



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 21



1 October 2013, 10:00 to 12:00

Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) – Chair
Steven Brown	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Jon Moore	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Carolyn Clark	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Ellie Slee	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Liam Soden	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)

Apologies for Absence:

Maggie Paterson	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Colin Megginson	Marine Scotland (MS)
Rod McCullagh	Historic Scotland (HS)
Wendy McCorrison	West Lothian Council (WLC)
Chris Gall	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Neil Abraham	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	EDT provided an introduction and apologies. Colin Megginson will no longer attend the ELG due to a change in role within Marine Scotland. Mike Bland will be the point of contact for the project and ELG.	Note
2	Actions from previous meeting (ELG 20)	EDT advised that comments on the draft minutes from ELG meeting 20 (30 July 2013) had been received from SNH regarding ecological monitoring and works on the foreshore near pier N2. The notes were updated accordingly and uploaded to the website. EDT confirmed progress regarding actions as follows: <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. Anticipated for the end of 2013. • EDT has informed MS regarding records for dredged material disposal. MS has provided a log template for future use by FCBC. • FCBC to submit proposed sluice design at St. Margaret's Marsh. EDT has confirmed that use of pre-cast headwalls is acceptable. Proposed design to be forwarded by EDT to SNH for review, when received. • FCBC has provided aerial photos of St Margaret's Marsh to SNH. EDT to investigate whether improved coverage of the marsh can be arranged and regular updates forwarded to SNH every 2 months. • FCBC responded to HS request for an Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) inspection at the north shore by advising that following discussion with their ACoW they consider that an inspection would not be necessary as the proposed works were non-intrusive and temporary. • FCBC to submit documentation for rock slide from N2 to 	FCBC Note FCBC / EDT EDT

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		foreshore for consideration by EDT and SNH. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fife ITS contractor (JG) to remove dead trees adjacent to gantry G02F on Fife ITS scheme. Monitoring and Improvement Questionnaire feedback received from Marine Scotland, SNH and FCBC. 	FCBC JG
3	General		
3a	Project update	EDT/FCBC noted that the main focus of the FRC project during August and September 2013 has been the underwater mass concrete pour at ST and progressing road construction. Fife ITS and M9 Junction 1a CEEQUAL assessments are complete. An announcement will be made in December 2013.	Transport Scotland/ EDT
3b	<i>Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website</i>		
	i)	FCBC submitted the following EMP updated subsidiary plans to EDT for review on 30/09/13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land-based Incident Response Plan Area Management Plan Ecological Management Plan Dust and Air Quality Management Plan Implementation and Operation Management Plan 	EDT
	ii)	Other subsidiary plans are being updated by FCBC to address EDT comments and will be uploaded to the project website when finalised.	FCBC
	iii)	Air Quality Monitoring Report for July 2013 has been uploaded to the project website. The August report is in progress. [Post meeting note: No comments received from consultees on the August Air Quality Monitoring Report; forwarded for upload to project website on 01/10/13]	FCBC
3c	<i>Complaints /issues arising</i>		
	i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with Echline residents with queries regarding planting to mitigate dust levels. FCBC has indicated that planting cannot be undertaken at certain locations where earthworks are not complete. Opportunities for mitigation will be undertaken where appropriate, including the construction of bunds at Dundas Estate, currently being progressed. 	
4	Principal Contract (FCBC)		
4a	<i>Programme and outline proposals: Works undertaken August - September 2013</i>		
	i) Land (north)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excavation and placing rock improvement layer at Castlandhill Road. Grading embankments and topsoiling at King Malcolm Drive. Earthworks and drainage at B981 and excavation of trial holes. Placing fill material for SUDS pond access track at Ferrytoll embankment. Piling at FT01 – use of biggest cluster drill in Scotland. Removal of rock at north launch. Cleaning down base, placement of blinding and steel fixing at west wing of North Abutment. Sewer protection works. 	
	ii) Land (south)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topsoiling embankments and erection of post and wire fence north of Society Road completed. Laying tarmac on footpath and installation of street lighting. Preparation for first concrete pour for east and west pier legs at S8. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second concrete pour for east and west pier legs at S7 undertaken 24/09/13. • Preparation and assembly of south launch area. • Construction of drainage channel and backfilling foundations at south launch. Assembly of structural steel units. • Cleaning pavement at A904. Earthworks for central reservation widening. • Remedial landscape works to verges and embankments at Builyeon Road/U221. • Excavation and haulage of clay from Echline to Dundas and B800. • Construction of overbridge structures at Queensferry Junction. • Formation of noise bund at Dundas with clay and topsoil. • Earthworks at southbound bus link. 	
	iii) Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory works for pier N1 footbridge. • Trench cleaning at N1. • Piling at N2 completed. Steel frame for trestle delivered. • Blinding completed at NT. Piling works for crane platform. • CT first lift formwork and concrete pour. • Mass concrete pour at ST completed. With 17,000m3 of concrete, it has set a world record for the largest continuous underwater concrete pour. • Final stages of cleaning and airlifting at S1. • Fabrication of cofferdam framework for S2 and S3. • Second underwater concrete pour at S4 commenced. • Pumping de-stressing wells at S5 and pouring concrete foundation. • Removal of trial cofferdam adjacent to S5. 	
	iv) Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site-wide environmental monitoring ongoing for noise and vibration, air quality, met data, groundwater and ground gas. • All three replacement badger setts confirmed as being active/occupied. • FCBC tern monitoring: Common tern chicks (approx. 25-30) observed at Long Craig Island and (approx. 10-12) at the floating platforms at Port Edgar. Sandwich terns noted in Port Edgar in September. • Breeding bird surveys continued around areas that required vegetation removal (in August) and marine yard. • Ongoing control and treatment of invasive species, Japanese knotweed and Giant Hogweed. • Ongoing installation and monitoring of silt mitigation measures for site runoff. • Water quality monitoring at Linn Mill Burn ongoing. • Appendix R processes ongoing for design changes or changes in construction. • Sightings of seals reported in and around the marine works. • MMO and PAM monitoring has begun around works on NT and S3. No observations to date. 	
4b	<i>Programme and outline proposals: Works to be undertaken October - November 2013</i>		
	i) Land (north)	<p>All ongoing items detailed in 4a(i) to be progressed. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of earthworks, sewer diversion works, ongoing works at Castlandhill Road. • Works continuing on north structures – north abutment 	

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		and FT01.	
	ii) Land (south)	All ongoing items detailed in 4(a) (ii) to be progressed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of mainline works, completion of Society Road. • Structure works at gyratory and continuation of works at south abutment. 	
	iii) Marine	All ongoing items detailed in 4(a) (iii) to be progressed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S6: blinding rebar, formwork and concreting. • S1: completion of airlifting followed by underwater concrete pour. • S5: rebar, formwork and concreting. • S4: underwater pour (from land) then dewatering, blinding rebar, formwork and concreting. • S2 and S3: piling due to commence. • N1: access trestle, cleaning, concreting. • CT: concreting works – towers. • NT: piling, blinding rebar, formwork and concreting. • ST: piling, blinding rebar, formwork and concreting. 	
4c	Consultation requirements		
	i)	SNH to be consulted on the following Appendix R design submissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scour protection and backfill – currently on-hold. • De-watering of caissons. EDT have provided comments and awaiting re-submission prior to issuing to SNH and Marine Scotland for comment. 	FCBC FCBC
	ii)	FCBC awaiting Listed Building Consent for Gate House and Jamestown Viaduct from Fife Council.	FCBC / FC
5	Any other business	Live webcams are available for the main crossing works. EDT to forward link. EDT to explore opportunities to provide technical presentations on FRC-related engineering/environment topics at Professional Society events.	EDT Note
6	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting is scheduled for 03/12/2013 at 10.00hrs in the Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth.	All