



HARWELL CHILTON CAMPUS LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

84th meeting

Minutes of the 84th meeting held at the Satellite Applications Catapult on Friday 4 December 2015

PRESENT

Chairman Chris Broad, Chilton Parish Council
Secretary Emma Burwood, Magnox
Minutes Secretary Trudie Tomlinson, Magnox

APOLOGIES

Claire Williams, EA
Susan Adans, Magnox
Neil McColl, Public Health, England

ATTENDEES

John Sharp	East Hendred Parish Council
Paul Atyeo	Magnox
Jon Blackmore	Magnox
Dee Boughton-Waite	Harwell Parish Council
Paul Bryant	West Berkshire Council
Stuart Clark	Magnox
Rebecca Cleverley	Environment Agency
Michael Dunnett	Magnox
Terry Fraser	Grove Parish Council
Rob Gentry	Magnox
William Hanks	
Peter Hayes	ONR
Susan Holdroyd	Magnox
Angus Horner	Prorsus
Joe Kelleher	Science and Technology
Alison Fairley	Magnox
Jason Sherwood	OCC
Aron Wisdom	OCC
Stephen Druce	Chilton Parish Council
Mark Lester	CNC
Liz Morris	Chilton Parish Council and School Board of Governors
Alick Natton	VWHDC
Nick Parry	Agent for Hendred Estate
Julie Pearce	Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes
Gary Reid	Magnox
Duncan Rogers	Estates Manager, Harwell Campus
David Rushton	NDA
Paul Steventon	Public Health England
Graeme Stonell	Magnox
Richard Tabbner	Prospect
Reg Waite	Blewbury and Harwell District Council
Peter Waldeck	Nuvia
Peter Walker	
Derek Whitmell	Upton Parish Council
John Wilkins	
Chris Williamson	Medical Research Council



HARWELL SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP 84TH MEETING

Date: Friday 4th December 2015
Time: 10:00 for refreshments, meeting starts 10:30
Venue: The Satellite Applications Catapult, Electron Building, Fermi Avenue, Harwell Oxford, OX11 0QR

AGENDA

1. Chairman's remarks:
 - Welcome guests
 - Chairman's Notes – Chris Broad (10)
 - Apologies for absence and changes in membership
2. Minutes of the 83rd meeting held on 15th May 2015
3. Matters arising:
4. **Magnox Harwell Licensed Site Matters**
 - (a) Closure Director's Site Report – Michael Dunnett (20)
 - (b) Liquid Effluent Treatment Plant – Jon Blackmore (15)
5. **Reports**
 - (a) Office for Nuclear Regulation – Peter Hayes (10)
 - (b) Nuclear Decommissioning Authority – David Rushton (10)
 - (c) Environment Agency – Rebecca Cleverley (10)
7. **Campus Matters**
 - (a) Harwell Campus Joint Venture Partnership – Duncan Rogers (15)
 - (b) Science and Technology Facilities Council – Joe Kellener (10)
 - (c) Diamond Light Source – Sarah Bucknell (10)
8. **Any other business:**
9. **Meetings 2016:**
tbc

Angela Vincent - SSG Secretariat

Malcolm Crook - Minutes Secretary

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SSG Agenda 4th December 2015

1. Chairman's Remarks

The main points were as follows:-

- Integration with the rest of Magnox sites is ongoing.
- Going forward there will be some minor changes to the administrative arrangements of the meeting, eg name badges would no longer be issued.
- Wylfa will shut down on 30 December this year. There is no more fuel left for it to burn.
- The government has announced the details of its spending review. The NDA have a business plan and strategy consultation which will be published at the end of January 2016. The consultation will be open for six weeks and comments need to be returned by 15 February. Magnox will hold a socio-economic consultation to update the lifetime performance plan and publish the outcome in March. The sub-group will meet later on in the year to discuss response to the strategy consultation.
- A national SSG meeting will be held on 13/14 January 2017.
- Industrial action was held at Harwell on 1 December and at Winfrith on 2 December. This action is unusual at the sites but involves complex issues around pay and pay comparisons with the wider Magnox sites. The chairman wanted assurances that safety would not have been compromised during this period and assurances were given.
- The new North South cross site road has made a significant difference to the campus and has opened up the site for further developments and there are lots of things planned.
- The Vale of White Horse has talked of a local plan which is going through IEP and could have a major impact on the campus. Proposals have been made for 850 houses to be built at the east end of the campus in what is currently a large open field. 550 houses are also proposed for the north of the campus. JVP opposed the 850 in initial submissions but wants up to 1000 north of the campus.
- Work on the improved access intersection at A34 at Chilton is progressing well though there are some land ownership issues.

2. Minutes of the 83rd meeting held on 15 May 2015

- These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

- There were no matters arising.

4. Magnox Licenced Site Matters

Closure Directors Report – Michael Dunnett

The main points were as follows:

- Michael Dunnett introduced himself and explained that his new role was Southern Sites Closure Director following Andy Staples' retirement in October.

Safety and Environment

- There were no significant nuclear safety issues identified.
- There were two notifications to the ONR. The first was concerning Cs137 in depleted uranium shipped to Springfields above the transport package limit. The second concerned the failure of the interlock mechanism in B462 crane maintenance bay access hatch. Both are minor issues and are being fully investigated.
- There were no recordable injuries and the TRIR for Harwell is 0.0 for the last 12 months.
- There were no significant environmental issues but one recent waste consignment issue was identified. This was analysis of metals shipped to Studsvik for treatment in 2013 found trace levels of Carbon 14 not previously identified on radionuclide fingerprint. This is being investigated.
- The environmental monitoring programme continues. We have maintained compliance with permit and liquid and gaseous discharges remain well below permitted limits.
- Staff continue to maintain a high standard of safety in their work.

Programme Update

- RM2 retrievals at B462 continue but there had been a few delays due to a damaged and frayed cable, service entry panel and debris in tubes but progress is recovering slowly.
- RM1 which has been out of action for a while was due to restart early 2016.
- WEP inactive commissioning will be complete mid-2016 and then active commissioning will start prior to ONR approval to operate.

Nuclear Material Transfers

- 27 out of 35 CHILW loads have been completed this financial year. This phase will be finished by March.
- Phase 1 of CLD's (concrete lined drums) awaits manufacture of internal furniture for FHISOs in September 2016. This is being done by Sellafield. Phase 2 awaits TN Gemini flask modifications and regulatory approval and modifying B462.17 to allow loading of the Gemini flask.

ILW Store

- The contract for the ILW store has been placed and a safety case is in progress. Work is due to commence June 2016.

LETP

- A lot of demolition work has been going on in LETP. Contracts have been placed with KDC for the demolition of the remaining facilities. The boiler house and pump house have already been demolished and the Welfare block (B336.32) starts on Monday 7 December.
- OMAD (Old Main Active Drain) decommissioning is almost complete. Legacy active drains will commence when OMAD is completed. The offsite discharge pipeline work at Milton is now likely to be delayed.

- Phase 1 of the restructuring of Magnox was completed April 2015. Since then Phase 2 of restructuring has started and projects have been moved into new Magnox wide programme structures. The Harwell and Winfrith sites will now be known collectively as South Sites under one Closure Director. Phase 3 which is to manage staff numbers to match funding and programme requirements is still ongoing.
- We have a new lifetime plan going forward. Final reviews have been made. This probably won't have too much impact on the Harwell site.
- Magnox are currently going through a restructuring and efficiency exercise which means staff structures will change to be matched to the programme. Then there will be a best fit exercise which will result in some reduction in staff but numbers are not yet known and will be subject to consultation with the unions. Every department is at different stages in the process. We have some senior management changes such as Gary Reid is now the Site Integration Manager, Susan Adams is the Winfrith Site Integration Manager, Laura Street is the EHSSQ manager, Rob Gentry is the site sponsor.
- We had some industrial action at both sites earlier this week where some areas of work were shut down. At no time was safety compromised and emergency arrangements were fully covered. A small amount of work carried on but most shut down. All staff behaved in a professional manner at all times.
- We now have a civil guard who replaces the CNC.

Questions

Q1 – In terms of staff rationalisation, what is the rationale for the sequence of the different time lines shown in the presentation?

A1 – this was a staged process. Consultation with the unions to ensure the new organisation works has taken longer than anticipated. In B462 we are talking about a larger number of people so this takes time. The justification to get senior management, HR and communications settled first was part of that rationale.

Q2 – Jason Sherwood (OCC). Regarding the offsite pipeline decommissioning that is delayed to the early part of next year, is it OCC that is causing the delay? Is there anything OCC can do?

A2 – No. It is being driven by the developers, money and business cases. These things have delayed it.

Q3 – Dr J V Sharp, Deputy Chairman, Local Stakeholder Group). in the list of activities you listed across the site you mentioned the end-state. Can you explain that please?

A3 – As well as decommissioning at Harwell and Winfrith we also have site restoration going forward. This is the end state and final land remediation of the sites. This is different to the Magnox stations where the reactors will be placed in care and maintenance for several decades.

Q4 – Richard Tabbner, Prospect National officer. We have always had good relations with RSRL at Harwell and Winfrith and respect for the Director. At Magnox it is work in progress. It seems best fit is basically a redundancy exercise which will mean experienced people will go from the organisation. There has been an indication that the level of accidents occurring has risen across the 12 sites. Morale across all 12 sites is generally low but my view is that at the south sites in particular morale is at an all-time low and this is a cause for concern. There is this perception among ex-RSRL staff that they feel they are not part of Magnox Ltd. What is your view on the level of morale here?

A4 – I totally agree with you. There are a lot of changes going on across the sites with restructuring and best fit, there are pay issues as well and in some areas workloads have increased. We are working to ensure this doesn't impact on health and safety. I have held a number of 'restructuring' workshops across the sites to inform staff and remove uncertainties about what's coming next. I agree there has been a slight increase in incidents and accidents but this has started to come down over the last few months.

Rob Gentry – as the site sponsor I can say I am well aware of this point. Our expectation is that senior management should be available to listen and not tell and to have an open door policy for issues especially those relating to safety. We do take this seriously and this is one of the reasons why I have been assigned to this site. I will take this and other messages back to senior management.

Q5 – Angus Horner, Prorsus. I would just like to make a personal point in that I also have a slight concern over the morale issue. Magnox personnel are playing an important part in the campus development and we, as a partnership, would like to help you achieve clarity. Maybe we could have a chat after this meeting.

Liquid Effluent Treatment Plant Land Remediation Project Update – Jon Blackmore

- The LETP is at the north of the Harwell site. LETP operated to treat effluent from the main nuclear site and involved removal of radioactivity before discharge of the water to the Thames. The Sewage farm was used for foul sewage until site connection to Thames Water foul sewer in 2003. As the nuclear site ceased operations, the LETP was replaced by a smaller plant. Now the buildings are being demolished to ground level.
- The land remediation involves removal of the contaminated structures and soils and cleaning so that the Environmental Permit and Nuclear Site Licence are no longer needed. There are specific, stringent targets set by the EA and ONR for this.
- The site will be cleaned and then delicensed by around 2021 and there will then be a process of de-designation of the site before the land can be released back to direct control of the Harwell campus for any foreseeable future use.
- Chemical contamination will be remediated but evidence suggests this is not a major issue.
- Groundwater – there is no evidence of radioactivity in groundwater from LETP operations. There are low levels of chlorinated solvents from the WSA plume. The water table can be very close to ground surface which will influence timing of deeper excavations in the northern part of the site.
- Jon showed slides of what can be expected during remediation such as the construction of temporary buildings, the public right of way temporary diversion route and after remediation of the site with the re-opened public right of way and surface water lagoon for surface water management. Land remediation work is due to start in February 2017.
- Output from the consultation process with a wide range of consultees was submitted as part of the planning application (to be submitted to VWHDC in December 2015) and information was made available to stakeholders via public exhibition on 2 November, the local press and leaflets. The aim of the consultation was to engage with the community and amend emerging proposal as required and to ensure confidence in the final land condition. Information is also available on the website at www.magnoxsites.com/what-we-do/engagement/letp.

- The main issues that came out of the consultation were the future route and surface of the re-instated Icknield Way and cycle connections to the Harwell campus. Overall, there was positive feedback and no substantial concerns were raised.

Questions:

Q1: Did the consultation include the North Wessex AONB? They didn't appear on your list and ought to be consulted.

A1: No, but I will include them going forward.

5. Reports

Office for Nuclear Regulation – Peter Hayes

- Peter Hayes introduced himself as the ONR nominated site nuclear inspector for Harwell and Winfrith. He also holds the corporate inspector role dealing with the Magnox corporation.
- Peter Hayes said he was aware of the two events spoken of by Michael Dunnett (Caesium contamination and the interlock) and is awaiting the investigation reports. The failure of the interlock system was serious but no one was put in danger and he is satisfied at the way Harwell handled it.
- ONR is doing an in depth 'stress test' or review of emergency arrangements for all sites and is content with the arrangements at Harwell as suitable and sufficient. He is also aware that Magnox is seeking to make changes to these arrangements. However, the emergency plan is formally approved and any changes requested will need new approval from ONR.
- The ONR is fully engaged with the current restructuring process going on in Magnox. He is aware of the stress this is causing employees at the moment. ONR will not get involved in the whys but only ensure that the sites are managed well and safety is not compromised during the process. He is content that this is being done safely.
- There have been a couple of changes to personnel. The current CEO has resigned and a new one has been appointed – Adrienne Kelbie – who will take up the post in January. The Chief Nuclear Inspector is taking early retirement and this vacancy will be advertised shortly.

Q1: How do you see the removal of the emergency services from the site?

A1: As no formal proposal has been made to ONR I cannot answer your question at the moment.

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority – Dave Rushton

- Dave Rushton introduced himself as the Programme Manager for Harwell and also some wider NDA areas. He said NDA has been keeping in close contact with the progress at Harwell and B462 and LETP in particular. In a few months there will be more visible changes on the LETP site as more structures are demolished.
- Safety is paramount and the NDA monitor this across all the Magnox sites. They challenge and ask questions as they feel fit.
- Consolidation activities are ongoing to make the Magnox sites more efficient. This was part of the CFP bid. It inevitably means resource run down but CFP wasn't the only bidder in the competition

who had that in the plan. By end of March 2016 there will be a new plan for Harwell and rest of sites.

- There will be a consultation on the strategy in the new year as a result of the government spending review as well as the business plan for the next three years. The Energy Act 2004 requires the NDA to review, update and consult on its strategy every five years. There will be a time for a public consultation in January but there is a very tight window as we need to have the strategy for the next 5 years published by April 2016.
- The NDA's website address has changed as it will be moving to the central government website (www.gov.uk/nda).
- New NDA national archive is under construction at Dounreay for the NDA. It will store all the nuclear records from across the UK. The NDA archive will become the single facility to collect and store records from all the UK's civil nuclear sites. This will also take over from the archive site at Harwell. It will be rebranded as Crimson Restore and Harwell staff will be transferred in January.
- Spending review – the outcome of the spending review is now known. The NDA do not know what the settlement to Magnox or the other SLCs is likely to be but it doesn't appear that there is anything that will cause undue concern though savings will have to be made.

Questions

Q1: The archive obviously contains some very sensitive information. How are they being protected?

A1: They will be protected in the same way as they are now. The national archives at Kew have been consulted, they have to approve security measures and they are advising.

Q2: The consolidation of the bid will take place in March. Is it not safe to say that this will have some impact on the bid?

A1: Yes, it is inevitable but the instruction is to carry on with the plan at the moment and the implications will be discussed later.

Q2: Sorry to labour the point, but we talked about the current row and the best fit process, is there a chance that there will be further cutbacks in terms of resource when we come to March?

A2: I couldn't say, but I don't think we will get to that point.

Environment Agency – Rebecca Cleverley

- Rebecca Cleverley introduced herself as the regulator for the Harwell site.
- The EA is fully engaged with and aware of the process of restructuring going on at Magnox.
- There have been no changes to the Harwell environmental permit since 2015 but we have received an application for a variation to the permit for partial surrender of the permit which covers land at the discharge point at Sutton Courtenay where the pipeline has been removed. The result of this will be known in January 2016.
- The EA conducted an inspection of the radioactive waste management arrangements at the LETP and viewed lots of good practice especially with the segregation of waste and there were no non compliances.

- The discharges from the site are well within the permitted levels.
- We attended an Annual Review of Safety and Environment that covered the Harwell and Winfrith sites.
- Environmental Impact – the permit requires Harwell to monitor and assess the impact of discharges on the environment and we review these reports quarterly
- EA have reviewed their environmental monitoring programme which they do for all sites. This feeds into the report provided by the Food Standards Agency who also carry out independent environmental research around nuclear sites and the results have been published in the report ‘Radioactivity in Food and the Environment 2014’. This can be found on the Food Standards Agency website.
- Rebecca attended a meeting on emergency preparedness chaired by Oxfordshire County Council which looked at planning the next emergency exercise in December 2016.
- Spending review – EA do not know how the spending review will affect them. The Nuclear Regulation Groups have recently had a round of recruitment so we don’t currently anticipate a reduction in our regulation at Harwell.

6. Campus Matters – Duncan Rogers

Harwell Campus Joint Venture Partnership

- Duncan gave an update on the plans for the campus development. He said that the government were committed to the development of Harwell and had the support of the patron HRH the Duke of York.
- There are a lot of changes going on at the campus and a lot of initiatives taking place and a lot of potential interest from business who want to locate here. The European Space Agency has been operational since July 2015 and the RAP space building is being commissioned.
- We are now working on the next wave of developments that are coming along. Landscaping is an issue that comes up time and time again so we are looking at enhancing landscaping and protecting the ecology of the area. The area is a pleasant area and we do not want to destroy it, we want to make sure we leave a legacy of enhancement on the campus.
- Where H7 and H8 were located there will now be a cluster of buildings known as the ‘quad’ creating a variety of buildings and labs starting with multi-occupied innovation centre. Behind that there are plans for a restaurant , gym, hotel, conferencing facilities and leisure centre.
- Duncan showed some of the design themes of the proposed buildings.
- At the north end of the bus park the Genesis building is being constructed, which is an R&D venture.
- The campus is looking at delivering a cluster of buildings for the universities that have expressed an interest in being located here. This will have frontage onto Fermi Avenue and some link buildings are also proposed.

Questions

Q1: The Harwell site has a legacy of good landscaping going back to the early days with lots of good specimens of rare trees. Looking at the artistic plans I see a lot of greenery on board but can you make it look unique with a good collection of trees. Don't make it like Milton Keynes, keep it unique.

A1: We are looking at maintaining good landscaping and are consulting on this. We are looking at keeping as much as possible of the mature landscape, so yes, it will be considered. The architects have said it's fantastic that we are not starting on a blank sheet of paper.

Q2: Stephen Druce, Chilton Parish Council. You have talked about the master plan for Harwell. Is this embodied in a publicly available document?

A2: It is in a form but not available to the public as yet. It is currently made up of dry material which may not be of interest to the public. We will publish a lot more detailed plans and technical drawings next year and make it available so people can see the plan.

Q3: The development looks good but a lot of it is based around Fermi Avenue. Are there any thoughts about how traffic will be managed as we already suffer from congestion as it is at peak times.

A3: The North South link road is now part of the campus and this has eased some of the traffic at in muster and out muster. It was designed so that all three entrances were available no matter where you work so that should ease some of the congestion.

Q4: You are going to keep the old main gate pillars aren't you? The pillars actually represent what you're doing, it is Harwell.

A4: Yes, I agree. However, the OCC have put forward a proposal to build a mini roundabout at that point and it has not been decided if the main brick pillars will stay or not, they may be moved or they may have to go.

Q5: Can OCC say any more about the proposed roundabout?

A5: The roundabout will be the usual sized roundabout and not a mini one as in the future there will be a lot more traffic so we need to be sure it will be fit for purpose.

Science and Technology Facilities Council – Joe Kelleher

- Joe Kelleher works in the RAL ISIS facility. ISIS is a neutron source providing neutron radiation used by universities and industry.
- The facility contains neutron detectors used for work for industry and also for nuclear new build.
- The green laser facility will be temporarily mounted on a building at RAL and will be used in the evenings. It will be projected into the sky until 9pm after which it will be pointed at a building as astronomers do more serious work after this time. The CAS are aware of this. The purpose is to celebrate the International Year of Light.
- Joe Kelleher outlined the plans for the erection of a new building the same size as the R100 on the Harwell campus in front of RAL. The main contentious issue is the shape of the building and the fact that it can be seen from the Ridgeway. Work begins on this in the new financial year.
- He also pointed out that landscaping and ecology preservation is a concern of STFC. Trees will also be planted and they will be local species.

- John Womersley, Chief Executive of the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), has been reappointed for a second term for the next five years.

Diamond Light Source – Sarah Bucknall

- Sarah briefly explained what the Diamond facility is all about. Diamond Light Source is the UK's national synchrotron science facility. Diamond is a particle accelerator and accelerates electrons around the doughnut shaped building at almost the speed of light. These are then passed through special magnetic fields with the result that light or energy is released. Light is used for experiments the most common of which is x-rays. The applications for a facility like this are very broad – eg vaccine design, radioactive research, solar cells research, and antibiotic resistance. This is the 9th year of operation.
- Diamond has had many high profile visits this year including Jo Johnson (MP), the vice premier of China, the Duke of York, and the WI. The number of visitors we had this year has almost doubled. Diamond had 7,000 visitors on 11 July when we were open to the public.
- 2015 is the International Year of Light and Diamond has taken part in a number of science events including the Oxfordshire Science festivals and the Cheltenham science festival which were very successful.
- There continue to be opportunities for work experience weeks, summer student placements and graduate placements at Diamond.
- Diamond are currently building new facilities that complement the main synchrotron. This will house a phase 3 beam line. A beam line is an experimental station using the beam from the synchrotron in order to carry out experiments. There will also be four more electron microscopes.
- Almost 4000 papers have now been published as a result of the work carried out at Diamond.
- There will be an open day at Diamond on Saturday 19 March 2016 called 'Next Inside Diamond'.

7. Any Other Business

- There was no other business.

Emma Burwood
Head of Communications

Trudie Tomlinson
Minutes Secretary

10 December 2015