



OLDBURY ON SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

NUCLEAR NEW BUILD COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Tuesday 6th February 2018 @ 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr Keith Sullivan, Cllr Matthew Riddle, Cllr Matthew Clothier, Cllr John Cornock, Dr Tony Acton

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Gillian Ellis-King.

2 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd October 2017 were proposed as an accurate record by MC, seconded by JC and agreed by all.

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2017 were proposed as an accurate record by TA, seconded by JC and agreed by all.

3 Review of actions (not otherwise on this agenda)

Planning application for waste drying plant at the Magnox station – the Clerk had been actioned to write to the planning authority to request clarification as to whether the application covered the management of nuclear material. However this was discussed at the full council special planning meeting held on 12th December at which councillors decided that no action was required. KS raised concerns about this and pointed out that at the recent SSG meeting, it was stated that the monitoring of effluents from the site had now ceased as there was no fuel left on site. The planning application states that it includes the ‘operation’ of the processing plant dealing with waste materials, but it is unclear who is now responsible for monitoring of possible environmental effects. It was agreed that KS and EP will draft a letter to Magnox enquiring about this issue.

Action: KS/EP to draft letter to Magnox.

4 Parishioner survey – feedback

Eight responses to the parishioner survey were received. A wide range of concerns were raised, with many being raised by several respondents. The Clerk was asked to summarise the responses and identify the common issues.

Action: EP to prepare spreadsheet summary of responses.

It was agreed that despite the limited response rate, this had been a useful exercise. The committee should reply to those who responded, thanking them for their input and letting them know that their responses will be kept on file and their concerns will be taken up as the process goes on.

Action: EP to draft reply letters for KS to send.

5 New National Policy Statement consultation

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) are currently consulting on a new National Policy Statement for new nuclear sites. The eventual strategy document will replace the current one (EN6) which only runs up to 2025. The new strategy will cover developments during the period 2025 to 2036. BEIS propose to 'roll forward' existing identified sites to the new strategy as long as they meet the agreed criteria.

GE-K is formulating a response on behalf of SGC. She has asked all parish and town councils for comment and will consider inputs to her response up until 1st March. If this committee wishes to respond to the consultation, it can either make comments to GE-K (which will be considered within the wider South Glos context) or make a direct response to BEIS.

It was agreed that it would be best for OPC to make an individual response as that could address local priorities which might not be the same as those at a county level. However this will mean that some committee member(s) will need to read the consultation documents which are fairly lengthy. KS, TA, MC and JC agreed to do so. The Clerk will forward relevant links so that the documents can be downloaded.

Action: Clerk to forward links to consultation documents.

Action: KS/TA/MC/JC to read documents and jointly draft comments.

MR suggested that the committee could ask GE-K for a copy of her draft response, which could then be adapted for local emphasis. KS agreed to speak to GE-K to discuss the way forward.

Action: KS to discuss with GE-K.

6 Generic Design Assessment approval

TA reported that the GDA process for the Hitachi reactors has now been completed and a Statement of Design Acceptability issued. The Office of Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency have both issued reports detailing how they carried out the GDA process and summarising their findings.

Although the generic design has now been approved, it should be noted that site specific factors will still need to be addressed and there is a requirement on the developer to do so. There is also a legal obligation on the developer to pass these responsibilities on to subsequent owners should the site/development be sold on.

TA was pleased to note that most of our concerns have been taken up, including that on high Carbon-14 emissions. The reports confirm that Hitachi are required to continue to look into the C₁₄ issue and to use results of new research to ensure they put in place best available techniques.

Issues raised at other similar sites have also been taken into account, for example following the Fukushima disaster there is now a requirement for a separate control system for the cooling system so that the reactor could still be shut down even if the main systems failed.

TA agreed to circulate the ONR & EA reports.

Action: TA to circulate reports for info.

7 Horizon properties – current issues

KS and MC are due to meet with Samantha Stagg and Horizon staff on 8th February; they will be looking at Jobes Green, Dairy Farm and the Windbound to discuss recent problems.

Horizon have arranged an information session for Shepperdine residents, to be held on 27th February at Turnberries community centre in Thornbury. This will be by appointment only. Letters to tell residents about the meeting will be going out imminently.

8 Shepperdine Church

KS has discussed the ownership question with a local solicitor, Iain Robinson. Mr Robinson has read the lease and looked into what is known of the church's history. His conclusion is that the case could be argued either way.

MR agreed to check whether the church is on the insurance for the parish of St Arilda's.

Action: MR to check parish insurance

KS asked whether there is any proof of the church's Listed Building status. MR noted that it can be obtained via the Historic England website: www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1434685.

(Post meeting note – KS 07/02/18: The above website gives us the date of the erection of the Church as well as the date of the signature of the lease, which is 2 months earlier. I think, with reference to Iain Robinson's email, the Church is now confirmed as owner).

9 AOB

Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) consultation: the BEIS is also consulting on potential sites for a GDF – a permanent underground storage facility for spent nuclear fuels. KS noted that there are no proposals for anything in this area and thus did we need to comment? TA stated that there was widespread doubt as to whether such a facility will ever be built and that the GDAs for new reactors have all been required to show provision for long term storage of spent fuel.

The committee agreed not to submit any response to the consultation.

10 Closure & date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall.