



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 24



1 April 2014, 10:00 to 12:00

Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) – Chair
Maggie Paterson	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Jon Moore	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Gavin Martin	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)
Carolyn Clark	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Ellie Slee	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Liam Soden	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Stuart Swainson	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)

Apologies for Absence:

Rod McCullagh	Historic Scotland (HS)
Mike Bland	Marine Scotland (MS)

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	EDT provided an introduction and apologies.	
2	Actions from previous meeting (ELG 23)	<p>EDT advised that no comments were raised on the draft minutes from ELG meeting 23. These minutes have been uploaded to the website.</p> <p>EDT confirmed progress regarding actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headland's Archaeological Watching Brief 2012 report to be updated by FCBC after completion of all topsoil stripping works and inclusion of the works carried out at St Margaret's Hope Lodge gate. This is now anticipated for the end of April 2014.• The complaint regarding vermin observed at Society Road, raised 18/01/14, has been investigated and addressed by FCBC's Environmental and Communications teams.• EDT held a meeting with WLC on 25/02/14 to discuss PM10 levels at Newton. WLC awaiting final ratified results.• FCBC consulted with SEPA regarding the potential use of anti-freeze / de-icing fluid for the launch. SEPA confirmed approval by email 04/03/14, provided the product is stored and applied responsibly.	<p>Note</p> <p>FCBC</p>
3	General		
3a	Project update	<p>Installation of the noise barrier at the noise bund at East Dundas was commenced early March 2014, but is on hold pending resolution regarding successful load testing of posts. Planting on the noise bund is in progress and to be completed by the end of April 2014, subject to completion of the noise barrier. Both the barrier and planting are significant elements of environmental mitigation.</p> <p>Plants delivered by Johnsons 27/03/14 for areas in the north site between King Malcolm Drive and B981. This is the last plant delivery for season 2013/14.</p>	

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		Estuarine bird survey quarterly report (QR) 9 forwarded to SNH 10/03/14. QR10 (Sept – Nov 2013) is with EDT for review and QR11 is being prepared. [Post-meeting note: QR10 forwarded to SNH on 3/4/14]. QR11 to be forwarded to SNH when complete.	EDT
3b	Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website		
	i	<p>Updated sections of the Environmental Management Plan were sent to the project website 20/03/14 to be uploaded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land-based Incident Response Plan • Marine Spillage Response Plan <p>FCBC confirmed that a letter responding to EDT's comments on the updated Implementation and Operation Plan will be submitted to EDT imminently.</p> <p>The Air Quality Monitoring Report January 2014 has been uploaded to the project website 05/03/14. FCBC addressed CEC's comments on the Air Quality Monitoring Report February 2014, which will be uploaded to the project website early April 2014.</p> <p>FCBC are preparing the Air Quality Monitoring Report for March 2014.</p>	<p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>FCBC</p>
3c	Complaints /issues arising		
		<p>Complaints and other issues recorded in this period have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant moving at Echline compound and Queensferry gyratory before 08.00 hours. Addressed by provision of tool box talks to operatives regarding working hours. • Dirty driveway resulting from road cleaning operations on A904. Addressed by additional cleaning of footpath, bus shelters and gateway at Echline. • Removal of trees beside Ferrymuir industrial estate. FCBC/EDT to investigate. 	FCBC / EDT
4	Principal Contract (FCBC)		
4a	Programme and outline proposals: Works undertaken February – March 2014		
	i) Land (north)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Castlandhill Road diversion ongoing. • Excavation, crushing and stockpiling rock at Whinny Hill/Castlandhill Road northbound merge ongoing. • Construction of structures at Ferrytoll gyratory ongoing. • Grouting works completed and diversion works at SW tunnel at Ferrytoll viaduct ongoing. • Construction of footpath, kerbing and installation of ducting and gullies at B981 ongoing. • Site clearance between A90 and B981 completed. • Installation of fence at Dunfermline Waste Water Treatment Works ongoing. • Installation of formwork and mass concrete works at North Abutment ongoing. • Excavation for crane rail foundations at north launch ongoing. • Removal of gates at St. Margaret's Hope Lodge completed under supervision by Headland Archaeology. 	
	ii) Land (south)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting works at Society Road completed. • Installation of formworks and concrete pours to achieve full height for pier legs at S8 and S7 completed. Installation of bearing plinths for next launch of Queensferry Crossing deck commenced. • Preparation for construction of Inchgarvie Lodge wall commenced. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass concrete works at South Abutment ongoing. • Delivery, assembly, painting, welding and steel works at southern launch assembly area ongoing. • Road construction works, removal of stone wall and diversion of public utilities at A904 west ongoing. • Earthworks and excavation of rock at Queensferry gyratory and southbound merge ongoing. • Construction of noise bund and road formation at west Dundas with fill from Echline ongoing. • Installation of noise barrier on noise bund commenced at east Dundas and currently on hold, pending successful load testing of posts. • Planting on noise bund at east Dundas ongoing. • Utility works (Dundas and east of B800) ongoing. • Installation of platforms for gantries ongoing. 	
	iii) Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring wells, cleaning and geotechnical inspection completed at N1. Blinding concrete pours commenced. • Installation of formwork and five tower lifts at NT completed. • Installation of formwork and ten tower lifts at CT completed. • Installation of formwork and four tower lifts at ST completed. • Dewatering works and installation of pontoon and gangway at S1 ongoing. • Preparation for works at S2 commenced. • Sheet piling at S3 completed and welding frame to piles commenced. • Installation of formwork and concrete foundation works at S4 and S5 ongoing. • Installation of formwork and eight pier lifts at S6 completed. 	
	iv) Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site-wide environmental monitoring ongoing for noise and vibration, air quality, met data and groundwater. • Installation and monitoring of silt mitigation measures for site runoff ongoing. • Water quality monitoring at Linn Mill Burn ongoing. • MMO and PAM monitoring around piling works at S3 ongoing; no cetaceans observed to date. • [redacted protected species information – confidential]. • Bat surveys conducted by Direct Ecology prior to felling trees at Echline corner. • Breeding bird surveys ongoing by FCBC as required and estuarine bird surveys ongoing by EDT. • Invasive species surveys resumed March 2014. Presence of Giant hogweed appears to be considerably reduced following treatment undertaken in 2013. Treatment will resume mid- April 2014. • Peregrine falcon, noted roosting on the CT crane late 2013, has not been observed to date in 2014. • Bird species noted around works on the south shoreline include: Curlew, Dunlin, Redshank, Red-breasted Merganser, Shelduck and Oyster Catcher. • Appendix R process ongoing for design changes or changes in construction. 	
4b	<i>Programme and outline proposals: Works to be undertaken April – May 2014</i>		
		<p>All ongoing items detailed in 4a to be progressed. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full servicing of air quality monitoring meters to be undertaken early April 2014. 	Note

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4c	Consultation requirements		
		<p>FCBC provided responses 25/04/14 to EDT to address SNH's comments on draft design for proposed sluice gates at St. Margaret's Marsh. EDT to review and issue to SNH with revised drawings and a detailed construction package, which is currently awaited from FCBC.</p> <p>FCBC to record anecdotal evidence of marine mammal activity in vicinity of the marine foundation works for future reference by SNH.</p> <p>FCBC/EDT to seek confirmation from Fife Council regarding need for LBC to install new roof at St. Margaret's Hope Lodge.</p>	<p>FCBC / EDT</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>FCBC /EDT/ FC</p>
5	Any other business	<p>SRB and JG submitted updated Sustainability Reports for M9 Junction 1a and Fife ITS, respectively. EDT review in progress.</p> <p>SNH attended meeting with FETA early February 2014 to discuss protection works to piers on Forth Road Bridge.</p>	<p>EDT</p> <p>Note</p>
6	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting is scheduled for 03/06/2014 at 10.00hrs in the Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth.	All