

ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL / STAR ENERGY LIAISON WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a meeting held Monday 27th April 2009

Present: Cllr Nick Wenman, Cllr John Brockwell, Cllr Peter Gellatly, Sophie Tucker (Star Energy Project Manager), Joseph From, (Star Energy Drilling Manager), Mrs Joanna Cadman (Clerk to Albury Parish Council), Barrie Hedges (Daybreak Communications).

1 Review timings against project plan

Discharge of the planning condition regarding breeding birds was anticipated at the end of April, which would then mean a start on site preparation works on 5th May, with some deliveries possibly taking place between 29th April and 1st May. Drilling rig mobilisation was expected mid to late June with drilling commencing late June-early July. Permission to drill the appraisal well(s) had been granted by DECC on 14th April 2009.

2 Review planning conditions

Since the Albury Working Group meeting of 23rd March 2009, all subsequent planning condition submissions had been copied to Albury Parish Council for circulation to the working group. Sophie Tucker explained the current status of the various conditions that had to be met to enable work to start. In addition to the condition re breeding birds, the company has also now resolved a condition regarding translocation of newts which would be moved to Chilworth School pond and to Sherborne pond.

3 Traffic

3.1 Drilling Rig Trailer

Action: Sophie Tucker/Joseph From: The drilling rig trailer traffic route would be provided to working group but had yet to be confirmed. It was anticipated that the route would be available early June.

3.2 Traffic Management Plan

Star Energy submitted the Traffic Management Plan (Rev 2) to Surrey County Council on 17th April 2009. Key voluntary improvements made in response to working group comments were to:

- manage project HGVs to avoid them passing on New Road
- discourage HGV movements during school bus run hours and morning/evening 'rush' hours

In addition, it had been established that predicted HGV numbers to the wellsite would be well below the average of 22 HGVs per day, and very significantly below the maximum of 77 HGVs per day, anticipated in the planning application.

Discussion took place re the Friday evening children's cricket sessions, which would involve cars dropping the youngsters for a 5.30pm start. It was felt that this was less of an issue given the overall reduction in lorry numbers and also that few deliveries would be made that late in the day.

3.3 Photographic Surveys

The photographic survey requested by the Albury Working Group along New Road, the section of the A248 between New Road and the A25 and the A248/A25 junction was expected to take place on Thursday 30th April. John Brockwell would be present to represent the Parish Council.

4 Footpath along New Road

A site meeting at the Albury Park Wellsite entrance took place on Friday 3rd April 2009. Attendees were Guildford Borough Council Councillor Roy Hogben, SCC Rights of Way Officer James Browne, Albury Estate Land Agent Michael Baxter and, Star Energy Project Manager Sophie Tucker. Roy Hogben confirmed that the idea of a footpath along New Road was not as a permanent feature but as a temporary requirement during the construction works of the pipeline for the Albury Gas Storage project.

The attendees agreed that:

- construction of a new footpath along New Road would not be necessary for such a temporary duration (pipeline construction would take no longer than six months)
- James Browne and Sophie Tucker would walk bridleway 240 / footpath 242 and advise accordingly

Having inspected the bridleway, James Browne subsequently advised that he felt there were other rights of way in the parish in more urgent need of attention. In his opinion the surface condition was at a standard suitable for equestrian use, which was the extent of the County Council's liability for maintenance. The fact that it was narrow in places was a natural limitation on the route.

He felt that any unsealed surface put down to fill in the slight gully in the surface would end up at the bottom of the slope in a fairly short space of time.

Mr Browne suggested that a very effective and practical solution to aid people getting from the village up onto the heath would be to remove the two stiles on public footpath 242 Albury, which runs parallel with the bridleway on top of the bank. His research showed that the stiles seemed not be lawful structures. Without the stiles, the footpath would become more accessible That was something he could speak to Michael Baxter about as it was Albury Estate land.

Action: It was agreed that nothing would happen on this issue in the current phase but that it should be re-visited if approval was sought for storage.

5 Noise

There was no change to the noise monitoring plans since the last working Group meeting. Noise monitoring would commence upon start of start site preparation works and be in place until completion of the drilling and testing phases.

6 Security

Star Energy had passed PC Nick Sharpe's details to the civils site preparation contractor. Star Energy await confirmation regarding any site specific security measures.

7 Restoration

There was no change to the restoration plans since the last working group meeting.

8 Communications

The communications programme was progressing as follows:

- a leaflet was distributed throughout the village on 14th April 2009 with additional copies left in the village Post Office
- personal contact was being maintained with residents at The Bungalow and Keepers Cottage
- a 24-hour complaint line was available
- the general Star Energy information line continues to be available in work hours
- the project website will be updated in line with other information and will include progress reports
- a site sign will be erected at the site entrance which includes complaints line number
- leaflet to be used as a means of briefing the Surrey Advertiser
- parish council newsletter updates
- site visits at key stages to be planned
- village briefing on Monday 27th April 2009.

Working Group Action (All): It was agreed that a visit should be undertaken initially by members of the working group and that the possibility of other visits should then be considered as appropriate for a working site.

9 Complaints

The complaints procedure was now in place at Star Energy and all relevant staff had been briefed.

10 Next meeting

Monday 8th June 6pm