



Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Committee

Notes of meeting held in Training Room 9, Training Centre 2
on Wednesday 3 June 2026

Attendees:

In the room:

Mark Lees	Station Director Hartlepool Power Station (Meeting Chair)
Fiona McCall	Communications EDF
Duncan Bain	Human Resources Manager EDF Hartlepool Power Station
Ross Nuttall	Environmental Safety EDF Hartlepool Power Station (left meeting at 11.11 am)
Sarah Dunn	Environmental Compliance Co-Ordinator EDF Hartlepool Power Station
Phil Arnold	Group Head Nuclear Safety EDF Hartlepool Power Station
Jamie Moss	EP Engineer EDF Hartlepool Power Station (left meeting at 11.11 am)
Keeley Potter	Visitor Centre Co-ordinator EDF Hartlepool Power Station
Julie Harker	Visitor Centre Guide EDF Hartlepool Power Station (Minute Taker)
Bert Broadly	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Jon Davenport	Environment Agency (EA)
Tim Shurmer	Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit
Ann Oxley	Teesmouth Field Centre
Gil Parker	Alice House Hospice
Martin Green	Local resident
Cllr Amanda Napper	Hartlepool Borough Council
David Coupe	Middlesbrough Borough Council
Stephen Smith	Greatham Parish Council
Andy Bruce	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Nigel Calvin	Civil Nuclear Constabulary

Via Teams:

Cllr Ursula Earl	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Cllr Christine Wiley	Hartlepool Borough Council
Cllr Peter Gavigan	Middlesbrough Council
Gary Cook	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Apologies:

Susie Gatenby	Technical, Safety and Support Manager EDF Hartlepool Power Station
Greg Hildreth	Alice House Hospice
Debbie Kershaw	Quality and Safety Officer Hartlepool Borough Council
Scott Redpath	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Stephen Kirsopp	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Pamela Hargreave	Water Babies
Cllr Heather Moorhouse	North Yorkshire Council

Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Safety Message

1. Mark Lees opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and invited everyone from around the table and on Teams to introduce themselves.
2. Safety Message: Do you think your personal impact on the environment can also have a positive impact on your health and wellbeing?
3. Ross Nuttall gave details on waste segregation introduced in EDF.

4. Duncan Bain commented on how car share and beach litter pick have an impact on the environment and wellbeing.
5. David Coupe added that education is needed in the community with regards to recycling and suggested that EDF could share our waste segregation experience in the community.
6. **ACTION:** Ross Nuttall and Team to consider what experience can be shared with David Coupe

Actions from Previous Meeting

7. There were no actions from the previous meeting.

Station/Regulator News

8. Overview – Mark Lees
9. Hartlepool has had a challenging and important six months. For just short of a year two units have been shut down. It was a challenging time for the business and people and we have worked with ONR to start up.
10. Currently Unit 1 is shutdown, due to an issue with the main steam leg.
11. ONR have changed the level of regulatory attention to Significantly Enhanced. A programme is in place for improvements, training and resources.
12. David Coupe asked if recent shutdowns will affect the predicted date of March 2028. Mark Lees responded that Hartlepool Power Station is the only AGR power station in the UK not to have observed cracking of the core. Phil Arnold added the health of the graphite core could potentially allow generation beyond 2028, but at the moment it is 2028.
13. Cllr Christine Wiley asked how the site is dealing with going from Enhanced to Significantly Enhanced status. Mark Lees responded the improvement plan was reviewed; additions, changes and correct direction was discussed with ONR and agreement given. There are 750 people on site it takes time for projects to be completed and behaviours to change. We have the right plan in place and are heading in the right direction.
14. Duncan Bain added a change to the station management structure has been implemented; talented people have taken on specific roles to drive the improvement plan forward.
15. Cllr Christine Wiley asked if there was a timescale for the improvement plan. Mark Lees commented ONR determine escalation levels and we are on the right trajectory.
16. Gary Cook from ONR explained the level of regulatory attention was a reflection of the amount of resource they are putting towards the station. ONR have given resource to Hartlepool to ensure they deliver the plan. ONR need to be confident that the improvements can be sustained, Hartlepool are on the right path.

Operations Update – Phil Arnold

17. As mentioned by Mark Lees currently Unit 1 is shutdown and Unit 2 is operating. Unit 1 was shutdown safely. Phil advised there had also been a fault on a KV transformer and 10.5km of cable was replaced. To ensure the workforce were ready to operate a generating station again after the extended outage, risk workshops were held, supported by ONR.
18. David Coupe commented that it is good to hear that Mark Lees is 'all over it' and working to plan.

Safety – Phil Arnold

19. Details were given of an incident that had happened following the unblocking of a sink drain, a plumber was overwhelmed by the fumes but has now recovered. As with any incident this was investigated, measures put in place and the drain unblocker which had been used has been removed from use across the fleet.

Environment – Sarah Dunn

20. Sarah Dunn explained that a warning letter from the Environment Agency had been received by site following a release of Taprogge balls in September 2025. She said improvements to reduce the frequency of the issue have been put in place and beach walks are carried out to collect any balls released. EA confirmed numbers released have improved significantly.
21. The recently issued Radioactive Substances Compliance Assessment Report (RASCAR) had not included the most recent Habits Survey data, the RASCAR report has now been reissued to include the current data and a reduction in the dose assessments has been noted.
22. Environment Reverence training programme has been attended by more than 400 people to date, to be attended by every employee by end of 2026.
23. Cllr Christine Wiley asked what percentage of the workforce had attended the training to date and also what are Taprogge balls.
24. Duncan Bain commented around 55% of the workforce have received Environment Reverence training to date with the target of 100% by the end of 2026.
25. Ross Nuttall explained the use of the Taprogge balls. Jon Davenport from EA commented that there is no contamination, the numbers are small and they do degrade to nothing.
26. **ACTION:** Jamie Moss to share with the members of the LCLC a presentation given at a recent meeting about Taprogge balls.

Emergency Planning – Robin Beach

27. Following a partial loss to the grid on 1 January a site incident was declared enabling the required resources to be secured on a public holiday.
28. An operational alert was declared in March following the failure of some condensate hangers which serve both units, the team on shift called on additional resources to deal with the incident.
29. Shift training exercises are ongoing, Hartlepool operate five shifts. Exercises run through scenarios with the emergency services; police, fire and ambulance. One scenario had fire and ambulance already on site, we can then see how they respond and they can see our first response – feedback was positive.
30. The Level 1 emergency exercise in December 2025 and the demonstration of security arrangements in February 2026 were judged by the regulator as adequate, shows our emergency arrangements are good and rigorous.
31. A chemical response trailer has been purchased, as well as a decontamination shelter which can be set up anywhere on site. The older fire appliance has been replaced with a new response vehicle which can tow the trailer.
32. Martin Green asked about the amber rating from the ONR. Mark Lees responded that while there were fewer people trained than required for a small number of roles, at no time was the emergency scheme rota not covered. In practice this means that instead of being on call 1 week in 6, it may be 1 week in 3. A full succession plan is in place to get back to the levels; to be fully trained takes time.

People Update – Duncan Bain

33. Duncan Bain confirmed a slight increase in headcount, currently at 540 FTE staff. The maintenance department was increased by 15 Fixed Term Contractors and two apprentices from the recently closed Venator business.
34. Eight apprentices are joining in August; four in maintenance department, two project managers and two ENSA technicians. We had over 400 applications.
35. Cllr Christine Wiley asked who is our provider and their OFSTED rating.
36. Duncan Bain responded that we run our scheme with EDF fleet and split time between working on site and Bridgwater and Taunton College. The apprenticeships are for four years and Keeley Potter added that in Year 3 and 4 apprentices attended Hartlepool College of Further Education.
37. **ACTION:** Keeley Potter to find out OFSTED rating for Bridgwater and Taunton College.

38. 2 June 2026 (Action completed) - Keeley Potter emailed Cllr Wiley confirmed that Bridgwater and Taunton College, which facilitates the Maintenance Apprenticeship has an “outstanding overall rating” from Ofsted.
39. Cllr Ursula Earl commented that over 400 applications can we increase the number of apprenticeships that we offer?
40. Duncan Bain commented that we would like to, but it is a balance of cost, pressures and resources of training over the four years.
41. Cllr Christine Wiley asked if we had considered looking at apprenticeship units?
42. **ACTION:** Cllr Christine Wiley to send information about the units to Duncan Bain.
43. Mark Lees commented that when driving through Hartlepool Town Centre he saw the signage for the proposed Nuclear Skills College to be housed in the old Binns building. EDF are not involved with it, we have our own training path but hopes that it comes to fruition.

Visitor Centre – Keely Potter

44. Keeley Potter confirmed from December to April the Visitor Centre welcomed 1380 people, 408 of these attended the apprenticeship events.
45. The Visitor Centre had three joint visits with Teesmouth Field Centre.
46. Keeley gave an update on charities:
In December:
- Food collection and £500 worth of food to Hartlepool Food Bank.
 - The Visitor Centre Team supported Alice House Hospice with their Trees of Remembrance.
 - A Christmas raffle raised £1,418 which was split equally between Alice House Hospice and Alzheimer's.
 - Sales from Christmas lunch raised £1,760 which was donated to Hartlepool Food Bank
 - In April the Visitor Centre Team supported Alice House Hospice with their Annual Charity Golf Day, raising £9,000 for the Hospice.
47. As well as supporting Teesmouth Field Centre, we have also supported the following clubs and charities with £500 donations:
- 2nd Eaglescliffe Brownies for equipment
 - Cleveland Scout Council Climbing team for equipment
 - Louie's Trust, to support families and hospitalised children, for annual Santa Bus event
 - Tees Wheelyboats for life jackets, for river trips for disabled and wheelchair users
 - Hartlepool Rovers FC for kit sponsorship.

48. Middlesbrough College received £150 sponsorship for a Great Wall of China Walk for Daisy Chain.

49. Raffle tickets for 'Big Summer Raffle' will be sold in June and July for Alzheimer's.

50. Cllr Christine Wiley asked how did we choose our charities?

51. Keeley Potter explained we had a form that can be completed.

52. **ACTION:** Cllr Christine Wiley to contact Keeley Potter for a form.

ONR Update – Bert Broadly

53. Bert Broadly will aim to realign the ONR site report with meeting dates.

54. The decision was made to elevate site to Significantly Enhanced attention was made following a number of site events. Hartlepool remains safe to operate. ONR will continue to engage and be onsite more than an inspector normally would including additional support of another experienced site inspector. Both inspectors continue to engage with station staff at all levels observing meetings, decision making process and leaders in the field.

55. Martin Green commented he could not open one of the links in the ONR Site Report.

56. **ACTION:** Bert to check link and recirculate report.

Environment Agency – Jon Davenport

57. Jon Davenport reported internal discussions and working with ONR. Looked at waste, treatment and discharge, managed environment and people, no increase in levels found.

58. Found good practices and behaviours in Environmental leadership, small issues to deal with, have taken step back to allow Station to focus on improvement plan.

59. EA Teams samples; impact in Hartlepool low and dropping.

60. Stephen Smith asked why waste taken away by road rather than rail.

61. Jon Davenport responded not huge quantities and not high activity waste so by road is appropriate.

62. **ACTION:** Martin Green and Jon Davenport to discuss away from the meeting GDA submitted by X-Energy to EA and ONR – not yet public information.

Teesmouth Field Centre Update – Ann Oxley

- 63. Ann Oxley confirmed the Field Centre had welcomed 54 education groups, mainly primary schools with a few secondary schools.
- 64. A new area they are exploring is Greatham Creek; habitat and flood defences.
- 65. Programmes are very popular and fully booked.
- 66. Trustees want to thank EDF formally for the funding and the first instalment has been received from EDF.
- 67. Accounts for Teesmouth Field Centre are available on the website.
- 68. Ann Oxley commented they are looking forward to a successful year ahead and look to flourish.

Alice House – Gil Parker

- 69. Gil Parker gave details about 'Bright Sparks' which had been held between February and May with local schools and colleges and raised £4,470 and thanked EDF for their help with this.
- 70. Gil also reported that the Golf Day raised £9,000 and again thanked EDF for their help on the day.
- 71. Gil thanked EDF for all their ongoing help and support as a long standing Patron and in particular mentioned Christine Neil and Lee Dodgson for all their fundraising efforts.

AOB

- 72. Andy Bruce, CNC informed the meeting that a training exercise was being held today. The UK threat level is now severe and a higher visibility of CNC would be noticed around the area and community. Stephen Smith commented he has noticed an increase in the patrols in Greatham.
- 73. **ACTION:** Andy's email address to be circulated separately to the members of the meeting in relation to community engagement.
- 74. Cllr Christine Wiley requested next time could function and job of attendees be noted.
- 75. There was no other business and the meeting closed at 12:25.

76. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th November 2026, 09:30 arrival for 10:00 start.