

Meeting Report

Regarding:

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

Participating:

Jim Claydon, Chair
Jason Crook, ONR
Justin Sargent, Somerset Community Foundation
Erland Plomgren, Holford Parish Council
Marie Beckley, Otterhampton Parish Council
Sue Goss, Stogursey Parish Council
Richard Cuttall, W.H.A.G
Malcom Reid, Nether Stowey Parish Council
Bruce Eyley, Kilve Parish Council
Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley
David Mears, Bridgwater Town Council
Neil Kimmins, Hinkley Point Neighbourhood Policing
Team, Avon & Somerset Police
Stephen Pettitt, Cannington Parish Council
Peter Payne, Williton Parish Council
Janet Keen, Burnham on Sea & Highbridge Town
Council

Date & Venue:

**Thursday 21st January 2021 18:00
Online Web Conference**

Ryan Kelly, Sedgemoor District Council
Robert Downes, Somerset West & Taunton Council
Joanna Whitehead, Somerset County Council
Doug Bamsey, Sedgemoor District Council
John Burton, Somerset West & Taunton Council
Leigh Redman, Somerset County Council

EDF Energy Team:

Andrew Cockcroft, EDF
Anne Lawrence, EDF
Immy Silby, EDF
Andrew Goodchild, EDF
Jane Tomaney, EDF
Drew Aspinwall, SEC Newgate UK

Apologies received:

Lisa Wright, Environment Agency
Jo Smolden, Bridgwater Green Party
Mike Wilkinson, Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC)

**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 8: Any other business.
2	Meeting Note and Matters Arising
2.1	The Chair reviewed the previous Community Forum meeting note from 24 th September 2020 including the actions and after-notes inviting any further comment.
2.2	There were no further comments and Members then agreed the meeting note, which can be found at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity
3	Project Progress
3.1	Andrew Cockcroft (AC) welcomed everyone to the first Forum of 2021 and gave a presentation running through progress on site, including the 18 goals delivered in 2020, progress on Unit 1 and Unit 2 Nuclear Islands, Unit 1 Conventional Island, Heat Sink Pump Station, Unit 1 Intake Tunnel. AC updated on works at Combrwich Wharf, dredging applications and highlighted the 'Special Briefing on Workforce Uplift' which members of all three Fora have been invited to attend on Thursday 28 January 2021 at 6pm.
3.2	Anne Lawrence (AL) then updated members on the project's ongoing response and measures in place to protect the workforce and community from Covid-19. This included staff protocols, on-site measures including the appointment of Covid Champions, transport arrangements, campus arrangements, testing facilities and tracing mechanisms. AL highlighted that this remains a live situation with the project working constantly to keep ahead of.
3.3	AL then gave a further update on the investigation into the GGBS (Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slag) Silo which happened on 10 June 2020. The removal of the silo is complete; 3 batching plants are back in service (with the 4th by end of January), metallurgical analysis work ongoing; Summary of investigation findings to be published on HPC website when concluded.
	Pre-submitted question from Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley
3.4	"On 10 June 2020 GGBS Silo Collapse Update. Last November, ONR believed that they would receive a report from EdeF 'before the end of the month or in early December 2020'. At November's Transport Forum, EdeF casually stated there would be a report 'by the end of the year or early in the New Year'. The latest Update makes no mention of a date for the report. Isn't this yet more evidence of EdeF's casual attitude and ONR's compliance with a reluctance by the Licensee to explain what happened? EdeF's 'like it or lump it' attitude is deplorable."
	Answer: AL said that delays had been experienced in the completion of the metallurgical testing due to COVID, but that a summary of the findings would be published on the HPC website when available.
	Jason Crook (JC) added that it was important to remember that no-one was injured and the event was reviewed by ONR's conventional safety specialists and by the Health & Safety Executive,

Construction Division Specialists to determine whether it met the investigation criteria and they concluded that it didn't and that is why a formal investigation was not initiated. JC added that ONR have had civil engineers, health and safety specialists, the super-intendent inspector visit to provide oversight of the NNB investigation and JC himself has visited also.

JS said that ONR would have liked the report sooner but understand the reasoning behind the delay. There are no other structures of this type on the HPC site so the learning that comes out of the report, specifically the metallurgical analysis work, will benefit wider industries but does not impact work on site.

- 3.5** RP then asked when did EDF know when the report was going to be delayed?
AL said that in November we were still confident that the report would be complete by the end of the year. But with the Covid situation deteriorating and lockdown impacting work, it was only in December we then knew that the analysis would not be back to underpin the report.
Roy said he was disappointed that the delay was not communicated sooner.

Pre-submitted question from Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

- 3.6** "On Workforce Uplift. In February 2020, EdeF attended Stogursey Parish Council's meeting to inform attendees that they would be applying to increase the number of workers on site at HPC above the 5,600 maximum. Obviously, Covid-19 has stalled that process. If EdeF have some figures on what is proposed, what are they and why aren't they declared on a slide ahead of the Forum for consideration prior to the meeting?"

Answer: AG confirmed that a Workforce Uplift Update Briefing was being held on 28th January, all members of the Fora are invited, and to check your emails for joining details.

The briefing will explore in more detail how we plan to mitigate the impact of more workers. To clarify, the project will not be making an application but will be updating the suite of management plans to address the increase to the workforce.

The briefing will then be followed by the launch of a virtual exhibition and some virtual drop-in sessions for anyone interested to come and ask questions – details of which will follow.

- 3.7** RP questioned whether the DCO requires an application for a material change.
AG said that the briefing, exhibition and virtual events were the opportunity for this to be discussed and will take attendees through all the detail, starting with the briefing.
- 3.8** Erland Plomgren (EP) asked will HPC use the same transmission lines to the National Grid when the new power station goes online?
AG said that there will be 7 additional pylons to connect to the new Shurton substation that National Grid are constructing on part of our site. The local authority council and NG agreed to use the old-style pylons in front of the station and the new T pylons in use between Bridgwater and beyond. There will be 3 x 400kv lines coming out of HPC.
- 3.9** Leigh Redman (LR) welcomed the workforce uplift briefing and engagement so everyone can get the details and have the debate before taking a position on if this is or is not a non-material change. LR said that he is concerned accommodation will be a major factor.
- 3.10** Janet Keen (JK) visited the medical centre on site in spring 2019 and was extremely impressed by the range of facilities there. JK wondered if the medical centre was going to be used as vaccination centre and if vaccination was going to be a condition of employment and must each person consent to vaccination to work there.
AL said that vaccinations are being rolled out by Government in accordance with the priority list. At the moment therefore, we are not in a position to offer vaccinations to people working on site. AC added that HPC funds a number of positions within the local authorities and that they have given the green light for those people to be re-purposed to work on Covid initiatives as required.

- 3.11** John Burton (JB) asked about when the 2 remaining milestones from 2020, which were on the first slide would be achieved (For reference these were: U1 – HF Slab 0.0M Electrical Building HF – Unit 1 and U1 HR Inner Containment Lift 1 & 2 Reactor Building HR Unit 1)
AC said that these will be achieved in 2021 and reiterated that all the milestones were significant, regardless of how dramatic and photogenic they may be.
AC will update again at the next community forum.

Pre-submitted question from Jo Smoldon, Green Party

- 3.12** “When do you think the public enquiry for you refusing to use the AFD will be?”

AC said the timing is outside of our direct control but the Planning Inspectorate have indicated an inquiry could take place in the second quarter of this year with a decision towards the end of 2021.

Pre-submitted question from Jo Smoldon, Green Party

- 3.13** “If the Secretary of State refuses your request to drop the AFD, do you have an alternative cooling system lined up?”

AC said we have no plans to use an alternative cooling system at Hinkley Point C. Hinkley Point C will be the first power station in the Severn Estuary to have any fish protection measures installed. Engineering studies have shown that installing and maintaining underwater speakers in the fast-running tides of the Bristol Channel would pose unacceptable risks to divers and offshore workers. The Hinkley Point C project cannot justify these risks to human life, given there is almost no benefit to the environment provided by the proposed system. We remain committed to engaging positively with our stakeholders in the area and to ensuring the protection of the marine and terrestrial environments.

- 3.14** RP asked if you drop the current Acoustic Fish Deterrent (AFD) do you have an alternative system in mind?

AC said he did not know the answer to that at the current time but the project would make a judgement on that if there was refusal. In those circumstances the details of which would be contained in the submission made to Planning Inspectorate.

- 3.15** Richard Cuttall (RC) asked if the dredging permits were not granted what impact would this have on the Acoustic Fish Deterrent, would you put the intake head down without dredging or are you assuming that permission will be granted?

AC said that dredging activities happen in the area every single day, so this is not an abnormal thing to apply for. The first round of dredging was approved 18 months ago which gives us confidence that the 2nd round will be approved by the regulators.

AG said that the intake heads are designed to be lowered onto and fixed to rock on the seabed, so the dredging is fundamental to doing this. If this was refused, then we would need to explore with the regulator alternatives.

AG clarified that dredging and the impact of it in relation to the cooling system was fully considered in the DCO, the DCO specifically states that dredging material must be deposited in the Severn Estuary, hence why we are exploring sites in the Cardiff Grounds and the site at Portishead. The approval we need is regarding the location of where to deposit the material.

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 Q3 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 the recent inspections and record keeping.

LC19 - Construction or Installation of New Plant – ONR civil engineering specialist inspector visited site and gained confidence that NNB is continuing to appropriately manage civil construction activities.

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.

JC said he was last physically on site in December and the ONR are working round the Covid restrictions.

4.3 LC6 - Documents, records, authorities and certificates - ONR found that whilst site records for reinforced concrete were being produced to a high standard, there had been delays in producing required lifetime quality records for a number of items such that they did not yet meet NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd.'s timescales for delivery. ONR has an extant regulatory issue on this topic and is monitoring NNB's progress with its associated improvements.

In addition, ONR noted an example where the records for one of the sampled items (core melt discharge channel), as presented did not yet fully demonstrate compliance with expected lifetime quality record requirements. NNB has now satisfactorily resolved this issue.

4.4 ONR site inspection activities are currently under review given the rapidly changing and deteriorating Covid 19 situation. As ever ONR remain available to attend site should it be operationally required.

5 Update - Community Fund

5.1 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

5.2 JS said that SCF has awarded £4,280,191, the majority of which has been from the open grants programme (£2,108,569) and went on to give a round-up of some recently funded projects.

5.3 SCF have one remaining vacancy for a volunteer for the HPC Awards Panel, they are particularly looking for people who know Bridgwater and the wider Sedgemoor area well. If you are interested, please contact SCF via their website: www.somersetcf.org.uk where you will also find links to how to apply for grants and documents including the annual report.

5.3 EP asked how SCF promotes itself to those who may not know about them?
JS said that there is a promotional programme in place but also welcome people raising awareness through their own networks.
AC added that if Forum members hear of organisations that do need help, please do refer them.
David Mears (DM) said he would promote SCF on via Bridgwater Town Council website and social media channels.

5.4 EP asked if SCF supported the Food Banks?
Immy Silby (IS) said that the HPC Community Fund has supported both the Bridgwater Food Bank

and the Quantock Food Bank and the workers themselves at Christmas donated to food banks also.

5.5 JS highlighted that if a project does not meet the criteria of the Hinkley Point C Community Fund that SCF do administer other funds which may be appropriate. So do get in touch.

5.6 Malcolm Reid (MR) wanted to know if assistance was available for crafting applications. JS said that what they look for most is the 'heart and soul' of an application and whether an application has been beautifully crafted and urged people to get in touch.

6 Main Site Forum

6.1 The Chair gave a summary of the key points from the Main Site Forum (MSF) held on 22nd October 2020 on Zoom. The main item was a presentation regarding the Southern Area and the landscaping.

6.2 To view the MSF meeting note and presentations go to: www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity - scroll down to Forums and select Main Site Forum.

6.3 The next MSF will be 6pm on Thursday 4th March 2021 on Zoom.

7 Transport Forum

7.1 The Chair gave a summary of the key points from the Transport Forum (TF) held on 26 November 2020 on Zoom. The main items were a presentation by Somerset County Council on the Bridleway Creation Order – Coastal Path and Steart Marshes to Hinkley Point: Opportunity to create a surfaced route for non-motorised users by EDF.

7.2 To view the TF meeting note and presentations go to: www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity - scroll down to Forums and select Transport Forum.

7.3 The next TF will be at 6pm Thursday 18th March 2021 on Zoom.

8 Any Other Business

(Including items posted using Q&A Zoom feature):

8.1 Bruce Eyley (BE) asked: Are there any Forums where Rob Jordan or Nigel Cann will be in attendance?

AC said the answer is no. We have the representation we need, and Anne Lawrence in particular is representing Rob Jordan. There are no plans for them to attend the fora on any regular basis.

8.2 BE then later posted:

Interesting that all nuclear sites in the UK have SSG equivalents and these are chaired by the site director. HPA and HPB are good examples. I find it sad that the Directors of HPC do not value the chance to address the Community Forum.

8.3 RP asked: What's happened to the Safe Days and Safe Months referred to in the September meeting? How many Days/Months have brought a donation to charity, please?

IS said that the project will be donating just over £13,000 to Arc (<https://www.arcinspire.co.uk/>) which is a charity working in Bridgwater and Taunton to help the homeless – more information will be available in the next edition of Plugged in.

8.4 Sue Goss (SG) requested on behalf of the residents of Shurton and Stogursey Parish Council that both Somerset County Council and EDF have a rethink, between now and the time of the Main Site Forum on the size and scale of signage and use of double yellow lines at the location of the

access road.

Joanne Whitehead (JW) said she will talk to colleagues at the council and look into this.

- 8.5** RP asked about current occupancy rate at the campuses.
AC said that said that the campuses are at 90% across both sites.
The higher rate is a result of effective promotion and that it is seen as a good option for people new on the project.
- 8.6** LR added the 90% was good but said there is still limited rooms to rent but will have that conversation as part of the Workforce Uplift Update Briefing.
- 8.7** RP posted:
It was good to see the Bridgwater to / fro Minehead Community Bus reinstated, if only briefly. It will be a benefit to people west of Cannington and east of Watchet when the service can be restored.
- 8.8** Peter Payne posted:
Immy as a Trustee of Quantock Foodbank your help is greatly appreciated.
- 8.9** RP posted:
On the '20 in 20' slide and elsewhere, what do the initials HM and HR stand for, please?
AG answered that HM is the project shorthand for Turbine Hall and HR is for Reactor Building.

9 Date of next meeting

- 9.1** Next Community Forum will be at 6pm on Thursday 20th May 2021.

The meeting closed.