



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 3



30 August 2011, 10:00 to 12:00

Arrol House, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Chair
Maggie Paterson	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Rebecca Spalton	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Chris Gall	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) – by phone
Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Colin Megginson	Marine Scotland (MS)
Stephanie Little	Fife Council (FC)
Wendy McCorrison	West Lothian Council (WLC)
Gavin Martin	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)
Jim Watson	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Paul Hillman	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Paul Johnston	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Zoe Miller	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Derek Chambers	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Richard Docherty	John Graham (JG)
Seamus O'Brien	Sisk Roadbridge (SRB)

Apologies for Absence:

Steven Brown	FRC Employer's Delivery Team
Adele Shaw	Historic Scotland
Darren Hemsley	Scottish Natural Heritage
Douglas Mayne	Fife Council
Lianne Rafferty	John Graham

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	All parties introduced themselves.	
2	Minutes from previous meeting	EDT confirmed the following changes to the minutes from the last Environmental Liaison Group (ELG) 02/08/11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SNH requested that more detail is provided within the minutes regarding the locations of environmental works. 	EDT
3	Actions from previous meeting	EDT confirmed the following actions from the last Environmental Liaison Group (ELG) 02/08/11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of Reference have been published on the website. Contact details of all parties have been circulated – these will be updated and reissued. EDT provided all contractors with a copy of Historic Scotland's sign-off. FCBC has transferred the badger licence applications to its badger specialist. SRB provided a one-month look ahead programme for the ELG meeting. The 3 month programmes are being developed at present and EDT hope to issue these at the next ELG. JG programme is currently under review. <p>The following action is still ongoing:</p>	EDT EDT/ JG

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDT arranging meetings with contractors to discuss approach to Sustainability and CEEQUAL. 	EDT
4	General	<p>EDT reminded all of process (Appendix R of the Employer's Requirements) to ensure any design changes do not increase the residual environmental impacts stated in the Environmental Statement (ES).</p> <p>FCBC considers that Appendix R should apply to proposed changes to the Conceptual Design and not the Stage 3 Design. It was agreed that impacts stated in the ES set the baseline. EDT to consider the wording in the Employer's Requirements to ensure clarity.</p>	EDT
	Project update	<p>EDT presented the following updates with input provided from all present:</p> <p>Principal Contract <u>General</u> FCBC consulted with SEPA on 04/08/11 regarding the revised SUDS layout at St. Margaret's Marsh and B981 realignment. FCBC to submit designs to SEPA/SNH/EDT.</p> <p>FCBC consulted with SNH on 04/08/11. SNH is content with the proposed approach for land-based ecological and landscape mitigation.</p> <p><u>Badgers</u> SNH granted licence on the week ending 19/08/11 to (FCBC's nominated badger specialist) to permit the exclusion of badger setts at [location confidential – protected species]. The sett at [location confidential] has been added to the [location confidential] licence.</p> <p>Manual hedge trimming at the existing sett at [location confidential], under supervision of badger specialist, was carried out 23/08/11 prior to exclusion works by FCBC.</p> <p><u>Bats</u> Licences to disturb roosts are awaited from SNH.</p> <p>Dawn and dusk emergence bat surveys progressed during August to include Dolphington and Echline, in anticipation of all site clearance throughout the site being undertaken Autumn 2011. Trees with potential roosts have been marked for soft felling in the presence of FCBC's bat ecologist.</p> <p><u>Bluebells</u> In addition to mitigation FCBC has also made a donation on 19/08/11 to the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust for an existing bluebell conservation scheme.</p> <p><u>RIAA</u> Estuarine bird monitoring by Jacobs Arup is ongoing. Quarterly reports will be submitted. The first report is programmed for late September/early October 2011.</p> <p><u>Air Quality</u> Passive monitors are currently being installed and consultation with local councils has begun. FCBC and SRB propose to meet councils to discuss and agree the strategy for monitoring and also the location of weather stations. It was agreed that JG would not attend, but will receive minutes.</p>	<p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>FCBC</p>

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		<p><u>Noise Monitoring</u> Collection of noise baseline data from hand-held equipment commenced week beginning 15/08/11.</p> <p><u>Site Clearance</u> The method statement for site clearance was approved by EDT following a site walkover by EDT and FCBC on 17/08/11 to discuss the approach to arboricultural surveys pre and post tree felling.</p> <p>Localised tree felling commenced 29/08/11 at St. Margaret's Hope and Inchgarvie.</p> <p><u>Environmental Management Plan (EMP)</u> FCBC's EMP was sent to all statutory consultees 22/08/11, with comments invited by 05/09/11. EMP also issued to local community groups by FCBC, with comments invited by 30/09/11.</p> <p><u>Design</u> FCBC is currently preparing Appendix R submissions for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative south shore access • revised SUDS layout at St. Margaret's Marsh • B981 realignment • Revisions to size of two SUDS at Echline • Ferrytoll and Echline Compounds (screening reports only) <p><u>Key programme dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2011 - trial blasting • September 2011 - land GI • September 2011 - working platform for the B981 • Sept – Oct 2011 – marine geophysical survey and GI • Oct-Nov 2011 – relocation of Beamer Lighthouse (beacon) • March-May 2012 – dredging <p>SNH noted that they would like to visit the site when the B981 and SUDS are set out.</p>	FCBC/SNH
	Project update continued	<p>Fife ITS Programme JG confirmed that the programme is currently under review. A 3 month programme will be submitted shortly. Key activities will be repeated for the construction of each gantry. Gantry 02F programmed for Oct-Nov 2011 to enable planting in December 2011.</p> <p><u>EMP</u> JG confirmed that the EMP is under development. EMP submitted by JG to community councils north and south of the Forth for comment, with response due week ending 02/09/11. The EMP will also be sent to Kirkliston Community Council 31/08/11.</p> <p>EDT advised that JG should submit an RFI to confirm which statutory consultees should be consulted from the list provided in the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP).</p> <p><u>Preliminary works</u> Site compound to be occupied from week beginning 05/09/11.</p> <p>Testing of the southbound bus lane pavement will be undertaken 03-04/09/11. Letters have been issued to inform local communities regarding these tests.</p>	JG JG

Item	Subject	Description	Action
	Project update continued	<p>M9 J1A <u>General</u></p> <p>Key anticipated programme dates were provided to relevant attendees.</p> <p>A Consult and Comply meeting was held with SNH on 10/08/11. SNH was content with SRB's proposed approach and provided a signed consultation certificate 18/08/11.</p> <p>A Consult and Comply meeting was held with SEPA 18/08/11. SRB will circulate the minutes incorporating EDT's comments on SRB's proposed methodology for over-pumping operations.</p> <p>A guided site visit was undertaken 18/08/11 with EDT to advise SRB of groundwater monitoring locations, access routes and other information of note.</p> <p>Design of the new Swine Burn culvert is under review by EDT.</p> <p>Drawings for compulsory storage will be issued by SRB to EDT by 02/09/11.</p> <p><u>EMP</u> EDT completed a review of the EMP 25/08/11. SRB issued the EMP to SNH, SEPA, WLC, CEC (requested review of EMPs to be provided by SRB in Appendix A of the EMP), Historic Scotland (who have provided comments) and Kirkliston Community Council.</p> <p>WLC stated that Winchburgh Community Council should also be consulted regarding Winchburgh bing if considering potential use as construction fill.</p> <p><u>Air quality</u> SRB will attend proposed meeting with the local councils. SRB anticipate that management of air quality at J1A will be limited to dust management.</p> <p><u>Otter</u> SRB intend to issue the otter SMP to EDT by 02/08/11.</p> <p><u>Flood compensatory storage</u> SRB are preparing drawings for EDT and SEPA approval.</p> <p><u>Site clearance</u> EDT stated that they will require to receive and review a method statement for the clearance work showing the clear sequence of works for tree surveying and felling.</p> <p>SNH requested a site visit once the site boundary fencing has been erected.</p>	<p>SRB</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>SRB</p> <p>SRB</p> <p>SRB</p> <p>SRB</p> <p>SRB</p> <p>SRB/SNH</p>
	Advance Works	<p>EDT presented the following updates:</p> <p><u>CAR</u> TS issued information provided by SEPA for Queensferry Cutting CAR licence application to FCBC.</p> <p><u>Archaeology</u> Programme of archaeological post excavation assessment, analysis and reporting ongoing by Headland.</p>	

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		<p><u>St. Margaret's Marsh SSSI proposed monitoring works</u> Site condition monitoring survey ongoing by SNH. EDT to confirm progress.</p> <p>Aerial photography to commence which may assist the monitoring of St. Margaret's Marsh SSSI.</p> <p><u>Otters</u> Three Shires completed exclusion works at [location confidential – protected species] 15/08/11-strimming of vegetation to sterilise banks beside existing holt and permanent closure of holt entrances.</p> <p>Handover letter for SRB, summarising current position of advance works and intended handover arrangements from the Employer, issued to SRB on 11/08/11.</p> <p><u>Invasive Species</u> Spraying of Japanese Knotweed on 31/08/11 under existing programme 2009-2011. Repeat visit and remedial treatment to be undertaken, where required, on 26/09/11.</p> <p><u>Contract Supply</u> Contract Supply progress meeting, to be held at the Johnsons' nursery in Yorkshire in September.</p> <p>EDT reminded FCBC, JG and SRB that information regarding confirmed planting programme for winter 2011/2012 is required.</p>	<p>EDT</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>FCBC/JG/ SRB</p>
	Review / Approval of environmental information	As noted under item 3 of these minutes, EDT confirmed that the Terms of Reference have been published on the website.	
	Complaints / issues arising	EDT confirmed that no new complaints have been received and a complaints register has been set up.	
5	Principal Contract (FCBC)	It was agreed by all present that issues were discussed under item 4.	
6	Fife ITS (JG)	It was agreed by all present that issues were discussed under item 4.	
7	M9 J1A (SRB)	It was agreed by all present that issues were discussed under item 4.	
8	Any other business	None.	
9	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting will be held 04/10/11 at 10.00hrs in Arrol House.	All