

Meeting Report

Regarding:

EDF Energy Hinkley Point C: Main Site
Forum – Stogursey Victory Hall

Date: 13 July 2016

Attending:

Jim Claydon *Chair*
Peter Farmery
Lesley Flash
Chris Ford
Susan Jones
Sarah Littler
Allan Searle
Sue Spicer
Val Boxhall
Richard Cuttall
Nick Kramer
Janet Kramer
Aubrey Knowles

Martin Sedlen
Andrew Goodchild *Taunton Deane & West Somerset Councils*
Sue Goss *West Somerset District Council*
David Eccles *EDF Energy*
Victoria Dingwall *EDF Energy*
Lidia Bosa *EDF Energy*
Luke Stephens *EDF Energy*
Andrew Jones *EDF Energy*
Richard Tucker *EDF Energy*
Isaac Casson *PPS*
Steve Jolly *PPS*

Apologies: Steve Crago, Sue Marks, Lyn Blower, Kezia White, Cllr Hugh Davies

Item**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Jim Claydon (JC) welcomed attendees and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Matters Arising

Attendees confirmed that they were happy to sign off the minutes from the previous meeting (13 April 2016).

Farringdon Horse Crossing Update – David Eccles (DE) stated that he believed the crossing was now working. Susan Jones (SJ) stated that Andrew Goodchild (AG) confirmed that no further action was planned from the construction team.

Pedestrian Safety – Lesley Flash (LF) raised a question about changing the usual positions of traffic cameras. AG reported back that Andy Coupé (AC) says there needs to be demonstrated increased speeds in order to access CIM funds. Somerset CC identified increasing volume and speed of traffic on bypass but unable to provide evidence at meeting.

AFTERNOTE: AC to provide clarification for the minutes regarding the function and location of the traffic cameras.

JC and AG had discussed the potential for further discussions and assistance with regards to local residents and groups accessing the CIM fund. It was agreed that at the time of FID, it would be sensible to progress with this. Victoria Dingwall (VD) suggested that accessing CIM would also be a good topic for a weekly or monthly drop-in.

Item

3. Project Update

DE said that the consultation works with EDF's trades union partners were complete and that FID is expected shortly, with the result of the EU referendum not materially affecting the decision. Both the British and French governments remain supportive of the project.

DE also provided the following site update

- The Associated Developments on J23 and J24 of the M5 installing Park and Rides are expected to begin in August.
- The "Golden Triangle" in the centre of Bridgwater works are expected to begin at the back end of 2016.
- There is ongoing engagement with local businesses and education facilities.

Aubrey Knowles (AK) raised a query over what the works were taking place on the C182. DE replied that those works were not associated with HPC, but informed the forum that they were works to provide a cycle-way between Cannington and Combwich.

Lidia Bosa (LB) gave an update of the Property Price Scheme, the details of which were:

151 Eligible properties in the Scheme

EDF purchased properties since May 2012 = 17

No of EDF properties sold = 3; a further under negotiation and another to be marketed For Sale in November.

There have been 2 acquisitions since March 2014.

36 out of 50 properties within the scheme have sold on the Open Market.

Shurton/Burton 23 sold on the Open market and 10 purchased by EDF Energy (9 in Shurton and 1 in Burton)

Wick /Stolford 12 sold on the Open market and 4 purchased by EDF Energy

AFTERNOTE: After a request by Sue Goss (SG) for clarification between figures for Shurton and Burton, LB stated that figures will be provided with statistics from both hamlets separately from the next meeting.

4. Southern Land Works – Peter Farmery (PF)

PF ran through the items on the note regarding the Southern landscaping work which had been circulated to the forum in advance (attached).

PF stated that he wished to inform the forum that residents had been consulting with the wider community on the southern landscaping works, and wished also to work with EDF Energy to take into account the needs of local residents with regards to the final design.

Item

JC reminded PF that the forum has no decision making powers but were keen to encourage engagement and to be kept informed regarding residents and EDF Energy working together outside the forum on the issue.

PF stated that he had already received confirmation from EDF Energy that under Item 2b, it had been agreed that there would be no lighting used on the emergency road (except for lighting from vehicles during emergencies.)

DE responded to the points in turn. On item 1a, DE stated that while EDF Energy cannot undertake works which differentiate substantially from the consented scheme, where possible, they will be flexible and work with the community.

On item 1b, DE read from the Landscape Strategy in the Hinkley Point C Development Consent Order, which states:

2.2 Implementing the Vision

2.2.21 Addressing the needs of local residents

Consultation prioritised provision of a physical buffer and visual screening between local villages and construction activities. It has been agreed that construction works would be excluded from the HPC development site south of latitude 144750m N. The early restoration of this area would deliver substantial increases in ground level which combined with screen planting would provide both a physical buffer and partial screening of both the construction site and on-site accommodation campus. Access to this area would be maintained when practical within construction safety constraints for walking and recreation.

2.4.46 Addressing the needs of local residents

Early restoration would provide an enhanced physical buffer and partial screening of construction activities and the on-site accommodation campus from local villages. Access would be provided for walking, horse riding, and recreation.

2.4.49 Providing access and Amenity

A network of PRow bridleways and permissive footpaths would be provided to support access and amenity in the southern area.

It was agreed that this was sufficient to guarantee access to the land, within safety constraints, for the period of construction of Hinkley Point C.

AG queried whether or not PF was referring to access to the site during the 10 year construction period or after the final landscape restoration scheme. It was noted that MS26 referred to the construction period.

Item

LF queried access to the site after the construction is finished. AC and JC referred LF to MS28, which covered access post-construction.

DE stated that whilst EDF Energy had already agreed to not work on Sundays, it was important to preserve the remaining flexibility to work within the hours available, as stipulated by the DCO.

LF and PF expressed their concerns and objections regarding this, and DE replied that this was the base position from EDF Energy and that they would remain as flexible as possible. DE stated that the hours of working were necessary in order to complete the southern landscaping works as soon as possible, as local people had previously requested at the Forum.

Richard Cuttall (RC) suggested that to complete within the timescale, while also reducing the hours that are operational on site, EDF Energy could increase the labour on site.

DE responded that EDF Energy would be working as effectively as possible.

DE also stated that it was important to note that construction to the north of the southern fence would operate under different arrangements and to different, more extended, hours.

JC brought the topic to a close stating that the forum would monitor the situation.

AFTERNOTE: Regarding the working hours, the relevant sections of the DCO have been included for reference. On the main site EDF Energy are permitted to work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. On the Southern Landscaping work EDF Energy are permitted to work between 7am and 11pm, 6 days (excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays). Noise restrictions apply throughout, but get substantially more restrictive in the evenings and at weekends.

The two references below are links to the relevant documents which contain the details of the requirements.

- Search online planning applications ref RM/32/16/002 - On p3 of the cover letter (one of 27 docs) www.westsomerset.gov.uk
- DCO working hours (Requirements MS9, MS10) can be found on p88 at the following link www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/getattachment/Planning---Building/Planning/Hinkley-Point/Hinkley-Point-Development-Consent-Application/The-Hinkley-Point-C---Development-Consent-Order.pdf.aspx

5. Brief Summary of Workshop

JC outlined the feedback to the workshop, which had covered the topic of Community Engagement.

JC stated that the feedback could be summarised as:

Item

- The diversity of medium is important – more than one method of communication is important
- Clarity, timeliness and user friendly wording were highlighted, as well as taking into account the needs of the individual
- Engaging with the community is an evolving topic

(VD) praised the response and will seek to implement the suggestions where possible.

6. Subjects for Next Workshop

LF suggested a collection of experiences from local residents regarding building works. DE suggested combining this with a workshop of the Southern landscaping works timeline. Val Boxhall proposed a workshop covering Helping Hands/Help Hinkley. DE responded that he felt that this may not be suitable for a workshop, but instead suggested it be an item on the next meeting's agenda.

7. AOB

None raised

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 19 October 2016 at Stogursey Victory Hall, commencing at 6:00pm for the workshop and 7pm for the Main Meeting.