



## **Forth Replacement Crossing North Community Forum Minutes**

**Meeting Location:** FRC Contact & Education Centre, South Queensferry

**Meeting Date/Time:** 18 November 2015 – 7 pm

**Subject:** North Community Forum

**Participants:**

**Community Representatives**

**Bill King** (Rosyth Community Council)

**Jim George** (North Queensferry Community Council)

**Wayne Morris** (Inverkeithing Community Council)

**Transport Scotland – Employers Delivery Team**

**Lawrence Shackman** (Chair and Project Manager)

**Raymond Kirk** (Governance and Stakeholder Liaison  
Outreach and Education - Secretariat)

**Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors**

**Ewen Macdonell** (FCBC - Community Liaison  
Manager)

**Apologies**

**Alan Shirley** (Head of Policy, Governance and  
Stakeholder Liaison)

**Lin Collis** (North Queensferry Community Council)

**Katrina Bruce** (FCBC - Community Liaison Officer)

|            |   | Action |
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| <b>1</b>   | <b>Welcome and introductions</b>  |        |
| <b>1.1</b> | <p>Meeting chaired by Lawrence Shackman.</p> <p>LS welcomed Jim George back to the Community Forum as a substitute for Lin Collis who was absent due to ill health. The Forum send their best wishes to Lin for a speedy recovery.</p>  | Noted  |
| <b>2</b>   | <b>Review of minutes and outstanding actions from the North Community Forum 19 August 2015</b>  |        |
| <b>2.1</b> | Minutes were approved for the Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) to post the final version on the Transport Scotland (TS) website.  | Noted  |
| <b>2.2</b> | <p><b>Outstanding actions paper</b></p> <p>The only outstanding action from the previous minutes (6.5) regarding the maintenance of the Parklea Embankment is recorded as a Post Meeting Note that grass cutting was undertaken on 21 August 2015.</p>  | Noted  |
| <b>3</b>   | <b>Update from Employer's Delivery Team</b>   |        |
| <b>3.1</b> | <p>LS provided an update on EDT activities over the last 3 months together with upcoming events, noting the following:</p> <p><b><u>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee</u></b></p> <p>David Climie and LS appeared in front of the Committee on 16 September 2015 as part of the Employers Delivery Team's regular communication with the Scottish Parliament to keep them informed on progress relating to the project.</p> <p>Issues raised with the Committee which may be of interest or directly affect North Community Forum members were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project remains on time and within reduced budget range of £1.35 - £1.4 billion</li> <li>• Significant progress has been made on the North approach roads and the Queensferry Crossing despite the unusually unsettled weather</li> <li>• A new peak of employment has been reached with an</li> </ul> | Noted  |

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|            | average of 1266 people working on the site. LS stated that this figure had since risen to 1287.   |       |
| <b>3.2</b> | <p><b><u>Community Forum site visits</u></b></p> <p>Site visits were held on Saturday 5 and Monday 7 September 2015.</p> <p>Forum Members attending said they were delighted with the progress made on the works.</p>   | Noted |
| <b>3.3</b> | <p><b>St Margaret's Marsh</b></p> <p>LS updated the Forum saying that recent high tides had provided good flooding on the salt marsh. However, it was difficult to tell how far the seawater had permeated the eastern reed bed and the ground level within the western reed bed makes it difficult to determine how far the water inundation had spread. Opportunities to cut channels into the reed beds to allow greater high tide inundation over a much wider area are being considered.</p> | Noted |
| <b>3.4</b> | <p><b>Establishment of St Margaret's Marsh Steering Group</b></p> <p>The EDT are meeting with the RSPB in late November with a view to setting up a St Margarets Marsh Steering Group. The Group's aim will be to consider how best to manage the area and consider issues such as public access via footpaths. NQ Community Council will be invited to make a formal nomination to sit on the Steering Group.</p>  | Noted |
| <b>3.5</b> | <p><b><u>Park Lea Embankment</u></b></p> <p>LS informed the Forum that additional planting will be undertaken at Parklea embankment during the current planting season (Nov 2015 - March 2016), comprising Birch, supplemented by some Willow and Alder. This should mirror the established trees in the area.</p>  | Noted |

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| 3.6 | <p><b><u>Contact and Education Centre (CEC) - Update</u></b></p> <p>RK provided an update regarding the CEC Outreach and Education programme.</p> <p><u>FRC Schools Education Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10,000 pupils have attended the CEC as part of the FRC Schools Education Programme. Cabinet Secretary Keith Brown attended the CEC on 23 October with Greenfaulds High, North Lanarkshire to celebrate the milestone.</li> <li>• The Education Programme is very popular with limited availability left for 2015-16 school session.</li> </ul> <p><u>FRC Project Exhibition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday opening of the Exhibition will remain until 12 December 2015 – due to public demand.</li> <li>• Project will reopen on 30 January 2016 with an Information Day.</li> <li>• Information Boards are currently being updated with the latest information.</li> </ul> <p><u>FRC Annual Briefings</u></p> <p>Annual Briefings about the Project for the Public, Press and Elected Officials are to be held on 26 and 27 January 2016 at the Contact and Education Centre.</p> <p>42,000 people have visited the CEC, attended an educational visit or a pre-booked presentation.</p> | Noted |
| 4   | <p><b>Update on Forth Bridge Operating Company (FBOC) and Forth Bridges Forum (FBF)</b></p>  |       |
| 4.1 | <p>LS stated that following the dissolution of FETA on 1st June 2015, and the fact that Amey Highways Limited had become responsible for the management and maintenance of the Forth Bridges Unit under Transport Scotland's Forth Bridges Operating Company Contract that it was no longer necessary to have an update on the Forth Bridges Operating Company as a standing item on the North Community</p>   |       |

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|          | <p>Forum Agenda. In addition, as separate meetings were being convened for community groups for the Forth Bridges Forum this could also be removed.</p> <p>The Forum agreed to drop this standing item from the agenda agreeing that issues can be revisited in the future should the need arise.</p>  | Noted |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract)</b>   |       |
| 5.1      | <p>EM provided a slide presentation to Forum members that included photos of the work currently on-going, progressing from south to north:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Dalmeny Rail Bridge and Standingstone Road Bridge in Dalmeny</u> - night time works completed early.</li> <li>• <u>Southbound Public Transport Link</u> - traffic switch onto this link for A90 southbound traffic targeted for early 2016.</li> <li>• <u>B800 Bridge</u> – demolition carried out over two weekends in October - no requirement for contingency weekend.</li> <li>• <u>Dundas to South Abutment</u> – sub-base, drainage and ducting were now substantially complete</li> <li>• <u>South Approach Viaduct</u>– steel reinforcement and concreting is underway on both carriageways.</li> <li>• <u>Towers</u> – The North and South towers were now complete to final height. The Central Tower completion is targeted for early December 2015.</li> <li>• <u>Deck Sections</u> – 18 of the precast reinforced concrete topped deck sections have now been lifted into place out of 110. With the 12 deck sections previously completed around the towers this meant that around 25% of the deck was now in place.</li> </ul> <p><u>North Approach Viaduct</u> – structural steelwork complete. 2 deck pours on twin box girders have taken place to act as ballast for the launch of steelwork (222m long, 5000 plus tonnes) in early December. All other deck pours will take place in-situ throughout winter and spring 2016 after launch is completed in December 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ferrytoll Viaduct</u> - Reinforced concrete work on deck is complete. Adjacent embankments progressed well during 2015. SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) Pond immediately to the west of Ferrytoll viaduct is formed.</li> </ul> |       |

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|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>King Malcolm Drive</u> – Traffic now switched to westbound carriageway. In response to concerns raised about the timings built into the traffic light system, FCBC will pursue better phasing options.</li> <li>• <u>Northbound A90</u> – Traffic has switched over to west lane. Other lanes will be introduced during 2015/2016 to create the new M90.</li> </ul> <p>Email alerts relating to the works at Ferrytoll are being issued for those who sign up for them at <a href="http://www.frc-ferrytoll.info">www.frc-ferrytoll.info</a>. The current phasing can also be viewed here.</p> <p>Information is also posted on the FRC section of the Transport Scotland website as part of the 'Weekly Traffic Management Update' updated at the end of each week: <a href="http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users">http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users</a>.</p> | FCBC  |
| <b>6</b>   | <b>Community issues</b>   |       |
| <b>6.1</b> | <p><u>Future Use of Contact and Education Centre</u></p> <p>JG noted that the plans for the Forth Bridge Visitors Centre had been discussed locally and residents were split 50:50 because of the lack of roads and parking in the area. He asked if there was any chance that Network Rail would seek to use the CEC as their Visitors Centre once the FRC Project is complete.</p> <p>LS confirmed that this had not been a subject raised before but that his personal view was that he hoped the CEC would remain as an Education Centre and that any discussions about Network Rail and the location of their visitor centre should be directed through the Forth Bridges Forum.</p>   | Noted |
| <b>7</b>   | <b>Any Other Business</b>   |       |
| <b>7.1</b> | No additional topics were brought forward for discussion.   |       |
| <b>8</b>   | <b>Next Community Forums</b>  |       |
| <b>8.1</b> | <p>North Community Forum – <b>Wednesday 17 February 2016</b></p> <p>South Community Forum – <b>Wednesday 24 February 2016</b></p>   | Noted |