

Bradwell Site

Draft Minutes of the 70th Local Community Liaison Council (LCLC) Meeting

Held virtually via ZOOM
Wednesday 3 March 2021

Present:

LCLC Executive:

Brian Main
Cllr John White
Mrs Nikki Harman

LCLC Chairman
Deputy Chairman
Minute Taker

LCLC Members:

Cllr Peter Banks
Tracey Finn
Jonathan Jenkin
Peter Reynolds
Sohail Ashraf
Eirian Vaughan-Lewis
Kirsty Ramsden
Cllr Paul Burgess
Cllr Andrew Lay
Cllr Julie Gooding
Cllr Martin Harvey
Cllr Michael Lilley
Cllr John Noble
Donna Walton
Bold type - denotes voting members

West Mersea Town Council
SSG Secretariat
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Environment Agency
Bradwell Site Director
Magnox Communications
Magnox Communications
Althorne Parish Council
Maldon Town Council
Rochford Borough Council
Maldon Town Council
Colchester Borough Council
Bradwell Parish Council
Braintree District Council



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Minutes of 70th LCLC

Members of the public in attendance:

Cllr Marianne Fellowes Sizewell SSG Chair
Alison
Dr Andrew Blowers
Varrie Blowers



1. INTRODUCTION

3089 The Chairman Brian Main opened the meeting at 10:00am. Brian welcomed those present, including those new to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3090 Brian Main confirmed apologies had been received from:

Stephen Dickson	Essex County Council
Cllr Mike Steptoe	Essex County Council
Shirley Swan	Member of the public
Steve Daly	Essex County Council

3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

3091 It was raised there was an administration error in the minutes reference 3088 - closed meeting at 11.53pm. Proposed time to be amended to 11.35am. This was agreed and seconded to amend.

The LCLC minutes resulting from the 69th Meeting held on 04 March 2020 were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

3092 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting minutes.



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5. NSAN VIDEO

3093 Magnox Communications shared a short video showcasing the Socio-Economic Funding and which local community projects had benefited from grants.

3094 Brian Main thanked Magnox Communications team and highlighted that Bradwell Community Shop has benefited from recent grant funding.

6. SITE REPORT: Update

3095 Sohail Ashraf, Bradwell Site Director, provided a presentation to update attendees about site activities since the previous LCLC meeting. The following key points were noted:

Safety and Environment

- 3096
- There has been one first aid incident since the last report
 - Recent site safety campaigns have included control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH), life critical events, musculoskeletal awareness, a “safe return” briefing after Christmas and a decommissioning mindset.
 - Covid-19 safe controls have been introduced.
 - We have recently introduced Covid-19 lateral flow device testing.
 - Draft Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Report (RASCAR) received – liquid, believed to be rainwater, discovered in September 2019 in a container of low level waste consigned from Bradwell to off-site waste treatment facility. We are reviewing learning accumulated following the event, the Root Cause Investigation (RCI) and wider arrangements for Magnox.
 - Ponds vault water ingress – ground water leak into the vaults complex at Bradwell site detected in September 2020. A repair to be implemented from 15 March 2021.

Covid-19

3097 Magnox support to our communities has included:



- Providing 150,000 items of PPE for health care workers
- Volunteering – a quarter of our workforce volunteered in our communities (more than 5,400 hours volunteered)
- Donating food from our canteens to food banks
- Making more than £300,000 available to support local authorities and community groups to respond to the crisis.

C&M Mobilisation

3098

Since March 2020:

- Five shipments of MOSAIK@s received from Dungeness A
- Total weight of intermediate level waste resin received – 5,990kg
- Security remains on site
- Routine maintenance continues
- Small number of portable buildings/containers on site

Currently we have a team who run and maintain the ISF and we maintain a 24-hour security presence on site.

3099

Magnox socio-economic scheme 2020-21

£1,020,035 in funding available from 01/04/20 Magnox-wide

- £25,000 made available to support local Covid-19 initiatives for each site

- Total funding for Bradwell to date – £110,000

Good Neighbour: No applications

Small Projects: £45,000 (Saltmarsh Deli £27k and Keep It Local £18k)

Medium Projects: £65,000 (Sense of Place Coordinator £40k and £25k Covid support)

- New applications will be progressed after 1 April 2021

If you would like to discuss a potential project, please contact Haf Morris, Socio-economic Lead:

01797 343549 or email haf.e.morris@magnoxsites.com

3100

Sohail Ashraf opened the meeting for questions.



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- 3101 Cllr Peter Banks asked whether there is an onsite generator.
Sohail Ashraf - will have to refer answer with Bradwell Site team, but can confirm electric used on site is from the National Grid.
- 3102 Cllr Peter Banks asked what control measures are in place for MOSAIK package arrivals?
Sohail Ashraf confirmed there are control measures in place by the Environment Agency.
Brian Main interjected and said this was a question to be answered by Environment Agency (EA).
Cllr Peter Banks was happy to wait until the EA section of the meeting.
- 3103 Cllr Paul Burgess would like to understand the exact numbers of LLW being transported from Dungeness.
Sohail Ashraf does not have exact numbers at present time, as soon as this information can be divulged to the LCLC he will.
- 3104 Cllr Peter Banks referred to point made in presentation about “remote monitoring”; how many staff are now on site?
Sohail Ashraf confirmed there is a team who run and maintain the ISF and a 24-hour security presence on site.
- 3105 Cllr Peter Banks asked how long these staff will continue to work on site?
Sohail Ashraf confirmed once all waste storage is complete, then it is a case for 24/7 security.
- 3106 Brian Main thanked Sohail Ashraf for the opening presentation.

6. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY (NDA) UPDATE

- 3107 Jonathan Jenkin provided a presentation and main points noted:



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3108 **COVID 19 Response**

- NDA Group continues to respond to the impacts of the Covid pandemic
- Good progress in restarting site operations across the NDA Group since the first lockdown
- Reduction in staff presence at some sites (e.g. Sellafield)
- NDA Corporate Centre staff continuing to work from home except essential office access
- Health, safety and wellbeing of staff remains our top priority. NDA is reorganising into a more cohesive structure, "One NDA". This is to ensure the subsidiaries are working collaboratively to a business plan.

New Chair

Our new Chair, Ros Rivaz, started with the NDA on 1 September 2020

New Non- Exec Director

Welcome the appointment of Francis Livens to NDA Board

New Group Leadership Team

- Drive improved leadership, assurance, collaboration and learning/skills transfer across NDA Group
- Closely aligned to new subsidiary operating model
- Brings together NDA Corporate Centre CEO and Executives with CEOs/Managing Directors of NDA operating companies: • Sellafield • Dounreay • Magnox • Nuclear Transport Solutions • Emerging new waste division

NDA Innovations Contract

- £3.9m 'sort and seg' competition launched in July 2020
- Invite technological solutions to sort and segregate radioactive waste at oldest nuclear sites
- Contracts worth £60k each awarded to 14 successful consortia
- Successful companies will now develop feasibility studies – including robotics, advanced sensors and artificial intelligence – to be delivered in May. Winners will compete for a number of contracts.

Draft Business Plan 2020-2024

- Draft business plan published from 8 December 2020 to 2 February 2021
- Sets out NDA Group spending plans and priorities for financial years 2021 – 2024
- Incorporates 2020 Spending Review settlement
- Submit final draft to UK and Scottish Ministers for approval and publication in late March

GDF Working Groups

- Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) has welcomed the formation of the first two Working Groups in Copeland and Allerdale
- Important steps in the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) programme
- Working Groups will begin local discussions and fact-finding about potentially siting a GDF in Copeland and Allerdale
- Does not guarantee that a GDF will be sited in Cumbria or preclude other communities from establishing a Working Group

Draft Strategy 4

- Our strategy has to be reviewed at least every 5 years.
- Current strategy was published in 2016.
- Draft Strategy 4 published for public consultation from 17 August – 8 November
- Final approved strategy published by 31 March 2021.

3109 Brian Main thanked Jonathan Jenkin, NDA for the report and opened for questions.

3110 Dr Andy Blowers referred to NDA Draft 4 Strategy and that there were several concerns: Bradwell deferred decommission to end state 2092. Is this date viable? Have climate change impacts been reviewed and reported to LCLC? Would like more discussion on end state to Brown Site. There needs to be the option of end state being left as green state because of the rural setting.

Jonathan Jenkin answered the following:

Magnox is developing fleet wide decommissioning approach, and Bradwell is the first high level business case. This is not “cast in stone” strategy, it will be under constant review and assessment, especially as the NDA will have a fleet of aging sites that need monitoring.

The end state programme is still being defined, therefore the physical end state and how it is to be left is still being determined. The strategy developing process considers stakeholders consultation.

3111 Cllr Paul Burgess made general comment on a Zoom meeting participant having a political party advertisement on display, as being highly inappropriate for this meeting.

Brian Main asked the meeting attendee to switch the advertisement off, which was duly administered.

- 3112 Cllr Paul Burgess raised a general discussion about GDF, the timescales for the facility and when Bradwell waste will be transported.

Jonathan Jenkin announced date for GDF will be 2040s, and it may take a further 20 years for all waste consignments to be transported to GDF. At this stage in time, due to the complex logistical processes, the NDA cannot give dates to when Bradwell ILW will be transported.

- 3113 Cllr Paul Burgess referred to ILW from Sizewell and Dungeness to Bradwell, are there any packages from other sites destined for Bradwell?

Brian Main answered that Bradwell receives ILW from Dungeness and a very small amount from Sizewell.

Jonathan Jenkin agreed with Brian Main and said there were no other sites sending ILW waste to Bradwell.

7. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY SITE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

- 3114 Peter Reynolds shared a report on screen and highlighted the following:

Coronavirus: Nuclear Site Regulation operational update. The Environment Agency's priority remains to protect people and the environment. We have set out how we are doing this across the many areas we regulate, advise on or interact with the public, for example, flood defence, flood warning, environmental sampling, permitting, angling and fisheries, waterways management and billing (see GOV.UK).

In brief: We are fully operational, with the majority of Environment Agency staff working from home.

Our frontline staff have returned to near normal regulatory work including physical inspections.

Communications with Magnox: Bradwell site is managed by Magnox staff based at Sizewell A. In response to the Covid19 pandemic we held weekly teleconferences with Sizewell A environmental staff from mid-March 2020 until June 2020, and monthly from July 2020 onwards, to review environmental risk assessments and measures to manage environmental hazards at both sites.

Use of Regulatory Position Statements: On 29 April 2020 we agreed to Bradwell site adopting the Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) C7. This allowed relaxation of the timelines for some permit conditions relating to discharge monitoring, environmental monitoring and reporting in light of the



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disruption caused by Covid-19 impacts or countermeasures, such as the closure of analytical laboratories. In the case of Bradwell site, liquid in the Main Drains Pits was not sampled, and periodic monitoring of tritium discharges from the intermediate storage facility (ISF) was cancelled in the second quarter of 2020. We accepted that these omissions were reasonable under the circumstances and would not have an impact on the environment. Bradwell has not made use of regulatory position statements since June 2020.

Enforcement Action Waste Disposal: As noted in our report to the LCLC last year, free liquid was discovered in September 2019 in a container of low level waste (LLW) consigned from Bradwell to an off-site waste treatment facility. The presence of free liquid contravened the waste acceptance criteria of the receiving site.

Water Leak into Vaults Complex: A water leak into the vaults complex at Bradwell site was detected in September 2020. Magnox took samples of the water for analysis, which showed that low levels of radioactivity were present. Magnox identified the source of the leak - groundwater entering the vaults via an inadequately sealed trench - early on and developed an engineering solution to stop water ingress. Repair work has been delayed by Covid-19 restrictions and related staff health concerns. It is now scheduled to be completed by the end of March. The water ingress has generated liquid effluent polluted with radioactivity and potentially breaches the condition of the Bradwell site permit which requires Magnox to use best available techniques (BAT) to minimise the volume and activity of radioactive waste produced on site. We are considering our enforcement response to this event and will report our conclusions at the next Bradwell LCLC meeting.

Permit Information Conditions: Magnox has not yet demonstrated that it meets all of the Environment Agency's expectations for a site placed in an interim state to allow for deferred dismantling. We have therefore set improvement and information requirements in the Bradwell permit.

Information requirement IC1 required that Magnox carry out an "audit of management arrangements implemented at Bradwell for compliance with this Permit to check that these are sufficient to comply with the conditions of this permit. The audit should assess whether the management system is adequate and whether there are sufficient resources and competent personnel to meet each permit condition." Magnox supplied a report to us in December 2019 confirming that they had completed an audit of



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management arrangement in place when Bradwell site entered Care & Maintenance. We have reviewed the audit report and attached audit checklist and concluded that the requirements of IC1 have been met.

Peter Reynolds opened the floor to questions

- 3115 Cllr Peter Banks referred to the ventilation in the ICF and in particular the Tritium from ICF were stated at 15 metres and should the requirement be 20 metres?

Peter Reynolds replied that the ICF has no ventilation as the emissions from waste is very low, so there is no benefit of a stack. There is periodic monitoring of Tritium and emissions from waste.

- 3116 Cllr Peter Banks referred to water ingress and would like access to the report from Magnox.

Peter Reynolds referred Cllr Peter Banks to get in touch with Magnox to ask for report.

- 3117 Cllr Peter Banks asked for information on temperature gradient in Safestore.

Peter Reynolds confirmed there is no requirement for this, however the temperature is measured through the air exchange.

- 3118 Dr Andrew Blowers referred to Bradwell monitoring incidents, what enforcement is there from EA and what training/learning points?

Sohail Ashraf answered from the Magnox perspective regarding the water ingress and deterioration. Magnox needs to monitor the signs to capture earlier data and remediate quicker. The Site is considering a holistic view on these new monitoring procedures and will communicate this with LCLC once finalised.

- 3119 Varrie Blowers referred to CEAR Report page 3 and why the change of date?

Peter Reynolds explained the Magnox Safety Case is spread over a 3 year period. As Bradwell is in Care and Maintenance it is not a priority over other sites that are still working towards Care and Maintenance.

The enforcement action is determined by the enforcement policy which is driven by a number of things from a serious incident to learning and could be anything from a warning to a prosecution. It is usually a warning letter or advice and guidance.



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Brian Main thanked Peter Reynolds for his presentation.

8. LCLC CHAIRMAN'S FEEDBACK

3120 Brian Main advised that the SSG Chairs met last Wednesday virtually and no matters arising that have not already been covered in topics this meeting. Committee members to note that the Terms of Reference for this meeting will need to be considered and revised for next meeting.

John White confirmed there was no update to add.



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9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

3122 Varrie Blowers asked Peter Reynolds (EA) how the LCLC will be informed of EA reports.

Peter Reynolds confirmed 6 monthly reports will be circulated.

3123 Brian Main asked Committee Members if they wanted to adopt the NDA Model SSG Constitution replacing the LCLC exiting Constitution? 6 Voting Members agreed to consider this as a motion for next meeting.

Brian Main suggested that copies of existing constitution and a new NDA Model SSG Constitution will be forwarded to the Committee Members before the next LCLC meeting (due March 2022), for review.

3124 Cllr Marianne Fellowes thanked the LCLC for the invitation to attend and the LCLC are more than welcome to attend the Sizewell SSG. A further discussion between Brian Main and Cllr Fellowes concluded that it may be worth looking at a combined Sizewell and Bradwell SSG in the future. Will bring this to the next LCLC for consideration.

3125 John White raised the issue of not having a meeting until March 2022, when there are significant changes to the Constitution, Terms of Reference and possibility of a joint SSG with Sizewell, as well as the EA report findings, perhaps it is worth having a meeting September 2021 to discuss.

Brian Main agreed that these were valid arguments to remain at 6 month schedule. Magnox Communications agreed that a September 21 meeting is authorised.

3126 John White also asked Magnox to let the LCLC know about possible date to visit Bradwell.

Sohail Ashraf agreed to look into a site visit.

10. DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

3127 Brian Main proposed Wednesday 8 September 2021 where the following topics will be added to the agenda:

1. Environment Agency 6 monthly review
 2. Environment Agency report of incidents
 3. Consider NDA SSG Constitution, Terms of Reference, joint SSG with Sizewell and frequency of meetings.
- Members agreed to Agenda points.

11. Close

3128 Chairman closed the meeting at 11.35 am.