



Forth Replacement Crossing South Community Forum Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: FRC Contact and Education Centre, South Queensferry
Meeting Date/Time: 25 November 2015
Subject: South Community Forum

Participants: **Community Representatives**

David Buchanan (DB), Kirkliston Community Council
Les Chapman (LC), BRIGS
Peter Fitzgerald (PF), BRIGS
Grant Sangster (GS), QDCC
Bert Scott (BS), BRIGS/
Cramond and Barnton Community Council
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
Charles Cozens (CC), Finance & Governance Officer
(Secretariat)

Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)

Katrina Bruce (KB), Assistant Community Liaison Officer
Ewen Macdonell (EM), Community Liaison Officer

Apologies

David Sinclair, City of Edinburgh Council
Keith Giblett, QDCC
Doug Ross, BRIGS
Janet Thornton, Newton Community Council
Tim Beesley, Newton Community Council

1	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	<p>Meeting chaired by LS.</p> <p>Apologies were noted as above.</p>	
2	Review of Minutes and Outstanding Actions	
2.1	<p><u>Review of Minutes</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2015 were approved with minor changes at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCF26082015/6.1(a) – amend SCF27052015/6.2(c) to SCF27052015/6.3(c). <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.1(c) – removal of the word ‘additional’ on line 5. <p>DT noted that regarding item 6.2 – Traffic light filter at A904/B924 junction – he felt that the key point was missed in the minutes. The issue with the filter lane is that traffic heading eastbound, upon seeing the lights changing to red, are accelerating to ‘beat the lights’ which results in delays for traffic waiting to turn right onto the B924. As a consequence this in turn creates a conflict for traffic turning right onto the A904 from the B924.</p> <p>EM advised that the driver in the filter lane has right of way once the lights go red as long as they have passed the lights i.e. they have started their manoeuvre and therefore should complete it before the other traffic moves.</p> <p>LC added that when coming out of the B924 turning right, the A904 westbound lights were too close while turning and found that when the red light was shown that this confused drivers who were stopping mid-manoevre.</p> <p>LS clarified that once the Queensferry Junction was completed and fully operational traffic moving east and westbound along the A904 would do so at a slower pace as all the traffic lights will then be operational. Although the arrangement at the A904/B924 junction is permanent, the sequencing is temporary, and will only be optimised once works are complete.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
2.2	<p><u>Outstanding Actions</u></p> <p>There was one outstanding action from the previous meeting of 26 August 2015:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCF260815/3.7 – Pathway to Springfield - LS requested an update from the Forum regarding the footpath to Springfield to facilitate its delivery should the community and City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) agree to its construction. KG confirmed that talks were still underway between QDCC and CEC, however other local issues have taken a priority. QDCC will raise the issue of the footpath with CEC and refer back to TS in due course. <p>Keith Giblett (KG) was unable to attend the SCF, however while tendering his apologies, he had confirmed that discussions between QDCC and CEC were underway. This was also stated by GS who also confirmed that there was currently no agreement on the planned route of the path.</p> <p>LC added that he considered that the logical location of the path would be along the line of the underground electrical cable that was installed in the area and that any future developers would be aware of the location of these and would not build in the same location. The path could also act as an access to maintain these cables in future.</p> <p>DT added that at the last meeting he asked if there were any outstanding legal issues regarding the footpath, to which LS confirmed that these would likely be around the maintenance of the path once complete. DT had located an e-mail from Doug Ross to residents of Lin Mill which stated that QDCC would undertake the discussions with CEC regarding the footpath. However, it also made reference to the path not being in place until 2020 due to possible legal issues with the future development of the site as well as ownership of the path. LS confirmed that the path would be in place by the end of the project so long as the various parties were in agreement.</p> <p>LS advised that he was unaware of the 2020 date being mentioned before and that it is within the FRC Commitments and Undertakings to install the footpath so long as all parties are in agreement regarding its the location to link into Springfield. If the footpath is in place by the end of the project, the Scottish Ministers can place a burden (within any sale of land) so that whoever owns the land is responsible for maintaining the footpath.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
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3	Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Update	
3.1	<p>LS provided an update on EDT activities over the last 3 months together with upcoming events, noting the following:</p> <p><u>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee</u></p> <p>David Climie and LS appeared in front of the Committee on 16 September 2015 as part of the Employers Delivery Team's regular communication with the Scottish Parliament to keep them informed on progress relating to the project.</p> <p>Many issues were raised by the Committee and responses which may be of interest or directly affect South Community Forum members were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project remains on time and within reduced budget range of £1.35 - £1.4 billion • Significant progress has been made on the approach roads and the Queensferry Crossing despite the unusually unsettled weather • A new peak of employment has been reached with an average of 1266 people working on the site. LS stated that this figure had since risen to 1287. 	Noted
3.2	<p><u>Community Forum site visits</u></p> <p>Site visits were held on Saturday 5 and Monday 7 September 2015.</p> <p>Forum Members attending said they were delighted with the progress made on the works.</p>	Noted
3.3	<p><u>St Margaret's Marsh</u></p> <p>LS updated the Forum saying that recent high tides had provided good flooding on the salt marsh. However, it was difficult to tell how far the seawater had permeated the eastern reed bed and the ground level within the western reed bed makes it difficult to determine how far the water inundation had spread. Opportunities to cut channels into the reed beds to allow greater high tide inundation over a much wider area are being considered.</p> <p>The EDT are meeting with the RSPB in late November with a view to setting up a St Margaret's Marsh Steering Group. The Group's aim will be to consider how best to manage the area and consider issues such as public access via footpaths. North Queensferry Community Council will be</p>	Noted

	invited to make a formal nomination to sit on the Steering Group.	
3.4	<p><u>Compensation Claims</u></p> <p>LS confirmed that to date, the Project has received approximately 136 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>37 claims have been settled in full (no change since the last meeting).</p> <p>28 claimants have received 90% part payments (an increase of 1 since the last meeting). The part payments are as a result of advance payment requests from the claimants.</p>	Noted
3.5	<p><u>Contact and Education Centre</u></p> <p>AS updated the Forum on the Contact and Education Centre Statistics noting the following:</p> <p><u>FRC Schools Education Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,000 pupils have attended the CEC as part of the FRC Schools Education Programme. Cabinet Secretary Keith Brown attended the CEC on 23 October with Greenfaulds High, North Lanarkshire to celebrate the milestone. <p><u>FRC Project Exhibition & Presentation Series</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday opening of the Exhibition will remain until 12 December 2015 – due to public demand. On average each event is attended by between 75 – 100 people. The Project Exhibition will reopen on 30 January 2016 for an Information Day. • Information Boards are currently being updated with the latest information. • The last Presentation Series of the year was held on 30 October with 210 people attending throughout the day. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

	<p><u>Post Meeting Note</u></p> <p>Further to the unexpected closure of the Forth Road Bridge, the Project Exhibition at the Contact and Education Centre will no longer be open on the 5th and 12th of December.</p> <p><u>FRC Annual Briefings</u></p> <p>Annual Briefings about the Project for the Public, Press and Elected Officials are to be held at the Contact and Education Centre on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 January 2016 - 15:00 – 16:30 and 19:00 – 20:30 • 27 January 2016 - 15:00 – 16:30 and 19:00 – 20:30 <p>An Information day will also be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 January 2016 - 10:00 to 16:00, at which point the Project Exhibition will remain open on Saturdays for the duration of the year. <p><u>Overall</u></p> <p>Approximately 42,000 people have visited the CEC, attended an educational visit or a pre-booked presentation. This is broken down as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18,000 for pre-booked presentations • 10,000 School Education Programme • 13,000 for the Project Exhibition <p>DT enquired whether any local schools were considered for the 10,000th pupil visit?</p> <p>AS confirmed that the majority of local schools had participated in the schools programme. Dalmeny Primary were in fact close to being the school to achieve the 10,000th school pupil visit. However, due to other cancellations, Greenfaulds High School marked the milestone.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
4	Forth Bridge Operating Company (FBOC) and Forth Bridges Forum - Update	
4.1	LS stated that following the dissolution of FETA on 1st June 2015, and the fact that Amey Highways Limited had become responsible for the management and maintenance of the Forth Bridges Unit under Transport Scotland's Forth	Noted

	<p>Bridges Operating Company Contract, that it was no longer necessary to have an update on the Forth Bridges Operating Company as a standing item on the South Community Forum Agenda. In addition, as separate meetings were being convened for community groups for the Forth Bridges Forum this could also be removed.</p> <p>The Forum agreed to drop this standing item from the agenda agreeing that issues can be revisited in the future should the need arise.</p>	Noted
5	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract) – Update	
5.1	<p>EM started by thanking all residents of South Queensferry and Kirkliston for their patience during the works and closures required for the demolition of the old B800 bridge in October.</p> <p>EM then proceeded to provide a slide presentation to Forum members that included photos of the work currently on-going, progressing from south to north:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Dalmeny Rail Bridge and Standingstone Road Bridge in Dalmeny</u> - night time works completed early. • <u>Southbound Public Transport Link</u> – temporary traffic switch onto this link for A90 southbound traffic targeted for December 2015. Northbound traffic will also switch to the southbound carriageway to facilitate tie in works to the new motorway approach road. • <u>B800 Bridge</u> – demolition carried out over two weekends in October - no requirement for contingency weekend. • <u>B800 Road</u> – Works on the re-alignment of the B800 to the Ferrymuir roundabout are ongoing, 2 way traffic will be maintained throughout and works will continue to Spring 2016. • <u>Dundas to South Abutment</u> – sub-base, drainage and ducting were now substantially complete • <u>South Abutment</u> – works progressing well, internal rooms being progressed with roof to be installed in early 2016. • <u>South Approach Viaduct</u>– steel reinforcement and concreting is underway on both carriageways. • <u>Towers</u> – The North and South towers were now complete to final height. The Central Tower completion is targeted for early December 2015. • <u>Deck Sections</u> – 18 of the precast reinforced concrete topped deck sections have now been lifted into place out of 110. With the 12 deck sections previously 	

	<p>completed around the towers this meant that around 25% of the deck was now in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>North Approach Viaduct</u> – structural steelwork complete. 2 deck pours on the twin box girders have taken place to act as ballast for the launch of steelwork (222m long, 5000+ tonnes) in early December. All other deck pours will take place in-situ throughout winter and spring 2016 after launch is completed in December 2015. • <u>Ferrytoll Viaduct</u> - Reinforced concrete work on the deck is complete. Adjacent embankments progressed well during 2015. SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) Pond immediately to the west of Ferrytoll viaduct is formed. • <u>King Malcolm Drive</u> – Traffic now switched to westbound carriageway. In response to concerns raised about the timings built into the traffic light system, FCBC will pursue better phasing options. • <u>Northbound A90</u> – Traffic has switched over to west lane. Other lanes will be introduced during 2015/2016 to create the new M90. Northbound average speed cameras to be extended to Scotstoun in December • <u>Southbound A90</u> – Average speed cameras to be installed from Admiralty to Scotstoun in December 2015. <p>Email alerts relating to the works at Ferrytoll are being issued for those who sign up for them at www.frc-ferrytoll.info. The current phasing can also be viewed here.</p> <p>Information is also posted on the FRC section of the Transport Scotland website as part of the 'Weekly Traffic Management Update' updated at the end of each week: http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users.</p>	
5.2	<p>Further to EM's update a number of questions were raised.</p> <p>LC asked whether the farm access into the Dalmeny Estate north of the B800 bridge was suitable as an access for a housing development?</p> <p>LS advised that this was only suitable as a farm access.</p>	Noted

5.3	<p>DB asked how long it takes for a deck section to be lifted, connected, cables attached and the next lift to take place.</p> <p>EM confirmed that it takes around 1 week to connect a deck segment once it is lifted into place, with a further 5 days to connect the stay cables.</p> <p>LS added that FCBC are aiming for a cycle time of around 10 days for deck lifting, this will include; lifting, connecting, welding, concreting, attaching cables and moving the erection traveller. The next adjacent deck section would then be ready to lift and connect to the previous section.</p>	Noted
5.4	<p>DT asked how can you tell the condition of cables once they have been installed?</p> <p>LS advised that the bridge will be fitted out with 'structural health monitoring systems' which will record the condition of the cables and structure, helping to build up a picture of the bridges performance through time. As well as this, principal inspections would be undertaken at specified intervals with periodic testing to check on the tension within the cables. The amount of data gathered will be considerable and will help to inform the maintenance of the crossing in the years to come.</p>	Noted
5.5	<p>DT asked if southbound average speed cameras will be set to 40mph like the northbound cameras?</p> <p>EM confirmed that these would be set to an average speed of 40mph to allow for safer working in narrow lanes for the construction of the new carriageways.</p>	Noted
5.6	<p>DT asked when the works on the B800 at the Dalmeny golf course were due to be completed as these were originally scheduled for Autumn 2015 and site traffic has been using the road and entrance.</p> <p>EM advised that these works would be completed in Spring 2016 and unfortunately have taken longer to complete than FCBC would have liked. Regarding the site traffic using the road, this area is part of the land made available for the project, however FCBC have tried to keep traffic free from the area as much as possible.</p>	Noted
6	Community Issues	
6.1	No items had been raised under this item.	

7	AoB	
<p>7.1</p> <p>SCF25112015 17.1</p>	<p>LC asked whether the drains had been installed in Echline fields as yet and whether one was installed adjacent to the footpath to allow for proper drainage?</p> <p>EM confirmed that drains had been installed in Echline Fields, however he was uncertain if there was one adjacent to the footpath but would check this.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting Note</u></p> <p>EM has confirmed that there is still approximately 1 kilometre of 225mm diameter drain to be installed adjacent to the footpath/cycleway from the B924 down to the SUDS pond. The installation of this is expected to start shortly.</p> <p>Further to circulation of the minutes EM advised that the drain is in fact a 375mm diameter drain and not the previously mentioned 225mm.</p>	<p>FCBC</p>
<p>7.2</p>	<p>LC asked whether Neighbourhood Notifications could be displayed in FCBC's noticeboards at Echline alongside the Project Updates?</p> <p>EM advised that the noticeboards were manufactured to a certain size to take publications such as Project Updates, however, he would look into adding additional documentation should there be sufficient space.</p> <p>AS added that the purpose of the Neighbourhood Notifications was to target these to specific areas in their distribution rather as being seen as general information. The project team uses a range of methods to convey information to the public.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7.3</p>	<p>DT asked for a meeting with a member of the EDT to provide further explanation on the 2nd year traffic monitoring statistics and how the numbers provide evidence that traffic has diverted off the A904.</p> <p>LS agreed that a meeting could be arranged to discuss the stats and to provide further clarifications.</p>	<p>EDT</p>
<p>7.4</p>	<p>DB asked whether the Rotary Club of South Queensferry could have a tourist attraction sign added to the trunk road network to signify that the public was approaching the Queensferry Crossing and to highlight the presence of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry?</p> <p>LS advised that signs located within the trunk road network</p>	

	have to accord with specific regulations and criteria and that such a sign would not meet these. However, there will be a sign installed as part of the works on the last gantry approaching the bridge to inform motorists that they are about to drive onto the Queensferry Crossing.	Noted
8	Date of next meeting	
8.1	<p>The next meetings of the forums will take place on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Community Forum: Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 7pm. • South Community Forum: Wednesday 24 February 2016 at 7pm. 	