

## Preston New Road Exploration Works | Community Liaison Group

### Date:

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019

### Venue:

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

### Attending:

Councillor Julie Brickles, member for Warton and Westby ward on Fylde Borough Council

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

David Kirkham, Westby-with-Plumpton Parish Council

Christopher Holliday, Local Community Representative

Jan Gregson, Local Community Representative

Mary Ellison, Local Community Representative

Andrew Mullaney, Lancashire County Council

Steve Molyneux, Environment Agency

Sergeant Anthony Alves, Lancashire Constabulary

Laura Hughes, Cuadrilla

Rowland Wright, Cuadrilla

Jackie Dobson, Lexington Communications

### Apologies:

Councillor Paul Hayhurst, member for Fylde West division on Lancashire County Council

Councillor Miranda Cox, Kirkham Town Council

Diane Dibley, Local Community Representative

Liz Cheadle, Local Community Representative

Mary Finn, Local Community Representative

Jim Stancliffe, Health & Safety Executive

Item		Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, <b>Councillor Brickles</b> welcomed attendees and <b>Jackie Dobson</b> noted the apologies received.</p> <p>In light of the forthcoming local elections and the associated uncertainty, <b>Councillor Brickles</b> expressed her thanks and appreciation to those who have represented their constituents on the Group over the past few years.</p> <p><b>Councillor Brickles</b> informed attendees that Mary Finn had advised that, due to work commitments, she may be unable to attend the next few CLG meetings. Referring to the Terms of Reference that advises that a members' place will be</p>	

	<p>offered to another person if they fail to attend two consecutive meetings, <b>Councillor Brickles</b> suggested that Mary Finn should retain her position on the Group.</p> <p><b>Councillor Brickles</b> noted that Mary Finn’s absence will be temporary, as well as referred to the valuable contribution she makes as a member. Members of the CLG agreed to allow Mary Finn to remain as a member of the CLG.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Agree meeting report of 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b></p> <p><b>Steve Molyneux</b> suggested an amendment to Page 4 regarding the flaring operation. He noted that the permitting requirement is under assessment, so requested that this is reflected in the meeting note.</p> <p>Members approved the meeting report as an accurate record.</p>	Jackie Dobson to amend
3.	<p><b>Review actions arising from previous meeting</b></p> <p><i>Action 1. Jackie Dobson to amend – <b>Jackie Dobson</b> confirmed that the amendment to the meeting note had been made and approved by the Chair.</i></p> <p><i>Action 2. Steve Molyneux to confirm – <b>Steve Molyneux</b> explained that the EA has undertaken its flaring audit and advised that Cuadrilla is provided with 28 days to respond to the findings prior to publication under the Government’s regulator code. He noted that during this time, information is not released into the public domain. <b>Steve Molyneux</b> noted that information relating to the volume of methane flared during the flaring operation in November and December would be provided in due course.</i></p> <p><i>Action 3. Councillor Cox to raise with protestors – In the absence of Councillor Cox, <b>Councillor Ansell</b> confirmed that the request for the hedges to be tidied from banners, signs and paraphernalia has been raised with protestors.</i></p> <p><i>Action 4. Laura Hughes to ascertain update – <b>Laura Hughes</b> confirmed that Lancashire Police had investigated the suspicious substances on the fences and locks of Cuadrilla’s site and found this to be food-related. <b>Councillor Brickles</b> commented on Cuadrilla’s social media post relating to the issue, and highlighted the anguish this has caused. Whilst she applauded Cuadrilla for increasing its engagement on social media, she expressed concern that the post had unduly inflamed the situation.</i></p>	
4.	<p><b>Question &amp; Answer session</b></p> <p>Several questions were raised by attendees:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Why had members not been informed at last month’s meeting by the EA or Cuadrilla regarding the application to vary the environmental permit when this was applied for in January. <b>Steve Molyneux</b> advised that the EA is unable to release such information into the public domain until an application is “duly made”. <b>Laura Hughes</b> advised attendees that there was no intention to mislead members of the CLG, noting that Cuadrilla was also waiting until the application had been duly made.</li>   <li>– Why had a vehicle entered site at 9pm on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March? <b>Laura Hughes</b> advised that under the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) Cuadrilla is permitted, outside of normal working hours, to bring in equipment to undertake essential maintenance. She noted that one vehicle had entered and exited the site in line with the planning condition.  Elaborating on this, <b>Andrew Mullaney</b> explained that Planning Condition 19 allows HGV movements outside of normal hours in support of essential repairs to plant equipment.</li>   <li>– Was the maintenance essential on a Saturday evening given that the level of activity at the Preston New Road site has declined? <b>Laura Hughes</b> informed attendees that Cuadrilla prefers for vehicles to enter and exit the site during normal working hours, but advised that maintenance undertaken was essential to the operation.</li>   <li>– Has something been lost down the well? If so, what implications will this have on PNR-1z? <b>Laura Hughes</b> advised that nothing had been lost down the well that would have implications to PNR-1z fracturing. <b>Laura Hughes</b> confirmed that in November 2018, a piece of a motor was left in the well when the coiled tubing was pulled to the surface. She advised that this will not be retrieved and does not have an impact on operational activity.</li>   <li>– Will Cuadrilla resubmit its Hydraulic Fracturing Plan for the second well? <b>Laura Hughes</b> advised that Cuadrilla had hoped the Traffic Light System would be reviewed to increase the threshold, but that the Company is now considering its options ahead of the planning window closing.</li>   <li>– What are the rules regarding noise creation and limits? More specifically, this referred to a monotonous, continuous drum beat at 11.30am on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March at Maple Farm, adjacent to Carr Bridge Residential Park. <b>Councillor Ansell</b> and <b>Councillor Brickles</b> informed attendees that a samba band was practicing on Saturday from 11am until 1.30pm. It was confirmed that the samba band intends to practice playing instruments every forthcoming Saturday.</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Advising that he had received a number of complaints regarding the noise, <b>Sergeant Alves</b> asked whether this could be reduced, and <b>Andrew Mullaney</b> questioned whether the noise could be contained. Elaborating on this, <b>Andrew Mullaney</b> informed attendees that Fylde Borough Council is responsible for dealing with noise disturbances and considering whether noise is a statutory nuisance. Citing a previous incident of drumming, <b>Jan Gregson</b> advised that this can become annoying after a sustained period. It was agreed that Councillor Brickles would raise this with residents of Maple Farm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– How does it cost Cuadrilla £94,000 a day when operational activity is delayed? Unable to comment on the specifics, <b>Laura Hughes</b> informed attendees that Cuadrilla’s operation relies on suppliers, both large and small. Referring to larger suppliers, she cited Schlumberger and Halliburton as examples, and noted the high demand for specialist equipment supplied to the oil and gas industry. <b>Laura Hughes</b> advised that Cuadrilla endeavours to minimise the amount of inventory on site and avoids equipment not required being left unused.</li> <li>– Why is there a crane at the Preston New Road site and is it safe? <b>Laura Hughes</b> confirmed that the crane is used to hold the injector head and confirmed that it is routine practice and is safe.</li> </ul>	<p>Councillor Brickles to raise</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Lancashire Police update</b></p> <p><b>Sergeant Alves</b> informed attendees that there had been three arrests since the last CLG meeting. He noted that these related to the obstruction of the highways and public order offences. <b>Sergeant Alves</b> noted that two complaints have been received against police officers involved in Operation Manilla, with 7 complaints ongoing.</p> <p><b>Sergeant Alves</b> noted that he had received complaints regarding noise from Maple Farm, as referred to earlier in the meeting.</p> <p><b>Sergeant Alves</b> noted that a protestor had climbed on top of a vehicle on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March which had resulted in a contraflow for approximately two hours. He noted that this had led to an arrest.</p> <p><b>Councillor Harrison</b> asked how many police officers are being deployed to the Preston New Road site daily and <b>Sergeant Alves</b> explained that the number of officers varies. By way of example, he cited that 21 police officers were deployed to the site on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March for the Women in White march.</p>	

	<p><b>Councillor Harrison</b> questioned whether police community support officers (PCSOs) could be deployed to the site to allow police officers to undertake other duties. <b>Sergeant Alves</b> advised that police officers are required to enable arrests to be made, if required, whereas PCSOs assist local policing and provide neighbourhood reassurance. A brief discussion was had regarding the waste of time and resource when police officers attend court proceedings.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Site update</b></p> <p><b>Laura Hughes</b> advised that on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, coiled tubing arrived on the location to perform conditioning operations of short duration, in advance of any future hydraulic fracturing. She noted this had been completed safely and without incident.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Lancashire County Council Update</b></p> <p>Providing an update from Lancashire County Council, <b>Andrew Mullaney</b> advised that no complaints have been received since March’s CLG meeting.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Industry regulators update</b></p> <p><b>Steve Molyneux</b> advised that the EA has received 217 submissions in response to the consultation on Cuadrilla’s application to vary the environmental permit. He noted that the EA is considering the responses received. <b>Steve Molyneux</b> noted that the EA had undertaken a site inspection on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>Referring to previous comments made regarding facilities licensed to accept waste being located in the Midlands and North East, <b>Steve Molyneux</b> informed attendees that new sites have recently been licensed in the North West.</p> <p><b>Steve Molyneux</b> advised that the EA has undertaken its flaring audit and that the report is with Cuadrilla to allow the Company to respond to the findings prior to publication under the Government’s regulator code. Elaborating on this, <b>Steve Molyneux</b> provided an overview of key elements that the report considers, such as frequency of monitoring data, as well as processes and procedures relating to flaring.</p> <p>Referring to the recent reported elevated methane levels, <b>Councillor Brickles</b> questioned whether the regulators are investigating the failure of Cuadrilla’s equipment to detect the spike. <b>Steve Molyneux</b> advised that it is for the operator to principally identify and investigate any issues. He informed attendees that, as a regulator, the EA will assess operations via the compliance assessment reports.</p>	

	<p>Jackie Dobson advised attendees that the Health &amp; Safety Executive had provided a written response. Andrew Mullaney noted that at March's meeting, Jim Stancliffe had advised that he would provide written updates to members when the regulator's activity has been minimal, but attend CLG meeting when activity increases at Cuadrilla's site to provide further briefings. Members were informed that any concerns or queries raised by CLG members could be passed onto the HSE via Jackie Dobson.</p>	
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Confirm date of next meeting</b></p> <p>It was confirmed that the next meeting should take place at:</p> <p>7pm on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May at Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH.</p>	

## **Health & Safety Executive Update**

Cuadrilla have submitted notifications as required under the Borehole Sites and Operations Regulations 1995, Regulation 6 and Part II of Schedule 1 with respect to planned operations on PNR-1z and PNR-2. HSE's specialist wells inspectors have inspected the notifications and there are no outstanding issues. Cuadrilla continue to submit weekly operations reports as required by Regulation 19 of the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc) Regulations 1996 when appropriate.

## **Questions & Answers**

Please find below responses to additional questions raised by residents following the Community Liaison Group meeting on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

### **11<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Please can you advise what was delivered to site overnight and for what purpose?**

This morning, Cuadrilla remobilised a convoy of specialist equipment back onto the site. Cuadrilla began delivering the equipment at about 5.30am. This included the delivery of a range of specialist equipment, but did not include hydraulic fracturing equipment.

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