

Meeting Report

Regarding:

EDF Energy Hinkley Point C: Community Forum

Date: 15 November 2018

Attending:

Jim Claydon, *Chair*
 Ann Bown, *Sedgemoor District Council*
 Allan Jeffery, *Bridgwater and West Somerset Green Party*
 Andy Coupe, *Somerset County Council*
 Roy Pumfrey, *Stop Hinkley*
 Bob Birkenhead, *Otterhampton Parish Council*
 Anne Fraser, *Sedgemoor District Council*
 Ian Liddell-Grainger, *Member of Parliament*
 Alan Hurford *Bridgwater Town Council*
 David Mears, *Bridgwater Town Council*
 Anne Reed, *Wembdon Parish Council*
 Mike Dixon, *Kilve Parish Council*
 Richard Cuttall *W.H.A.G*
 Jenny Ody, *Stogursey Parish Council*
 Sue Goss, *West Somerset Council*

Robin Phipps, *Cannington Parish Council*
 Trevor Howes, *Civil Nuclear Constabulary*
 Claire Faun *Sedgemoor District Council*
 Rebecca Miller, *Sedgemoor District Council*
 Luke Mitchell, *Somerset Community Foundation*
 Natasha Bradshaw, *Kingston St Mary*

David Eccles, *EDF Energy*
 Anne Lawrence, *EDF Energy*
 Andrew Goodchild, *EDF Energy*
 Angela Young, *EDF Energy*
 Jason Crook, *Office for Nuclear Regulation*
 Justin Sargent, *Somerset Community Foundation*
 Tracey Tilsley, *Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group*
 Sue Adam, *National Grid*
 Isaac Casson, *Newgate*

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1. Introduction and apologies

- 1.1 Jim Claydon (JC) welcomed attendees and asked them to introduce themselves.
- 1.2 Apologies were recorded from: *Hugh Davies, Somerset County Council, Alan Beasley, Cannington Parish Council, Leigh Redman, Bridgwater Town Council, Doug Bamsey, Sedgemoor District Council and Val Bishop, Somerset Community Foundation*

2. Matters arising

- 2.1 The following afternotes and matters arising from the previous minutes from the meeting on 16 August 2018 were raised:
- 2.2 Roy Pumfrey (RP) queried if there is one excavator and barge at any one time dredging in the Bristol Channel. David Eccles (DE) confirmed there is.
- 2.3 Alan Jeffrey (AJ) confirmed he had met with a member of the environment team from EDF Energy and had a productive conversation, but agreed to disagree on certain points.

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3. Project Progress

- 3.1 David Eccles (DE) gave a presentation and displayed a number of pictures which outlined the most recent project milestones. These included:
- David Eccles (DE) gave an update on project progress. Details given included:
 - Excavation of the heat sink is 21 metres below sea level, the pump house that will be built there will be taller than the Arc de Triomphe;
 - Construction of the common raft for Unit 1 has continued and is well on track to be complete in Q2 2019;
 - Work has begun on the site of the reactor dome, once ready the dome itself will be lifted in to place by the largest land based crane in the world;
 - Great care continues to be taken to survey the nuclear-grade concrete being used in construction;
 - Phase 1 of the dredging of sediment at the site of the water cooling inlets in the Bristol Channel is now complete;
 - HOST's Sedgemoor Campus will open at the end of the year, two successful recruitment events mean that 24% of the workforce who will work there live locally to Sydenham;
 - The project has taken on its 275th apprentice and recently launched a programme for people with special educational needs;
 - To date £1.5 billion worth of contracts have been awarded to contractors in the south west with over £800 million having been spent so far.
- 3.2 Anne Lawrence (AL) provided a further update to the forum:
- Consent has been granted from the Office for Nuclear Regulation to start the concrete pour of Unit 1 at the end of the month.
 - Construction of the sea wall will be 90% complete by Christmas.
 - The site is preparing for arrival of the tunnel boring machines.
 - The workforce is working over 1 million hours per month in total and the safety record is very good and well above average for a construction of this size.
- 3.3 Mike Dixon (MD) asked for the maximum number of workers on site. The estimated number is 5,600 at the peak of construction. AL explained that the overall number of workers on site hasn't increased significantly (currently c3,600), but the people have changed due to the demobilisation of Kier Bam and the ramping up of Bylor.
- 3.4 RP questioned the number of workers who come from the local area and queried the £120m of local spend figure. DE explained that 24% of HOST's workforce comes from Sydenham alone. The £120m of local spend comes from investment in infrastructure, highways improvements, sports facilities and local colleges in the local area and was a commitment set out in the DCO.
- 3.5 In response to a question on the sea wall, AL explained that the sea wall at HPC will be bigger than the one at HPA, and the rock armour is in place to prevent erosion of the coastline. DE added that the sea wall is 13.5m high, enough to cover for any anticipated sea level rise.
- 3.6 The chair observed that a footpath is planned along the top of the sea wall and that a

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presentation on the plans would make a good agenda item at a future meeting. The forum agreed.

- 3.7 Bob Birkenhead (BB) asked for an update on Combrich Wharf. DE explained that the site is being prepared for construction, which will be complete prior to Christmas, with work starting at the latter end of Q1. Combrich wharf is due to be upgraded by 2020. AL added that there will be drop in sessions advertised to the local community closer to the time.

4. Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Update

- 4.1 Jason Crook (JC) from the ONR gave an update from the HPC Site Stakeholder Report (July-September 2018). Copies were available at the meeting.
- 4.2 JC stated that there has been a significant presence of the ONR on site as EDF Energy prepare for the concrete pour of the pumping station. This activity has been approved to commence.
- 4.3 JC added that there is a webinar for stakeholders on 29 November, which will run through the permissioning process of the pumping house and receive any questions on the process.
- 4.4 Sue Goss noted that HPC had received an amber warning from the ONR. JC stated that this warning was given for slow progress with the implementation of previously recommended improvements. The programme of improvements was set by NNB and they are expected to implement them.
- 4.5 RP noted that ONR webinars are worthwhile and encouraged members to participate in the webinar on 29 November.

5. Somerset Community Foundation Update

- 5.1 Justin Sargent (JS) delivered a presentation on the role of the Somerset Community Foundation (SCF). He noted the following points:
 - The previous fund is almost exhausted and the final round of approvals from West Somerset Council will take place on 21 November
 - £1.16m has been awarded from the SCF-run Community Fund to date with another £640k committed
 - The Fund is now open to a broader range of application and any community impacted by the construction of HPC is eligible to apply.
 - Two examples of projects funded were described:
 - Home-start West Somerset has been awarded £142k over 3 years
 - Combrich Motor Boat and Sailing Club has been awarded £18k for a new rowing gig and to improve membership
 - SCF is recruiting for a third independent member to join the Awards Panel and advised Forum members to contact him with any suggestions of suitable candidates.

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6. National Grid – Hinkley Connection Project

- 6.1 Sue Adams from National Grid gave a presentation on the Hinkley Connection Project. She explained:
- National Grid is the motorway network for electricity and is tasked with managing the UK's energy demand
 - National Grid is managing the project to connect HPC to UK homes and businesses by building a new circuit between HPC and Seabank in Avonmouth
 - National Grid is launching a £20k grant fund for local organisations to apply to
- 6.2 RP asked for the anticipated costs of the project. SA stated that the project will cost in the region of £850m funded by electricity bill payers in agreement with the regulator, Ofgem.
- 6.3 Ann Fraser (AF) asked if local parishes will be consulted on the plans. SA stated that plans to engage with local parishes about construction activity are being developed. Note – National Grid undertook consultation in support of the DCO in periods between 2009 and 2014.
- 6.4 AJ asked whether future renewable sources could be connected into this project. SA noted that while it is a possibility in the future, integrating new sources of electricity into an existing line is very complex.

7. Hinkley Health

- 7.1 Tracey Tilsley (TT), Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and Angela Young (AY), EDF Energy, gave a presentation on health and medical facilities available to the HPC workforce. Their presentation stated that:
- Hinkley Health services are based around 3 core activities:
- Ill health prevention
 - Pre-induction Screening
 - Medical Assessment
 - Referrals to onsite GP/physician
 - Pre-employment drug and alcohol testing
 - Site safety tours to identify health related hazards
 - Clinical intervention
 - Treat injuries
 - Provide and manage emergency medical response
 - Treat any non-work related injury or ailment
 - Random drug and alcohol testing
 - Provision of GP and physio services
 - Provision of incident/treatment statistics
 - Health promotion
 - Raise awareness of both work and lifestyle issues
 - Liaise with and work with local health agencies

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- Participate in wellbeing initiatives

- 7.2 Richard Cuttall (RC) asked if they treat families of workers. AY stated that only the HPC workforce can receive this treatment. Most workers work away from their homes and families, so there is no requirement to do so.
- 7.3 Alan Hurford (AH) asked how many urgent referrals have been made for HPC workers. AY stated that a number of workers referred into the NHS for urgent treatment is approximately 20 in the last quarter, any ongoing care is then generally received through their home based NHS facilities.
- 7.4 In response to a question, AY stated that 4,500 workers were assessed/treated in 2017 at the medical centre.
- 7.5 RC asked if any members of the workforce fail the random drugs test. AY noted that 1 or 2 fail a month but the consequences are that they have their site pass withdrawn and are removed from the project.
- 7.6 Lisa Redston raised the recent success of a bone marrow donation workshop for HPC workers. AY noted that the Anthony Nolan trust visited the site and had 102 bone marrow donors sign up to the register. Further work is happening to repeat this success with the NHS Blood and Transplant Service who is looking at visiting the site in the New Year.

8. Hinkley Accommodation

- 8.1 Andrew Goodchild (EDF Energy) gave a presentation on the latest accommodation statistics for HPC workers living in the local area, highlighting the approved strategy, the current location and type of accommodation being used by workers. The presentation is available on request.
- 8.2 Alan Hurford (AH) questioned the figures and claimed that the number of HPC workers in Bridgwater is significant. AG explained that while there were large numbers of workers staying in Bridgwater, the figures presented showed that the agreed threshold plus new capacity that had been delivered by the local authorities using the s106 agreement housing fund meant that any lack of capacity in Bridgwater was not being caused by HPC workers.
- 8.3 AB reported that younger people are struggling to get housing and food bank usage has increased since HPC was in the area. DE refuted that the cause was HPC noting there were a number of factors at play and highlighted that the project had provided up to £7.5m for local authorities to support the private rented sector in order to minimise any impact on the local housing market.
- 8.4 In response to a question from Robin Phipps (RP), AG said that the figures are from a

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survey of the workforce from June 2018 and that a survey was carried out every six months. Another survey will be conducted shortly. DE reminded members that there if the pre-agreed threshold is reached; a payment is made to the local authority.

8.5 Roy Pumfrey (RPu) stated that a 1 bed apartment was previously £350pm, now £500-550pm and stated that HPC workers have money to afford this, whereas others do not. DE replied that the project is indeed creating rising prosperity in the area.

8.6 In response to questions on the validity of the figures, AG and DE stated that the survey's that have been carried out are statistically robust and that HPC hire a professional polling company to carry out this task.

8.7 In response to a question from AF, AG stated to members that EDF Energy intend to review the accommodation strategy in 2019.

Action: After discussion, it was resolved that an update be provided to the forum in May.

9. Transport Forum meeting

9.1 The Chair updated the forum on the topics discussed at the last Transport Forum.

9.2 Anne Reed raised an issue with bus services travelling through Wembdon. DE explained that there is a strategy to rationalise the bus services once the passenger tracking system is fully implemented. 100% of these buses are now fitted with this technology.

10. Main Site Forum meeting

10.1 The Chair updated the forum on topics discussed at the last Main Site Forum.

10.2 There were no further comments

11. AOB

11.1 AG made the forum aware of an upcoming consultation in advance of an application from EDF Energy to make an application for a material change to the Development Consent Order. An application will be made to remove the requirement to install an Acoustic Fish Deterrent (AFD) system from the end of the cooling water intake tunnels next year and as part of this, EDF Energy will need to make an application to vary an environmental permit to the Environment Agency, a further submission to the Marine Management Organisation to vary a marine licence as well as the Planning Inspectorate. The intention is to start consultation early next year and we will provide an update to this Forum in February, alongside writing to the organisations represented.

Action: To be an agenda item for the February meeting.

11.3 Lisa Wright (LR) provided the Forum with an explanation of the Environment Agency's intended approach to consultation on the proposed permit variation.

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- 11.2 Robin Phipps (RP) raised that he was still frustrated with the levels of fly-parking and said that Cannington Park and Ride is rarely used. DE stated that the problem is well understood and fly-parking as a whole is decreasing. EDF Energy is encouraging the use of the park and rides and is looking to increase the frequency of fly-parking patrols in Cannington.

12. Date of next meeting

The date of the next Community Forum meeting is;

- Thursday 7 February 2019

This meeting will be held at Main Hall, Bridgwater College, Cannington TA5 2LS