



## Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 15th March 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)  
Mark Blackley (Chapelcross Engineering Manager)  
Frank McGowan (Chapelcross Union Convenor)  
Scott Muir (Chapelcross Prospect Union Representative)  
David Batters (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, NDA Chief Financial Officer)  
Bill Hamilton (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, NDA)  
David Stone (Scottish Environment Protection Agency, SEPA)  
Ewan Young (Scottish Government)  
Chris Kemp (Office for Nuclear Regulation, ONR)  
Cllr Sean Marshall (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Peter Diggle (representing Annandale North)  
Willie McNairn (2km Resident Representative)  
Harry Brown (2km Resident Representative)  
Martin Brown (Representative of Federation of Community Councils)  
Chris Brown (D&G Council, Economic Development, Business & Enterprise Manager)  
Alison Ferguson (D&G Council)

#### **Apologies:**

Karen Dickens ((Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, NDA)  
Karen Bratton (Chapelcross)  
Iain Campbell (Dumfries and Galloway Community Fire and Rescue)  
Inspector Dave Johnstone (CNC)  
David Gurney (Civil Protection and Emergency Planning)  
Cllr Stephen Thompson (representing Annandale North)  
Cllr Ian Carruthers (representing Annandale South)  
Cllr Karen Carruthers (representing Annandale East and Eskdale)  
Cllr Denis Male (representing Annandale East and Eskdale)  
Cllr Richard Brodie (representing Annandale South)  
Jim Nesbitt (Representative of Federation of Community Councils)  
Ewan Green (D&G Council, Head of Economic Development)  
Jamie Fergusson (D&G Council)  
Cllr Stephen Thompson (representing Annandale North)  
Cllr Archie Dryburgh (representing Annandale East and Eskdale)

#### **In Attendance:**

Sheila Adams (Minutes)  
Sharon Liptrott (Press, Dumfries and Galloway Standard)  
Amanda Kennedy (DNG Media)  
Gordon John (UK NR)

**1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mr David Batters and Mr Bill Hamilton from the NDA.

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

The Secretary gave the Apologies as listed above.

Cllr Marshall confirmed that he is employed by Magnox and was attending the meeting as a Councillor.

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

There was an amendment to the Minutes of the meeting of Friday 14th December 2012 under Section 4. In the first sentence of paragraph 3, 'fixed term' should read 'full-time'. The sentence is amended to read *"Between September-December 2013, the structure of the workforce will change from 430 Magnox employees to 298.5 equivalents"*

The Minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record and proposed as such by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Mrs Callander.

All Actions in the Minutes had been discharged. The complaint regarding the procedure for election of Chairman and Vice Chairman which had been referred to the NDA had gone through its formal procedures and the NDA investigations had been concluded. It was confirmed that no further action is required by Chapelcross Site Stakeholder Group.

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

Mr John Grierson presented his report using presentation slides (see attached).

In summary: Mr Grierson's presentation focussed on defuelling. Safety has been particularly good over the last three months and there have been no injuries on site since December 2012 and no events of major significance. There have been challenges at other sites however and all sites are on a period of heightened awareness. A new Very Low Level Waste route has been established and shipments have been made to Clifton Marsh, Preston.

In respect of the Magnox/RSRL Competition, the bidders are currently visiting sites and are expected at Chapelcross in April/May. Workforce numbers are currently stable and will reduce gradually throughout the year. Employment opportunities are being followed up with partners and employees are being given assistance in preparing for interviews etc. Chapelcross site was delighted to have taken two out of the three awards available in the company's annual innovation awards, known as i4.

Mr Grierson explained the life-cycle of a nuclear plant and the various stages of Chapelcross from its inception in 1955 to its scheduled end in 2095. Mr Grierson showed a video of the site's achievements in defuelling and also explained the defuelling process in detail to members, giving further insight into the concept of the Defuelling Marginal Gains Programme implemented at Chapelcross.

With regard to the Socio-Economic Scheme, £58,452 has been awarded over the year, which is on a par with last year's allocations. The new process is now established and it was pleasing to note that the new Scheme had not affected the level of applications received or granted. Grant awards range from £150 - £10,000+. The site is also remaining active in terms of Stakeholder activity with many projects within the local communities supported.

**Questions and Observations**

Cllr Diggle asked what would happen to the site after 2095. Mr Grierson advised that there are options for the site and the periphery of the site which are being considered.

Cllr Peacock congratulated the team at Chapelcross on exceeding NDA targets. He asked about the conflicting story in the press about security contracts being awarded when they have not. Mr Grierson replied that it is not known how this story got to the press but confirmed that the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) will remain on site until a new contractor is appointed and trained.

Cllr Peacock asked how the Very Low Level Waste would be transported. Mr Grierson responded that purpose built containers had been shipped in and the waste would be collected, delivered and disposed of on the same day.

Cllr Peacock was pleased to see the spread of socio-economic funding across the region, not just in the immediate vicinity of Chapelcross, and felt that this funding made a real difference to communities.

Mr McGowan observed that from a Trade Union perspective, all employees were to be applauded for meeting targets in a safe and compliant manner with regards to the defuelling programme at Chapelcross.

## **5. NDA Reports**

Mr David Batters thanked Mr Grierson for the full site tour and brief which he had received earlier in the week. He highlighted some of the main points of interest in the Monthly Update for January 2013 which was circulated with the Agenda and the March 2013 Update which was tabled at the meeting.

Mr Batters reported on a good financial year in which extra income had been generated and allocated out. He explained that the NDA cannot overspend by more than £500 on any of its nine budget headings without having to explain itself to the Government. Last year an underspend of 0.4% was achieved and a similar result is expected this year. Monies for 2015/16 are now being requested from the Treasury.

### **Questions and Observations**

Mr Brown referred to a television programme on Hiroshima which came across as negative and inflammatory and asked how the NDA shares experiences. Mr Batters advised that the NDA works across the globe using strategy and technology. An NDA Director with a technical nuclear background has been invited to Japan take up a position as a member of a Board addressing such issues. Mr Hamilton added that the NDA receives a great amount of interest from the Japanese and there is recognition in Japan that it needs an organisation like the NDA. Some Japanese visitors were at Sellafield for a month learning lessons from the UK and they see changes in the structure of the industry in the UK as being beneficial to them.

Mr Muir asked if there was a date for the competition announcement. Four bidders are being taken through the process and it is expected that the preferred bidder will be known in April 2014.

Mr Muir asked if a change in NDA spending budgets would affect bidders. Mr Batters replied that the assumption is that funding levels will remain but if the Government altered this, bidders would be advised as there is room for manoeuvre in the budget. Mr Muir commented on the Comprehensive Spending Review and asked that money be moved to high visibility projects at Chapelcross if there is the opportunity to do so.

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

### **ONR**

Mr Chris Kemp congratulated Chapelcross site on its defueling achievements. He highlighted some of the main points from the ONR quarterly report for October – December 2012, which was circulated with the Agenda for the meeting.

The Demonstration Exercise was very successful. Agreement is now in place through Statutory Instruments to allow sites to take empty skips out of the Ponds and dispose of them. The Ponds at Chapelcross had been inspected the day before the meeting. The Fire Inspector who visited the site was very pleased and recommended a couple of actions. Reports of site visits are now summarised and available to view online.

## **SEPA**

Mr Stone expanded on the Quarterly Report which had been circulated with the meeting papers in advance of the meeting. With regard to the Multi Media Authorisation (MMA), the difference in opinions raised during consultation with the Food Standards Agency had now been resolved and it has now been passed to the Scottish Government for consideration. Results of site inspections are now to be published on SEPA's website.

## **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Ogilvie asked if the breach which occurred last year would have been noted had the new MMA been in place. Mr Stone replied that the MMA would have no impact on last year's incident.

Cllr Ogilvie asked what benefits the MMA brings and was informed by Mr Stone that the MMA gives some flexibility to determine the best practical means of decommissioning. The benefits for SEPA are that it standardises conditions and allows it to regulate sites more effectively.

## **Scottish Government**

Mr Ewan Young confirmed that the Scottish Government had received the MMA that week and this would be circulated to three areas of the Scottish Government. The responses from each area would be collated and a report prepared for the Minister within a 12 week timeframe.

Mr Young reported to the SSG on the following issues:

## **Scottish Nuclear Sites Meeting**

The next meeting of the Scottish Nuclear sites will take place on Thursday 25 April at the Scottish Government offices in Edinburgh. One of the presentations will be from Dounreay on its first year with a new owner. The second presentation is to be confirmed, which will either be a presentation from the Ministry of Defence or from Mr Grierson, Chapelcross Site Director, on defuelling.

Chapelcross and the SSG are normally well represented and their attendance is always welcomed. The Deputy Director, Environmental Quality Division has also agreed to attend. Following a request at the last meeting in October 2012 it is hoped to have representatives from Vulcan and Faslane in attendance as well as new representatives replacing those who have retired from office since the last meeting.

## **Scottish Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy**

The project to develop the Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy did not progress as much as we would have hoped during 2012. However, we are aiming to move the project forward during 2013.

The last meeting of the Project Board was held on 24 August 2012. At the meeting the Project Board discussed the general areas that should be considered in a Strategy. The Scottish Government is now developing the proposed scope of the Strategy with the aim of presenting a plan for taking forward the development of the Strategy at the next Project Board meeting. The next meeting is expected to take place in April or May 2013.

## **Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill and Better Environmental Regulation Programme**

Consistent proportionate and effective regulation is essential to the Scottish Government's Purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.

The Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill, which will be introduced in spring 2013, takes forward our commitment to improve further the way regulations are developed and applied in practice across Scotland. It will protect our people and environment, ensure a level playing field for business and create jobs.

The Bill will improve the way environmental regulations are applied and will introduce:

- a new statutory purpose for SEPA;
- a simplified and integrated framework for environmental regulation, reducing the unnecessarily complex landscape of environmental legislation and regulations; and
- a new enforcement framework to ensure that SEPA has the right range of powers to tackle poor performance and to better protect the environment.

The Bill also contains three main Enterprise elements:

- Defining and implementing national standards and systems;
- A duty to promote economic and business growth through regulatory activity;
- A single, transferable certificate of compliance for mobile food businesses.

Beyond the Bill we will continue to drive forward further improvements through non-legislative means, including taking forward work on a new funding design for SEPA through the joint SG-SEPA Better Environmental Regulation Programme.”

### **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Marshall welcomed the Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy going forward and felt that a timeline would be useful.

## **7. External Meetings and Invitations**

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

The Chair and Vice Chair will attend this event at The Jurys Inn, Glasgow, on 16th April 2013, on behalf of Chapelcross SSG. This is the first round of Stakeholder Events with the bidders, with a second round to be held in autumn. Local Authorities and the Scottish Government will also be in attendance. There will be a 45 minute opportunity for stakeholders to present to the bidders on what makes a good Parent Body Organisation to enable the bidders to address this in their bids. The four bidders will be in separate rooms and the stakeholders can meet the bidders individually, which gives the bidders the opportunity to ‘sell’ themselves and engage in dialogue with the stakeholders.

Cllr Marshall suggested the members present to consider what they would like to be discussed at this event.

Cllr Ogilvie suggested that projects should be identified to enable jobs to be sustained. Funding for Continued Employment at the Site, he suggested that we remove the Interim Care and Maintenance phase and move straight to Care and Maintenance and completely decommission the Site – the staff have proved they are skilled and driven to complete targets. This would have the most positive effect on the local community as you would be extending the high quality, skilled and well-paid jobs within the local community.

Cllr Marshall echoed this view that skilled employees should be retained as far as possible. The current status quo of how the current PBO works with and treats employees should be maintained, with the same or better terms and conditions. Cllr Peacock considered that the socio-economic aspect had a large part to play and he would like to see the bidders play a major role in the Beyond Chapelcross project and maintain at least the current level. Mr Muir felt that training and development of the workforce is paramount to maintain future employment. He asked what the Companies will be bringing to the table and would not want to see monies going out with the country. Mrs Brown suggested that the bidders should be looking at the wider picture – the surrounding communities and businesses, the local economy and retailers, as well as the site itself. Mrs Brown added that partnerships between various agencies should be emphasised as this is what has made the Beyond Chapelcross project work and this should be maintained and built upon.

Cllr Peacock noted that each site has different obligations and it will be interesting to hear the views of other sites.

The Secretary invited any member who has any further thoughts or comments to email these to her and she will collate them for Cllrs Ogilvie and Peacock to take to the meeting.

Cllr Marshall asked if the NDA would be facilitating regional meetings. Mr Hamilton replied that this is the case and that only Scottish sites will be present at the meeting in Glasgow. Mr Hamilton was confident that the points raised would be strongly put across to the bidders. Mr Hamilton added that core NDA personnel will be at all bidders' events and he will share the consolidated thoughts by bringing a report back to the next SSG meeting.

#### **8. CoReS and Beyond Chapelcross (BCX) Update**

Mrs Chris Brown reported that it had been unanimously agreed that CoRES should revisit its Terms of Reference to be more strategic. Key to its success is delivering economic projects at a strategic level. Under Chapelcross key points, Windermere Road has progressed slower than hoped but this is now moving forward. Two Shop front Schemes have run in Gretna, Lockerbie and Annan. Mrs Brown read out a list of Key Performance Indicators, which will be circulated with the Minutes, of which most targets have been exceeded. A dedicated website has been set up, which has received 421 hits, resulting in 29 enquiries. Monthly e-magazines are also produced and the secure area of the website which can only be accessed by Chapelcross employees has seen an increase in the number of hits. The Site Transition Team has hosted a Roadshow of external organisations which resulted in 60 direct enquiries. 29 individuals have been received support with CV writing and 11 have benefited from confidential one-to-one support. The Beyond Chapelcross Team have also been working closely with the PTYBS and 6 new business starts of people aged between 18-25 are in the pipeline. Lindsey Mason of the Beyond Chapelcross Team has been holding monthly surgeries in Annan Job Centre. The 'Let's Talk Shop' Shop Doctor initiative offering holistic support to the retail sector is also proving to be a success. This will take place in Gretna and Lockerbie in June and to date 11 businesses in Annan have participated. The Annan Distilleries project is being taken forward by a Steering Group comprising Beyond Chapelcross, Savour the Flavours, Visit Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway Council.

#### **Questions and Observations**

Cllr Ogilvie suggested that the written report to be provided by Mrs Brown for distribution with the Minutes should be shared with a wider audience. **Action – Report to be forwarded by Mrs Brown to the SSG Secretary for distribution with the minutes.**

Mr McNairn asked what had happened to Katalyst. Mrs Brown understood that the Company no longer exists. With regard to a query on the buildings and planning consent, Mrs Brown will feed back with a written response from the relevant Council Officer. **Action – Response to be sent via the SSG Secretary to Mr McNairn.**

**10. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**11. Public Forum**

There were no comments from the public.

**12. Next Meeting – Friday 7th June 2013**

The next meeting will be held on Friday 7th June 2013 at 10.00 am in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Annan.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12.00 pm and thanked everyone for attending what he considered to be an excellent meeting. Cllr Ogilvie also offered his personal congratulations to the Chapelcross Team on their achievements at the i4 Awards.

Cllr Peacock added that it was gratifying to see the level of turnout at the SSG meetings and also appreciated the high level of senior Officer attendance from the NDA at the meetings.