



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

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

**Meeting Date/Time:** 27 May 2015

**Subject:** South Community Forum

**Participants:** **Community Representatives**

Tim Beesley (TB), Newton Community Council

Les Chapman (LC), BRIGS

Peter Fitzgerald (PF), BRIGS

Keith Giblett (KG), QDCC

Grant Sangster (GS), QDCC

Bert Scott, BRIGS

Doug Tait (DT), BRIGS

**Transport Scotland – Employers Delivery Team (EDT)**

Lawrence Shackman (LS), Project Manager

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

Katrina McDonald (KM), Policy Manager

**Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)**

Katrina Bruce (KB), Assistant Community Liaison Officer

Ewen Macdonell (EM), Community Liaison Officer

**Apologies**

David Buchanan (DB), Kirkliston Community Council

Doug Ross (DR), BRIGS

Janet Thornton (JT), Newton Community Council

Darren Wraight (DW), City of Edinburgh Council

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
1.1	Meeting chaired by LS.  Apologies were noted as above.	Noted
<b>2</b>	<b>Review of Minutes and Outstanding Actions</b>	
2.1	<b><u>Review of Minutes</u></b>  The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2015 were approved.	Noted
2.2	<b><u>Outstanding Actions</u></b>  The outstanding actions from the meeting held on 25 February were addressed within the draft minutes of that meeting. LS invited any questions on the post meeting notes addressing the outstanding actions. No further questions were raised.	Noted
<b>3</b>	<b>Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Update</b>	
3.1	<b><u>Frame the Bridge Competition</u></b>  LS informed the Forum that on 19 March, Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities launched the "Frame the Bridge" competition. The online campaign runs until the end of December 2016 and will form part of the legacy work of the project. The campaign encourages the public to upload images of themselves from various viewing platforms next to the Queensferry Crossing during construction. Full details of the Frame the Bridge campaign can be found at the following link: <a href="http://www.framethebridge.co.uk">www.framethebridge.co.uk</a>  Images will be uploaded onto an online searchable mosaic of the Queensferry Crossing and will serve as a public centred visual record of the bridge construction. The finished mosaic will play a part in the official opening.	Noted
3.2	<b><u>Project Update</u></b>  LS informed members of the Forum that the latest Project Update (May 2015) was now available in hard copy, and on the TS website.  South Community Forum Members were sent a soft copy by email on 26 May.	Noted

3.3	<p><b><u>Compensation Claims</u></b></p> <p>LS confirmed that to date, the Project has received approximately <b>137</b> claims from the 316 owners/occupiers/lessees in relation to the FRC General Vesting Declaration's carried out in April and June 2011. (There has been no change to the number of claims received since the last meeting)</p> <p>Of these:</p> <p><b>36</b> claims have been settled in full (an increase of <b>4</b> since the last meeting).</p> <p><b>21</b> claimants have received 90% part payments. The part payments are as a result of advance payment requests from the claimants.</p>	Noted
3.4	<p><b><u>Project Exhibition and Presentation Series</u></b></p> <p>AS updated the Forum that the FRC presentation series recommenced in March, and will be held on the last Friday of each month.</p> <p>So far, over 240 people have attended the presentations. These were held at the end of March and April.</p> <p>AS informed members that the next day in the series was this coming Friday (29 May 2015) and invited members to attend. Flyers advertising this day were available within the reception area of the CEC.</p> <p>To date, the Project Exhibition's weekly Saturday opening has attracted a steady flow of visitors, on average 60-75 people per day.</p>	Noted
3.5	<p><b><u>Family Days</u></b></p> <p>AS informed members that two Family Days were held during the school Easter holidays, on Friday 10 April and 17 April. As last year, these were very well attended with nearly 900 people attending over the two days.</p> <p>The project will look at the possibility of offering regular family day activities each Saturday over the Summer period.</p>	Noted

3.6	<p><b><u>Industry Days</u></b></p> <p>AS confirmed that as part of our effort to promote the FRC project within industry, the Project has organised a number of Presentation and Site Visit days. 12 half days have been scheduled, between 40-50 people have attended each visit to date. The format of the event includes a presentation on the project within the CEC and site visit by bus.</p> <p>480 places are being offered this year and the project team will look at hosting a further series of Industry Days next year.</p>	Noted
3.7	<p>The wider Outreach and Education activities, including Presentations and Schools Education Programme, continue to be held at the FRC Contact and Education Centre (FRC CEC). The project will be analysing the last two years of data that has been collected to date regarding activity at the FRC CEC. This information will be shared with the Forum in due course.</p>	Noted
4	<p><b>Forth Bridge Operating Company (FBOC) and Forth Bridges Forum - Update</b></p>	
4.1	<p>LS gave an update on the Forth Bridge Operating Company and Forth Bridges Forum, noting the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Forth Bridges Operating Company (FBOC) Contract was awarded in December 2014 to Amey who are due to commence service delivery on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015.</li> <li>• On 4<sup>th</sup> March the Forth Bridge's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated by a flypast of a replica Spitfire and a RAF Tornado.</li> <li>• The next Forth Bridges Forum meeting is scheduled to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</li> <li>• Representatives from the Forum are hosting a drop in session on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June (4.00pm – 7.30pm) to meet with and update the community at the FRC Contact &amp; Education Centre.</li> <li>• Further information about the FBOC Contract, the Forum and its subgroups can be found via the Forum's website (<a href="http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk">www.forth-bridges.co.uk</a>)</li> <li>• The Forth Bridges Traffic Impact Assessment (114 pages) to investigate the traffic impacts of promoting the Forth bridges as a visitor attraction, has now been uploaded to the Forth Bridges website (<a href="http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk">www.forth-bridges.co.uk</a>).</li> <li>• The Executive Summary (5 pages) is also available</li> </ul>	Noted

	<p>from the website. Any questions should be directed to the relevant team (these details can be found under the 'Contact us' section of the website).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes of Forum meetings are published on the Transport Scotland website.</li> </ul>	
4.2	<p>DT referred to the Forth Bridges Unit Operating Company Information Guide recently made available, and queried the new name. The Company had until now been referred to as "Forth Bridges Operating Company".</p> <p>LS confirmed that despite the small amendment to the name there were no changes to the remit of the commission or to the company that had been awarded the contract.</p>	Noted
4.3	<p>A number of members asked about the Drop in Session mentioned above on 9 June. Members were unaware of any marketing that has been undertaken for this event to inform the local community.</p> <p>AS agreed to query this with the relevant officials.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The Forth Bridges Drop in Sessions were advertised W/C 1 June 2015, and are open to members of the community to attend. A copy of the leaflet highlighting this event is attached at Annex A.</p>	EDT
<b>SCF27052015 /4.3</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract) – Update</b>	
5.1	<p>EM gave a progress update on the construction of the project. The following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>B800 Bridge</u> – The replacement bridge is programmed to be open to traffic in summer 2015 (currently anticipated as August) with the existing bridge to be demolished and removed in autumn 2015 (currently anticipated September) – further details to be widely circulated as closures of the A90 will be required.</li> <li><u>South-bound Bus Link</u> - surfacing has commenced and will continue throughout 2015. It will be used in 2015/16 as a temporary traffic diversion while tying in the new M90 to the existing A90. Buses will commence using the bus link at the end of 2016.</li> <li><u>Approach Road South</u> - The main carriageway from the Queensferry Crossing's South Abutment to the eastern tie-in near to the B800 bridge continues to progress with works including surfacing continuing throughout</li> </ul>	Noted

	<p>2015 and into 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Queensferry Junction</u> – The roadworks are complete with associated traffic lights to be erected and commissioned at the A904/B924 Junction in summer 2015. The footpaths will be complete in autumn 2015. Further landscaping will be carried out, on completion of earthworks, in the next planting season in 2015/16.</li> <li>• 15,000 trees have recently been planted in the Echline area with much of this on the completed bunding.</li> <li>• The removal of existing A904 ‘plug’ is 80% complete. The remaining rock will be removed by ‘pecking’ which will continue into summer 2015. Thereafter ‘pecking’ for drainage and utilities will continue through to end of 2015.</li> <li>• <u>Approach Viaduct South</u> – The final northbound and southbound carriageway launches are scheduled to take place in June 2015 following completion on Pier S3. Thereafter the erection of shuttering and commencement of reinforced concrete deck construction will be continuous through to early 2016.</li> <li>• <u>Towers</u> – These are all progressing well. 41 pours at NT, 40 at ST &amp; CT out of 54 were completed in May 2015. The final height of the towers will be up to 210 metres.</li> <li>• The completion of the towers is due in late Summer 2015. The first of the cable anchor boxes were installed into the towers in April 2015 at pour No 38.</li> <li>• <u>Deck Erection</u> - Deck segment lifting/installation will commence Summer 2015 and complete in Summer 2016. This will coincide with installation of the first cables.</li> <li>• <u>Approach Viaduct North</u> - Steel fabrication is on-going in the ‘tent’ and will be completed in Summer 2015. The viaduct will then be launched in Autumn and then the reinforced concrete deck will be added through to Spring 2016.</li> <li>• <u>Ferrytoll Viaduct</u> - The construction of the viaduct is progressing well (a time-lapse video of the beam lifts was shown) and will be completed in Summer 2015. 6,000 trees have recently been planted on the adjacent Ferrytoll embankment.</li> <li>• <u>Ferrytoll Junction Area</u> – Works on the Ferrytoll roundabout and associated roads is currently in phase 5 of 15. The works will be on-going through to Summer 2016.</li> <li>• Traffic on Hope Street (Inverkeithing) is to switch to a new route through one of the vacant spans of the Jamestown Viaduct in June 2015. Infilling/road construction along the line of the existing road is to</li> </ul>	
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	<p>commence in Summer 2015 followed by utilities installation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Castlandhill Road reinforced earth wall and associated A90 embankment continues to progress with completion due in Summer 2015. The new A90 northbound merge will also be constructed in this area.</li> <li>• Traffic using the existing A90 will be switched to the newly realigned A90 between summer and Autumn 2015 (northbound initially). 40mph average speed cameras will be installed from the Admiralty Junction through to Scotstoun in Summer 2015.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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: <a href="http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users">http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users</a>.</li> <li>• <u>Marine yard</u> - 23 deck sections have now been concreted. Ancillary works for services within the bridge will be added to the deck units as far as possible before the units are placed.</li> </ul>	
5.2	<p>KG raised a query over the ownership and capacity of the Ferrytoll overspill car park.</p> <p>LS confirmed that the overspill car park belonged to Fife Council and was being re-provided by the project. The facility would be for the use of Deep Sea World and Ferrytoll Park and Ride.</p> <p>LS believed the capacity of the car park to be c.200 spaces.</p>	Noted
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Issues</b>	
6.1	Two items had been requested by LC under this item.	
6.2	<p><b><u>Timescale for installation of the traffic lights on the A904/B924 junction</u></b></p> <p>EM confirmed that, as set out in the earlier update (Item 5), it was estimated that the installation of traffic lights at the A904/B924 junction would be carried out in Summer 2015.</p>	Noted

6.3	<p><b><u>Up to date programme for the landscaping around Echline junction and the northside of the B924/Bo'ness Road</u></b></p> <p>LC raised a number of questions and observations under this item:</p>	
SCF27052015/6.3(a)	<p>A track on the north side of the B924 had been ripped some time ago and not been covered over. LC thought this was unsightly and asked when work would be undertaken to address this?</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>This item will be addressed during the course of landscaping works to be carried out during 2015.</p>	FCBC
SCF27052015/6.3(b)	<p>LC thought the height of the earthworks around the driveway to No's 1 and 2 Echline were higher than on the drawings provided, and raised concern that he felt that this may cause flooding.</p>	FCBC
SCF27052015/6.3(c)	<p>LC explained that there was a commitment to remove the cherry trees in this area, which had been done, although the stumps had not been removed.</p> <p>LC had spoken to members of FCBC and EDT about this previously.</p> <p>LS agreed to revert regarding this point.</p> <p>EM noted that the area would need to be cultivated before planting.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The roots of the cherry trees will be treated in order that they will not regrow.</p>	FCBC
SCF27052015/6.3(d)	<p>A view was expressed that the grass at Echline Field required cutting, noting that this was done twice last year.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The grass at Echline field has now been cut. A note of thanks from field users was received via LC on 12 June.</p>	FCBC
SCF27052015/6.3(e)	<p>A query was raised as to whether there were plans to remove the air raid shelter in this area by the B924. EM did not believe that this was a requirement of the Contract, but would check.</p>	FCBC

<p><b>SCF27052015/ 6.3(f)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The Project has no plans to remove the air raid shelter.</p> <p>DT could not see where the footpath would run down on the north side of the A904.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The footpath will be established in due course, in accordance with plans issued previously to Forum members.</p> <p>A concern was raised about weeds growing at Echline Corner, and that the situation would worsen if landscaping is not undertaken.</p> <p>EM stated that weed killing would take place if necessary before seeding was undertaken.</p>	<p><b>FCBC</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>AoB</b></p>	
<p>7.1</p> <p><b>SCF27052015/ 7.1</b></p>	<p><b><u>Road Sign for A904/B924 Junction</u></b></p> <p>It was pointed out that temporary signage on the B924 indicating that the A904/B924 Junction is 100 yards away, is situated only about 40 metres away from the junction. A view was expressed that this may cause confusion especially to new users of the road.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The temporary signage has now been relocated.</p>	<p><b>FCBC</b></p>
<p>7.2</p>	<p>LC asked if there were wheel wash facilities in operation on the south side roadworks.</p> <p>EM confirmed that wheel wash facilities were not now in operation at the south side.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7.3</p> <p><b>SCF27052015/ 7.3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Sump level</u></b></p> <p>Regarding the pump operating in the cut under the Queensferry Junction, LC enquired as to the base level of the sump.</p> <p>EM agreed to look into this.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p>	<p><b>FCBC</b></p>

	The level of the sump is 0.5m above the drainage invert level at this location	
7.4	<p><b><u>Oil Shale Deliveries – start up times</u></b></p> <p>Further to previous information provided on delivery times of spent oil shale, DT asked the question as to what point the 30 minute start time commenced.</p> <p>EM confirmed that start up would be 07:30, from when trucks arrived on site.</p> <p>DT noted that he felt that the trucks had been adhering well to the speed limit now for some time.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
7.5	<p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Monitoring Statistics - M9 Junction 1A</u></b></p> <p>DT referred to the 2nd year monitoring statistics and information provided by LS at the last Forum meeting, in particular “A904 traffic flow through Newton – 24% reduction of daily traffic, 68% reduction in daily HGV traffic.</p> <p>This shows that HGVs are using the new slip road rather than travelling through Newton.”</p> <p>DT disputed this statement, and commented that he thought this was based on assumption rather than fact, DT did not think that the statistics provided evidence that the new slip road was being utilised.</p> <p>DT pointed out that the change in number of HGVs on the route may be accounted for by the fact that the project was running spent oil shale deliveries for a period. He thought the information provided should be caveated.</p> <p>LS said that evidence was available to support the information provided, and highlighted that the Traffic Monitoring Annual Report for 2013-14 would shortly be available on the TS website.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>The Traffic Monitoring Annual Report for 2013-2014 can be downloaded from the following link:  <a href="http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/system/files/documents/projects/Forth%20Replacement%20Crossing/Traffic%20Monitoring%20Annual%20Report%202013-2014.pdf">http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/system/files/documents/projects/Forth%20Replacement%20Crossing/Traffic%20Monitoring%20Annual%20Report%202013-2014.pdf</a></p>	

7.6	<p><b><u>Queensferry Crossing Opening Ceremony arrangements</u></b></p> <p>DT enquired about plans for the opening ceremony.</p> <p>LS said that it was too early to confirm plans. Initial research and discussion had been undertaken. As part of the planning TS would be looking at lessons learned and knowledge sharing of previous opening ceremonies/celebration events, including the recent 125 anniversary celebrations of the Forth Bridge and forthcoming opening of the Borders Railway.</p>	Noted
7.7	<p><b><u>Complaint figures</u></b></p> <p>In response to DT querying the post meeting note provided for the last meeting relating to number of complaints received, LS confirmed that the figure provided related to the complaints on the Principal Contract for the project, and one complaint either in-person, or by email, letter or telephone corresponded to the recording of one complaint.</p> <p>EM also confirmed that the reference number issued to a correspondent in the event of raising a complaint was not representative of the number of complaints received in total; rather it represented the volume of the correspondence in terms of the total number of contacts that had been made to the project in total. This includes enquiries, complaints and compliments received.</p>	Noted  Noted
7.8  SCF27052015/ 7.8	<p><b><u>Bus lane at M9 Junction 1A</u></b></p> <p>KG asked for an update on the repairs to the River Almond Bridge that had resulted in a restriction in the use of the M9 Junction 1A bus lane.</p> <p>LS agreed to look into this.</p> <p><b><u>Post Meeting Note</u></b></p> <p>Damage to the Bridge was significant, it is anticipated that this work will be carried out in Autumn 2015.</p> <p>The bus lane is not closed due to these works – only restricted at the point of the works. Transport Scotland currently are unaware of any delays to buses.</p>	EDT
7.9	<p><b><u>Meeting with Scotstoun Residents</u></b></p> <p>DT asked about the outcome of a recent meeting LS and</p>	

	<p>EM held with a number of Scotstoun residents.</p> <p>LS informed the meeting that the project already includes for the provision of substantial planting in the areas concerned, but that some further provision of planting would be undertaken to enhance screening near the B800 Bridge, to help mitigate the visual impact of vehicles crossing the Bridge. Further contact would be made with the residents concerned and the screening reviewed after opening of the bridge to traffic.</p>	Noted
7.10	<p><b><u>Echline Bus stop</u></b></p> <p>LC informed the meeting that project information at the bus stop at Echline had been taken down.</p> <p>EM agreed to look at trying to reinstate the information at this location.</p>	Noted
<b>8</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	
8.1	<p>The next meetings of the forums will take place on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Community Forum: Wednesday 19 August at 7pm.</li> <li>• South Community Forum: Wednesday 26 August at 7pm.</li> </ul>	



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