



HARWELL CHILTON CAMPUS LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

Minutes of the 91st meeting held at the Jupiter Room, Catapult Satellite Applications, Electron Building, Fermi Avenue, Harwell on Thursday 26 April 2018

PRESENT

Chairman	Chris Broad, Chilton Parish Council
Deputy Chair	John Sharp, East Hendred Parish Council
Secretary	Emma Burwood, Magnox Comms
Minutes	Trudie Tomlinson, Magnox

ATTENDEES

Mr Paul Atyeo	Magnox
Mr Jon Blackmore	Magnox
Ms Gill Brown	Magnox
Ms Rebecca Cleverley	EA
Mr Stuart Clark	Magnox
Mr Andrew Davies	NDA
Cllr Stephen Druce	Chilton Parish Council
Mr Rob Gentry	Magnox
Mr Paul Jenneson	ONR Inspector
Ms Amy Palmer	OCC
Mr Joe Kelleher	Science and Technology Facilities Council
Mr Adam Bamford	Science and Technology Facilities Council
Mrs Liz Morris	Chilton Primary School
Mrs Julie Pearce	Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes
Mrs Susan Stamp	Magnox
Mr Dik Third	Magnox
Cllr Reg Waite	Blewbury and Harwell Ward
Cllr Daphne Boughton-Waite	Harwell Parish Council
Dr Peter Walker	Retired UKAEA
Cllr Derek Whitmell	Upton Parish Council
Dr Chris Wilding	Steventon Parish Council
Ms Claire Williams	Magnox
Dr Christine Williamson	MRC
Dr John Wilkins	Retired UKAEA
Dr Jennifer Corrigan	Sutton Courtenay Parish Council
Mr M Penington	Blewbury Parish Council
Mr Duncan Rogers	Harwell Campus



1. Chairman's Remarks – Chris Broad

The first item was the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Harwell Site Stakeholder Group. Two nominations were given – Chris Broad as Chairman and John Sharp as Vice-Chairman. The nominations were agreed and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were elected unopposed for a term of 3 years. This is in accordance with NDA recommendations.

An amended version of the constitution will be circulated for comment in a month or two.

The SSG chairs and deputy chairs met on 14 February with the NDA. Various topics were discussed including:-

- The GDF strategy which remains unchanged. Little real progress has been made on this in the past two years or so.
- End-state changes which will have very little effect on Harwell but could have some impact on Winfrith.
- There are potential changes to the Decommissioning strategy for Magnox sites with the Care and Maintenance policy so some sites might not enter care and maintenance but continue with decommissioning. There will be little implication for Harwell.

Some recommendations have been made for a future management model after the termination of the Magnox contract but this is still awaiting decision. The chairs met with the Holliday Enquiry board and have agreed that they will meet with the SSG chairs when the final report is published.

Rob Gentry is in his new role as Closure Director and will also continue to have meetings with the SSG chair and deputy chair.

The socio-economic funds (good neighbourhood allocation) have all been spent for the site this year. The portal is now open for new applications.

2. Minutes of 90th meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Magnox Harwell Licensed Site Matters

Harwell and Winfrith Closure Director's Site Report – Rob Gentry

The main points were as follows:

- A new management model under the NDA will probably be introduced in August 2019 followed by a transition period. We are not looking at big change. The scope and values will remain the same but some senior personnel will change.
- Some options for accelerated decommissioning have gone to the NDA for approval.

Safety and Environment

- No notable events to report
- There have been some ONR inspections covering a number of topics with action required on continuing to improve SQEP.
- One injury since the last SSG meeting which was a slip on ice during the cold weather
- No other significant events to report
- We are continuing to focus on Target Zero
- There are no significant environmental issues to report
- Making progress on removing legacy wastes from around the site
- Environmental monitoring programme continues
- We have maintained compliance with permit

Programme Update

LETP - Progress with LETP decommissioning of HLA/Tanks is now complete. The remediation phase has now commenced. Over 2000 bags of waste has been generated and shipped. Remediation, waste assay and waste disposal work will continue.

Harwell ILW Box Store (HIBS) – the building is now at full height. Wooden cladding is being installed.

Nuclear Material Transfers – CHILW transfers commenced in August. 9 shipments have now been despatched (55 drums). LEU will move mid-2018. 52 CLD transfers completed – 452 drums. Other CLD's require TN Gemini flask modification and regulatory approval so delayed until summer 2019. Future work will include recommencement of movement of CHILW drums in Novapaks, continuation of movement of CLDs in FHISOs, commence movement of CLDs in TN Gemini's.

Dragon Waste – carrying out modifications to Dragon Flask and Modular Flask. This is expected to commence transfer summer 2018.

462 can retrievals – RM2 retrievals hampered by water in tubes and technical failures but going well. There are 274 tubes to go. RM1 restart delayed due to technical resource availability, but making good progress. Head End Cells progress is on target, 70 cans this financial year.

WEP (Waste Encapsulation Plant) – inactive commissioning is ongoing. This will be followed by active commissioning prior to ONR approval to operate which is expected in 2018.

Other projects – a legacy waste team has been established to remove historical wastes and new ODP removal wastes. B551 will be demolished this financial year. Completed decommissioning of 2 labs in B220 and planning for B220 and BEPO continues. Offsite discharge pipeline removal continues.

The future programme – in 462, waste retrieval and processing of cans through the Head End Cells will continue. Options for POCO of tubes will be developed including sludge removal. Operation of Polymer Encapsulation process in Head End Cells for problem wastes. Return RM1 to service with Radon abatement system.

Other projects that will continue include legacy asbestos remediation; commencement of 220, 551 and also BEPO decommissioning and the continued care and maintenance of other redundant facilities.

Other Harwell campus discussions include the demolition of B551 this year. A business case for accelerated work options for 418/459/351/Meashill areas is ongoing.

A pay award was recently agreed at Harwell. Further discussions are ongoing with regards to terms and conditions for new starters at Magnox and market re-alignment.

Magnox socio-economic scheme – at the end of April 2018 Magnox had 11 successful applications for funds to a total of £5,968. If you are interested in applying for funds for this financial year go to www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com website.

Questions

Q1: You mentioned there would be delayed decommissioning of PLUTO and DIDO. Can you say any more about this?

A1: We haven't finalised a proposal yet. We are considering what to do with them but any case we make will have to go through the NDA.

Q2: Will it be revisited under the new management?

A2: We hope to get it agreed with NDA this year with the strategy committee but this is still under consideration at the moment.

Q3: There was a lot of biological waste in B551. Can you tell us what happened to it during demolition?

A3: It was all stripped and disposed of.

Q4: Where is the LETP waste going to?

A4: Some goes to landfill, some goes to VLLW e.g. local disposal sites, and a lot of it was recycled.

5. Reports

(a) Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) – Paul Jenneson

- There have been no matters of safety concern produced by routine inspections. No Lis or enforcement notices were issued.
- A report was produced for the meeting. They are produced quarterly for the Harwell Site stakeholder Group and all reports are available at <http://www.onr.org.uk/llc/>.
- ONR is interested in the forthcoming change in management.
- ONR is interested in the large amount of legacy asbestos in B220 and will be taking a close look at the conventional health and safety management of this project for removal of the asbestos.
- The ONR intends to put a project inspector in charge of this project to ensure it is progressing as required. We intend to follow the delicensing of the site to ensure criteria for decommissioning is followed.

Questions

Q1: How is the search for safeguards inspectors going?

A1: Safeguard inspectors have been shadowing Euratom in order to organise a system that is similar to Euratom and it is going well. We don't want to ship out the important expertise of safeguard inspectors so we are intending to develop our own inspectors.

(b) NDA Report – Andrew Davies

- There is a lot of good news on this site which is good to see and is to be commended.
- One good thing was the whole of B462 was taken out for a special meal to celebrate their successes. Well done.
- NDA has published its 2018/2021 business plan which is now on their website. The plan outlines key activities and expected progress for all 17 NDA sites over the next 3 years, as well as forecast income and expenditure for the coming financial year. One highlight is Bradwell will go into care and maintenance which is the first Magnox site to do so.
- Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal unveiled a plaque marking the official opening of Nucleus (the Nuclear and Caithness Archives) in Wick.
- NDA has 29 targets to hit to satisfy stakeholders and government. It managed to hit 26 of those targets so this is deemed to be a successful year despite the negative press produced by the Holliday Enquiry.
- Contract termination – we are looking at setting up a new model but can't say that that model will be yet. The government's Public Accounts Committee has published a report into the Magnox clean-up contract. This report was published after MPs on the public accounts committee held a hearing into the award of the contract to CFP which resulted in a legal claim.
- David Peattie has made three new appointments. There is a new commercial director, chief nuclear director and legal counsel who will be looking at governance arrangements.

Questions

Q1: Is there a connection between the Holliday Report and the Secretary of State decision?

A1: Not really. The Holliday Enquiry published an interim report last October but made it clear that they have extended the enquiry. The Inquiry will report to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and he will want to see the whole report.

Q2: Is there a drop dead date for this?

A2: Yes, and this is being worked to.

Q3: To implement a new subsidiary company would take a long time wouldn't it?

A3: Yes, it would. Probably will be a year before a final decision.

Q4: This is more of a statement than a question. One of the lessons learnt should be how expensive Stop Go Stop Go is and the most cost effective way is to follow it through rather than wasting a lot of tax payer's money.

A4: Yes, I agree.

Q5: Talking of wasting tax payer's money, what decision will the Secretary of State make regarding consideration that the NDA should be wound up?

A5: A decision by the Secretary of State is not my territory.

Q6: Can you say anything about the Geological Disposal Facility?

A6: This is not really my field but RWM's. They have faith that they will get volunteers for this facility but it's not come up with anything so far. I heard that they don't have a Plan B.

Q7: Would it be possible to get RWM to come here and give a talk?

A7: Yes, we will organise that.

c) Environment Agency – Rebecca Cleverley

- A report was produced for the meeting.
- Magnox holds two permits under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) at the Harwell site. There have been no changes to the site's environmental permits in the period since the last meeting.
- We continue to have regular contact with the Environment Team at Harwell to ensure we are kept in touch with any emerging issues at Harwell.
- There have been no breaches of permits.
- A new External Agencies Liaison Group has been formed to establish communications across the Harwell campus concerning emergency arrangements.
- Phil Heaton is retiring and will be replaced by Karl Littlewood.

6. Presentations

LETP Project Progress – Jon Blackmore

Jon Blackmore gave a presentation on the Liquid Effluent Treatment Plant Land Remediation. From 1948 the LETP operated to treat effluent from the main nuclear site. The treatment process removed radioactivity before discharge to the River Thames. The Sewage Farm was used primarily for foul sewage treatment until site connection to Thames Water foul sewer in 2003. Discharges to the Thames ceased in 2013, effluent treatment ceased in 2014. Decommissioning of the above ground structures has been operating since 2013 including demolition of buildings, removal of equipment/plant from tanks and pump houses. The final part of the work (the HLA) was completed in March 2018.

The objectives of the land remediation is removal of all contaminated structures and soils, remediation to allow removal of regulatory controls such as Environmental Permits and Nuclear Site Licence. On completion of the project the site will transfer back to control of the Harwell campus.

The remediation work commenced in 2018 and will continue to the end of 2019.

Questions

Q1: When the Icknield Way is reinstated will it be as it was or will there be a new one?

A1: We are committed to literal reinstatement of the Icknield Way so it will be its original route.

7. Campus Matters

(a) Harwell Campus Joint Venture Partnership – Duncan Rogers

- We have a new Harwell Campus website <https://www.harwellcampus.com/> where all information on the developments on the campus can be found.
- Good momentum has been made with new builds and occupation.
- Quad 1 is now operational. It has been very successful and won an award of best commercial project of the year.
- B150 and B151 will be refurbished.
- We are working on a new residential development of about 670 homes and associated facilities.

Questions

Q1: How many employees are now on site?

A1: Close to 6,000 at the last count.

Q2: How does that compare with the old UKAEA/AERE?

A2: It peaked at 6,000 in the mid 80's.

Q3: You mentioned a master plan. Is that available?

A3: It is on the website.

Q4: Is the residential development you mentioned also part of the plan?

A4: Yes.

Q5: Regarding changing the road entrance, is there any comment on it?

A5: That is an OCC led project. It is planned to be a signals junction rather than a T-junction.

(b) Joe Kelleher – STFC – Isis Neutron Source

- The UK needs ISIS, Europe needs ISIS.
- It will be running at double capacity in 2020.
- There will be increased international partnership.
- It is the cornerstone of RAL.
- ISIS future is safe as reactors in Europe are shutting down.
- An international facility is aimed for construction in 2030.
- Legacy waste from pre-ISIS days has been removed, after decay had dropped to safe levels. Some copper has been decayed to a safe enough level to dispose of as ordinary copper.
- Harwell Facilities Building is now basically complete.

(c) Diamond Light Source

No attendance

(d) Rosalind Franklin Institute

No attendance

8. Any Other Business

MRC is holding an open day on Saturday 16th June from 1200 to 1600. Tickets are free and further information can be found on the MRC website <https://mrc.ukri.org/>

9. Date of next meeting

Thursday 13 September, this will include a site visit.
Thursday 6 December

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Minutes	Trudie Tomlinson
Director	Rob Gentry

27 April 2018