



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 32

1 December 2015, 10:00 to 13:00



Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth and site

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) – Chair
Steven Brown	EDT
Maggie Paterson	EDT
Steven Westwater	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Michael Richardson	FCBC
Gavin Martin	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)
Jim Robb	Fife Council (FC)

Apologies for Absence:

Colin Goodsir	FCBC
Kenny Bisset	FC
Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	EDT provided a welcome and apologies.	
2	Actions from previous meeting (ELG 31)	<p>EDT advised that the minutes from ELG meeting 31 have been uploaded to the website.</p> <p>EDT confirmed progress regarding actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDT requested closer views in aerial photos of St. Margaret's Marsh for SNH. Marker posts around the boundary of the salt marsh are clearer in latest photos (October 2015). EDT to forward to SNH [post meeting note: forwarded on 8/12/15]. EDT to source and provide plans of the completed B981 to SNH to progress de-notification of the small areas currently designated as St. Margaret's Marsh SSSI. This action to be undertaken when the fence alignment, which will define the edge of the SSSI, is finalised. 	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>EDT</p>
3	General		
3a	Project update	<p>The Estuarine bird survey quarterly report Q16 (March-May 2015) was issued to SNH and FCBC 02/10/15 and Q17 (June-Aug 2015) was issued 5/11/15.</p> <p><u>St Margaret's Marsh SSSI</u> Installation of the timber weir systems for the sluice gates in the sea wall at St. Margaret's Marsh have been completed and are ready for use. Work still ongoing to complete control chambers. Inundations have commenced.</p> <p>Suitable equipment for monitoring inundations is under consideration by EDT, but initially the following approach is proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of fixed canes; and transects across the marsh to measure water depths. <p>Installation of the fence beside the B981 embankment has been</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p>

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		<p>commenced and footpath grading works are to be undertaken following completion of the fence.</p> <p>EDT held meeting 24/11/15 with RSPB at St. Margaret's Marsh at high tide to discuss options for reedbed management following commencement of inundations. RSPB advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cut or flatten reeds, to investigate provision of excavated channels from sea wall sluices into the marsh, until a natural dip in the ground level is encountered; and • use hydrology to modify extent and biodiversity of reedbed. <p>Following the meeting with RSPB, EDT to coordinate establishment of a Steering Group for long term management of St Margaret's Marsh.</p> <p>Landscape planting at all available areas will resume late January 2016 until April 2016.</p> <p>Underwater noise monitor has been removed from north leg of Forth Road Bridge as agreed by the Noise Liaison Group.</p>	<p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>EDT</p>
3b	Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website	Air Quality Monitoring Reports for July, August and September 2015 have been uploaded to the project website. The October 2015 report will be uploaded shortly.	EDT
3c	Complaints/issues arising	<p>Since the last ELG, in early September 2015, there have been a small number of environmental enquiries / complaints, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dust on a roof at Linn Mill. • Disturbance to residential property from headlights of vehicles using new B800 overbridge. <p>Both issues addressed by FCBC.</p>	
4	Principal Contract (FCBC)		
4a	Programme September – November 2015		
	i) Land (north):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility and surfacing works at Hope Street ongoing. • Breaking, excavating, crushing and stockpiling rock adjacent to Ferrytoll gyratory for use as fill in mainline construction ongoing. • Realigned King Malcolm Drive and new junction with Ferrytoll Road and B981 completed and opened to traffic. • Construction of deck at Ferrytoll viaduct ongoing. • Earthworks and spreading clay at north SUDs basin completed. • Deck assembly works for north viaduct and temporary works at north abutment prior to launch of north viaduct ongoing. 	
	ii) Land (south)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation and rock breaking at Echline completed. • Construction of stone walls at Queensferry gyratory ongoing. • Surfacing works on mainline from B800 to South Abutment commenced. • Installation of noise barrier at Dundas resumed. • Demolition of former B800 bridge completed. • Drainage and surfacing at public transport links and preparation for opening to traffic at southbound public transport link ongoing. • Strengthening and repair works at Dalmeny Railway Bridge completed. • Installation works at gantries ongoing. 	

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	iii) Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete finishing at N1 and pier lifts at S1 and S2 ongoing. • Tower lifts at North and South Tower completed. • Central Tower at lift 53 with only one further lift to be completed. • Installation of stay cables and erection of deck sections ongoing at all towers. 	
	iv) Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site-wide environmental monitoring ongoing for noise and vibration, air quality and groundwater. The programme of monitoring for groundwater may be revised subject to outcome of initial inundations at St. Margaret's Marsh. • Monitoring of silt mitigation measures for site runoff ongoing. • Estuarine bird surveys ongoing by EDT. • Japanese knotweed and Giant hogweed, which was almost eradicated by treatment during 2015, to be resumed Spring 2016. 	
4b	<i>Outline proposals December 2015 – February 2016</i>	All items detailed in 4a to be progressed. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of north approach viaduct. 	
4c	<i>Consultation requirements</i>	EDT and FCBC held meeting 26/11/15 with Scottish Badgers to discuss FCBC's proposed badger fencing. FCBC to check height of stone walls at Queensferry Gyrotory and consider fencing requirements at B800 area.	FCBC
5	Any other business	<p>Site visit undertaken to provide FC with an overview of the project and progress to date.</p> <p>FC provided update with respect to air quality monitor at Rosyth which has been upgraded to measure PM_{2.5}. This monitor is currently undergoing calibration.</p>	
6	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting is scheduled for 01/03/2016 at 10.00hrs in the Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth.	