

## Bradwell Site

### Minutes of the 54<sup>th</sup> Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting

The Lodge, Minerva Centre, Mundon  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2012

**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**  
Rosanna Briggs  
**Cllr Roy Bryant**  
**Cllr Paul Burgess**  
**Cllr Les Barclay**  
**Cllr Tim Drain**  
Paul Drew  
David Edwards  
**Cllr Adrian Fluker**  
**Cllr Heather Glynn**  
**Cllr Angela Hale**  
Patrick Haley  
Paul Hetherington  
Jonathan Jenkin  
**Cllr Ivan Joslin**  
Karl Littlewood  
Stephen Nicholson  
**Cllr Tony Pluckrose**  
**Cllr Michael Pudney**  
Russ Rainger  
**Cllr Stephen Savage**  
**Cllr Tony Shrimpton**  
Iain Squire  
**Cllr Nolly Urquhart**  
Denise Varley  
Paul Walker  
**Cllr Sylvia Wargent**  
Sophie Winter

**Maldon District Council**  
**St Lawrence Parish Council**  
Essex County Council  
**Tillingham Parish Council**  
**Althorne Parish Council**  
**Cold Norton Parish Council**  
**Bradwell Parish Council**  
Bradwell Site  
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority  
**Maldon District Council**  
**Rochford District Council**  
**Rochford District Council**  
Bradwell Site  
Bradwell Site  
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority  
**St Lawrence Parish Council**  
Environment Agency  
Office for Nuclear Regulation  
**Tillingham Parish Council**  
**Steeple Parish Council**  
Bradwell Site  
**Maldon Town Council**  
**Maldon Town Council**  
Bradwell Site  
**West Mersea Town Council**  
Office for Nuclear Regulation  
Essex County Council  
**West Mersea Town Council**  
Bradwell Site

**Bold type - denotes voting members**

Members of the public in attendance:

David Bragg  
Kate Culbert  
Cllr John Harrison  
Coral Newton  
Ian Newton  
Barry Turner



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### 1. INTRODUCTION

2309 The Chairman, Brian Main (BM) opened the meeting by welcoming those present, in particular new members and visitors including:

- Rosanna Briggs – Essex County Council
- Denise Varley – Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Barry Turner – West Mersea Resident
- Cllr Angela Hale – Rochford District Council
- David Edwards – Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
- Iain Squire – Bradwell Site

2310 It was noted that a copy of the Constitution was available to any new attendees.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2311 Lisa Reece-Ford confirmed apologies had been received from:

- Andy Blowers – member of the public
- Kathy Brown – Braintree District Council
- Charles Clarke – member of the public
- David Fisher – member of the public
- Mike Gull – Bradwell Site Director
- Cllr John Jowers – Essex County Council
- Paul Kennedy – Food Standards Agency
- Derek Lawrence – Maldon District Council
- Adrian Porter – Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust
- Pauline Rampling – Essex & Suffolk Water
- Mike Webley – Environment Agency
- Paul Wilkinson – Bradwell Site

2312 Chairman reminded attendees that Mike Gull had returned to the site and was the current Site Director.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

2313 The minutes of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the LCLC held on 13 June 2012 were considered and approved subject to the following amendments:

- Cllr John Harrison is an independent Councillor and was not representing Heybridge Parish Council as indicated on page 1.
- Mr G Frackelton is an ONR Project Inspector and not Site Inspector as indicated in paragraph 2291.
- Jonathan Jenkin of the NDA had been in attendance.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

2314 No matters were arising.

### 5. SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2315 Iain Squire (IS), Project Delivery Director for the Bradwell Site, introduced himself and site colleagues and explained that Mike Gull, Site Director, was unable to attend as he was at the Nuclear Safety Committee meeting. Attendees noted that the presentation would provide a visual demonstration of progress covering the following aspects:

- Safety
- Stakeholder visits
- Plant and Structures Programme
- Ponds Programme
- Fuel Element Debris (FED) Treatment Programme
- Intermediate level Waste (ILW) Management Programme
- Transition Programme and The Hub



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- 2316 IS referred to the excellent site safety record and showed a picture of the presentation of the third RoSPA Presidents Award before visually describing stakeholder visits, including that of the LCLC members.
- 2317 IS described progress towards care and maintenance in the five key programmes; Plant and Structures; Ponds; FED Treatment; ILW Management and Transition. Short video clips and pictures were used to reflect work undertaken to date and the following milestone dates were noted for each programme:
- 2318 Plant & Structures:
- Imminent completion of Circulator Hall 3
  - Jan 2013 complete deplant of Boiler Houses 1 & 3 and commence cladding works
  - March 2013 complete deplant of all 4 charge machines
  - Ongoing North End remediation
- 2319 Ponds
- Continue to remove remaining 600m of active drain pipework.
  - Jan 2013 commence survey of site outfalls
  - Coat surfaces of ponds from April 2013
  - July 2013 start detailed design of weather proof structure to cover ponds and vaults.
- 2320 FED Treatment
- Imminently complete emptying of vaults 1A and 1B and commence retrievals from vaults 7 and 8.
  - May 2013 Aqueous Discharge Abatement Plant (ADAP) installed.
  - August 2013 commission FED dissolution plant
- 2321 ILW Management
- Imminent completion of the retrieval of *in situ* Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) graphite dust.
  - Feb 2013 retrieve bulk resin and sludge from active waste compound
  - Commence trials of the ILW conditioning (drying) equipment to enable active commissioning from June 2013
  - March 2013 complete ILW ministore weather protection facility and complete modifications to Circulator hall 3 to enable ILW sorting and packaging.
- 2322 Transition
- Completion of Regeneris Economic Report
  - Continue to work with employees to provide future options including provision of severance figures and working with Jobcentre plus.
  - By March 2013 to draft the "Management of Change" paper.
  - Continue personnel feedback regarding the pathway review.
  - Develop the corporate 'Hub' to provide remote management of the site.
- 2323 Questions were invited and Cllr Savage asked whether the ponds were likely to rise with the water table. IS advised that as the ponds were floating, monitoring had been ongoing with no resulting movement to date, adding that preventative measures would be put into place to ensure anchorage if movement was detected.
- 2324 In response to an enquiry from the public, IS confirmed that the boilers would remain *in situ* with appropriate support in case of seismic activity but that all associated pipework would be removed.
- 2325 Cllr Harrison sought clarification of the progress with FED noting that some of this had been transported to Dungeness. IS explained that approximately 10% of the total FED inventory would be transferred to Dungeness and BM added that this benefitted both sites, in that this kept the Dungeness process working whilst the Bradwell system was established and enabled continued FED retrieval at the Bradwell site.



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- 2326 Cllr Harrison asked about the ILW storage facility and IS explained that it was designed to hold 240 units of either cuboid or mosaic style boxes. The requirement of the site is currently estimated as 140 to 160 units, leaving some capacity that may be utilised as an interim solution for the Magnox fleet until the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) is available. BM added that at the national meeting the NDA had reported that they would consider proximate waste storage providing there was mutual advantage but that no large national interim store was planned.
- 2327 Cllr Fluker questioned whether the FED facility being established at Bradwell will remain on site once FED dissolution was complete and heard that it had been designed as a modular system to enable deployment elsewhere.
- 2328 Cllr Beale questioned whether there was now NDA approval for the nitric acid FED process and whether the FED retrieval process was sufficiently robust and efficient to feed the dissolution process. IS explained that the ongoing FED retrieval would enable a buffer feed stock to be established of up to 1200 drums of 200 litre capacity. When asked how long the dissolution process would take, IS responded by advising that about 15 months using the nitric acid process, compared to 15-18 years using the carbonic acid process.
- 2329 Mr Turner questioned what contingency plans were in place if the national repository was either not available in 2040 as planned or, if open, if the waste from Sellafield was prioritised above waste from Magnox sites. He suggested that the storage facility was not an interim but a long term facility and asked why the local community were not being given the opportunity to volunteer as a host for this store in line with the Government guidance. IS advised that the NDA had provided the 2040 milestone and advised the site to use this when planning. He added that the store was being designed and constructed to last beyond this time frame and that the yellow boxes were robust enough to safely store ILW for an even longer time. IS provided reassurance that this enabled a safe environment for the waste as opposed to leaving it *in situ* in ageing vaults.
- 2330 Mr Newton asked about the FED dissolution process and questioned the nature of the waste products being disposed of into the estuary. IS advised that the aqueous discharge abatement plant would enable capture of hazardous waste. Mr Haley clarified that any radioactivity and impurities would be precipitated and captured via an ion-exchange column and an activated carbon filter leaving an aqueous discharge of a clean salt solution. This discharge would be monitored and outcomes placed onto the public register.
- 2331 Cllr Pluckrose commented on the weather proofing capability of the proposed cladding and questioned the life expectancy of the material. IS advised that the material selected had industry standard life expectancy (approximate 25-30 years) and that construction of the cladding was being designed to mitigate any maintenance burden, for example through the use of welding rather than riveting. It was anticipated that re-cladding would be undertaken periodically before final site clearance.
- 2332 Cllr Burgess asked how closely the site liaised with Maldon District Council regarding their development plan for housing given the anticipated large number of site workers and the strain on the available housing. IS advised that the site already have approx 600 to 700 workers on site with the majority of these contractors that already rent or stay in local overnight accommodation facilities. Mr Rainger advised that the site were already working closely with Maldon District Council to enable planning and preparation for the anticipated transition over coming years. He drew attention to the Regeneris report.
- 2333 Cllr Harrison sought clarification of the hub arrangements and IS explained that the hub was designed to look after Magnox sites that have entered Care and Maintenance (C&M). He explained that Bradwell were due to enter C&M during 2015 and would then consist of three clad buildings (two reactor buildings and the ILW store) surrounded by security inner fencing and an outer perimeter fencing. There would be remote monitoring supported by rapid response teams with no physical manning on site. The hub would undertake the planned maintenance work. Mr Edwards added that Magnox were finalising arrangements and there may be a manned security arrangement for each C&M site.



2334 Cllr Wargent asked whether the graphite cores would remain within the clad reactor buildings and this was confirmed. Cllr Wargent then asked how the retrieved FED was being transported to Dungeness site and heard this was via road in 200 litre drums via approved routes. Cllr Glynn reminded attendees that she had questioned the impact of transporting the ILW waste via road and was pleased to report that she had not heard of any issues, hold ups or problems associated with this. IS added that logistics of batch shipping are considered to minimise disruption.

## 6. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY (NDA) REPORT

2335 Mr J Jenkin (JJ) announced that there had been a key development in the competition to take over the management of Magnox and RSRL sites resulting in a press release yesterday to advise that five global organisations have been invited to 'participate in dialogue':

- Bechtel/URS
- The Babcock Fluor Partnership
- CAS Restoration Partnership (CH2M Hill, Areva, Serco)
- AMEC/Atkins
- EnergySolutions

2336 JJ advised that a programme of site visits would commence in January and lead into a six month period of dialogue to examine the plans for delivering the site programme, socio-economics, approach to stakeholders and so forth. After this there will be a formal invitation to submit final tenders and thereafter an expectation that the preferred bidder would be announced in early 2014 with a transition period and final contract awarded in summer 2014. It was noted that this press release is now on the NDA website.

2337 JJ spoke about socio economics and reminded attendees that Regeneris had been engaged to carry out a socio economic impact assessment of the decommissioning of Bradwell, particularly recognising the accelerated C&M timescale. The draft Regeneris report has now been produced and will need to be dovetailed with the prosperity strategy that Maldon District Council is developing. There was a meeting last week involving several LCLC members, Maldon District Council and others to consider the draft report and there was agreement at this meeting that developing partnerships with Essex County Council, training providers and the private sector was essential to enable leverage of required funds.

2338 JJ drew attention to the NDA Monthly briefing for November, available in hard copy at this meeting, advising that this provides details of ongoing work. The following additional points were noted:

- The National Audit Office have published a report of their investigation into a number of projects at Sellafield site (totalling £450million of the £1.6billion annual expenditure). This report advised that of the 14 projects considered, 12 of these are either behind schedule or over cost. It did recognise that measures are in place to bring the projects back onto track. The Public Accounts Committee have subsequently questioned the NDA, Sellafield and DECC and this was described as challenging and constructive.
- £1million of grants have been awarded in West Cumbria that will unlock £5.6million of the Government's Regional Growth Fund for the 'Investing in Business' scheme and up to a further £31million of private sector investment. Kent County Council were noted to have also successfully bid for Regional Growth Fund monies.
- Strategy paper for ILW storage options for central and southern Scotland now published.
- Wylfa power station has received authorisation to transfer fuel between reactors enabling the continued production of electricity until September 2014.
- EnergySolutions Magnox Chairs meeting in London on 5<sup>th</sup> December.
- Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) currently at stage 3 with three Borough Councils in Cumbria with a decision about whether to move to stage 4 expected in January 2014.



- 2339 Mr Turner reiterated his concerns that the GDF will not be ready to accept waste from Bradwell in 2040. JJ confirmed that this was the current planning assumption and agreed that there would need to be a phased transfer of waste consignments across the sites. Mr Turner pressed for contingency arrangements and was reminded that the store was safe for beyond 2040 if required. Mr Turner re-iterated his call for the local community to have the vote to accept or reject this storage solution and a debate ensued. Mr Edwards reminded attendees that the waste was already on site and that the work being undertaken was to minimise the risk of the hazard and this differed from the GDF which would be a repository for waste from other sites. He added that by 2040 the decay profile of the waste would mean that up to ¾ will no longer be classed as ILW and will be permanently disposed of appropriately at that time.
- 2340 Cllr Urquart pointed out that describing the community that agrees host the GDF as “welcoming” this waste is not entirely accurate as this will be inflicted on future generations and not on those making the decision. JJ reminded all that the NDA are having to deal with historic decisions.
- 2341 Cllr Beale called for Essex County Council to apply for Regional Growth Funding and encouraged members to lobby Councillors appropriately. Cllr Fluker advised that Essex County Council have applied for a substantial grant from the Regional Growth Fund and JJ added that there had been progress in this area over the last 6 months. He encouraged attendees to use the Regeneris report as an evidence base to apply for funding. Cllr Glynn suggested lobbying new Councillors elected to Essex County Council next year. BM reminded attendees that many Councillors were present and encouraged them to take these ideas back to their own council for development.
- 2342 Cllr Burgess sought clarification of the NDA funding available. JJ explained that the NDA have an annual socio economic budget of up to £10million to distribute nationally. There is now one funding scheme that combines NDA money and EnergySolutions money of circa £1million with additional funding that can be added to this. Applications are via the website on line. Magnox have undertaken a socio economic plan to understand the impact of decommissioning across their fleet and this resulted in Bradwell being prioritised as an accelerated site. In theory there is no limit to the funding for any one site with the availability of money very dependent on the quality of the business scheme presented. JJ emphasised the importance of the ability to unlock other monies by match funding.
- 2343 Cllr Burgess asked whether community projects and infrastructure investment would be considered and heard that this was the case, however, there would be emphasis on socio-economic regeneration. BB emphasised the need for a robust business case.

## **7. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION SITE INSPECTORS' REPORT**

- 2344 Dr S Nicholson (SN) introduced himself as the ONR Nuclear Safety Site Inspector for the four decommissioning Magnox sites in the south of England. He advised that Denise Varley was also present today having taken over the Project Inspector role in place of Mr Frackelton. He drew attention to the report dated 01.07.12. to 30.09.12. and in particular the following was noted:
- Site Inspections have been conducted to monitor site licensee's actions.
  - Annual Review of Safety in the Environment meeting held in Sept 2012.
  - No permissions were granted under regulatory activity.
  - Less formal hold points are set to enable review of aspects of the safety case and there have been a couple of these relating to FED retrieval and processing.
  - Draft Energy Bill has now been published which includes the transfer of ONR into a statutory corporation by April 2014.
- 2345 Questions were invited and Cllr Harrison sought clarification of the current position of the ONR. SN advised that the ONR are currently an agency of the Health and Safety Executive under the umbrella of the Department for Work and Pensions. The transition will improve governance with the role of the ONR set out in law and will bring greater independence.
- 2346 In response to a question about the impact of the practice of fracking on nuclear installations, SN replied that the operator and the ONR would be consulted about the possible impact on the plant before fracking was permitted near a nuclear facility.



## 8. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA) REPORT

- 2347 Karl Littlewood (KL) introduced himself as the Lead Site Inspector for the Environment Agency and drew attention to the report covering June to November 2012. In addition to the information contained therein the following points were noted:
- C&M arrangements forum, that includes operators, ONR and EA, meets regularly to consider site configuration and C&M management arrangements. These arrangements will ensure compliance with the environmental permit.
  - Team of four inspectors to consider the projects necessary to reach C&M, like the FED project, and to undertake routine inspections.
  - Site application to vary permit has resulted in a new permit in operation since October that allows the FED treatment process to continue towards implementation.
  - The new "Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2011 (RIFE)" report has now been published and this notes that the total dose to the most exposed members of the public was less than 5% of the dose limit, less than half of that recorded in the previous year.
  - Recent changes to Government legislation to environmental permitting.
- 2348 BM drew attention to the letter from the Food Standards Agency regarding the RIFE report available in hard copy at this meeting summarising that there was no unusual levels of radioactivity in food detected around Bradwell and that the HSE will be shortly launching a consultation on their programme of monitoring for radioactivity in food.

## 9. CHAIRMAN'S FEEDBACK

- 2349 Chairman advised his attendance at the National Stakeholder Group and drew attention to the following:
- NDA have secured a good funding settlement which reflects the Government's commitment to nuclear clean up.
  - Positive progress at Bradwell and Trawsfynydd remarked upon.
  - Socio-economic funding programme performance to be monitored to enable improvements.
  - Co-location of waste will be undertaken if there is site synergy.
  - Fukushima event will not lead to an exit from the generation of nuclear power within the UK.
  - National Skills Academy for Nuclear Engineering to encourage other institutions to provide learning and training to meet the need for up to 1000 new entrants to the industry each year.
  - Socio-economic case study undertaken at Chapelcross reflects the need for team work and co-operation between site, enterprise agencies and other bodies to enable a smooth transition. Site Director noted to be leading the initiative to generate well constructed proposals to gain funding.
- 2350 Cllr White added that the National Skills Academy for Nuclear Engineering suggests a new tranche of generating stations. Also that Bradwell is perceived as a 'Lead and Learn' site amongst the Magnox fleet.
- 2351 Cllr Urquart expressed concern that if the NDA are struggling to deal with the legacy waste already in existence, that having new nuclear power stations exacerbates the problem.
- 2352 Cllr Betts postulated that the extraneous heat from new nuclear stations could be diverted for use as heat source for the greenhouses of the future. BM reminded attendees that this was outside the remit of this meeting.

## 10. SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCHEME

- 2353 Cllr Fluker (AF) advised that Magnox and the NDA have a local socio-economic panel and encouraged all attendees to contact Haf Morris (Dungeness Site) or Sophie Winter for advice in completing the on-line application form. He also encouraged the match funding principle. Small projects were noted to have already been funded and others are in process. Larger projects are led by the District and County Councils.
- 2354 AF reminded attendees of the Regeneris report and of its value in providing the evidence to support applications and leverage funding.



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2355 Cllr Wargent requested that the on-line application form be made simpler and AF replied that this was a Magnox form and that they were aware of the complexity of on-line applications and were considering making some changes.

2356 Cllr Harrison questioned if there were any bodies able to offer guidance on how to formulate an 'appropriate business case' to increase the likelihood of success. AF replied that there were two key routes; the Socio-Economic Officer at Maldon District Council or for larger projects suggested engaging external professional help.

### 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2357 BM reminded attendees that Cllr White and himself would be attending the *EnergySolutions* hosted meeting to be held in London tomorrow.

2358 In response to a question, BM pointed out that the remit of the LCLC was clearly upon the existing decommissioning site. However, if members wanted to invite the local MP to provide an insight into the Government's energy bill, a suitable mechanism would need to be agreed. There was some debate about whether the LCLC was the appropriate forum and it was suggested that until new build was announced that this matter should not be considered by the LCLC. Alternatively, that a sub-committee should be formed or that an MP be invited to speak directly after an LCLC meeting. BM agreed to investigate this further. Cllr Harrison reminded attendees that DECC had previously undertaken to promote new build and provide relevant information.

2359 Cllr Drain asked if the LCLC could review the legacy buildings that will not be contained within the C&M site and consider their future use. It was agreed that this should be reported upon at the next meeting.

### 12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

2360 Now confirmed as Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 10:30.

### 13. LUNCH

2361 Chairman closed the meeting at 13.05.

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,  
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