SIZEWELL C JOINT LOCAL AUTHORITIES GROUP Actions from meeting held on 11 July 2014

Present:

Cllr Andy Smith (Chairman), Cllr Mark Bee, Therese Coffey MP, Cllr Michael Gower, Cllr Trevor Hawkins, Cllr Matthew Hicks, Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Cllr Graham Newman (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Richard Smith MVO, John Pitchford, Katherine Potts, Paul Wood

Invitees:

Nikos Savvas (Chief Executive – West Suffolk College), Judith Mobbs (Assistant Director for Skills, Suffolk County Council)

Apologies:

Cllr Stephen Burroughes, Stephen Baker, Bryn Griffiths, Arthur Charvonia, Cllr Ray Herring, Cllr Andrew Nunn, Cllr Andrew Reid, Philip Ridley

1.	Chairman's welcome and introductions	
	The Chairman welcomed Katherine Potts to JLAG. Katherine has been appointed jointly by Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk County Council as Project Manager for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and will be attending future JLAG meetings.	
2.	Skills paper and discussion	
	A presentation was given by Nikos Savvas, Cllr Matthew Hicks and Judith Mobbs, to update JLAG on the work being done with regard to skills.	
	EDF will start to draft its Workforce Strategy this summer. A working group led by Suffolk's further education colleges, with representatives from Suffolk County Council, local schools and higher education institutions, is putting together a draft position paper to contribute to this which will outline activity proposed for people of all age groups.	
	The working group are seeking JLAG's views on this draft paper before it is submitted to EDF.	
	The paper sets out a strategy for developing talent using a "whole system approach". This includes working with young people at school, linking up with employers, accelerating careers into the energy sector, and supporting young people in the workforce.	
	[Therese Coffey MP left the meeting at this point]	
	The working group gives EDF a single point of contact to talk to, with discussions currently focusing around four points of negotiation ("4 asks"):	
	Ask 1 – building capacity in STEM (Science, Technology and Maths)	
	[Cllr Andrew Nunn joined the meeting at this point]	
	Ask 2 – apprenticeships – strengthening the programme and identifying opportunities across the whole supply chain. Recognising the current shortage of opportunities and competition with other sectors. Ask 3 – local training solutions.	

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	Ask 4 – access to employment. EDF working with JobCentre Plus and local employers, creating a gateway to retraining and upskilling, available across the county. JLAG gave the following feedback on the paper: - Must pay attention to whole spectrum (age range) - FE (further education) is very strong in the paper - Work Inspiration programme involving 24 primaries. Expanding to cover 100 across Suffolk. Another 110 will follow in September 2015. - EDF have confirmed they welcome the group's views; - The paper is an opening salvo to negotiations; - Similar to the design principles paper – a joint approach presented by partners. Will form part of audit/evidence trail. - It is a key issue on which planning application will be judged by the Planning Inspectorate. - How can we measure progress on influencing EDF on this? - When we see the first draft of their Workforce Development Strategy.	
	There were some small changes recommended but generally JLAG confirmed it was happy with the work done on the paper.	
	Action: JLAG agreed that if Members had any suggested changes, these should be confirmed directly to Judith Mobbs and Nikos Savvas by Monday 13 th July.	JLAG - All
3.	Notes of previous meeting	
	- Carry forward item on Rights of Way to September	John Pitchford
	Some comments were made about the Environment Scoping Report – the Secretary of State appears to recognise JLAG's points and the significance of the AONB.	
4.	Latest understanding of EDF's consultation proposals	
	There is a requirement of developers of NSIPs (Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects) to produce a "Statement of Community Consultation". The developer must consult local authorities four weeks in advance of publication of this statement. A first draft has been provided and there was some discussion around the key points.	
	The issue of timings was discussed – 8 weeks each for Stage 2 and 3 – JLAG would prefer longer, or at least longer for Stage 3 (e.g. 12 weeks).	
	EDF propose to circulate statement to JLAG and have it signed off by the Chairman and Vice Chairman. JLAG confirmed it was happy with this approach.	
5.	Update on workstreams (environment; transport; socio-economic; associated development)	

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Associated Development

No substantive new information to report at present. Workshops are continuing, EDF are preparing documents for Stage 2, this will determine what to do next.

[Therese Coffey MP re-joined the meeting at this point]

Accommodation Campus

There is a feeling that we should come up with alternatives to Eastbridge. Would need figures to be able to determine what is needed. JLAG asked if any officer time could be dedicated to this.

Action: Philip Ridley to meet JLAG members to discuss the Accommodation Campus issue.

Philip Ridley/Katherine Potts

Socio Economic

Initial discussion of economic strategy is underway – 3 key areas: skills, supply chain (led by Suffolk Chamber) and mitigation of negative impacts on the local economy. No major new information is emerging currently.

Transport

Officers met with the Parish Clerks of the four villages, to encourage them not to dismiss proposal to bypass Farnham and Stratford St Andrew. This seemed a pragmatic approach and was acceptable to the Parish Clerks.

Access from A12 to the power station – officers' view was that the current proposal by EDF was inappropriate, and they wish to see more proposals.

EDF concerned impact on compulsory purchase issues if there is a longer route (e.g. the four villages bypass).

It was noted a report on alternatives to address B1122 issues is under preparation

Action: John Pitchford to check status of report and let Cllr Richard Smith know.

Growth deal has not delivered for Suffolk Coastal. Need to make a business case on what needs doing, what benefits would arise from doing is. Could a discussion with New Anglia LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) be had?

Action: John Pitchford to discuss with Chris Starkie to seek the LEP's view.

John Pitchford

John Pitchford

Environment

There has been some discussion about concrete and the domes.

Therese Coffey MP, Cllr Andy Smith, Philip Ridley and Bryn Griffiths attended a meeting with the ONR (Office for Nuclear Research). The ONR's approach is that EDF has to satisfy itself it can provide safe solution. ONR then tests/assesses this. ONR is opposed to pigmenting concrete, or building an over-arching dome. ONR would be nervous about any deviation on design already submitted, and approval process would be very lengthy.

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	Any further questions can be put directly to the Chief Inspector for ONR –	
	ONR's remit is safety (i.e. not aesthetics).	
	AONB has worked with EDF on definitions table of special qualities held in the site area, to help EDF to consider mitigation and compensation.	
6.	Dates of further meetings:	
	 Friday 12 September 2014 at 2.00pm - SCDC Council Chamber Friday 10 October 2014 at 2.00pm - SCDC Council Chamber Friday 14 November 2014 at 2.00pm - SCDC Council Chamber Friday 12 December 2014 at 2.00pm - SCDC Council Chamber 	
7.	Any Other Business	
	Somerset meeting – still being organised. Date for meeting proving to be very difficult – it may need to be a teleconference. Visit to Flamanville – JLAG agrees it would be useful to look at as almost built. Possibly in September/October. Two options – a view from the clifftop (maximum 40 people) or on site (maximum 15 people) – JLAG prefer the latter option.	
	Action: Officers from both authorities to ascertain costs and how these can be met.	Philip Ridley & John Pitchford
	DCO submission (due late 2015/early 2016) and progress on Sizewell C investment decision – JLAG to be kept updated on this.	
	On site briefing for members (beyond JLAG membership) felt to be useful at Stage 2. Officers agreed to programme this in.	
	Future meeting dates to be circulated by email after the meeting.	
	The meeting closed at 5:00pm	