

# DRAFT Meeting Report

**Regarding:**

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

**Participating:**

Jim Claydon, *Chair*  
Alun Griffiths, *ONR*  
Allan Jeffery, *Green Party*  
Anne Reed, *Wembdon Parish Council*  
Bruce Eyley, *Kilve Parish Council*  
Jane Tomaney, *EDF*  
Joanna Manley, *Sedgemoor District Council*  
John Burton, *Somerset West & Taunton Council*  
Justin Sargent, *Somerset Community Foundation*  
Richard Cuttall, *W.H.A.G*  
Roy Pumfrey, *Stop Hinkley*  
Sue Spicer, *Burton Resident*  
Sue Goss, *Stogursey Parish Council*  
Shaun Ryall, *Cannington Parish Council*  
John Roberts, *Nether Stowey Parish Council*  
Stuart Hill, *C.H.A.I.R. & Wildfowlers*

**Date & Venue:**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 – 6pm**  
**Meeting held at: Bridgwater & Taunton College,  
Cannington**

Steve Pettitt, *Cannington Parish Council*  
Nicola Hale, *Community Safety Officer, Sedgemoor  
District Council & Somerset West & Taunton Council*  
Stuart Moffatt, *Holford Parish Council*  
Mike Haycraft, *Otterhampton Parish Council*  
Nicola Hale, *Sedgemoor District Council*  
Penny Everett, *Nether Stowey Parish Council*  
Mike Wilkinson, *CNC*

**EDF Team:**

Andrew Cockcroft, *EDF*  
Anne Lawrence, *EDF*  
Andrew Goodchild, *EDF*  
Drew Aspinwall, *SEC Newgate UK*  
Robyn Evans, *SEC Newgate UK*

**Apologies received:**

Victoria Dingwall, *EDF*  
Tina Gardener, *Fiddington Parish Council*

In addition to the forum meeting notes and agendas, all presentations and reports are  
available at [www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity](http://www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity)

Item	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Introductions</b>
1.1	Jim Claydon ('The Chair') welcomed everyone to the meeting and ran through the venue arrangements and forum protocols.
<b>2</b>	<b>Meeting Note and Matters Arising</b>
2.1	The Chair reviewed the previous Community Forum meeting note from 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 including the actions and after-notes and invited any further comment.
2.2	<b>3.12</b> – It was agreed that the afternote answered the question on the conclusion of workforce uplift.
2.3	<b>3.24</b> – The Chair said an afternote was provided on EDF's review of the cost and schedule of HPC, noting that this was officially released after the 19 <sup>th</sup> May Community Forum took place.
2.4	<b>3.26</b> – Anne Reed (AR) noted that the word 'asymptomatic' should read 'symptomatic'.
2.5	<b>3.27</b> – It was noted that Joanna Manley (JM) provided an afternote confirming that Sedgemoor District Council does not have its own specific plan on public health but would be guided by Somerset County Council.
2.6	<b>3.32</b> – Roy Pumfrey (RP) said he was satisfied with the details provided on apprenticeships.
	There were no further comments and Members then agreed the meeting note, which can be found at <a href="http://www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity">www.edfenergy.com/hpccommunity</a>
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Progress – (Andrew Cockcroft and Anne Lawrence, EDF)</b>
3.1	<b>Safety Performance –Learning from Events</b> Anne Lawrence (AL) spoke on safety performance and highlighted recent examples of experiences where HPC has been able to put its training into practice and learn from real events.
3.2	HPC undertook its annual demonstration exercise on 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 to demonstrate some of its capability to the regulators. On this occasion, a training crane was used at the south of the site to demonstrate how HPC would safely get protestors down from a crane if they were locked on to it. AL said this is as an example of the training and exercises that the teams at HPC undertake, along with the fire and rescue teams, Hinkley Health, and police colleagues, to demonstrate, refine, and learn how to deal with events. HPC undertook 815 exercises with contract partners on site in 2021, and this was whilst the project still had Covid controls in place.
3.3	AL informed the Forum that there was a fire in the Unit 1 nuclear island on the evening of 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2022. HPC put its training into practice, with the external fire brigade arriving on site and putting the fire out in a controlled way. An investigation was undertaken into this event which showed that the fire took place due to hot works welding splatter going through the scaffold board and into the platform underneath. This took place on the hottest day of this year, with temperatures that had not been seen before, and AL noted that HPC had put additional control measures in place to look out for the workforce. AL said this example shows the benefits of undertaking demonstration exercises and said HPC continues to learn from such events.
3.4	AL also spoke on an event on 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 in which steel caging fell onto an individual on site. She said the fire and rescue service rescued the individual and Hinkley Health did a sterling job ahead of external support arriving. The investigation into this is still concluding and the ONR are formally investigating this event. She reiterated the importance of ensuring the teams learn from

real events.

- 3.5** Stuart Hill (SH) asked about the welfare of the individual involved in the accident. AL said the individual is still having medical treatment but is on the mend.

Andrew Cockcroft (AC) then delivered a broader project progress update.

**3.6 Unit 1 - Internal Structures**

Over the rest of 2022 the internal structures will grow towards the +19.5m level with the completion of the ring wall.

- The radial walls, clearly visible in December last year are now almost invisible.
- Focus on many smaller pours forming the various rooms and walls within the reactor building.

**3.7 Unit 1– Liner Ring 3**

- Liner Ring 3 was lifted out of Bunker 6 on 12 August.
- This is the last Liner Ring before Dome Lift and has the Polar Crane Brackets fitted to it.
- 45 Polar Crane Brackets have been welded onto the Liner.

**3.8 ALL Deliveries**

- Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs) have been moving along the C182 from Combwich.
- HPC plan to pause deliveries and movements until the end of the year whilst final improvement work is carried out at Combwich Wharf.
- AC said the notification system seems to be working well, but encouraged people to let HPC know if they feel they are not being informed.

**3.9 Unit 1 Turbine Hall**

- 800 tonnes of Falsework supported the 2,500m<sup>3</sup> concrete Turbine Table during its construction.
- The Falsework is now being removed in stages and moved to Unit 2.

**3.10 Unit 1-Reactor Cavity Panels**

- Another huge reactor cavity panel has been lifted into the East Pool Bunker and installed onto the cavity base.
- More panels will be lifted, stitched together and welded to form the final pool.
- The complete pool will then be lifted into the reactor building later this year.

**3.11 Other Progress**

- Unit 1 Volutes completed. They are essential to the operation of the pumps that feed water to the condensers and are the most complex concrete structures on site.
- Successful completion of hydrotests for the first 'Cold Leg' of Unit 2, two months ahead of plan.
- The final Containment Heat Removal pipe spool has now been welded into position on the underside of Unit 1's Dome.

- 3.12** A film was played showing the floating cranes lower the 5,000 tonne intake heads down to seabed at HPC.

The film is available to view here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQR3Rjo51WU>

**3.13 Pre-submitted Questions – Project Progress Update**

Submitted by Geoff Richardson, North Somerset Councillor for Clevedon West  
'What is the progress against plan? Are you on schedule?'

AC said the project is on schedule to bring Unit 1 online in 2027, followed by Unit 2 12 months

later. The project is now over 50% of the way through its build.

Submitted by Geoff Richardson

**3.14** 'What difference will the building of another station at Sizewell make?'

Whilst there is ongoing development work at Sizewell C, AC offered assurances that this is not taking the focus away from HPC. AC said HPC expects to see a substantial benefit of learning and transferring this knowledge to Sizewell C. He used the analogy that HPC represents UK EPR have Units 1 and 2 and Sizewell C will have Units 3 and 4.

**Community Safety**

**3.15** AC said HPC focused on 'respect for everyone' as part of its latest community safety campaign which took place in the summer. He highlighted work with the police team and Nicola Hale as part of the project's wider efforts on community safety and that campaigns such as wider Respect campaigns also take place regularly.

The campaign in the summer focused on the workforce, with a week of safety-focused messages on the importance of working hand-in-hand with local communities. There was a complete takeover of all on-site screens with this message and signposting for all staff on the support available. AC said pin badges are also a big part of the HPC project, and a new pin badge on respect was developed for members of the team who have shown particular courage and strength of character in this area.

**Pre-submitted Question**

**3.16** Submitted by Roy Pumfrey, Stop Hinkley

'Why has it taken until September 2022 – seven years into HPC – to see a slide about RESPECT for the workforce?'

AC said these campaigns have been running for many years and said it is not the first time that the Forum has been updated on HPC's work with the police, Nicola Hale, and local authorities, on community safety. AC welcomed providing the Forum with more updates on this if it is an item of interest.

RP said he is pleased this work is taking place but that he is surprised it has taken until now for a Forum to hear about it.

AC reiterated that HPC can keep the Forum updated as it continues to run these campaigns. He said it is good to get feedback if there are particular areas of concern and that HPC are here to listen. The community safety group meets every month to discuss these issues and HPC develops initiatives based on these concerns.

**3.17** Sue Goss (SG) asked whether HPC have recruited a new escort team to replace the police teams and go back to weekend transportation.

AC said the training of a new internal escort team had started but pointed out that the training and accreditation takes some time. He said the new escort team should be ready by the time the marine AIL deliveries start again in January 2023.

SG asked how many deliveries there will be in the meantime.

AC reiterated that HPC should be able to get the new team in place for the beginning of next year, clarifying that the previous delivery (12<sup>th</sup> September 2022) was the last Combwich delivery until the final pieces of wharf refurbishment have taken place, meaning deliveries will not resume until next January.

**3.18** Allan Jeffery (AJ) asked how long it will take to connect the intake heads sitting on the surface to the cooling water tunnels 30 metres below, questioning whether a cofferdam will be needed. AJ spoke about some minor variations to the DCO and said that at the last Transport Forum it was suggested that it would be helpful to have some animations to demonstrate how these would be connected.

AC said this can be an agenda item at the next Community Forum and HPC can show the animations. He also suggested bringing in a subject matter expert to present on this matter as it is highly complex.

- 3.19** AJ asked what sort of time it would take to connect the tunnels to the intake heads.  
AC said he would provide an afternote on this setting out rough timelines. **AFTERNOTE** **AFTERNOTE**
- 3.20** Sue Spicer (SS) asked whether there will be permanent or temporary positioning of anything to show where the exit tunnels are in the estuary.  
AL said there are already Aids to Navigation positioned prior to the lowering of the intake heads, and these will remain in place.
- 3.21** Referring to the incidents that AL spoke about earlier in the Forum, RC asked how many other incidents involving external emergency services have taken place since the last Community Forum meeting.  
AL did not have the details to hand and agreed to provide an afternote. She explained that HPC often have pre-determined responses in instances where they might be needed.  
**AFTERNOTE:** Over the 6 month period Jan-June 2022 inclusive, HPC had 2 occasions where Devon Fire and Rescue Services attended site and 9 occasions when an external ambulance attended site to respond to an incident. **AFTERNOTE**
- 3.22** SH said the fly-parking situation in Combswich needs some attention.
- 3.23** SH asked whether there is a date for the restoration of the coastal path.  
Andrew Goodchild (AG) explained that the inside of the seawall, where the coastal path would eventually go in, is an active part of site and that it is not currently safe for members of the public to be allowed in. He said it will be a number of years before HPC will be in a position to welcome the public due to the complexity of this work and lack of space on this part of the site.  
SH asked for a projected date.  
AG said it is likely to be years not months until this part of the site will be capable of allowing people in safely.
- 3.24** SG asked for drone footage to be shown at the next Main Site Forum to show how HPC is protecting the integrity of Green Lane and also for drone footage of the seawall area, as neither are accessible at site.  
AC suggested that given the timelines for the Main Site Forum, it would be tricky to do a bespoke drone flight. He said HPC can look at existing drone footage and pick out some elements of this.  
SG agreed that some photography would be helpful. **ACTION** **ACTION**
- 4** **Item 4a: Current and Ongoing Consultations and Item 4b: Future Proposals (Andrew Cockcroft and Andrew Goodchild, EDF)**
- 4.1** **Item 4a: Current and Ongoing Consultations**  
Andrew Cockcroft (AC) and Andrew Goodchild (AG) gave an update on current and ongoing consultations.
- 4.2** **Acoustic Fish Deterrent**
- Following an appeal, the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs ruled against Hinkley Point C's application not to install one of three fish protection measures originally proposed for the power station.
  - The acoustic fish deterrent is meant to deter fish that can detect sound from entering the cooling water intakes.
  - The project will now look at the decision in detail and will consider its response.
  - Many power stations have taken cooling water from the Bristol Channel and Hinkley Point C will be the first to include any fish protection measures at all.
  - The two protection measures include a fish recovery and return system and special water intakes. These are designed to slow down the water entering the cooling system so that

fish can swim away. They are also placed in a way that means the tide carries fish over and around the intake heads themselves. It's a big improvement from older power stations that we have seen around our coastlines.

4.3

#### **Planning and Permits - Update**

- The Environment Agency has conducted its consultation on variations to HPC's RSR permit. A decision is expected soon.
- As a result of the decision on the acoustic fish deterrent, HPC delayed its planned consultation for a material change of the Development Consent Order. HPC will continue to keep all forum members and the public informed on this.
- HPC have submitted an application to the MMO for minor variations to the permit for the next phase of marine works –the drilling of the vertical shafts down to the tunnels. It includes:
  - Minor variation to programme end dates to allow for unexpected delays (\*start dates remain the same);
  - Increased volume of grout used within the six vertical shafts;
  - Removal of the use of a de-airing pump and facility;
  - Small increase in volume of arisings expected from drilling; and,
  - Increased range of the size of backfill used to protect the heads from scouring (now including 500mm material).

4.4

AG told Forum members that HPC will return to the material change programme when it has a firm position on its approach to the AFD.

4.5

#### **Pre-submitted Question**

Submitted by Roy Pumfrey – Stop Hinkley

'Regarding the Acoustic Fish Deterrent and the lack of fish protection measures at HPA, HPB and the other Bristol Channel power stations, isn't that more an indictment of previous practice? Surely several wrongs don't justify not getting it right with the HPC AFD?'

AG said that environmental protection measures, environmental statement work, and impact assessments have moved on a great deal in the last 60 years. AFD was one of the three elements, HPC will install the other two, and they will explain what they intend to do in relation to AFD in the future.

RP said he would be happier if EDF were going to install the AFD.

4.6

SH said he does not think HPC are accurate in their statements, highlighting AFDs were fitted and trialled at Berkely nuclear power station, and he believes they were also fitted at Oldbury nuclear power station.

AG said there were other power stations with different systems in place. He said there was due to be a three-pronged approach at HPC and in simple terms there is little point installing an AFD if it does not work.

4.7

AJ asked whether there is a possibility that EDF may challenge the Secretary of State and Planning Inspectorate about the results of the public inquiry, saying Boris Johnson has already ignored the Planning Inspectorate and its reports with regard to Sizewell.

AG said this could be a possible response. He made clear that all available options are being considered and HPC will return to explain how it intends to take this forward.

4.8

RC asked about the fish return system and what percentage of fish will return alive.

AG agreed to provide an afternote on this. **AFTERNOTE**

**AFTERNOTE**

4.9

#### **Item 4b: Future Proposals**

AC and AG gave an updated on future proposals and consultations.

#### **4.10 Cycle Path Consultation**

- A developing proposal for a shared use cycle path running from Combwich to Hinkley Point.
- It would provide a sustainable commuting route to Hinkley Point A, B and C power stations whilst also providing wider local value – offering an enjoyable route for leisure purposes.
- The new route would be entirely funded by the Hinkley Point C project and, for the majority of the route, would look to resurface existing paths.
- Builds on existing cycle infrastructure in the area and also connects to an existing path.

#### **Consultation Events**

#### **4.11** The following events will be held:

- 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Otterhampton Village Hall, 1pm - 8pm.
- 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Stogursey Victory Hall, 3pm - 7pm.
- A workshop will also take place as part of the main site forum on 20<sup>th</sup> October. This will be communicated formally for other forum members, including the Transport Forum.

#### **Cycle Path Consultation**

#### **4.12** The consultation seeks views on:

- Routing (alignment with BCO route or not)
- The width of the route
- Types and Options for surfacing
- Needs of users inc. Commoners / Landowners / Bodies inc. the EA
- Nature of access required / vehicles that are used
- The location of cattle grids / other essential infrastructure
- The approach to signage
- Details of the connections at either end to existing routes

#### **4.13** AG said there will be a number of questions and opportunities for people to put forward their views, and if the plan is deemed a good idea, this will help HPC in putting together a planning application in the future.

#### **4.14 Proposal for the use of Pontins**

- AC explained that the proposal under discussion is part of a range of options considered as Hinkley Point C's workforce expands.
- Initial discussions with Britannia (site owners) have begun and HPC are in discussions with Sedgemoor on planning permission.
- The site would allow space for around 900 people – helping to increase local accommodation capacity and provide a balanced offering.
- The use would be temporary during peak construction only. This would be around 3 years.
- There is no final decision on the proposal as commercial and planning discussions continue.

#### **4.15 Why Pontins?**

- A huge amount of work and research has gone into locating and assessing options both closer to and further away from the HPC site. They have even included the use of off-shore facilities.
- The Pontins site is the closest viable location available.
- Existing HPC campus sites cannot be expanded; They were designed with a set capacity and not built to accommodate additional floors
- Are tightly constrained in terms of the land availability and;
- The timeframe to construct new accommodation blocks would not fit with the period of peak construction.



**4.16 How would this work in practice?**

- If taken forward, HPC would use the site temporarily throughout the peak construction period for around 3 years.
- HPC's current accommodation management company HOST, would run the site in the same way as its current campuses.
- HPC will continue to employ all the current staff and all year round and maintain all the facilities –making sure that community use is maintained.
- Traffic volumes would be minimal as residents would not use their cars to drive to site. Direct buses would operate outside of peak hours to HPC and there would be around 20 – two-way movements per day.

**4.17 Multi-million pound upgrades**

- HPC are committed to providing high quality accommodation for its workforce.
- HPC will be making a multi-million pound investment into the facilities – leaving a lasting legacy to improve the tourist offering.
- HPC would propose to:
  - Renovate and modernise the chalets themselves.
  - Upgrade the old and poor standard of electrical supply.
  - Install site wide wi-fi connections.
  - Upgrade the wider infrastructure of the site.

**4.18** AC said HPC are still in commercial discussions and working with Sedgemoor District Council on planning and therefore will keep the forum close to plans as they develop.

**4.19** SG said the proposal for Pontins is a good idea in theory but asked what assurances HPC have that the workforce will want to live a long coach journey away, asking whether some sort of obligation will be put onto the contractors.

AC said there is a perception that HPC can order people to live wherever it wants but clarified that this is not the case. AC said the site has benefits as a place to live, noting that the current accommodation campus is single occupancy, whilst the Pontins site would offer the workforce the opportunity to have family visit and enjoy the local area. AC acknowledged that the right pricing will be key to incentivise workers and there is effort and investment needed on HPC's part to make it work.

SG said it is a really good idea and she hopes it works as it would relieve a lot of pressure on local accommodation.

**4.20** SH asked about the plans for 20 two-way buses, questioning whether this means there will be 20 or 40 buses.

AG confirmed it is 40. AC said there would be a finite number of people staying at the Pontins site, which gives a cap. He said HPC are looking at storing the buses overnight at the site itself.

**4.21** SH said the cycle path plan has no details on Combech and safety was not featured in the topics or bullet points in the presentation.

AG said there is no intention to do something which is unsafe.

AC and AG reiterated that a workshop will take place as part of the upcoming Main Site Forum and other Forum members will be welcome to attend. AC also said there is an online questionnaire which people can put views into.

SH said the detail is not there yet as it does not show where the route is connecting to the C182.

AC said there are details on the website.

**4.22** AJ said he saw an article in the in local press on the expansion of three caravan accommodation sites for a limited amount of time, and that he presumes this is to help ease accommodation pressure before HPC develops the Pontins site.

AG said HPC have spoken about these three sites on a number of occasions, these being:



Moorhouse Farm, Quantock Lakes and Mill Farm. He added that they are temporary consents as they are only needed for a certain period of time.

AJ suggested it will be two or three years before Pontins is re-furbished.

AG responded that it will not take that long as there will be periodic refurbishments of a number of units, which will then be occupied. He said HPC want to refurbish the site as soon as possible as they understand the pressure on the local housing market.

- 4.23** RP questioned the numbers for 20 buses, saying that a bus holds 50 people but that there are 900 people to transport.  
AG said 83 people can fit on a double decker.  
RP said it is still close assuming the buses are going out at capacity, and everyone starts and finishes work at roughly the same time.  
AG made the comparison of 900 people at Pontins to 986 people staying at the Sedgemoor campus. He suggested that it would be similar to the bus timetable and system for the Sedgemoor campus.
- 4.24** RP asked how many buses leave the Sedgemoor campus on a daily basis.  
AG said 20 going one way and 20 coming back again. He added that an advantage of Pontins is that they would be able to operate a secure bus system, which is attractive to the workers, taking them directly to their place of work. He said HPC are confident in the numbers from a bus and transport perspective.
- 4.25** On the assumption that Pontins goes ahead, RC called for HPC to improve its records of what cars people drive, their registration numbers and the fact they are getting on the right bus at the right place. He said HPC do not currently seem to have the accuracy to know who drives what and where.  
AC recognised this point.
- 4.26** SG said the majority of the cycle path runs through Stogursey Parish and now seems to go all the way along the coast, asking whether it goes around behind A and B station before accessing C station.  
AG said it does and there is a permissive path there. He explained that the idea is that those on bicycles travelling to the Hinkley Point complex would go to the back of A and B station, whilst members of the public would be able to cycle along the unmade surface in front of A and B station and connect into the C182. He said this is the route of the bridleway creation order.

## **5 Item 5: Office of Nuclear Regulation Report**

- 5.1** Alun Griffiths (AGr) explained that ONR are an independent statutory regulator and attend the forums as an observer. He went on to outline the work of the ONR.

### **5.2 ONR Report Q1/2 2022**

In this period, routine inspections (including an un-announced inspection) of the HPC site covered the following:

- Plant construction and/or commissioning;
- Emergency preparedness;
- Quality assurance and records;
- Organisational capability;
- Conventional (non-nuclear) health and safety;
- Security

AGr highlighted the use of unannounced inspections, which will be a key part of inspection process going forward.

### 5.3 Permissioning

22 September 2022

- ONR issued a Licence Instrument at the end of May for NNB GenCoto deliver the first nuclear steam supply system (NSSS) component, a reactor coolant pump casing, onto the HPC site. This also considered arrangements that will be relevant for other significant NSSS components, for example delivery of the reactor pressure vessel.
- ONR's next major permissioning point, using primary powers, will be the start of inactive commissioning. However, in advance of that ONR will apply flexible permissioning to allow the start of a number of other activities.

### 5.4 Non-routine Matters

- Improvement Notices were served after a worker fell from scaffolding. The notices were served on contractors Bouygues Travaux Publics SAS and Laing O'Rourke Construction Limited, the joint venture partners in BYLOR JV. This was a conventional health and safety incident and not a nuclear related safety incident. The contractors have complied with the Improvement Notices by the deadline set by ONR.
- ONR was made immediately aware of a fire at HPC, involving the scaffolding boards on the outside of the unit 1 reactor building. Increased oversight of fire management is being carried out as well as consideration if other enforcement action is appropriate.
- A decision has been made to formally investigate the event at site that resulted in a worker sustaining injuries as a result of a rebar mesh wall falling. AGr could not comment on this any more at this point but said he will be able to provide an update at future Forums once the investigation concludes.

5.5 SH said that there was concern two or three years ago that the ONR did not have enough competent people able to carry out its role. He asked for confirmation that training programmes are in place and the required skills and expertise are available.

AGr said there is a large team focused on HPC, equivalent to about 27 full-time inspectors. He said the ONR is about to embark on resource planning for next year and has secured the resource needed to effectively regulate this project.

5.6 SH asked about fracking and that he understands there would be no chance of this going ahead in the local area due to the safety case for HPC, asking for confirmation on whether this is the case. AGr said he would initially defer to NNB but said the ONR would assess the impact of an intent to undertake fracking in the vicinity of HPC as part of external hazards assessment.

5.7 The Chair said anyone applying for a fracking licence would have to go through a formal procedure consultation and have all necessary supporting evidence. He said SH was right to raise it as an issue and that this is something to keep an eye on.

## 6 Item 6: Update: Community Fund - (Justin Sargent, Somerset Community Foundation)

6.1 Justin Sargent (JS) gave an update on the HPC Community Fund

6.2 JS began with an update on the figures, noting that it is close to £6m of spend, with over 200 organisations funded.

6.3 There has been a slow period since Covid but there is now a healthy pipeline of applications and expressions of interest. The next open grants deadline is in early December and the next small grants deadline is 12<sup>th</sup> October.

6.4 JS outlined some examples of funding:

- Social Circles CIC, which helps people manage their gardens, received over £4,000 for some power tools. JS explained that a lot of the grants are directed at improving quality of life for people.

- Bridgwater Sea Cadets were awarded almost £85,000 before the pandemic to refurbish the hall. This has helped to provide better facility for the cadets, and they are now able to let out the hall to help generate more income for the cadets.

6.5 JS said the 2021/22 HPC Community Fund Annual Report is available.

**Contacts Details:**

6.6 Val Bishop, Programmes Director / [val.bishop@somersetcf.org.uk](mailto:val.bishop@somersetcf.org.uk) / 01749 344949 or Peter Stolze, Programme Manager / [peter.stolze@somersetcf.org.uk](mailto:peter.stolze@somersetcf.org.uk)  
Online: [www.hpcfunds.co.uk](http://www.hpcfunds.co.uk) / [www.somersetcf.org.uk](http://www.somersetcf.org.uk)

6.7 JS noted that Val Bishop will be leaving at the beginning of December to join another local charity.

6.8 RC said Stogursey Parish applied for funding and were declined as apparently there is other funding available. If this other funding is not available, RC asked whether they would need to go back to the start of the process again.

JS said he would go back to RC with a response on this case.

6.9 SG asked how much DCO funding is left.

JS responded that the formula was £1m a year up to 12.8% by 2013 prices and it is index linked by the tender price index, so the last instalment was £1.5m. JS said they are about halfway through and how much will be available depends on inflation. He agreed to provide an afternote on this.

**AFTERNOTE:** At the time of the meeting £8,334,669 had been received to date in six annual instalments, including £1,534,188 in May 2022

**AFTERNOTE**

6.10 SG asked whether the fact that the build is going on longer than originally planned will result in additional funding.

JS said this is a decision for planners and EDF but he has had no suggestion that this will be the case.

6.11 Responding to AJ, JS said the refurbishment project mentioned put solar panels onto the roof, and said they try to encourage building projects to be environmentally friendly.

**7 Item 7: Main Site Forum 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 - (Chair)**

7.1 There were no comments on the draft meeting note of the Main Site Forum (available [here](#)).

7.2 JC highlighted the workshop on the cycle path proposed for the next MSF on 20<sup>th</sup> October and said there will be a broader invitation for general attendees to participate.

**8 Item 8: Transport Forum 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - (Chair)**

8.1 There were no comments on the draft meeting note of the Transport Forum (available [here](#)).

**9 Item 9: Any Other Business**

9.1 SH said avian influenza is now widespread, particularly bad in the local area, and urged caution.

9.2 AJ asked about the consultation on the spent fuel storage and whether this is also being delayed. AG said this was the case.

9.2 Jim Claydon said it was his last Community Forum as Chair since starting in the role eight years ago. He thanked all those who participate in the forum, including EDF, organisations such as the ONR, and the members who represent their local communities.

- 9.3** On behalf of the Forum, AC said thanked Jim Claydon and said he had been a constant throughout some difficult and challenging times, including the pandemic, and will be missed.

Jim Claydon will chair the final Main Site Forum and Transport Forums in 2022.

**10 Item 10: Date of next Community Forum**

- 10.1** The next Community Forum will be held on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 6pm.**

- 10.2** 2023 dates for the Community, Main Site and Transport Forums  
All 6pm start and on Thursdays:

**Community Forum:** 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 / 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 / 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**Main Site Forum:** 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 / 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 / 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Transport Forum:** 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 / 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 / 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

- 10.3** The meeting ended.