



Forth Replacement Crossing North Community Forum Minutes

Meeting Location: FRC Contact & Education Centre, South Queensferry

Meeting Date/Time: 19 August 2015 – 7 pm

Subject: North Community Forum

Participants:

Community Representatives

Bill King (Rosyth Community Council)

Lin Collis (North Queensferry Community Council)

Wayne Morris (Inverkeithing Community Council)

Transport Scotland – Employers Delivery Team

Lawrence Shackman (Chair and Project Manager)

Charles Cozens (Governance Officer - Secretariat)

Raymond Kirk (Governance and Stakeholder Liaison – Outreach and Education)

Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors

Ewen Macdonell (Community Liaison Officer)

Katrina Bruce (Assistant Community Liaison Officer)

Apologies

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

		Action
1	Welcome and introductions	
1.1	<p>Meeting chaired by Lawrence Shackman.</p> <p>LS introduced Raymond Kirk to the NCF, Raymond Kirk will be taking over the Secretariat role for future NCF meetings.</p>	Noted
2	Review of minutes and outstanding actions North Community Forum 20 May 2015	
2.1	Minutes were approved for EDT to post final version on the TS website.	Noted
2.2	<p>Outstanding actions paper</p> <p>There were no outstanding actions from previous meetings</p>	Noted
3	Update from Employer's Delivery Team	
3.1	<p>LS provided a short update on EDT activities over the last 3 months together with upcoming events, noting the following:</p> <p><u>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee</u></p> <p>As part of our regular communication with the Scottish Parliament, David Climie and I have been invited to appear in front of the Committee on 16 September to update them on Project progress.</p> <p>The project will also be hosting a visit from the Committee to provide an on-site visual update.</p>	Noted
3.2	<p><u>Community Forum site visits</u></p> <p>Invitations have been issued to Forum members regarding forthcoming progress site visits which will be held on Saturday 5 and Monday 7 September. We asked those interested in attending to reply by 14 August.</p> <p>If members haven't yet replied who wish to attend one of the visits, can you please e-mail us.</p>	Noted

3.3	<p><u>Cabinet Secretary of Infrastructure, Investment & Cities Visit</u></p> <p>Keith Brown visited the Queensferry Crossing construction site on August 13 to meet with workers and view progress on the project.</p> <p>Mr Brown updated media on the fact that the project now has peak employment rates with 1,200 employed directly onsite. He also mentioned the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The south approach viaduct has been fully launched to its final position • The first cables have been installed on the North Tower • All three of Queensferry Crossing's towers are over 160 metres high – at least 10 metres above the height of the Forth Road Bridge • The new B800 bridge over the A90 was opened in July • Assembly of north approach viaduct is nearly complete ready for launch this autumn. <p>Finally, with Queensferry Crossing's towers now at least 10 metres higher than the Forth Road Bridge Mr Brown was also able to announce that the Queensferry Crossing is the highest bridge in the UK.</p>	Noted
3.4	<p><u>Industry Days</u></p> <p>The project held 20 'Industry Days' for engineering professionals to attend a half day event to find out more about the FRC Project which included a bus tour of the FRC site. The events took place between late April and mid-August.</p> <p>These were a huge success and attracted around 1000 attendees.</p>	Noted
3.5	<p><u>Frame the Bridge</u></p> <p>The FRC Communications Team launched the Frame the Bridge Campaign in March, the purpose of FTB is to create a mosaic of the Queensferry Crossing out of thousands of photographs.</p> <p>To take part you need to take a photo of yourself, family and/or friends at our dedicated signs at the project's Contact & Education Centre (on the south side) and/or at The</p>	Noted

	<p>Queensferry Hotel (on the north side), with the bridge works in the background.</p> <p>You would then upload the photograph to the Queensferry Crossing section of the Forth Bridges website and help build the fantastic online “People’s Bridge” mosaic. The photos will also form a key part of the celebrations when the bridge opens.</p> <p>We would be grateful if you could encourage others in the community to participate.</p>	
<p>3.6</p>	<p><u>Contact and Education Centre (CEC) - Update</u></p> <p>CC provided a short update regarding the CEC Outreach and Education programme.</p> <p><u>FRC Project Exhibition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been over 10,921 visitors to the Project Exhibition since it opened in 2013 • 2,715 visitors have attended the Project Exhibition since it re-opened on 7 March 2015 <p><u>FRC Talks and Presentations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 14,000 people have attended a pre-booked presentation. • Since the FRC Presentations Series re-commenced in March 688 people have attended these events. In total we have had approximately 1,450 attend the Presentation Series since these began in 2014. <p><u>FRC Schools Education Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 9,000 pupils have attended a visit since the education programme commenced in 2013. • We have introduced a new education programme for the 2015/16 academic year called ‘Distance Learning’. RK elaborated on this, informing the Forum that the Distance Learning package for schools had been developed to enable teachers to deliver information about the Queensferry Crossing and the FRC Project to pupils who could not attend because of any prohibitive distance they would have to travel or the cost of transport. <p>LS summarised by stating that to date approximately 35,000 people have visited the CEC, attended an educational visit</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	<p>http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk/ or via Transport Scotland's website</p> <p>http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/road/bridges/forth-bridges-special-project, or by contacting Transport Scotland's Special Projects team on 0141 272 7473.</p> <p>Minutes of Forum meetings are published on the Transport Scotland website.</p>	Noted
5	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract)	
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"> • <u>Dalmeny Rail Bridge and Standingstone Road Bridge in Dalmeny</u> - bridge repairs and waterproofing works have been carried out in preparation for the tie-in of the south bound bus link. A new vehicle safety barrier will be added in due course. • <u>B800 Bridge</u> – this was open fully to traffic in late July and the existing B800 bridge will be demolished over two weekends – the 24th and 31st October 2015, with 7th November weekend booked as a contingency. This will entail temporary closures of the A90. Details will be published in the media and the project website nearer the time. • <u>Approach Road South</u> - Sub-base (the first construction layer of the new M90 motorway) is underway between Dundas and the new Queensferry Junction with work continuing over the next two months. Drainage and ducting are being installed along the motorway and shall be sufficiently advanced as the year progresses to see our target of blacktop surfacing in place from Dundas through to the South Abutment. • <u>Queensferry Junction</u> - Much of the work is now complete with verge works being progressed to a conclusion where possible in the weeks to come. • <u>South Approach Viaduct</u> - Work is progressing well with joiners and steel fixers having started the process of forming the deck to support the north bound carriageway. The first of 28 concrete pours is planned for September 2015 and work will be continuous into the early part of 2016 until 24 pours are completed by spring 2017. The final four pours 	Noted

	<p>will be completed after this to tie into the main crossing deck.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Towers</u> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ South and North Towers are progressing well, cabling having started on the North Tower in July and the South in August, with the first four deck sections at each of these having being successfully concreted during the past three months. ○ Deck concreting on Central Tower is progressing well and cabling will get underway soon. ○ Each tower requires 54 concrete pours . At present the South, Central and North have completed 45, 45 and 47 pours respectively, each one, on average 4 metres high. • <u>North Approach Viaduct (NAV)</u> - Work on the piers is nearing completion in good time for the launching of the NAV steelwork, a 222 metre long structure weighing in at over 6000 tonnes which will be pulled over the North Abutment and piers to its final resting place this autumn. • <u>Ferrytoll Viaduct</u> - Reinforced concrete work on the deck is 40% complete with full completion scheduled for early autumn. The adjacent embankments have progressed well during 2015 with the bulk of the required 1.2 million tonnes of imported spent oil shale now in place. The earthworks for the SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) Pond immediately to the west of Ferrytoll viaduct is nearing completion. The pond will be lined with an impervious clay liner covered with 300mm of topsoil and planted by spring of 2016. • <u>St Margaret's Marsh</u> - Works to improve irrigation and to promote the propagation of the marsh into the reed bed area are nearing completion with the installation of three sluice gates in the sea wall, refurbishment of five sluice gates in the reed bed area and the installation of connecting drainage throughout this Site of Special Scientific Interest. • <u>King Malcolm Drive/Ferrytoll Road/ B981 Junction</u> - works are nearing completion with full opening including traffic lights planned for no later than 	
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	<p>September 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ferrytoll northbound merge slip road to the A90</u> - On Sunday 16th August 2015, this slip road off Castlandhill Road was opened to traffic. This is the first shift of traffic onto the new motorway alignment on the north network. It will be followed by all four lanes of traffic being shifted to their new, permanent, alignment throughout the remainder of 2015 and into 2016. • <u>Average speed cameras (40mph)</u> – from Echline to Admiralty are currently under test on the northbound carriageway. Southbound carriageway cameras will be installed later this year. • <u>Roadworks North</u> - The earthworks to the north of Dunfermline Wynd adjacent to the northbound carriageway are required to accommodate the new northbound diverge and hard shoulder from the new M90. The final slope of the cutting is now being formed and roadworks will follow in this location later in 2015. • <u>Ferrytoll Junction area</u> - The works at Ferrytoll are highly complex – there are around 15 traffic management phases to undertake before summer 2016. We are currently in Phase 5. Email alerts relating to the works at Ferrytoll are being issued for those who sign up for them at www.frc-ferrytoll.info. The current phasing can also be viewed here. • Information will also be posted on the FRC section of the Transport Scotland website as part of the 'Weekly Traffic Management Update' that is updated at the end of each week: http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users. 	
<p>6</p>	<p>Community issues</p>	
<p>6.1</p>	<p>LC raised a number of issues brought to her attention by residents of North Queensferry these were;</p> <p>Regarding the merging of the new northbound slip road to the main A90 carriageway - some residents of North Queensferry have commented that they find it unsafe due to poor sightlines from the northbound traffic.</p>	

	<p>EM acknowledged that there are shorter sight lines travelling northbound on the A90 nearing the junction, however, as the traffic is moving at a slower speed (40mph limit) the junction is safe. EM recognised that when the traffic is busy there are a lack of merging opportunities given the temporary 'give way' nature of the merge. However, the works adjacent to this area are being progressed such that an improved layout will be possible in a few weeks.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6.2</p>	<p>An issue with HGV's parking on Battery Road in North Queensferry. LC was asking for assurances that no HGV's would be parking in NQ and are not being diverted into NQ by FCBC. She would also like to know if there are any areas for HGV's to wait in out of normal delivery times.</p>	
	<p>EM confirmed that no HGV's should be parking on Battery Road and that FCBC were not diverting any into the area. EM asked that if any HGV's are seen parking in the area that the company name and registration of the vehicle be passed to FCBC to investigate.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6.3</p>	<p>Will the ICI be asking the community groups for feedback on the project anytime soon as a resident who lives on the west of the Forth Road Bridge has been experiencing excessive construction noise since the start of the project.</p>	
	<p>LS confirmed that the noise thresholds for the project, which were endorsed during the Parliamentary Bill process, are lower than the standards set out for most construction projects in the UK. All activities are subject to review by the Noise Liaison Group and FCBC are constantly monitoring noise levels, managing these well since the works began. Often the issue is that as some of the works take place over night the slightest noise can appear louder due to the lack of background noise. Liaison has been ongoing with the residents situated west of the FRB and FCBC has worked to ensure adherence in this and all areas.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6.4</p>	<p>WM asked whether the current works adjacent to the A90 and the average speed cameras on the northbound carriageway were affecting the traffic heading to Fife from Edinburgh?</p> <p>LS advised that it was unlikely that the delays heading</p>	

