

SIZEWELL C JOINT LOCAL AUTHORITIES GROUP
Notes from meeting held on 14 July 2017

Present:

Cllr Geoff Holdcroft, Cllr Alexander Nicoll, Cllr Andrew Reid, Cllr Tony Fryatt, Cllr Tony Cooper, Dr Therese Coffey MP, Cllr Andy Smith, Cllr Ray Herring, Cllr Ian Pratt, Lisa Chandler, Bryn Griffiths, Katherine Potts, John Pitchford, Philip Ridley, Paul Warmington, Steve Merry, Michael Moll,

Apologies:

Cllr James Finch, Cllr Richard Smith MVO, Cllr Russ Rainger, Cllr Matthew Hicks
 Sue Roper, Adam Barnes, Dave Watson, Judith Mobbs,

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| 1. | Introductions | |
| | Philip Ridley opened the meeting with introductions around the room. Apologies were also given. He explained that the first item on the meeting agenda was to appoint a new Chairman and Vice - Chairman, in line with the terms of reference for JLAG. | |
| 2. | Appointment of new Chairman | |
| | <p>The Terms of Reference indicated that for the civic years 2017/18 and 2018/19 that Suffolk Coastal District Council would take the Chairmanship of JLAG. The appointment of Cllr Geoff Holdcroft was proposed by Cllr Tony Cooper and seconded by Cllr Tony Fryatt.</p> <p>Cllr Geoff Holdcroft took the Chair and proposed Cllr Richard Smith MVO in his absence as the Vice-Chairman.</p> <p>This was the first JLAG meeting since the county council election in May, the Chairman welcomed the three new County Councillors to JLAG – Cllr Nicoll, Cllr Rainger and Cllr Hicks [post meeting note – Cllr Graham Newman would in fact take the place originally allocated to Cllr Hicks]. He wished to acknowledge and pass on thanks for the contribution that Cllrs Gower, Fleming and McGregor had formerly made to JLAG.</p> <p>Cllr Holdcroft spoke about his wish to continue to work collectively as local authorities on the Sizewell C project.</p> | |
| 3. | Notes of last meeting – March 2017 | |
| | These were noted, as they had already been signed off by the previous Chairman and Vice-Chairman and were available on the Sizewell webpages | |
| 4 | EDF Energy – recent meetings | |
| | Cllr Holdcroft reported that EDF Energy are still looking at the feedback from Stage 2 public consultation and so are not currently | |

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| | <p>engaging with officers on the technical details for the development. However, we continue to have high level meetings with Jim Crawford. EDF Energy will be reporting the findings of the Stage 2 consultation in the Autumn. This will be via a meeting of the Sizewell Community Forum and a newsletter.</p> <p>Cllr Reid asked about the likely length of the Stage 3 consultation. Cllr Holdcroft replied that we have made a number of representations on the length of time for the various Stages of consultation. EDF Energy's Statement of Community Consultation gives the current guidance on this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Holdcroft explained that we are in conversation with EDF Energy regarding a review of the Planning Performance Agreement with the two councils.</p> | |
| 5 | Forward Planning | |
| | <p>Michael Moll explained that we were talking with EDF Energy regarding the key issues in our response to the Stage 2 consultation.</p> <p>He explained that there were some issues where the local authorities could work independently in the meantime - for example SEGWay.</p> | |
| 6 | Skills update | |
| | <p>Paul Warmington gave members an update on progress on the Skills area. He stated that over the past year there had been a much greater level of engagement on Skills with EDF Energy.</p> <p>Schools were a key objective in the county and we need EDF Energy to complement some of the existing STEM intervention programmes that already exist locally. He talked about the possibility of Suffolk people getting a level of priority to take jobs at Hinkley which would upskill them to be able to return and work at Sizewell C. Skills partners locally also have an ambition to host an Institute of Technology.</p> <p>The Chairman noted his appreciation for the work of Paul and Judith Mobbs in progressing this area forward.</p> | |
| 7 | New Nuclear Local Authority Group meeting and site visit | |
| | <p>Lisa Chandler gave members an overview of the Officer meeting that had been held on 28 June. The meeting provided a good opportunity to learn from other areas that have New Nuclear</p> | |

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| | <p>proposals. In particular the experiences of the Somerset authorities regarding monitoring the Transport and Accommodation issues as the Hinkley C build progresses. The proposed government working group on Community Benefit had not yet been held. There was a discussion on the range of Planning Performance Arrangements around the country and also the responses to the Industrial Strategy consultation.</p> <p>Geoff Holdcroft then went on to give members a flavour of the tour we had undertaken of the area surrounding Hinkley Point C and on the site itself. It was hoped that we would take a wider group of members and Officers from JLAG to see the Hinkley site in early 2018.</p> | |
| 8 | SEGWay update | |
| | <p>Bryn Griffiths reported that the Highway Authority is adopting a twin track approach of the SEGWay planning application being a National Strategic Infrastructure Project (NSIP) or being determined by the local authority to make both possible in advance of a final decision.</p> <p>In their Stage 2 consultation response to EDF Energy, the Councils stated that, regarding road improvements of the A12 in the Farnham area, a 2-village bypass for Farnham and Stratford St Andrew (option 4 in the consultation document) is what they consider to be the appropriate mitigation. The matter is not resolved yet and is subject to further discussion between the Councils and EDF Energy. The issue is important as the local developer contribution will be determined by the outcome.</p> <p>Government financial support will also be essential to make SEGWay possible hence the preparation of the Business Case.</p> <p>The County Council will be asking that the Government underwrite the EDF Energy local developer contribution as it is not able to fund this contribution alone. At the point at which the County Council will need to start the detailed design and planning process, and perhaps even the build, it is unlikely that the Sizewell C decisions will have been made and thus the developer contribution will not be certain. The Highway Authority believes significant further early investment will be needed i.e. c£5-10m from as early as the beginning of 2018 if we are to run overlapping processes for outline design, planning/CPO and procurement in parallel and all at risk.</p> <p>Bryn Griffiths reported good progress was being made on the Outline Business Case and offered to bring it to JLAG when it is ready.</p> | |
| 9 | Suffolk Energy Coast Delivery Board | |
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| | The Board had last met on 30 th June. On the agenda for the meeting was Skills, SEGWay, and a presentation on East Anglia Offshore Wind | |
| 10 | AOB and next meeting | |
| | Katherine Potts reported that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would soon be issuing a Sizewell update to Parish and Town councils. The next JLAG meeting is 29 th September at 2pm. | |
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