

Meeting Report

Regarding:

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

Participating:

Jim Claydon, *Chair*

Alun Griffith, *ONR*

Allan Jeffery, *Green Party*

Ann Bown, *Somerset County Council*

Anne Reed, *Wembdon Parish Council*

Bruce Eyley, *Kilve Parish Council*

Charlie Humphries, *Civil Nuclear Constabulary*

Erland Plomgren, *Holford Parish Council*

Esther Lawson, *Hinkley Point Neighbourhood Policing
Team, Avon & Somerset Police*

Freya Lee, *EDF*

Geoff Richardson, *North Somerset Council*

Jake Dade, *Avon & Somerset Police*

Jane Tomaney, *EDF*

Jason Crook, *ONR*

Joanna Manley, *Sedgemoor District Council*

Joanna Whitehead, *Somerset County Council*

John Burton, *Somerset West & Taunton Council*

Justin Sargent, *Somerset Community Foundation*

Date & Venue:

Thursday 20th January 2022 18:00

Venue: Virtual on Zoom

Malcom Reid, *Nether Stowey Parish Council*

Marie Beckley, *Otterhampton Parish Council*

Richard Cuttall, *W.H.A.G*

Robin Kinahan, *Fiddington Parish Council*

Roy Pumfrey, *Stop Hinkley*

Sue Spicer, *Burton Resident*

Sue Goss, *Stogursey Parish Council*

EDF Team:

Andrew Cockcroft, *EDF*

Anne Lawrence, *EDF*

Andrew Goodchild, *EDF*

Victoria Dingwall, *EDF*

Chris Young, *EDF*

Robyn Evans, *SEC Newgate UK*

Drew Aspinwall, *SEC Newgate UK*

Apologies received:

Ian Liddell-Grainger, *MP*

Jon Ayers, *Environment Agency*

**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.
2	Meeting Note and Matters Arising
2.1	The Chair reviewed the previous Community Forum meeting note from 23 rd September 2021 including the actions and after-notes inviting any further comment.
2.2	Item 3.20 – On spending in the South West, there was a request from Roy Pumfrey (RP) for a detailed breakdown detailing spend and locations of companies. RP confirmed that the afternote provided by Andrew Cockcroft was helpful.
2.3	Item 3.21 – In response to Stuart Hill's (SH) question on the re-instatement of the moorings, which were taken up 5 years ago. An afternote was provided and Vicki Dingwall (VD) stated that she has been in discussions with SH and others in Combswich since the meeting regarding this issue. She said the three boats will be re-launched back into their mooring points in the first week of February. EDF have been advised that it is being managed by the boat club who have engaged with the owners, including SH, and that this is all sorted in terms of manpower support to place back into the mooring. VD added that EDF also had received a request to move a new mooring station into the river but advised that this cannot be supported as EDF not have a permit for such activity in the Pill area.
2.4	Item 4.8 – Allan Jeffery (AJ) had asked what the timetable for the cold functional testing will be. An afternote was provided by AC which stated that cold functional tests are currently planned to commence around 18 months before the start of commercial operations. AJ said it is still a long way into the future with an exact date to be confirmed further into the programme. AC confirmed that there was nothing to add to the afternote.
2.5	Item 9.1 – A.O.B Richard Cuttall (RC) asked whether the flyparking team are working seven days a week. An afternote was provided confirming that the team do work 7 days a week but were not yet fully staffed and so there were gaps at less busy times during the week. RC responded that this ongoing and commented that maybe EDF will get there in the future.
2.6	Item 9.4 – SH highlighted that the Wild Fowl Season has started as well as requesting a link to be included in the meeting note on a charity rowing event, which raised £10,408.27. SH was not in attendance to comment.
2.7	Item 5.5 – Geoff Richardson (GR) asked for an amendment to Item 5.5 regarding the Independent Member of the Grant Panel to cover the West Somerset Area. He sought clarification to confirm that North Somerset was 'excluded'. The meeting note was amended to reflect this. There were no further comments and Members then agreed the meeting note, which can be found at www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity
3	Project Progress – (Andrew Cockcroft and Anne Lawrence, EDF)

- 3.1** Andrew Cockcroft (AC) thanked attendees for persevering with the digital forum and confirmed that there will be a return to face-to-face meetings when it was safe and appropriate to do so.

3.2 Covid-19 – Developing Our Response

Anne Lawrence (AL) gave an update on the ongoing response to Covid-19:

- Before returning from the Christmas holidays all members of the project were requested to take Covid-19 tests before they came to work.
- Vaccination uptake as whole is high and HPC continue to encourage everyone to get their booster vaccinations.
- HPC is now the first construction site in the UK to be able to deliver its own vaccination clinics. HPC nurses have undergone specific training to prepare them.
- HPC continues to operate as a Covid Managed Project – accessing site by providing vaccination status or a negative test result.
- Working from home where possible had been reintroduced.

Face coverings remain mandatory at the project's locations:

- When moving around inside offices and welfare buildings
- In HPC Site shops
- On HPC buses (internal and external) and when sharing site vehicles
- When visiting Hinkley Health.

Progress Update

3.3 Andrew Cockcroft (AC) provided an update on progress since the last Community Forum.

- Big Carl placed the first huge steel ring section into unit 2 before Christmas. It occurred 11 months after the same operation on the first reactor.
- The ring was built 25% more quickly than the same part on unit one, requiring thousands of hours less labour to manufacture.
- Acceleration into MEH Phase – 2022 will see work begin on 500+ rooms.
- Further progress is taking place off site with suppliers across the UK and abroad. For example – the manufacture of the polar crane in Spain and the frames to support the intake heads in Scotland. Closer to home, elements of the electrical systems are being manufactured in Bridgwater.

Radial walls installed

- The first of six heavy radial walls have been installed into Unit 1. The 207 tonne structure was manufactured in HPC's pre-cast yard before being lifted into position.
- The walls will segregate the steam generators and reactor coolant pumps within the Reactor Building.

Turbine rotor delivered

- The first low pressure rotor, which will form part of the World's largest turbine, has been safely delivered to Avonmouth.
- The 13m x 5m rotor arrived from GE's Belfort facility in France, via Rotterdam.
- There are three LP rotors per turbine which are key components of the power production equipment in the Turbine Hall (HM). The delivery was 12 months in the planning by a core project team of Osprey, EDF and GE.
- Completion of turbine table concrete pour took place on 14 December, 20m above the raft level.

AC said he will continue to show the progress of MEH as it accelerates in 2022. He highlighted the handover of the electrical building from the main civils contractor to the MEH Alliance.

The Year Ahead

- 3.4**
- Around 217,000m³ of structural concrete will be poured – averaging 80 pours per week. That is over double the number poured each week in 2021.
 - The MEH alliance will begin work on c.500 rooms – ramping up their workforce in the process.
 - HPC will pass 50% of all its equipment deliveries to Site – more than 1,000 in 2022.
 - Key areas of activity:
 - Continued ramp up of civils and MEH
 - Work will begin on the main control room
 - The simulator building will be transferred to the pre-operations team
 - Progress on marine works, including installation of intake heads.

Delivering Socio-Economic Benefit

- 3.5**
- The project continues to meet and exceed its targets for social and economic benefit for the local area.
 - New jobs available and new training facilities will mean that local people can benefit, no matter their skill level or current position.

AC highlighted that:

- Spend in the South West is now up to £4.1billion
- Close to the target of 1,000 apprentices, with 874 apprentices trained to date
- 13,529 new jobs have been created
- Current UK value is at 61.3%.

Associated Developments – Combrich Wharf

- 3.6**
- Major construction works are complete with most recent work including:
 - Removal of the Trellex fenders
 - Replacement of 9 of the 11 Emergency Access Ladders
 - As the project moves towards operations in the Spring, final elements of construction will include:
 - Install finished wearing course at the Wharf entrance
 - Erect permanent timber acoustic fencing by the Wharf entrance
 - Complete new fender installations
 - Complete the AIL bypass track Q2 22.
 - Dredging will be a regular ongoing activity once marine operations commence and will run approximately every 6 weeks.
 - A notification system has been developed to provide advanced warning of AIL movements. AC encouraged members of the Forum to let VD know if they are not already signed up to these notifications and would like to be.

VD shared the link to sign up to notifications for AIL movements along the C182. You can choose to receive text messages, emails or both: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XQY9VDP>

Carbon Emissions

- 3.7**
- AC gave an update on the independent study undertaken by Ricardo on the total life cycle carbon emissions from HPC. The study found that the total lifetime carbon emissions of HPC are projected to be 5.5g of CO₂ per kilowatt hour. Assessed against wider research conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), AC said it shows that nuclear's carbon footprint is even lower than offshore wind and solar and a huge amount lower than gas, saying the study is validation of HPC's low carbon credentials.

Application for DCO Material Change

- 3.8**
- Hinkley Point C's initial Development Consent Order was granted by the UK Government in March 2013. Since that time, there have been a number of non-material changes to the plans for the new power station including the recently approved one in December 2021, but no-changes

that have constituted a full material change to the original DCO have occurred.

Later this year HPC will be submitting a material change application that will include:

- Permission to remove the requirement to install an acoustic fish deterrent system.
- A change in the method of spent fuel storage from “wet” to “dry”.
- Changes to the plot plan to accommodate a relocated and re-designed Meteorological Mast.
- Permission to retain the existing Temporary Substation as a permanent feature to supply electricity to HPA and HPB.
- The addition of four new structures to house sluice gates and lifting beams which would be used during outages.

As a material change, AC gave assurance that a full public consultation will take place with the public and all statutory consultees in advance of the application submission. The consultation is currently expected to begin in May 2022.

3.9 **Dredging and Disposal Activities**

- Hinkley Point C resumed mud dredging as part of works to install cooling water intakes in the Bristol Channel.
- The mud was found to be no different from mud elsewhere in the channel and comprehensive testing has shown that it poses no harm to people or the environment.
- HPC’s contractors have now completed the main dredging and disposal of mud at the licensed disposal site at Portishead.
- Some further maintenance dredging will be required in Spring of next year ahead of the placement of the heads for the cooling water system.
- A legal challenge has been lodged against the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to challenge their decision. A hearing is currently expected to take place in the months ahead.

3.10 AC recognised the implications for constituents in North Somerset and offered assurance to Geoff Richardson that he will be kept fully updated. He added that HPC may want to run sessions as it did last year to provide people with a more in-depth update.

Workforce Uplift

3.11 AC said the current workforce is around 6,800. He explained that it is stable due to a less busy December period but that it will continue to rise. He went on to outline progress on workforce uplift:

- HPC believe they are close to an agreement on both the Topic Papers and the associated legal agreements.
- Currently going through phase 4: The Joint Councils are preparing decision making reports to support the final legal process.
- HPC and the Joint Councils are collectively hoping all documents will be finished by the end of March, with decisions and approvals completed in April.

Pre-submitted Questions - Project Progress Update

Mud Dredging

3.12 Geoff Richardson, North Somerset Councillor for Clevedon West
“Is further dredging expected, what volume, and when?”

Alan Jeffery, Green Party Representative

“Mud dredging - Please could we have an update on the developments on the dredging and dumping of the mud at Portishead and the construction of cooling water tunnels? “

Answers: On dredging volume, AC said they will not know the exact amount until closer to the spring due to natural sediment movements. He noted that HPC only has limited amount of material remaining on its licence approval, On tunnels, AC said intake for unit 1 is complete, the outfall tunnel is complete and there is good progress on the intake for unit 2 expected to be completed in 2022.

GR asked for an update on when the movements will take place.

3.13 AC agreed to this when available.

AFTERNOTE: This was subsequently covered in the presentation on project progress delivered at the Community Forum on 19th May 2022.

AFTERNOTE

AFD

3.14 Alan Jeffery – Green Party Representative

“When do you think we will get a result on the Public Inquiry from the minister about EDF’s change in fitting the Acoustic Fish Deterrent as was required by the Environment Agency?”

Answer: AC said it is out of HPC’s hands, explaining that it is with the Secretary of State for decision but there is no timeline at present.

3.15 AJ asked what EDF will do to continue with the AFD if the Minister goes against the change. AC said EDF will have a number of options on the table but would not pre-judge the decision.

3.16 On the validity of the lifecycle carbon data, AJ said the figures in the Ricardo report are based on assumptions. He noted that no reactor in the world has lasted 60 years so it is an assumption that HPC will last 60 years.

AC recognised that assumptions need to be made when it comes to operation. With regard to load factor, he said that they are seeing very high load factors when it comes to existing pressurised water reactors in the UK such as Sizewell B. He said that there are assumptions within the calculations but these are balanced by a large amount of accurate real-world data taken directly from the construction site.

3.17 AJ said that this is if the plant starts working and lasts for 60 years. AC said he has every confidence that it will.

3.18 Ann Bown (AB) asked whether EDF has faced problems with deliveries being held up or not arriving. AC said that whilst there has not been a major problem of mass shortages, the twin issues of Covid and Brexit have caused some issues. He said the project is not immune from global market shocks and there are some continuing frustrations.

3.19 John Burton (JB) asked for more detail on the figure in the presentation which showed that HPC’s % value to the UK is 61.3%. AC said this is a good point to clarify, stating that the 61.3% refers to the value of the project, not the total number of suppliers. He said the value of the spend is with UK-based businesses.

3.20 JB said he assumes the 5.5g per kilowatt hour of energy that HPC will produce is just when the plant is operational and therefore, it is not so favourable considering the build of the project. AC clarified that the 5.5g figure is the value over the entire life cycle of the project, including all phases of the project from fuel mining and fabrication to construction, operations and decommissioning.

3.21 Erland Plomgren (EP) asked about monetary problems EDF have in France and whether the capital expenditure needed for HPC has been ring-fenced. AC said the situation is worrisome, but EDF have been reassured that it will not affect capital

expenditure at HPC.

Taishan

3.22 Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

“What concerns do EDF and ONR have about the damaged fuel rods which have shut down the only working EPR at Taishan necessitating redesign of HPC with additional cost and delay?”

3.23 Answer: AC said Taishan is not the only working EPR now as Olkiluoto started up as a working EPR just before Christmas. He said the investigation that took place at Taishan showed a mechanical wear of components in the fuel assembly. He said these kind of fuel performance issues are not uncommon but they do need investigation. AC added that it does not question the design integrity of the EPR reactor.

3.24 RP argued that it does. He said ASN are investigating this, and they say it may have a fundamental design flaw.

AC said the overall design of the EPR is not in question.

3.25 RP responded back that it is in question.

AC said any learning will be passed down to HPC and there will be adequate time and ability to make changes if required. He gave assurance that any learning will be transferred to HPC and the global EPR family.

RP said he has to refute all the ‘bland reassurances’ that AC issued. He said the French regulator is very concerned about what has happened in Taishan, not least the fact that they are getting minimal feedback from China on what is going on there. He said they are also holding fire on giving approval for Flamanville and that it remains to be seen what the Finnish regulator will do. He stated that the French regulator thinks it may be a fundamental design flaw and that if this is the case, the implication for HPC is very serious.

RP said that if EDF is forced to do re-design, then there will be additional cost and delay and there are questions over who takes the hit from this. RP said the HPC contract with the government shows that if EDF is forced by ONR to make design changes by the regulator, it can be entitled to compensation from the UK for doing so. He said this could lead to a protracted legal argument and it could cause considerable cost and delay.

AFTERNOTE provided by RP:

3.26 “Whilst the HPC sister EPR at Olkiluoto in Finland has reached criticality just twelve years late and is operating at 30% capacity, it will not be fully ‘on grid’ until a predicted date, which could be delayed due to concerns about Taishan, of end January 2022, as the link below makes clear.”
<https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/finlands-olkiluoto-3-nuclear-reactor-gets-start-up-approval-2021-12-16/>

AFTERNOTE

3.27 RP also asked how many workers are currently on site.
AC confirmed that this is just over 6,800.

3.28 Jim Claydon asked whether Jason Crook (JC) has a view on the Taishan question.
Jason Crook said the ONR are engaging with the French and Chinese regulators to further understand the event. The ONR will use any knowledge gained from this to regulate the HPC design. He said cost and delay is not something for the regulator, noting that it is solely focused on safety.

3.29 Workforce

Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

“How many workers are currently on site, what proportion are ‘local’ and how close are you to an agreement with Councils on proposed Workforce Uplift?”

Answer: AC said currently the local workforce is at 36%. He said it has increased over the past quarter and is on target for where it is expected to be.

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

4 Item 4: Update - Office of Nuclear Regulation Report – (Jason Crook, ONR)

4.1 ONR Report - Q1 2021

Jason Crook gave an update on the Quarter 3 2021 report.

Quarter 3 2021 Report

- LC28 – Examination looked at inspection, maintenance and testing – ONR found that NNB GenCo and its contractors have made and implemented appropriate arrangements to ensure that safety significant items are preserved/maintained appropriately
- Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017 (IRR17) – ONR found that NNB and its contractors were appropriately managing the risks from radiography
- Fire safety and Conventional Health and Safety (FRO 2005/HSWA 1974) – ONR found that improvements were required to NNB's and its main civils contractor's hot work permit process and fire risk assessments, and issued associated enforcement letters
- LC19 - Construction or Installation of New Plant – ONR examined the welding and non-destructive testing associated with a safety significant tank and found that it was being appropriately managed
- LC19 - Construction or Installation of New Plant – ONR were satisfied with the adequacy of NNB GenCo's construction management arrangements, together with its application of relevant good engineering practice, in the area of area of safety-related equipment integration into the civil engineering works.
- LC09 – Instructions to persons on site – ONR found that NNB has appropriately matured its instructions to persons on site to ensure that they remain effective for the current stage of the project.
- ONR issued three enforcement letters during the period requiring improvements in the following areas:
 - NNB GenCo (HPC)'s fire safety and hot work permit to work arrangements.
 - Bylor's (NNB GenCo (HPC)'s main civil works contractor) fire safety and hot work permit to work arrangements.
 - TISSOT's (the tier 2 company manufacturing the containment liner) control of welding fume.

4.2 Non-routine Matters

NNB GenCo (HPC) identified some anomalies with a small number of radiographs associated with an emergency feedwater tank prior to its installation at the HPC site. In accordance with its arrangements, NNB GenCo (HPC) reported this event to ONR and has completed its own investigation into the matter. In addition, ONR has commenced an investigation to establish the facts surrounding these anomalies.

4.3 Bulk Mechanical, Electrical and Heating & Ventilation and Air Condition (MEH) Permissioning

- ONR carried out a comprehensive programme of interventions and assessment to inform its permissioning decision related to the commencement of bulk MEH activities.
- Following the conclusion of this assessment on the 25th November 2021, ONR issued its agreement for NNB GenCo (HPC) Ltd to commence the start of bulk Mechanical, Electrical and HVAC installation in Unit 1 nuclear island at Hinkley Point C.

4.4 Change of Site Inspector

On 1 April 2022 Alun Griffiths will take over as the HPC nominated site inspector. Alun Griffiths introduced himself to the Forum. He highlighted his role as the Principal inspector of Nuclear Safety and noted that he been in ONR for about 10 years, with significant experience across

industry before this.

- 4.5** Sue Goss (SG) asked whether there has been any news on the proposed initiative for car parking in the affected communities close to Hinkley.
Andrew Goodchild (AG) said EDF are waiting for the Councils to confirm they are happy with the proposals on workforce uplift and to complete the legal agreement and then they should be in a position where they can quickly make decisions at TRG and allocate the funding being discussed. AG said HPC are hopeful can move this on quite quickly, just not yet.
SG said this is good news and hopefully if any of Council officers are listening then they might speed things up.

- 4.6** RP thanked Jason Crook for his contributions during his time on the forum, asking which site he is going to next.
JC said this has not yet been finalised.

- 4.7** The Chair wished Jason Crook good luck on behalf of the Forum.

5 Item 5: Update: Community Fund - (Justin Sargent, Somerset Community Foundation)

- 5.1** Justin Sargent (JS) gave an update on the Community Fund

- 5.2** JS began with an update on the figures, noting that there has not been a great deal spent since the last meeting in September. He said there was one full panel meeting which did not have any applications to make decisions on. However, he said that there is another panel coming up in February where a number of applications are coming through, so the £5,197,596 184 will undoubtedly go up.

- 5.3** JS said there were a couple of good rounds for the small grants which are handled separately through a more streamlined process, with 17 awarded in the past quarter or so. He said this is good news as the small local charities and community groups and social enterprises are incredibly important to the outcomes of the fund.

5.4 Recent Examples

- JS said the fund recognised the importance of small organisations to communities and efforts to ensure they are not terminally affected by loss of income. He said there was a round that offered grants to help keep such organisations running, noting that the Burnham and Highbridge Sea Cadet benefited from £2500.
- One of the more regular grants was given to the Sedgemoor Dementia Action Alliance, which was awarded £5000 to support a weekly memory café.
- Home-Start West Somerset was one of the first grants awarded and has received £142,000 over three years. JS explained that it provides important services to families across the district and the grant has enabled them to extend eastwards. He said they are now extending into Sedgemoor and the funding has enabled them to become a more sustainable organisation.

5.5 Contacts

Val Bishop, Programmes Director / val.bishop@somersetcf.org.uk / 01749 344949
Peter Stolze, Programme Manager / peter.stolze@somersetcf.org.uk
www.hpcfunds.co.uk / www.somersetcf.org.uk

- 5.6** JS said that Peter Stolze looks after the small grants. They try to spend £150,000 on small grants each year and there is another £55,000 to spend, which will equate to about 13 grants. JS encouraged Forum members to get in touch if they know local grassroots groups in the areas affected by Hinkley. He said it is a simple process and there is assistance to help support people through the application process.

6 Item 6: Update on HPC Education and Skills – Supporting the local area in 2022

6.1 Chris Young (CY), HPC Education & Skills Delivery Manager, introduced himself to the Forum.

6.2 Bootcamps & Hinkley Support Operative (HSO)

The Hinkley Support Operative programme has been designed to provide a bespoke skills pathway to working at HPC focussing on recruiting people from the local area:

- It will provide an intro to engineering construction along with specialist development pathways including Electrical, Mechanical and Welding including a route to apprenticeships.
- Participants are offered a guaranteed interviews with the MEH Alliance on successful completion of the 3-week programme.
- The programme includes a module on working in the Engineering Construction Industry (including HPC) and showcases our Project Values, Zero Harm culture and the 10 Lifesaving Rules.
- The first HSO Bronze Bootcamp (funded via Somerset County Council) started on the 10th of January in Bridgwater at the state of the art Electrical Centre of Excellence.
- 72 places available across 6 courses between Jan-Mar 22 at locations in Somerset.
- Around 1,000 opportunities during the Mechanical and Electrical phase of the HPC project

6.3 CY said there was a formal recruitment campaign over Christmas and there were 61 total applicants across the first two courses, adding that the majority of applicants were from Somerset.

6.4 First Participants

The 2 programmes started have seen 21 people begin. 19 of those 21 are from Somerset. CY said there has been a good start but there is more work to do over the coming years to make the opportunity as accessible as possible. CY said that the bootcamps and HSO are open to anybody.

6.5 T-Levels

To support the introduction of the new T-Level curriculum, the HPC project is set to facilitate up to 10 placements for local students in 2022 across Construction and Digital pathways:

- HPC's first ever T-Level student Industry Placements are due to start with the project in Feb/March 22.
- 3 students have already been recruited (EAU, MEHA & Bylor), with another 2 to be recruited for roles in the Digital Team.
- Guides are being developed for the students and employers and HPC are working with Bridgwater & Taunton College and the Onboarding team to plan a great Project Introduction.
- The project will maintain oversight and mentorship of these learners to ensure there is a consistent project approach to the placements, and that the learners are both before and during their placement.
- Once piloted in 2022, the expectation is that HPC can grow it over the coming years.

Traineeships

- 6.6**
- Recruitment has just concluded for an Occupational Traineeship in Steelfixing which will start on Monday 24th January.
 - Training will take place at the dedicated realistic working environment at the Bridgwater & Taunton College Construction Skills and Innovation Centre in Cannington.
 - The Trainees will have guaranteed interviews for Bylor's Steel fixing Apprenticeship on successful completion.
 - The apprenticeship will start in April 2022.

- The next Supported Traineeship is due to start at the end of March with 8 learners – there are currently 6 placements confirmed across the project.
- The programme will be supported by Discovery UK (who will be working with SCC to source suitable candidates and conduct job matching). HPC are also aiming to run another programme in September 2022.

6.7 HPC Apprenticeships

CY said there are 874 apprentices and good progress made by all partners across the project. He then broke down this figure:

- 379 at Level 2
- 308 at Level 3
- 33 at Level 4
- 27 at Level 5
- 127 at Level 6

6.8 CY highlighted close working with the HPC supply chain and local businesses to support apprenticeship creation outside of the HPC tier 1 contractors and their supply chains and efforts to engage with businesses where it is more difficult to create apprenticeships.

He explained that EDF can use its apprenticeship levy to pay for the training of apprenticeships in the local area. Up to now, EDF have supported 26 in local business, committed £1.1m in terms of levy funds to both its supply chain and local businesses as well. He said the EDF Apprenticeship Levy transfer has supported over 70 apprenticeship starts within the HPC Supply Chain, as well as the Somerset and South West economy.

6.9 Case Study

CY spoke about Daisy Gallagher, a young person who was engaged in programmes through the Young HPC programme, undertook an industrial placement on the project and now works as an Operations Technician at HPC. CY said it is a good example of how the HPC pipeline works and is an example of the resilience and passion shown by people in the area.

6.10 EP asked about age restrictions in applying for apprenticeships. CY said there is no age restriction in applying for an apprenticeship, saying the government has introduced new reforms to allow this.

6.11 EP welcomed hearing about Daisy's story.

7 Item 7: Main Site Forum, 21st October 2021 – (Jim Claydon, Chair)

7.1 There were no comments on the draft meeting note.

8 Item 8: Transport Forum, 25th November 2021 – (Jim Claydon, Chair)

8.1 There were no comments on the draft meeting note.

9 Item 9: Any Other Business

9.1 Ann Bown emailed following the meeting to say that she will be standing down as a Councillor after 36 years. She thanked EDF for always answering her questions in a polite way and said she will miss her involvement.

9.2 Q&A Questions

Anne Reed: Congratulations on the vaccination clinics on site. As a vaccinator myself I do know how much work has gone into this.

- 9.3** Richard Cuttall: How are negative test results verified and confirmed especially on non-vaccinated employees?
(AL): Workers are asked to record their test results on the government website, and share the notification of the result with the project. In addition, we undertake around 1000 tests a week on the project of workers. Anyone with symptoms or who tests positive as part of the on-site testing is asked to isolate in line with government guidance.
- 9.4** Anne Reed: Doubling the concrete pours will presumably equate to more Hanson Lorries passing through Bridgwater/Wembdon?
(AG): The majority of the materials which we use for concrete production are now delivered by sea and our jetty so you won't see a significant increase in Hanson lorries
- 9.5** Marie Beckley: Are you able to confirm the current occupancy of the campus sites and if this will increase in the coming year?
(AG): During the week both Campuses are virtually full with occupation rates at just under 1500. We have plans to increase the number of bed spaces and hope that additional workers will be able to stay in the campuses as a result. The maximum number of workers we envisage is 1915
- 9.6** Sue Goss: Should the material change for the change of storage from wet to dry be approved what will be the dimensions of the new building required to house this ?
(AG): the current approved dry store is 150m x 65m and the proposed wet store is 229m x 73m
- 9.7** Sue Goss: Thanks Andrew - could you clarify the height of this proposed building please?
(AG): The dry store is 5m taller although we don't need the 55m stack on the dry store.
- 9.8** Sue Goss: Hi Andrew -sorry but could you give me the exact height of the proposed new storage building please?
(AG): it would be 30m high. The reactor buildings are 65m to give you a comparison. The wet store has permission to be 25m high
- 9.9** Robin Kinahan: I have been asked by our Parish Clerk to ask if notes of meetings can be produced a bit quicker.
(AG): Due to some family issues our team has not been able to produce the notes as quickly as we would like, apologies for this. We hope to be back to the usual turnaround time from now on
- 9.10** Robin Kinahan: Ref the increase in workforce. The presentation stated that you plan decisions by April. Does this apply to any planning permission needed?
(AG): We are hoping to make applications for caravan park extensions and for car parking at Sedgemoor Campus over the next couple of months - those applications will be determined by Sedgemoor and Somerset West and Taunton thereafter.
- 9.11** Roy Pumfrey: Can Forum members have sight of the presentation produced for the Workforce Uplift session on 18 November 2021, please?
(VD): Yes, the presentation from the Workforce Uplift session can be shared, we can include this in the document centre.
AFTERNOTE: https://www.edfenergy.com/sites/default/files/workforce_uplift_-_joint_forum_meeting.18.11.21.pdf
- 9.12** Roy Pumfrey: I'd like to thank Jason for his contribution to the Forum and wish him all the best in his new role. Which site will he be going to?
EDF: Thank you Roy.

AFTERNOTE

10 Item 10: Date of next meeting

- 10.1** The next Community Forum will be held on Thursday 19th May 2022 at 6pm.



The meeting ended.