholder/Bidder Engagement Sessions**

The Chair and Vice Chair had attended this meeting on 3rd September and met with all four consortia. All feedback from the Bidders mentioned the Beyond Chapelcross Project which was very positive. The message coming from the NDA and the sites was the same and social economic benefits were important to all. It was acknowledged that a huge amount of work has gone into the bidding process by both the Bidders and the NDA.

#### **NDA SSG Chair's Meeting in London**

At the external Chair's meeting on 20th June, Neil Baldwin was confident that the funding allocation from the Government would remain static. It is predicted that £700M will be generated between now and ceasing to operate.

### **9. CoReS and Beyond Chapelcross Update**

Mrs Brown advised that the annual update from the Beyond Chapelcross Team would be presented to Mr Grierson and his Team in December at the end of Year 2, before being presented at the next SSG meeting in December.

CoReS group membership has now been agreed.

Under Strategic Projects, a development framework is being developed for Chapelcross to see how the site can be used. The Lockerbie Masterplan has been signed off and work has commenced. Twenty five people are connected to Annan Broadband and will be integrated with the South of Scotland Broadband project. The Communications Unit is looking at commercialising Annandale TV for longevity. On inward investment, work on Chapelcross and the Local Development Plan is ongoing. Most of the targets agreed with John Grierson

and the NDA every year have been exceeded. Mrs Brown gave examples of some of the targets and their outcomes. The project is conscious of supplier development and is working with the NDA and Scottish Enterprise. In Lockerbie 33 businesses have registered for the Supplier Development Programme Workshop. The retail sector used to be excluded from grants but the scheme has been expanded to include this sector.

#### **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Marshall noted that CoReS is to present back to the NDA.

Cllr Dryburgh was concerned about the apparent lack of interest by Scottish Enterprise in this project and referred to empty units in Gretna. Mrs Brown pointed out that Scottish Enterprise is a sleeping partner in some of the projects but she will feed back the SSG's concerns to CoReS and the Steering Group. Referring to the empty units in Gretna, Cllr Peacock added that some businesses have made enquiries but been declined because they are the 'wrong kind' of business. Cllr Marshall thought that this might potentially be because of problems with connection issues for Scottish Water at Gretna.

Cllr Peacock asked Mrs Brown if some people were losing out by the Job Centre Surgeries being fully subscribed. Mrs Brown advised that the one-to-one surgeries on site in Annan Job Centre are fully booked but other arrangements can be made outwith the Job Centre sessions and contact details are kept and enquirers contacted to ensure that opportunities are not lost.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **11. Public Forum**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **12. Next Meeting – Friday 13th December 2013**

The next meeting will be held on Friday 13th December 2013 at 10.00 am in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Annan.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11.50 am by thanking everyone for attending and wishing them all a safe journey home.