OLDBURY ON SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

NUCLEAR NEW BUILD COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Tuesday 1st October 2019 @ 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr Keith Sullivan, Cllr John Cornock, Mr Malcolm Lynden, Dr Tony Acton, Ms Gillian Ellis-King (South Gloucestershire Council)

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

The following minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Committee and may be subject to change until that time.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Matthew Riddle, Matthew Clothier, Tony England (Rockhampton PC) & Andrew Gregory (Falfield PC).

No response was received from Hill parish meeting representatives.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2019 were accepted as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

3. Review of actions (not otherwise on this agenda)

There were no relevant actions.

4. To receive update from Horizon

At the date of the last meeting Leon Flexman was expected to be leaving Horizon and this committee wrote thanking him for his contribution and wishing him well, we are pleased to now understand that he remains in post.

Horizon are expecting a decision on the Wylfa Newydd Development Consent Order on or around the 24th October.

Mr Flexman is due to present to the Oldbury SSG at a meeting to be held on 30th October @ 1pm in the Conference Centre at the Magnox station. He has offered to present to this committee around the same date. It was concluded that providing the information which would be given would be broadly the same, members of this committee will if they wish attend the SSG meeting to hear Leon's presentation there.

Post meeting note – Samantha Stagg has confirmed that they would be presenting broadly the same information, and that committee members will have the chance to discuss further details with Leon at the end of the SSG meeting. She also reported that Horizon will be producing a community newsletter again in the future but that the date of the next one is uncertain at this stage.

5. To note current situation of Shepperdine properties

Renovation works at Jobes Green and Dairy Farms are now complete and are now tenanted. Works to Shepperdine and The Wells are being planned and are expected to commence in the spring of 2020. The Wells is now Grade II listed.

6. To discuss BEIS consultation re: funding model for future new nuclear

This consultation on use of a Regulated Asset Base (RAB) funding model for new nuclear builds has been going on for some time and closes on 14th October.

TA gave a brief presentation explaining the principles of the RAB model and outlining some of the issues. In the current 'Contract for Difference' funding model, all of the risk is on the developers until the site is operational; this makes such projects less attractive to investors and hence those who do invest expect a higher return, making the overall cost to the consumer higher.

The RAB model still involves institutional investment at first, but is part funded by consumers through a levy on utility bills during the construction and operational phases. There is also a government support package to cover extensive increases in costs. The whole project would be overseen by a new regulator, although details of this are sketchy.

GE-K outlined the points included in a draft SGC response to BEIS, but recommended that rather than incorporating Parish comments in the SGC response, it would probably be better if the committee submitted their own response. SGC believe that the model has potential but needs to be tailored for the nuclear industry, must be tightly regulated, risk controlled and must ensure that the necessary costs for impact mitigation and community benefits and legacy are incorporated.

TA agreed to draft a response for circulation to the committee and eventual submission. Specific points raised included:

- Will the developer be required to take a financial stake – and if not, how will they be incentivised to meet time and cost limits?
- How will host community interests be protected?
- Need to stress the uncertainty caused to the community since Horizon's suspension of work and the consequent need for a timely decision on future funding.

7. Other items of report

No items were presented.

8. Closure & date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 8:55 pm.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 4th February 2020 at 7:30pm.

Signed as a correct record at the following meeting: ……..

DRAFT