

Meeting Report

Regarding:

**EDF Hinkley Point C:
Community Forum.**

Participating:

Jim Claydon, Chair
Justin Sargent, Somerset Community Foundation
Jason Crook, ONR
Gillian Burnell, National Grid
Joanna Whitehead, Somerset County Council
Anne Reed, Wembdon Parish Council
Erland Plomgren, Holford Parish Council
Ann Bown, Somerset County Council
Marie Beckley, Otterhampton Parish Council
Doug Bamsey, Sedgemoor District Council
Natasha Bradshaw, University of the West of England
Malcom Reid, Nether Stowey Parish Council
Richard Cuttell, W.H.A.G
Mike Facey, Burnham & Highbridge Town Council
Sue Spicer, Burton Resident
Bruce Eyley, Kilve Parish Council
Mike Dixon, Kilve Parish Council
John Burton, Somerset West & Taunton Council

Date & Venue:

**Thursday 24 September 2020 18:00
Online Web Conference**

Sue Goss, Stogursey Parish Council
Leigh Redman, Somerset County Council
Esther Lawson, Avon and Somerset Police

EDF Energy Team:

Andrew Cockcroft, EDF
Anne Lawrence, EDF
Immy Silby, EDF
Andrew Goodchild, EDF
Louise Brown, EDF
Tom Thayer, EDF
Jane Tomaney, EDF
Drew Aspinwall, Newgate Communications

Apologies received:

Mike Wilkinson, Civil Nuclear Constabulary(CNC)
Lisa Wright, Environment Agency
Ian Little-Grainger, MP for Bridgwater and West Somerset

In addition to the forum meeting notes and agendas, all presentations and reports are available at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

Item	Action
1 Introductions	
1.1 Jim Claydon ('The Chair') welcomed everyone to the online meeting. The Chair ran through the list of attendees detailed on-screen to ensure the register was accurate and to check attendees were able to mute / unmute themselves and use the 'raise hand' feature to indicate that they would like to ask a question.	
1.2 The Chair gave an overview as to the arrangements for the meeting. Attendees would be invited to ask questions at the end of each respective presentation and made reference to the questions submitted in advance of the meeting; the Q&A function could also be used and these questions would be picked up under Item 9: Any other business.	
1.3 The Chair wanted to record the gratitude of the Community Forum to David Eccles, who had retired from the project since the last forum and acknowledged the important contribution that David had made over the past 10 years to the project.	
2 Meeting Note and Matters Arising	
2.1 The Chair reviewed the previous Community Forum meeting note from 14 May 2020 including the actions and after-notes inviting any further comment.	
2.2 Item 2.4 Joanna Whitehead (JW) gave an update on behalf of Andy Coupé (ACo) that updated signage at Bolham Layby on the C182 was now in place.	
2.3 Item 3.5 - Afternote – a sketch of the offline connection was supplied with the meeting note to illustrate the explanation as to how the cooling water intake heads are connected.	
2.4 Item 3.13 Afternote – Anne Reed (AR) confirmed she was happy with the afternote supplied.	
2.5 Item 3.14 Afternote was supplied giving more detail in relation to the 8 May 2020 media report regarding Lakeview Holiday cottages at Huntsworth.	
2.6 Ann Bown (AB) wanted to make a gesture of thanks for David Eccles and acknowledge his contribution. The Chair said the members would need to organise this themselves. Action: Drew Aspinwall (DA) to email AB following the meeting to help facilitate this.	Actioned (DA)
2.7 Members then agreed the meeting note, which can be found at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity	
3 Project Progress	
3.1 Andrew Cockcroft (AC), who has been appointed as Senior Manager – Community Relations introduced himself formally and gave some insight into his background with the project.	
3.2 Anne Lawrence (AL) gave a comprehensive overview of the project's response and measures put in place to protect the workforce and community from Covid-19. This included on-site measures, transport to and from site, campus arrangements, testing facilities and tracing mechanisms and inspections from ONR and Public Health England.	
3.3 AL referenced the Avonmouth facility, run by Balfour Beatty, where in July over 30 people tested positive for Covid-19. Swift action and mitigation was taken by Balfour Beatty and anyone with a site pass for HPC had it temporarily deactivated.	
3.4 AL said that all arrangements previously employed at HPC are remaining in place, and these are being further refined and adapted in anticipation of changes to Government guidelines and the potential for an autumn / winter 'second wave'. Afternote: Visit the website for the latest information on Covid-19 measures.	AFTERNOTE

- 3.5** AB said she had heard two weeks ago that people were gathering at bus stops on the Quantock Road. AC said that categorically should not be happening, as local pick up points have been suspended and pick ups only happens at the park and rides and Bridgwater Bus Station. AC requested that AB email Hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com with more details so it can be investigated.
- 3.6** Sue Goss (SG) asked if there was a Covid-19 test facility at EDF office at Bridgewater House in Bristol. AL confirmed that the same thermal imaging cameras are in place there and the same referral system exists as it does on site regarding testing.
- 3.7** AC then gave a progress update covering activity on site, the headline of which was that 50% of progress goals have been met this year so far, despite all the adaptations in place due to Covid-19. The focus has been on the critical path but AC acknowledged that the impact on the long-term schedule is not yet known, in the same way that how long Covid-19 will be impacting work practices is not yet known. The schedule is benefiting from the learnings gained from the work on unit 1 resulting in significant efficiencies on unit 2.
- 3.8** AC also updated on testing and proposed dredging in 2021; the Non-Material Change to the DCO consultation process; discussions which have started about Workforce Uplift and Combwich Wharf works
- 3.9** AL gave an update on the investigation into the GGBS (Ground Granulated Blast furnace Slag) Silo which happened on 10 June 2020. AL also introduced the new initiative which is being introduced called HPC Safe Day & Safe Month, which if the criteria is met for Safe Day, £50 will be donated to a local charity and £3,000 for a Safe Month. Local charities will be identified by HPC workers.
- 3.10** SG welcomed the HPC Safe Day & Safe Month initiative and raised a previously submitted complaint regarding the behaviour of cyclists, wearing HPC high viz, travelling through Shurton. AL confirmed that one of the criteria that is monitored is HPC Safe Community Day, the system for investigating complaints feeds into this.
- 3.11** SG also asked if Covid-19 has impacted the date of peak of construction staff numbers. Andrew Goodchild (AG) said that work that is underway now is showing that the peak of construction staff numbers will be towards the end of 2022 into 2023 – but the impact on these dates from Covid-19 is not yet known.
- 3.12** Bruce Eyley (BE) asked about bus transport arrangements as the staff numbers increase. AL confirmed that currently people are being asked to go to the park and rides and Bridgwater Bus Station as there is no pick-up in the community but arrangements are under constant review in line with Government guidelines.
- 3.13** John Burton (JB) asked 3 questions regarding dredging: 1) Is this the only dredging you HPC are undertaking? 2) To whom will you be applying for permits to undertake the dredging? 3) Will there be any public consultation regarding the dredging?

Action: DA emailed AB requesting more details

Answers:

- 1) This is the last phase of dredging for the fitting of the inlet heads but there will be maintenance dredging in order that boats can dock at the jetty
- 2) The application will go to Natural Resources Wales and the Marine Management Organisation
- 3) Natural Resources Wales have undertaken a public consultation for the sediment sampling plan and will be undertaking more consultation for the final dredging permission. **AFTERNOTE – more details on the process to follow**

Afternote – AG to supply more detail of the process to be supplied when available

- 3.14** Marie Beckley (MB) asked about noise complaints from Combwich residents and the process for dealing with these complaints. AC confirmed that the letter drop was targeted to those most impacted. Regarding the noise levels, AG added that it has been agreed with Sedgemoor District Council that the decibel level has been changed up to 75 decibels to accommodate the works to improve the wharf.

AC confirmed that there is a meeting already arranged with Otterhampton Parish Council on 1 October to discuss the impact of the works and welcomes any feedback from the parish council and those they represent.

- 3.15** Pre-submitted question from Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

“At the last Transport Forum, EDF said they hadn’t a clue what caused the silo collapse on 10 June. Both EDF and ONR appear to be waiting for the dust to settle and attention is elsewhere before slipping out a report, probably on a good day to bury bad news. Why has EDF taken so long to submit a report of its investigation? Why hasn’t ONR pressed them for such a report? How much time is permitted to elapse before an operator is obliged to submit a report on a major industrial accident? Is this another case of EDF marking its own homework?”

- 3.16** Pre-submitted question from Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

“There is no mention of the Covid-19 outbreak at the Avonmouth plant which halted production of concrete sections for HPC. EdeF are equally dismissive of the potential impact of C-19 on site and its effect on the community, “Preparations and plan in place for winter and potential second wave. What are the preparations and plan, please?”

- 3.17** Roy Pumfrey (RP) was not in attendance.

The Chair considered that these topics had been covered in depth by this presentation and that by the ONR.

The presentation is available at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

4 Update - Office of Nuclear Regulation Report

- 4.1** Jason Crook (JC) gave an update on the Q2 2020 ONR Report – which was circulated ahead of the meeting along with the presentations and are available to view at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

- 4.2** JC focused on Covid-19 and Ground Granulated Blast Furness Slag (GGBS) Silo Event

- Covid 19 - ONR found that NNB has implemented appropriate measures to control the risk from Covid 19 and has observed that these have matured as government guidance has evolved
- ONR has visited the area a number times and intends to review NNB’s investigation, into the GGBS Silo Event, to ensure that appropriate learning is taken from the event to prevent reoccurrence in wider industry

- 4.3** Pre-submitted question from Cllr Bruce Eyley, Kilve Parish Council:

“Is the Office for Nuclear Regulation able to maintain adequate oversight of the quality of work being carried out at HPC during the restrictions imposed by the pandemic and are they policing compliance with social distancing in the workplace?”

JC answered: since May there has been a monthly schedule back in place. JC had been on site at peak times to observe staff arriving at work and looking at potential pinch points and is entirely satisfied with measures in place and that these are being adapted as Government guidance changes.

- The Chief Nuclear Inspector has written to the industry requiring them to provide an assessment of their readiness for the potentially more challenging winter period
- Currently ONR's observation and review of NNB's arrangements for the control of Covid 19 has given confidence that they are managing the risk from Covid 19 appropriately
- Following a short pause in onsite inspection activities ONR has maintained an approximately monthly site inspection programme from May 2020 and this is expected to further increase as time progresses.

BE confirmed that he was satisfied with the answer he received as part of the presentation.

5 Update: Education, Skills and Jobs

5.1 Louise Brown (LB) and Tom Thayer (TT) gave a presentation covering recent activity from the Employment Affairs Unit (EAU).

The presentation is available to view at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

5.2 The presentation covered Inspire Young HPC, Apprenticeships and The Job Service, TT and LB report on some very innovative initiatives and on how the job service is also helping other local employers in these challenging times.

The service has been proactive and quick to evolve and to adapt to the remote environment and have been working to ensure all engagements have been 'meaningful'.

5.3 Several forum members acknowledged and thanked the Employment Affairs Unit for the work they have been undertaking.

6 Update - Community Fund

6.1 Justin Sargent (JS) from the Somerset Community Foundation (SCF) gave a presentation by way of an introduction to SCF and covering recent activity.

The presentation is available to view at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

6.2 JS shared that SCF is looking for two new independent members to volunteer on the HPC Awards Panel, they are particularly looking for people who know Bridgwater and the wider Sedgemoor area well, or have particular knowledge of environmental issues.

To find out more, visit the website: <https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/news/385/73/Opportunity-to-make-a-real-difference-in-Somerset> – deadline for CV is noon, Thursday 8 October 2020.

6.3 Published in July, the second SCF Annual Report is available via the website here:

https://www.somersetcf.org.uk/uploads/images/HPCCF_2020AR_MR_150dpi_Spreads.pdf

7 Main Site Forum

7.1 The Chair gave a summary of the key points from the Main Site Forum (MSF) held on 25 June on Zoom.

7.2 The main items were a presentation regarding the Southern Area and a planning update on the

Non-Material Change Application to the DCO.

The MSF meeting note and presentation are available at: www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

- 7.3** The next MSF will be 6pm on Thursday 22 October on Zoom.

8 Transport Forum

- 8.1** The Chair gave a summary of the key points from the Transport Forum (TF) held on 16 July 2020 on Zoom.
- 8.2** The main items were an update from Transport Review Group, an update on bus operations with regards to Covid-19 measures, plus a presentation from Somerset Passenger Solutions regarding the onboard systems used in order to manage their fleet.
- 8.3** Anne Reed (AR) reported that the Quantock Road traffic lights which were discussed at the TF are now operational and thanks AB and others involved.
- 8.4** Malcom Reid (MR) asked for an update on the community bus between Bridgwater and Minehead. AC said that work was underway to bring that service back in a Covid secure way and would report directly to forum members as soon as possible.

The TF meeting note and presentations are available at: www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity

- 8.5** The next TF will be at 6pm Thursday 26 November 2020 on Zoom.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1** Richard Cuttall (RC) asked (using Q&A feature):
“How will the information regarding increased workforce be communicated later this year”
- AC said that we intend to use the existing fora in the first instance but are looking at holding a special ‘single issue’ community forum or perhaps 2 sessions to explore the issues with members.
- RC requested that the timing of that would be before any decision have been made, so that local communities can feed into the process.
- 9.2** Erland Plomgren (EP) wanted to record his appreciation for the way in which two issues raised by Holford Parish Council with HPC had been dealt with by Immy Silby.
- 9.3** AB requested an additional Community Forum meeting before Christmas due to all the current activity.
- 9.4** SG said she was disappointed by the appearance, size and scale of the emergency access road where the junction is in Shurton and wanted to know if the plans had been changed.
- AG said that works will be currently at their worst, without the landscaping in place. He requested patience and that when the work is complete it will look more like the approved plans and the impact will hopefully be reduced. AG suggested that planting and the timetable for the works could be discussed in more detail at the next Main Site Forum.
- RC asked about the design of gate at the junction. AG said whilst he did not have plans to hand it was agreed that that this could be explored at the next Main Site Forum.



9.5 Mike Facey (MF) expressed his gratitude to HPC for all the work they do in the community.

10 Date of next meeting

10.1 Next Community Forum will be at 6pm on Thursday 21 January 2021 at 6pm on Zoom.

The meeting closed.