

ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL / STAR ENERGY LIAISON WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a meeting held Monday 8th June 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

Civils site preparation works would be complete during w/c 15th June. Mobilisation of the drilling rig would start at the end of that week. Updated activity plans envisaged 2.4 weeks for rig mobilisation, 11.7 weeks for drilling (assuming only one well needed), and 3.2 weeks for rig demobilisation, which was now scheduled for early October. It was stressed that, given the nature and complexity of the project, all dates could be subject to change.

2 Review planning conditions

The next formal planning notification to Surrey County Council would be in early July to advise commencement of drilling. An update was provided on the status of the various planning conditions as below:

Condition	Key issue	Submitted	Approved	Notes
11	Protection of the water environment	30/4/0 (civils only)	-	Details for drilling to be submitted mid-June 09. Details for testing to be submitted before testing commences.
14	Traffic Management Plan	17/4/09	n/a	No further action required. Star Energy and its contractors proactively managing the TMP.
18	Breeding birds	27/2/09	-	SCC email approval received 28/4/09, formal letter awaited.
19	Badgers	17/2/09	24/2/09	No further action required.
20	Bats	17/2/09	-	SCC email approval received 28/4/09, formal letter awaited.
22	Newts	24/3/09	-	SCC approval overdue.
24	Car park restoration	4/6/09	-	SCC approval anticipated August 09.

3 Traffic

3.1 Drilling Rig Trailer

The HGV traffic route for the drilling phase was advised. It involved the A3 / A25 through Guildford and then the A248 / New Road to the site. Under no circumstances would HGVs be permitted to pass through Albury.

This route could not, however, be used for the rig mobilisation and demobilisation phases because some HGVs would be 15 feet high and there was a bridge height restriction. Also, five HGVs would be in excess of 44 tonnes and must have their route agreed in consultation with Surrey Police. The route approved by the police involved the A24 /A25 from junction 9 of the M25 through Dorking and via Gomshall. Cllr Wenman questioned whether vehicles on this route could have problems at the small roundabout north of the SITA offices in Dorking.

3.2 Traffic Management Plan (TMP)

Traffic management had been going to plan during the civils phase and would continue to be proactively managed during rig mobilisation and drilling.

The predicted number of daily vehicles to the wellsite during the rig mobilisation and drilling had been revised as below. The vehicle numbers will be within those anticipated in the Planning Application (maximum 5 LGVs per day and maximum 8 HGVs per day) except for a slight increase during the first six days of rig mobilization. Cllr Wenman was concerned by the increase in HGVs which he believed was substantial and represented 30 to 34 HGV movements on one day versus the 16 movements originally anticipated. He was assured that the increase did not breach planning conditions and that measures provided for in the traffic management plan would be employed to minimise local inconvenience.

Rig mobilisation	LGVs / cars / vans	HGVs
Day 1	5-8	15-17
Day 2	5-8	12-14
Day 3	5-8	13-15
Day 4	7-10	9-11
Day 5	6-9	11-13
Day 6	8-11	9-11
Days thereafter	As per TMP	As per TMP

Cllr Gellatly said he had been asked to point out that a school bus had been held up by three lorries coming down New Road but he accepted that the vehicles concerned may not necessarily have emanated from the Wellsite.

Cllr Brockwell said that although he lives very nearby he had not noticed any difference in the number of HGVs on New Road during the civils site preparation phase.

Action: Supply list of contractors whose vehicles will be engaged during the mobilisation and drilling stages. (ST/JF).

Action: Note any instances where HGVs are seen off route or passing on New road in contravention of the traffic management plan and call the Star Energy complaint number 01256 381625 if there are concerns (All).

3.3 Photographic Surveys

A total of six photographic surveys had taken place to date. The first survey was accompanied by Cllr Brockwell who advised the locations to be recorded. No significant discrepancies had been noted to date. The surveys would continue to be carried out as previously agreed.

Action: Circulate survey reports amongst working group members (JC)

4 Noise

Noise monitoring was being undertaken during the civils phase and involved (a) a site microphone linked to a computer which provided 'real time' traffic light style warnings if there was any likelihood of regulations being exceeded over any half-hour period; (b) weekly visits by acoustics consultants who visited key properties several times over the course of a day. The microphone system would be recalibrated for use during drilling, when different noise limits would come into effect.

5 Security

There had been no security issues at the Wellsite. PC Nick Sharpe had visited the site and was pleased with the security measures in place. Star Energy was also carrying out three security visits per night, at random times.

6 Restoration

Apart from the recent submission to Surrey County Council regarding Planning Condition 24 and restoration of the temporary access track car park, there was no change to the overall restoration plans since the last meeting.

7 Communications

The communications programme was broadly as advised to the last meeting. Personal contact was being maintained with the closest residents and a site visit would be arranged for the working group as part of the next meeting.

Action: It was agreed that Sophie Tucker's meeting notes and the working group minutes should be made available on the Albury Parish Council website as well as on the project website www.alburygasstorage.info (JC & BH)

8 Complaints

No complaints had been received to date.

The company had received a positive report from the Considerate Constructors Scheme based on a visit in May. It concluded that the works were in the top 35% of construction sites when assessed in accordance with the scheme's Site Code of Considerate Practice.

9 Next meeting

The next meeting will be at 6pm on Tuesday 14th July 2009. It will be preceded by a site visit starting at 4pm from Albury Hall.

Action: site safety clothing to be organised for all visitors on the site visit (ST)