

Preston New Road Exploration Works | Community Liaison Group

Date:

Monday, 20th March 2017

Venue:

Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH

Attending:

Councillor Paul Hayhurst, member for Fylde West (Cllr PH)
Councillor Julie Brickles, member for Warton and Westby (Cllr JB)
David Kirkham, Westby-with-Plumpton Parish Council (DK)
Miranda Cox, Kirkham Town Council (MC)
Andrew Mullaney, Lancashire County Council (AM)
Steve Molyneux, Environment Agency (SM)
Tony Almond, Health & Safety Executive (TA)
Helen Taylor, Local Community Representative (HT)
Christopher Holliday, Local Community Representative (CH)
Mary Finn, Local Community Representative (MF)
Mary Ellison, Local Community Representative (ME)
Liz Cheadle, Local Community Representative (LC)
Graham Daniels, Local Community Representative (GD)
Sam Schofield, Cuadrilla (SS)
Nick Mace, Cuadrilla (NM)
Jackie Dobson, Lexington Communications (JD)

Apologies:

Councillor Michael Cornah, member for Warton and Westby

Item		Action
1.	Welcome and introductions All attendees introduced themselves.	
2. & 3.	The role of the Community Liaison Group & review agreed Terms of Reference PH confirmed that all members had received a copy of the Terms of Reference and asked for feedback. <u>Police Representation</u> A police representative will be invited to attend CLG meetings. <u>Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council</u> Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council will be invited to accept a permanent position	 JD to liaise with the police

	<p>on the CLG, with Kirkham Town Council and Medlar-with-Wesham Town Council attending the CLG on rotation.</p> <p>AM outlined the procedure for amending the Terms of Reference, advising that a revised version needs to be submitted to Lancashire County Council for formal approval.</p> <p><u>Wrea Green</u> GD requested that Wrea residents are offered CLG membership should the opportunity arise in the future.</p> <p><u>Preston New Road Action Group</u> JB advised that a representative of the Preston New Road Action Group had requested to join the CLG, but had been refused due to the proximity of his property to the site. PH suggested that two members of the Action Group should be allowed to sit on the CLG.</p>	<p>JD to amend ToR</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Site update and timescales for activity</p> <p>NM provided an overview of activity at the Preston New Road site, noting that work commenced on 5th January 2017. He outlined that Section 278 works covering access to the site from the Preston New Road have been completed with landscaping remedial work required, detailed the monitoring that has been undertaken and noted the timescales for consultation of the well pad. NM explained to attendees each of the three occasions on which trucks have accessed the site out-with the Transport Management Plan, since starting onsite. He informed attendees that one of the drivers responsible for breaching the TMP has been removed from the operation for failing to comply with written instructions. NM also outlined issues associated with excessive rainfall and discharge of accumulated surface water as a result of Storm Doris.</p> <p>A discussion followed and several issues were raised:</p> <p><u>Traffic Management Plan (TMP)</u> CH asked whether the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) has changed since it was approved and questioned why a sign is displayed on the A583 to inform vehicles not to use Junction 3 of the M55. NM confirmed that the TMP has not changed and advised that the sign is a contingency to ensure drivers take the correct route to the site.</p> <p>GD stated that vehicles that fail to accord with the TMP are generating additional traffic movements on Preston New Road. NM advised that the TMP is based on HGVs turning left into the site and that right hand turns have only been undertaken in consultation with the police. JB stated that the police have denied</p>	

	<p>advising Cuadrilla to breach the TMP by allow vehicles to turn right into the site.</p> <p>NM advised that discussions are being held with Sgt. Andy Hill regarding a Traffic Incident Management Plan to ensure safety. NM explained the procedure now used to direct HGVs to site, with drivers told not to follow sat nav systems and instead to contact the site for directions ahead of arrival.</p> <p><u>Wheel Washing</u></p> <p>MC raised concerns regarding the wheel washing being undertaken at the site, stating that debris and mud is being transferred onto Preston New Road. She stated that seven vehicles belonging to contractors did not have their wheels washed on one day and questioned why all vehicles are not being washed before exiting the site.</p> <p>AM informed attendees that Lancashire County Council has received several complaints regarding mud on the road. He noted that the site has been inspected 11 times, but that no evidence of mud on the road has been found. AM suggested that photographic evidence is provided to support these alleged claims.</p> <p><u>Fencing</u></p> <p>MC stated that vehicles are queuing on Preston New Road when they are prevented from entering the site due to the entrance being too small to accommodate more than one vehicle.</p> <p>Elaborating on this, she advised that the recent relocation of the fencing has exacerbated the issue of vehicles being forced to cross the central reservation on exiting the site due to reduced visibility splay. AM noted that Lancashire County Council is aware of this issue and has recently advised Cuadrilla that the fencing must be removed in a timely manner once work is complete.</p> <p>NM informed attendees that the fencing has been moved to allow Cuadrilla to reduce the height of the hedgerow to improve visibility and to undertake utility investigation work. He advised that this work should be completed in the next few weeks.</p> <p><u>Visibility</u></p> <p>JB referred to a photograph that had been provided to Lancashire County Council showing vehicles parked on the lay-by reducing visibility for drivers. AM advised that he has seen the photograph, noting that the vehicles are police transit vans, but informed members that drivers do have sufficient visibility.</p> <p><u>Industry Regulators</u></p> <p>SM advised that two reports are now available on the Environment Agency's website to provide details of the baseline monitoring undertaken at the site. He</p>	
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	<p>provided an overview of the findings of the monitoring and agreed to provide the website links to the reports. SM referred to inspections undertaken following the excessive rainfall as a result of Storm Doris and noted that he would provide an update regarding air quality monitoring at a future CLG meeting.</p> <p>PH suggested that the Director of Public Health is invited to attend a CLG meeting to provide an update to members and AM agreed to make the request.</p> <p>TA informed attendees that the Health & Safety Executive has been liaising with LCC and the EA regarding operations on site. He advised that concerns have been received from members of the public and that these are being dealt with through the HSE's standard protocols.</p> <p><u>Drilling</u> MC asked when drilling is expected to start onsite and NM advised the end of Quarter 2 / summer, depending on progress made with construction.</p> <p>GD asked whether an independent well examiner had been appointed and the HSE informed. NM explained that the well examiner will be independent and the HSE informed as part of standard procedure.</p> <p>TA noted he was able to represent the HSE Inspector on the CLG in terms of the HSE's role in regulation well design.</p>	<p>SM to provide website links to JD</p> <p>AM to ask Director of Public Health to attend</p> <p>TA to liaise with Inspector on detail to share with the CLG</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Agreed date of next meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at:</p> <p>7pm on Wednesday, 26th April at Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>House Prices</u> PH referred to a letter from a mortgage company that suggested property prices would be reduced in areas where fracking licenses are held. He also noted that an insurance company would not cover subsidence on a property locally.</p> <p>SS advised that as large areas of the North and the Midlands are covered by a Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL), this assertion by the mortgage company would mean that property prices would be depressed across a significant proportion of the housing market in England, which would appear to be incorrect, but offered to look into this further.</p> <p><u>Security Personnel</u> Several members raised concerns about being unable to identify security</p>	<p>PH to provide JD with details of the report</p>

	<p>personnel at the Preston New Road site. PH suggested staff wear arm bands with numbers to allow them to be easily identified.</p> <p>NM advised that Cuadrilla had not received any formal complaints regarding the incident, nor any injuries reported. SS advised that several members of staff have had threats made to them and their families, so ensuring the safety of employees is a priority.</p> <p>SS raised concerns that allowing security personnel to be identified could lead to vexatious complaints and suggested that if members of the public have concerns regarding the behaviour of staff, this should be reported to the police in the first instance. SS noted that most of the activity at the site is captured on film and that any evidence of alleged transgression will be taken seriously.</p> <p><u>Community Information Line</u></p> <p>MC questioned the response received via the community information line as call handlers are not located onsite. SS advised that additional resources have been provided to manage the community information line which now operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He explained that calls are answered by a team at Lexington Communications who are integrated into the operation at Preston New Road.</p> <p>PH closed the meeting.</p>	
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