

Preston New Road Exploration Works | Community Liaison Group

Date:

Monday, 6th August 2018

Venue:

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

Attending:

Councillor Paul Hayhurst, member for Fylde West division on Lancashire County Council
Councillor John Kirkham, member for Warton and Westby ward on Fylde Borough Council
Councillor Dawn Ansell, Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council
Councillor Stuart Harrison, Medlar-with-Wesham Town Council
Mary Eillison, Local Community Representative
Jan Gregson, Local Community Representative
Christopher Holliday, Local Community Representative
Diane Dibley, Local Community Representative
Sergeant Anthony Alves, Lancashire Constabulary
Andrew Mullaney, Lancashire County Council
Tom Wyn-Jones, Environment Agency
Gary Marcus, Fylde Borough Council
Mark Lappin, Cuadrilla
Laura Hughes, Cuadrilla
Jackie Dobson, Lexington Communications

Apologies:

Councillor Julie Brickles, member for Warton and Westby ward on Fylde Borough Council
Councillor Miranda Cox, Kirkham Town Council
David Kirkham, Westby-with-Plumpton Parish Council
Liz Cheadle, Local Community Representative
Mary Finn, Local Community Representative
Tony Almond, Health & Safety Executive

Item		Action
1.	Welcome and apologies Councillor Hayhurst welcomed attendees and Jackie Dobson noted the apologies received.	
2.	Agree meeting report of 2nd July 2018 Members approved the meeting report as an accurate record.	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Review actions arising from previous meeting</p> <p><i>Action 1. Andrew Mullaney and Sergeant Alves to pass on the views of the CLG –</i> Andrew Mullaney confirmed that he had advised the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) that members had voted in favour of a co-ordinated multi-agency site specific emergency plan. Sergeant Alves confirmed that he had informed Chief Inspector Keith Ogle regarding the views of members.</p> <p>Andrew Mullaney advised that the LRF is preparing a register to list the risks associated with Cuadrilla’s operation. He advised that a further risk assessment has been undertaken and Cuadrilla’s site has scored the same as previously. As such, Andrew Mullaney advised that the site does not require a multi-agency site specific emergency plan based on the assessments undertaken.</p> <p>Elaborating on this, Andrew Mullaney reiterated previous comments made that site specific emergency plans have been prepared by the emergency services. He noted that the specific details of these plans cannot be provided for security reasons, but sought to reassure attendees by emphasising that each agency has site specific plans.</p> <p>Diane Dibley asked whether the current emergency plans are tested. Andrew Mullaney confirmed that the plans are kept under review by the emergency services, citing the use of training exercises and internal events. He noted that Lancashire Fire & Rescue has undertaken several site visits to review Cuadrilla’s operation.</p> <p>Councillor Hayhurst stated that members voted in support of a co-ordinated multi-agency site specific emergency plan and expressed frustration that the current plans cannot be viewed. Similar concerns were echoed by Councillor Ansell who advised that a multi-agency site specific emergency plan would assist in reassuring local people about Cuadrilla’s operation.</p> <p>Mark Lappin advised that Cuadrilla would comply with any requests for a multi-agency site specific emergency plan should the emergency services consider one is necessary. However, he advised that consideration needs to be given to the risks associated with testing a scenario that is unlikely to happen. Councillor Hayhurst cited the Grenfell Tower tragedy and the lack of training amongst firefighters regarding evacuations of tall buildings. He emphasised the need to plan for all potential incidents that could occur at Preston New Road.</p> <p>A lengthy discussion followed regarding the logistics associated with evacuating residents of Carr Bridge Residential Park in the event of an incident at Cuadrilla’s site. Members also raised concerns regarding evacuating residents due to other potential risks, such as being located near to a gas mains. As a resident of Carr</p>	
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<p>Bridge Residential Park, Diane Dibley confirmed that there are approximately 200 homes on the site and advised that there have been no evacuation exercises undertaken during her tenure onsite; 27 years.</p> <p>Citing his experience of canvassing Carr Bridge Residential Park, Councillor Hayhurst summarised the difficulties associated with trying to evacuate the site, namely the number of parked cars, the confusing layout and the high proportion of elderly residents occupying the caravans. He suggested that it would take half a day to evacuate residents from the site.</p> <p>It was suggested that Katherine Bentley of LRF be invited to attend a forthcoming meeting to address these concerns. Sergeant Alves questioned what additional information could be provided by Katherine Bentley of LRF or Julian Williams of Lancashire Fire & Rescue that had not been previously provided. Whilst acknowledging that there is not an overarching multi-agency plan, he noted that attendees had been informed that site specific emergency plans have been prepared.</p> <p>Councillor Hayhurst advised that he wants reassurance that consideration has been given to how Carr Bridge Residential Park would be evacuated in the event of an incident. Noting the proximity of Carr Bridge Residential Park to the Preston New Road site, Andrew Mullaney sought clarity on the perceived risks for local residents.</p> <p>Advising that he was unable to cite specific risks, Councillor Hayhurst referred to Cuadrilla’s current operation, the gas mains and gas storage bottles as potential reasons why Carr Bridge Residential Park may need to be evacuated. Andrew Mullaney advised that he would advise the LRF of these concerns.</p> <p>Noting that Carr Bridge Residential Park is a commercial operation, Councillor Harrison questioned whether evacuation procedures may already exist. Diane Dibley advised that she would liaise with the site owners to ascertain whether an evacuation procedure exists.</p> <p><i>Action 2. Jackie Dobson to pass on contact details – Jackie Dobson confirm that contact details of Steve Wong of United Utilities had been passed to Westby-with-Plumpton’s Parish Council.</i></p> <p><i>Action 3. Mark Lappin to investigate – In response to the question as to why there had been a number of vehicle movements to and from the site by Greens Environmental tankers during the recent dry spell, Mark Lappin confirmed that not all vehicles were transporting water. He explained that during the past two months, only six Greens Environmental tankers have transported surface / rain water, whilst 38 vehicles have transported drilling fluid and 12 removed the</i></p>	<p>Andrew Mullaney to advise the LRF</p> <p>Diane Dibley to liaise with the site owners</p>
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<p>septic tanks.</p> <p><i>Action 4. Sergeant Alves to raise at next meeting</i> – Sergeant Alves confirmed that he had conveyed members’ support of Lancashire County Council’s request that all signage, banners and items are removed from around Cuadrilla’s site due to concerns regarding safety to protestors at a liaison meeting.</p> <p>He advised that the protestors acknowledged the concerns and that several signs had been removed, but noted that there was no formal agreement that all signage would be removed and advised attendees that additional signs had been erected since the liaison meeting.</p> <p><i>Action 5. Andrew Mullaney to liaise with Fylde Borough Council</i> – Referring to concerns regarding the protestor camps, Andrew Mullaney introduced Gary Marcus, Corporate Support Officer at Fylde Borough Council, who had been invited to discuss issues further.</p> <p>Gary Marcus advised attendees that Fylde Borough Council had visited the protestor camps to ascertain cooking and sanitation conditions, particularly due to the transient nature of its inhabitants. He noted that access had been obtained to Maple Farm and the B&Q site, but officers had been unable to enter the Lytham Windows site. He noted that Fylde Borough Council officers have liaised with a representative from the protestor camp at Lytham Windows to discuss current conditions.</p> <p>With regard to concerns raised regarding the lack of planning permission for the protestor camps, Gary Marcus informed attendees that Fylde Borough Council has issued letters to the land owners of the illegal encampments. He explained that Fylde Borough Council is seeking to ascertain whether planning permission will be applied for and, if not, inhabitants should be progressing with relocating by the end of the year.</p> <p>Members questioned whether anti-fracking protestors are being dealt with differently to travellers, noting that several gypsy sites have been relocated in recent weeks. Gary Marcus advised that the approach taken by Fylde Borough Council depends on the identify of the landowner, noting that the traveller sites had been established on Council-owned land. He advised that Fylde Borough Council is able to act quickly in response to illegal encampments when it is the landowner.</p> <p>At this juncture, Councillor Harrison left the meeting.</p> <p>Diane Dibley advised that she had been contacted by several residents on Carr Bridge Residential Park who had raised concerns regarding Maple Farm. Circulating a list of issues raised, Diane Dibley provided an overview of concerns</p>	
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	<p>raised, including noise from children, barking dogs and fireworks; rubbish causing blow flies; dog fouling; and skips containing rubbish and plastics as well as children climbing high trees. She emphasised that these issues are particularly upsetting for a number of elderly residents and circulated copies of photographs relating to the issues raised.</p> <p>In response, Gary Marcus advised that officers at Fylde Borough Council are not always aware of current concerns or issues being experienced by residents of Carr Bridge Residential Park. He advised that he would liaise with Diane Dibley regarding issues raised by residents. Jackie Dobson agreed to pass on Gary Marcus' contact details.</p> <p>With regard to rubbish, Councillor Ansell stated that waste materials are recycled and removed each week. Whilst acknowledging comments regarding inhabitants being transient, she also noted that the majority of residents of Maple Farm have resided at the site for the past year.</p> <p>Referring to a sign displayed at Maple Farm, Diane Dibley asked why Lancashire Constabulary is unable to enter the camp. Sergeant Alves advised that the landowner at Maple Farm does not want the police to enter the site, but noted that access is not prohibited and officers would go into the camp, if necessary or required.</p> <p>Referring to the use of fireworks and open fires at the protestor camps, particularly given proximity to Carr Bridge residential properties, Mark Lappin asked who is liable for activity undertaken on an illegal encampment. Sergeant Alves advised that activity remains the responsibility of the landowner and advised that he has liaised with the landowner at Maple Farm regarding this.</p> <p><i>Action 6. Mark Lappin to investigate</i> – In response to Councillor Brickles' question as to whether the Preston New Road site is sinking and whether the levels of the pad are checked, Mark Lappin advised that Cuadrilla has no reason to believe there has been a drop in levels at the site. Councillor Kirkham asked whether the cameras at the site would detect any movement and Mark Lappin informed attendees that the cameras are not calibrated for this purpose, but would observe any visible movement. He informed the meeting that if there was evidence for any sinking then he would ensure a full survey was conducted. In light of Councillor Brickles being absent from the meeting, Councillor Hayhurst suggested this is discussed further at the next CLG meeting.</p>	<p>Jackie Dobson to pass on contact details</p> <p>To be discussed at the next meeting</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Question & Answer session</p> <p>Members reviewed the responses provided to questions raised ahead of the meeting. A handout was provided to attendees.</p>	

	<p>require large volumes of water for its operation. He noted that the hosepipe ban had been called off.</p> <p>Elaborating on this, Mark Lappin reiterated that in the event of any extreme constraint, water supply to the Preston New Road site would be limited by United Utilities, rather than limiting supplies to domestic customers, other than hosepipe bans. He noted that United Utilities will prioritise homes for hygiene and sanitation over industry and business.</p> <p>Councillor Kirkham asked whether Cuadrilla has been storing water on the site, noting low water pressure in the area around two weeks ago. Mark Lappin advised that Cuadrilla has not stored any water onsite from the mains supply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Referring to a question raised by a resident of Carr Bridge Residential Park, Diane Dibley asked if details of the hydraulic fracturing process are available on Cuadrilla’s website. Mark Lappin confirmed that Cuadrilla’s website does have further information about the operation, but noted that several members of the CLG have received further information relating to current activity and/or attended a site visit. As a newly appointed member of the Group, Mark Lappin invited Diane Dibley to visit Preston New Road and suggested they liaise further to arrange a convenient time. – Where are the minutes and agendas for the CLG meetings on Cuadrilla’s website? Jackie Dobson confirmed that these are on the Preston New Road site page, alongside all previous minutes and agendas, and agreed to provide a link to Diane Dibley. In response to questions raised regarding minutes being uploaded on the website, Jackie Dobson advised that minutes are available once these have been signed off by members at the following month’s meeting. 	<p>Mark Lappin and Diane Dibley to liaise regarding a site visit</p> <p>Jackie Dobson to provide a website link</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Lancashire Police update</p> <p>Sergeant Alves informed attendees that following a period of reduced protestor activity, policing levels had increased. He noted that the Police Liaison Team (PLT) is leading policing operations at the site, but that during July there had been 13 arrests for 26 offences. Sergeant Alves referred to an incident on Tuesday, 24th July whereby there were six lock-ons which resulted in a contraflow.</p> <p>He went on to inform attendees that Lancashire Constabulary is aware that letters have been sent to three local schools stating that children will die as a result of Cuadrilla’s activity. Sergeant Alves stated that these scare tactics are unacceptable and uncalled for. Councillor Ansell advised that, as a Governor of</p>	<p>Councillor Ansell to check with</p>

	<p>Weeton Primary School, she would check whether a letter had been received once the schools return from the summer break.</p> <p>Christopher Holliday asked whether complaints against Lancashire Police are still received. Sergeant Alves stated that a professional standards team has been established that specifically deals with complaints received against police officers involved in Operation Manilla. In response to questions raised regarding the level of complaints received, Sergeant Alves confirmed that he would ascertain the number of allegations made during 2018.</p>	<p>the school secretary</p> <p>Sergeant Alves to ascertain the number of complaints made</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Site update</p> <p>Mark Lappin provided an overview of operational activity, advising that Cuadrilla has completed drilling the second horizontal well. He advised that the well has been lined with steel casing sealed by cement, as well as logged.</p> <p>He went onto note that Cuadrilla has started to dismantle the drilling rig, which will be cleaned onsite and returned to mainline Europe in due course. Mark Lappin informed attendees that stimulation equipment will then be brought onto site.</p> <p>Mark Lappin explained that three right turns were undertaken on Wednesday, 25th July, whilst three occurred on Tuesday, 31st July. He explained that all were authorised and undertaken following a risk assessment conducted by Cuadrilla’s security team in consultation with the Police.</p> <p>Mark Lappin informed attendees that a member of the drilling crew had been injured onsite; the first injury since operations began. He advised that the employee had injured his foot and been taken to hospital, but had now returned to Germany.</p> <p>Referring to the employee’s German nationality, Councillor Hayhurst questioned how many staff are local residents. Mark Lappin provided a ballpark breakdown of staff on the site, advising that each day there is approximately 10 members of the drilling crew; 10 operational staff; and 10 employees servicing the site, such as providing telecoms and deliveries. Of these, Mark Lappin estimated that 20 employees reside in Lancashire.</p> <p>Councillor Hayhurst questioned how many live within 5 miles of the site. Mark Lappin noted that he was unable to provide exact numbers, but cited that Cuadrilla employs staff from nearby communities. Councillor Ansell asked whether the approximate figure provided included Cuadrilla’s security staff and</p>	

	<p>Mark Lappin advised these employees are in addition to the numbers cited.</p> <p>Elaborating on this, Mark Lappin advised that as a result of the two horizontal wells, £10million has been directly invested in the local economy. He advised that not only has Cuadrilla created jobs, the operation at Preston New Road has helped support local employment by providing work to Lancashire businesses, such as suppliers and contractors. Councillor Ansell suggested that the £10million of investment included spending on businesses in other parts of UK. Mark Lappin confirmed that this was the amount invested in businesses in Lancashire only.</p> <p>Councillor Hayhurst questioned why Cuadrilla is employing staff from Germany when the Company states it is committed to creating local jobs. Mark Lappin advised that Germany has a mature onshore oil and gas industry and that staff would be sourced locally if the industry was established in Lancashire. He disagreed with the suggestion that Cuadrilla is importing jobs, noting that hundreds of Lancashire-based businesses have registered to support Cuadrilla’s supply chain and to develop existing abilities.</p> <p>Referring to Cuadrilla’s application for final hydraulic fracturing consent for the second horizontal well, Christopher Holliday questioned whether this is premature as the hydraulic fracturing plan has not been approved. Mark Lappin stated that he did not believe this to be premature as much of it can be similar to previous application and can be considered in parallel.</p> <p>Councillor Ansell asked whether the interim injunction has meant the previous agreed position regarding security staff taking photographs and video footage had changed. She stated that an employee had been taking photographs in the bellmouth.</p> <p>Mark Lappin advised that there had been no change in Cuadrilla’s position regarding this, with employees no longer meant to take photographs or video footage unless they believe that they are witnessing an incident that could lead to a crime or feel threatened. Advising that he was unable to comment on the specifics of the alleged incident without further information, Councillor Ansell advised that she would provide additional details to allow Mark Lappin to investigate.</p>	<p>Councillor Ansell to provide further details</p> <p>Mark Lappin to investigate</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Lancashire County Council Update</p> <p>Providing an update from Lancashire County Council, Andrew Mullaney stated that the two noise complaints he had referred to at the last meeting had been investigated and were not breaches of the noise limits.</p> <p>Referring to additional complaints, he advised that several concerns have been raised regarding the protestor hut adjacent to the site. More specifically, he</p>	

	<p>referred to the structure obstructing the footpath and the addition of a roof extension / canopy that Lancashire County Council considers to be dangerous. Andrew Mullaney informed attendees that the Local Authority had requested the intervention of Lancashire Police, but that this had been declined.</p> <p>Andrew Mullaney referred to an enquiry that had been received regarding local topography. Simplified, he advised that the enquirer questions whether the land near the site had expanded substantially since Cuadrilla’s operation began. He advised drone footage had also been provided.</p> <p>With regard to Cuadrilla’s operation, Andrew Mullaney advised that an application has been made to discharge several planning conditions. Of note, he referred to the lighting plan for the hydraulic fracking stage and advised that, whilst this has yet to be signed off, it is not considered to have any unacceptable impact.</p> <p>He went on to refer to Cuadrilla’s noise management plan, noting the proposed retention and reorientation of the acoustic wall to mitigate noise during the hydraulic fracturing stage.</p> <p>A brief discussion was had regarding revisions made to the original noise management plan and Lancashire County Council’s request that all amendments be incorporated into one updated document for the next phase of activity.</p> <p>Andrew Mullaney noted that it is unusual for an operator to host a community information line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and encouraged local residents to express concerns or raise issues via this facility. He advised that an enquiry directed to Cuadrilla may receive a faster response than one received by Lancashire County Council, especially if it is made out of hours. Mark Lappin echoed these sentiments and encouraged the use of the community information line, noting that Cuadrilla is keen to listen to feedback from local people about its operations.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Industry regulators update</p> <p>Tom Wyn-Jones advised that the Environment Agency (EA) is planning an inspection in August with a number of officers to familiarise themselves with the site ahead of the next phase of activity. He noted that a joint inspection will be undertaken with the Health & Safety Executive regarding well integrity.</p> <p>He advised that since the Cuadrilla received final hydraulic fracture consent from the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the EA has been planning its compliance activity and considering the regulatory activity, both on and off the site.</p>	

	Tony Almond of the Health & Safety Executive had given his apologies and provided a written statement.	
9.	<p>Agreed date of next meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at:</p> <p>7pm on Monday, 10th September at Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH.</p>	
10.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>No further business was raised.</p>	

Health & Safety Executive Update

Apologies from Tony ALMOND

HSE have had three queries regarding the Preston New Road site since the last meeting. Two of these were about the use of a BBQ on the site. HSE's response was as follows: The BBQ was used outside the area of the rig in a part of the site containing the rest areas where other heating and cooking appliances are regularly used. The well itself was shut-in following cementing work and so there was no risk of gas reaching the BBQ from the well. Therefore there was no breach of health and safety regulation evident in the photographs provided. The other regarded HSE requirements for cementing which has also been responded to. There is a follow-up query about the BBQ that is being considered under freedom of information rules.

Questions & Answers

Please find below responses to additional questions raised by residents following the Community Liaison Group meeting on Monday, 2nd July 2018.

3rd July 2018

I am concerned for the populace generally as to regard to regulations and monitoring. I have been disappointed with my requests to the Environment Agency to ascertain where some 8 million litres of surface water that has been tankered away from PNR during 2017 originated. Clearly, this is not all rainwater falling on the pad and the EA have stated only 2000 litres was artesian flowback from well PNR2. Where did the rest comes from? If the escape of water is not checked, investigated and results made visible to the public, it does not give much confidence in the ability to handle volatile, poisonous gas after a frack.

Thank you for forwarding on the recent enquiry relating to water being tankered away from Preston New Road. It is not correct to suggest that surface water removed from site is not rainwater. Given the area of the site and average rainfall of 0.81 metres per year, this would create over 12 million litres of water during 2017.

23rd July 2018

If drilling is complete why is the rig still making so much noise?

With regards to noise, we are not aware of any noise from the rig above permitted limits but if you could provide more specific details, for example the timings and dates the noise is alleged to have happened, we can investigate this further.

Is it planned to have multiple fracks a day?

With the drilling phase now complete, Cuadrilla will now start to dismantle the drilling rig, which will be returned to mainland Europe in due course. Since notifying local people regarding the end of drilling, we have continued operations associated with preparation of the well for the next phase of activity.

At this stage, the number of frac stages per well is proprietary information as it is commercially sensitive.

31st July 2018

Following the distribution of a leaflet by Residents Action on Fylde Fracking, the following was asked: There is a picture showing the flaring at one of the American sites. Is the flaring from PNR going to look anything like this? How will the PNR site compare?

Cuadrilla can confirm that the image you are referring to is from a gas site in the USA and Cuadrilla's flare will not look like this. Flaring will only take place during the initial flow test. Cuadrilla will use an enclosed flare which conceals the flare flame. More information relating to the regulation of flaring can be found within the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's Onshore oil and gas exploration in the UK: regulation and best practice which is available at [here](#).

1st August 2018

Would it be possible to raise the question in open time about the amount of sprayed graffiti on the M55 (walls and bridges) and Preston New Road? Do we know who is doing this? It is anti-fracking based.