

Sizewell C Marine Technical Forum: Quarterly Meeting [No8]

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Level:	Marine Technical Forum
Date:	10 th June 2025
Location:	SZC Ltd (25 Copthall Avenue); Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Peter Barham; Independent Chair (PB)
	Stephen Roast; SZC Ltd (SR)
	Ben Hughes; SZC Ltd (BH)
Attendees:	Molly Boulton; SZC Ltd (MB)
	Andrew Griffith; Cefas for SZC Ltd (AG)
	Lucy Goodman; ESC (LG)
	Chris Finbow; ESC (CF)
	Ethan Lakeman; MMO (EL)
	Laura Calvert; MMO (LC)
	Tracey Champney (TC)
	Ayden Hassan; EA (AH)
	Sean Mahoney (NE)
Apologies:	Simon Barlow; EA (SB)
	Polly Mills (NE)
Meeting Note	

Meeting Note

Discussion Item	Comments	By when			
1	Welcome and Introductions				
1.01	PB welcomed and introduced everybody, drawing special attention to Tracey Champney (MMO) and Molly Boulton (SZC) as newcomers to the MTF				
1.02	PB observed that the intention was for this particular meeting to be held face to face but apart from SZC representatives and himself everybody had opted to join by Teams. SR noted that as it turns out the agenda did not necessarily require MTF members to be there in person on this occasion, but confirmed his strong agreement with PB that longer term he would like to hold meetings in person, particularly for more detailed or technical meetings				
2	<u>Safety Message</u> Estuaries: where rising and falling tides and the meeting of freshwater and salty sea create unique and dynamic habitats. Did you know that the Herring Gull is protected by law as a Protected Species?				
3	Project Update				
3.01	SR provided an update on the current status of the project and matters arising:				
3.02	Today is a huge milestone for the project as the Government announced confirmation of its £14.2billion investment				

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3.03	In addition, the project is still working hard to confirm the necessary additional private investment and continues working on due diligence with potential investors. Working towards financial close (Financial Investment Decision) for summer 2025.			
3.04	SR confirmed that SZC had now taken full occupancy of its new London Office at 25 Copthall Avenue.			
3.05	3.05 Together Against Sizewell C (TASC) are seeking permission for a Judicial Review of a lette from the Secretary of State that refused to revoke or amend the DCO decision based on flood defences.			
	In terms of marine works specifically, all 68 potential UXO targets investigated in the subtidal area proved negative, however, 2 potential targets in the intertidal need investigation. Dredging for the Combined Drainage Outfall and desalination headworks, and their construction, remains programmed to take place in Quarter 3. The Temporary Marine Bulk Import Facility (TMBIF) will commence Q3/Q4.			
4	Minutes from Last Meeting			
4.01	SR confirmed that all actions from the previous meeting had been closed and there were no open Actions from previous meetings.			
4.02	SM noted that, in relation to Action MTF040325.03 he and his colleagues at NE had found the "SZC Introduction" offered by the company was very useful at providing background and historical context to the project and would recommend			
5	DML and DCO Returns			
5.01	SR summarised the DML Conditions and DCO Requirement submissions that had been made in 2025 and confirmed their status:			
5.02	DML Condition 7: Programme of Works (#2) approved, next submission July 2025			
5.03	DML Condition 16: Marine Archaeology Written Scheme of Investigation approved			
5.04	DML Condition 33: Sediment Sampling Plan (SSP) (and results) approved			
5.05	DML Condition 35: Aids to Navigation Management Plan approved			
5.06	DML Condition 32: Dredging Method Statement was re-submitted after MMO consultation responses and is under determination			
5.07	DML Condition 38: CDO Construction Method Statement (CMS) was re-submitted after MMO consultation responses and is under determination			
5.08	DML Condition 46: Desalination Plant CMS was re-submitted after MMO consultation responses and is under determination			
5.09	DML Condition 46: TMBIF CMS, and associated Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (MMMP) and Southern North Sea SAC Site Integrity Plan (SIP), were submitted following pre-application consultation and is under determination.			
5.10	SR reiterated that Requirement 19 would require a very minor update to account for the amendment to pile layout of the Temporary Marine Bulk Import Facility (TMBIF) trestle piles above mean low water and these details would be included in the update to reflect the redesign of the Temporary Sea Defence (TSD) for the Sizewell B (submission expected Q3 2025).			

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Discussion Item	n Comments				
5.11	LG asked who at ESC the SZC planning team had been engaging with on the Req 19 submission				
5.12	Action 1: SR to check with whom at the ESC planning department the SZC planning team had discussed the Req 19 submission.				
5.13	EL asked why the TSD needed redesign for SZB and whether the original design provided sufficient flood defence for SZC.				
	SR explained that it does, noting that the level of required protection is greater for SZB as it is an operational nuclear station. The flood risk protection for SZC is lower while it is being constructed (at present it is "just" a construction site) but once operational it will also need that higher level of protection, which will be provided by the permanent sea defence.				
	PB suggested that, given the long history of the project and comparatively recent involvement of some MTF members, it would be a useful exercise to provide a summary of the sea defences and accompanying Coastal Processes Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CPMMP).				
5.14	Action 2: SZC to provide a summary of the sea defences and accompanying CPMMP at the next MTF.				
5.15	SR reiterated that SZC Ltd is of the opinion that the CPMMP is already sufficient to monitor the proposed changes of the TMBIF and TSD but will confirm this with MTF members when the Requirement 19 update is available.				
5.16	SR confirmed the Variation Request for the DML to reflect changes in design (pile layout and head arrangement) is with MMO for determination.				
	SR stated that MMO is currently awaiting a few minor details from SZC				
5.17	SR confirmed MMO position is to withhold formal Discharge of Conditions 32, 38 and 46 (dredge, CDO and desalination plant, respectively) until the DML variation request is approved due to activity-specific changes contained therein				
6	Other Marine Licences				
6.01	BH provided an overview of the other (non-DML) licence applications currently in progress:				
6.04	BH confirmed that none of the 68 subtidal magnetic targets were UXO, but that 2 further targets lying in the intertidal area still need investigation – this will form the content of a new marine licence application.				
	BH confirmed that, given the potential targets lay on a public beach used frequently by dog walkers etc the marine licence application will seek consent to remove confirmed UXO targets immediately for reasons of overriding public safety.				
	BH confirmed the clearance would be undertaken after the tide has receded (i.e. "in the dry")				
	BH went on to explain that the fact there are 2 targets, and they would be removed in the dry, SZC feels there is a very strong case not to follow the 2-phase process				
7	Forward Look				
7.01	SR provided a Forward Look of potential submissions, subject to change or confirmation, to help with MTF member resourcing.				
9	Member Update				

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9.01	MMO:				
	TC confirmed that she was the new Senior Case Manager at MMO for the SZC project. The role also includes the HPC project, where Tracey was previously the Case Manager				
9.03	EA:				
	AH confirmed no update of relevance to MTF				
9.04	ESC:				
	LG confirmed no update of relevance to MTF				
9.05	NE:				
	SM confirmed no update of relevance to MTF.				
9.06	SR noted that the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (EIFCA) remains a guest member of the MTF that had so far not been able to resource attendance. SR stated that he had not contacted the IFCA recently for an update and would do so.				
9.07	Action 3: SR to approach EIFCA again for MTF attendance	31/07/25			
10	Summing up and Confirmation of Actions				
10.01	PB summed up and confirmed the Actions				
10.02	SR confirmed the date of the next meeting would have been 03 September 2025				
11	RNIP and Meeting Close				
11.01	SR ran through the RNIP feedback form, EL and SB confirmed that the RNIP as completed on-screen by SR was accepted and could be submitted directly to RIO.				



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Actions Summary

Minute Ref	Actions	Who	By when
MTF101025.01	SR to check with whom at the ESC planning department the SZC planning team had discussed the Req 19 submission. CLOSED : Confirmed in meeting	SR	13/06/25
MTF101025.02	SR to approach EIFCA again for MTF attendance	SR	31/07/25
MTF101025.03	SZC to provide a summary of the sea defences and accompanying CPMMP at the next MTF	SZC	03/09/25

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Appendix: Draft DML Returns Programme for 2025 (*italics* = formally discharged by MMO)

No.	Description	Pre-App?	Pre-App Date	App Date
16	Marine Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation	Historic England	20/12/24	14/02/25
32	Dredge Construction Method Statement	No		14/02/25
38	CDO Construction Method Statement	No		14/02/25
46	Desalination Plant Construction Method Statement	No		14/02/25
35	Aids to Navigation Management Plan	Trinity House	10/02/25	14/03/25
33	Phase 2 Sediment Sample Plan	No		28/03/25
33	Phase 2 Sediment Sample Analyses	No		21/03/25
36	TMBIF Construction Method Statement	MTF	31/03/25	06/06/25
36	Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol and SIP	NE / MMO	31/03/25	06/06/25
15	Marine Environmental Management Plan	No		Qtr 3 2025
28	Vessel Management Plan	NE / MMO	20/0725	Qtr 3 2025
7	Programme of Works (6mth Update)	No		08/07/25

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