

Minutes

Main Development Site Forum Meeting

Meeting Type: Main Development Site Forum Meeting

Meeting held on: 16 January 2024

Attendees:

- Brian Stewart, Chair
- Christine Abraham, Co-Chair
- David Peacop, Site Operations Director Sizewell C
- Rick Watler, Site Delivery Lead, Sizewell C
- Tim Newton, Site Security Manager, Sizewell C
- Spencer Bowdler, Site Operations, Site Lead Sizewell C
- Jez Porter, SPM Associated Development, Sizewell C
- Richard Bull, DCO Lead, Sizewell C
- Marjorie Barnes, Head of READ, Sizewell C
- Richard Knight, Senior Community Relations Manager
- Zoe Botten, Community Relations Manager, Sizewell C
- Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf, Suffolk County Council
- Cllr Marianne Fellowes, Aldeburgh Town Council
- Cllr Stephen Brett, Theberton & Eastbridge PC
- Cllr Nicky Corbett, Leiston-cum-Sizewell TC
- Cllr Charles Macdowell, Middleton-cum-Fordley PC
- Cllr John Staff, Knodishall PC
- Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk Council
- Cllr Maureen Jones, Aldringham-cum-Thorpe PC
- Sgt Rebecca O'Neill, Suffolk Constabulary

Apologies: None received

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Purpose of Forum – Terms of Reference
- DCO Implementation
- Main Site Update
- Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative
- AOB
- Date of the Next Meeting



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Meeting Minutes – 16/01/2024

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introductions		
1.01	<p>Brian Stewart opened the meeting at 19.00 and welcomed the members of the forum and other attendees. He explained that he had been appointed by EDF to chair the forum, and introduced Christine Abraham as the co-chair who would be observing this meeting. He explained that the meeting was in public but was not a public meeting.</p> <p>The members of the forum introduced themselves.</p>		
2	Purpose of Forum – Terms of Reference		
2.01	<p>Richard Knight explained that the forum would meet quarterly. The Northern Transport Forum would also be meeting 6 February, and the Southern Transport Forum on 12 February. The annual Sizewell C Community Forum would be on 9 April, with venue and details to be confirmed.</p> <p>The purpose of the forum was for the Sizewell C project to provide updates on the construction throughout the construction period. It was for the forum to find ways to minimise the impacts and maximise the benefits and the opportunities of the project. The terms of reference were on the website and had been sent to the elected representatives.</p>		
2.02	Cllr Fellowes proposed changes to the terms of reference to have reports to the forum from other forums, as well as vice versa. Brian Stewart said this would be taken away and looked at. Minutes of all forums would be published in draft form on the website.		
2.03	Cllr Fellowes asked whether there could be a residents' representative on the forum. Brian Stewart stated that this would be considered but noted that they were operating a representative rather than participatory democracy. Cllr Corbett specifically requested that a resident's representative from Sizewell be added to the Forum. Cllr Jones noted that Sizewell was split between Aldringham-cum-Thorpe and Leiston.		
2.04	Cllr Haworth-Culf asked that Snape Parish Council be represented on the forum. Brian Stewart explained the geographic scope had been tightly according the main impact. The situation of Snape would be considered.		
2.05	Cllr Macdowell asked whether the Sizewell link road would be considered within this forum, the Northern Transport Forum, or both. Richard Knight would take this away to confirm, but he expected it would be both. Cllr Macdowell noted that the Northern Transport Forum did not currently include Theberton or Middleton parish councils, through which the Sizewell link road would pass. Brian Stewart stated that there would be a request on this, to which he was very favourably disposed.	Richard Knight	
2.06	Brian Stewart noted that the terms of reference had been signed off by Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk Council and Sizewell C, and any changes were at the chair's discretion. Reasonable requests would be considered.		
3	DCO Implementation		



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3.01	Marjorie Barnes presented on DCO implementation. The DCO had been triggered the previous day, to allow the governance process to be enacted. This was the green light for the start of construction, which would be a gradual process, but in would unlock available funding pots. Richard Bull added that all of the pre-commencement obligations had been met.		
3.02	Cllr Brett asked whether a timetable would be published of where and when work would start. Marjorie Barnes confirmed as soon as a firm timetable could be shared it would be, but there was not a date yet.		
3.03	Cllr Haworth-Culf noted that at present the updates from Sizewell resembled junk mail, and asked whether improvements in communication could be looked at. Marjorie Barnes thanked Cllr Haworth-Culf for the feedback, which would be considered.		
3.04	Cllr Fellowes queried whether a user group could be considered to look at the works tracker. Marjorie Barnes said people were welcome to the office in Leiston. Cllr Fellowes suggested that the office be promoted more, as the public did not understand they could come in for information.		
4	Main Site Update		
4.01	David Peacop presented the main site update and outlined the various elements of the site and timelines around construction.		
4.02	Rick Watler outlined key activities now that the DCO had been triggered. The main early access through the temporary construction area (TCA) would be one of these key activities. The traffic management plan was now live. Jez Porter presented the detail of the traffic management plan.		
4.03	Cllr Jones queried what was in place in regard to flooding. Marjorie Barnes explained there was an incident management plan which would include flooding, but the highways authority was responsible for keeping the highways clear. Sizewell C would be focused on mitigating its own impact. Richard Bull noted that Sizewell C had an excellent working relationship with the highways team at Suffolk County Council.		
4.04	Cllr Macdowell asked what hours resurfacing would take place during. Jez Porter explained it would be between 20.00 and 06.00 through the winter, so it may be delayed by adverse weather. Cllr Macdowell asked when the plan for speed compliance would be presented to parish councils. Jez Porter stated that the draft proposal had been put to Suffolk County Council, and supportive initial feedback received. Cllr Fellowes noted that 10 hours was a long time to have light pollution and noise of resurfacing work. She asked which days this would be. Jez Porter said it would be Monday to Friday, with consideration of work at weekends.		
4.05	Cllr Haworth-Culf noted that HGVs were going through Leiston town taking 'odd' routes. She asked Sizewell C to liaise with Leiston Town Council about improving signage. Jez Porter confirmed they were open to feedback and cooperation.		
4.06	Cllr Corbett queried the resurfacing of the B1122 and the proposed diversion route. Jez Porter explained that it would be south down the A12 to Saxmundham and along the B1119, coming up into Leiston. Cllr Corbett expressed concern about accidents and flooding along that stretch and noted that taking it as far as Snape would have been a more sensible approach.		



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4.07	Cllr Whitelock queried whether the 600 daily HGV movements included the water supply. Jez Porter confirmed that it did. Cllr Whitelock queried what happened to those HGV movements when flooding made the roads impassable. Marjorie Barnes said this came back to the incident management plan. The number of movements would ramp up to a peak of 600. Cllr Whitelock asked whether there were any ways to monitor and enforce routes for smaller vehicles, such as cars. Marjorie Barnes noted this was what the park and ride facilities were aimed at. Cllr Whitelock noted that in the meantime everyone working on site would be travelling by car.		
4.08	Cllr Fellowes queried the Benhall fen meadow work, noting that the temporary speed limit signs remained on the A12 despite work not taking place. It also appeared that a culvert and a haul route was being installed. Rick Watler noted that due to the flood plain a temporary haul route was required.		
4.09	Cllr Brett asked when the work in the villages and moor were planned. Jez Porter explained they would follow the B1122 resurfacing. Cllr Brett asked how long the main site entrance would be on Lovers Lane. Jez Porter said there would always be secondary site access from Lovers Lane. Cllr Brett raised a concern about the behaviour of deer as a result of the works.		
5	Community Safety		
5.01	Tim Newton presented about the worker code of conduct and introduced Sgt O'Neill. Every worker on the project was subject to the code of conduct and every member of the team signed up to it. People could be removed from the project if they did not adhere to it.		
5.02	Cllr Corbett asked whether Tim Newton would be prepared to speak to Leiston Town Council about the code of conduct. Tim Newton confirmed that he was happy to do so.	Tim Newton	
5.03	Cllr Haworth-Culf said it would be useful to have a direct number to report issues. Marjorie Barnes explained that a 24-hour phonenumber was operated.		
6	Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative		
6.01	Cllr Corbett queried whether the light levels at the Lovers Lane site entrance could be revisited. Spence Bowdler confirmed that it could but urged people to use the community helpline. Cllr Corbett noted that she would like to see the speed limit on Lovers Lane extended. Spence Bowdler said that this had been taken to the County Council.		
6.02	Cllr Brett asked when digging would start on the soil heaps, and what measures would be taken to stop soil blowing off them. Rick Watler said these were still in the design process.		
6.03	Cllr Jones asked whether people could have a tour about what was happening at Kenton Hills. Marjorie Barnes said footage could be shared and a tour considered. Cllr Jones noted that people wanted to know timings around HGVs and whether there would be monitoring. Cllr Brett urged anyone who witnessed traffic issues to report them via the helpline so problems could be resolved quickly.		
6.04	Cllr Staff asked how employees were instructed to drive to the site. Marjorie Barnes explained that designated routes were only for vehicles over 3.5 tonnes.		



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6.05	Cllr Fellowes queried whether the accommodation funds had been triggered. Richard Bull said he would come back in regard to this, and the working group was in place. Cllr Fellowes queried when the temporary and permanent beach landing facilities would come in, and asked whether a separate meeting could look at this and coastal erosion. Brian Stewart said a briefing update could be sent out.		
6.06	Cllr Macdowell queried whether HGV speeds would be monitored. David Peacop said each vehicle's speed could not be monitored. Marjorie Barnes said this fell under the code of conduct.		
6.07	Cllr Macdowell noted a lot of unhappiness around the B1122 noise and vibration mitigation. Marjorie Barnes said they would revert to him on this within the next week.	Marjorie Barnes	
7	AOB		
7.01	There being no further business, the meeting was closed.		
8	Date of the Next Meeting		
8.01	The next meeting would be on 16 April 2024.		