



**Minutes of the 93<sup>rd</sup> AWE Local Liaison Committee Meeting  
Wednesday 4th July 2018  
AWE, Aldermaston**

**Present:**

Haydn Clulow	Director Site and Transformation AWE (Chair)
Cllr Graham Bridgman	West Berkshire Council
Cllr Avril Burdett	Tadley Town Council
Cllr John Chapman	Purley on Thames Parish Council
Cllr Jonathan Chishick	Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council
Cllr Sophie Crawford	Aldermaston Parish
Cllr Debbie Fisher	Wokefield Parish Council
Cllr Roger Gardiner	Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Cllr David Leeks	Tadley Town Council
Cllr Clive Littlewood	Holybrook Parish Council
Cllr David Livingstone	Silchester Parish Council
Cllr Mollie Lock	Stratfield Mortimer Parish
Cllr Royce Longston	Burghfield Parish Council
Cllr George McGarvie	Pamber Parish Council
Cllr Ian Montgomery	Shinfield Parish Council
Jeff Moss	Swallowfield Parish Council
Cllr Ian Morrin	West Berkshire
Cllr Susan Mullan	Tadley Town Council
Amy Palmer	West Berkshire Council
Cllr Barrie Patman	Wokingham Borough Council
Cllr Jonathan Richards	Basingstoke Council
Carolyn Richardson	West Berkshire Council
Susie Tucker	AWE
Nick Bolton	AWE
Philippa Kent	AWE
John Steele	AWE
Gemma Wilson	AWE
Anna Markowska	AWE
Scott Davis-Hearn	AWE
Liz Pearce	AWE
Michele Maidment	AWE
Luke Joyner	AWE Graduate
Adam Karasinski	AWE Graduate

**Regulators:**

Gary Cook	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Rob Greene	Environment Agency

**Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Philip Bassil, Penee Chopping, Stuart Coker, Jan Gavin, Gerald Hale, John Miller, John Robertson, David Shirt, Richard Smith and Tim Whitaker

## **Actions from previous meetings**

Action 2/90 John Steele to present on an updated AWE Travel Plan.  
We will be in a position to cover this at the next meeting,

Action ongoing

## **Approval of the 92nd Meeting minutes**

In respect to the minutes alluding to the planning status of Aldermaston Manor the amended wording adds accuracy.

“The planning application for Aldermaston Manor included the proposed development of 227 new houses within the grounds of the Manor, the justification being that as no buyer or tenant could be found it was necessary for the “profit” from the proposed development to be available to “enable” the appropriate maintenance of the Manor and parkland. WBC required the developer to undertake a more formal and open marketing exercise to test this argument. This exercise finished towards the end of 2017 and generated 2 financial offers to acquire the entire estate and, although unacceptable to the estate owners, the fact that offers were forthcoming indicates that the owners' arguments were flawed and therefore the “enabling” development would not be required. For this in-principle reason predominately but also for a host of other matters WBC will refuse the planning application for the proposed housing development.”

Apart from the above the Minutes of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

## **Chairman's update**

### **Introduction**

Haydn Clulow welcomed members to the 93rd meeting of the LLC and announced a number of changes to the membership of the committee.

- Cllr David Livingstone who replaces Steve Spillane on Silchester Parish Council.
- Cllr Sophie Crawford is replacing David Allen on Aldermaston Parish Council.
- Marian Livingston of Reading Borough Council has retired and is replaced by Cllr Jan Gavin.
- Wokefield Parish Council will now be represented by Councillor Debbie Fisher.
- Cllr Adrian Narracott will represent Baughurst Parish Council.

Haydn Clulow introduced the new members who were in attendance.

Amy Palmer of West Berkshire Council attended together with Carolyn Richardson.

### **Parish meetings and drop in sessions**

AWE hosted a drop in session in April for local residents which was an opportunity for local people to ask questions or raise concerns with AWE's community team. The next session will be advertised shortly and held after the summer break.

### **News letters**

LLC members had also received two new style newsletters via email through our new News Brief Mail chimp system. One on the re-determination of the Burghfield emergency planning area and the second to inform members about the publication of the ONR's Chief Nuclear Inspector's (CNI) report in June.

Under the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) members have to give specific written permission to be included on the mail chimp mailing.

## **Operational updates**

The Chief Nuclear Inspectors (CNI) report has been published and AWE's response circulated

The Radioactive Discharge Permit mentioned at the last LLC has now been approved.

Quality assurance ISO9000 was successfully passed in the period and the next assessment to be undertaken will be in 3 years' time.

## **Award for Waste management**

AWE has received the Vanguard Award for Metal Treatment at the inaugural Integrated Waste Management Conference. The award recognises AWE for its industry-leading adoption of the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR)'s metal treatment programme.

## **UK Challenge**

AWE entered three teams for the UK Challenge starting July 5, taking place in the Brecon Beacons

Teams had been training for a number of months, and as well as all the running and cycling they had already raised over £2,700 for the UK Challenge 2018 nominated charity, Cancer Research UK.

## **Schools Outreach**

AWE's STEM outreach programme continues to flourish. Highlights in the summer term have included teams of graduates visiting 20 primary schools as part of a primary science challenge. Teams have also been engaging with secondary age students – attending events, and running challenges and masterclasses.

## **Charitable Giving**

Living Paintings has been AWE's charity partner since 2015. During this time staff have helped raise awareness of the charity and the unique work they undertake for the partially sighted and visually impaired. During this period AWE has donated over £60,000 in cash as well as providing practical support, including filming science experiments and auditing the charity's library of 'touch to see' books.

AWE has now linked up with two new charity partners, Thrive and Bucket List Wishes – these were nominated and chosen by staff and will be the focus for AWE's charity activities going forward.

## **Connect Magazine**

AWE's community magazine Connect is due to go out in August. This will be circulated to 56,000 homes and businesses. It will be supplemented with a new emailed version – Connect Extra. It will be operated on an opt-in basis to conform to the new GDPR regulations and is due to go out in the autumn.

## **Environment, Safety and Health Update**

**Performance during the period**

**Nick Bolton,  
ESH Service Delivery Lead (SET)**

Nick gave an overview of safety performance and stated that there had been 23 injuries in 12 months due to slips, trips and falls. He acknowledged that there had been a slight increase in the accident rate, although it still remained at a world class level. The increase was due to the bad weather earlier in the year.

He told members that the company remains committed to keeping safety in the forefront of people's minds and uses the mantra "Think safe, Work safe, Home safe".

Nick reported that during the statutory inspection of a bottled nitrogen system a problem with the configuration of the system in relation to pressure relief valves (PRV) was identified. The system was taken out of service and the fault rectified

Three community concerns were reported, all for traffic tailbacks which happened during the snow days earlier in the year. He said this was due to a failure at the site gate.

A Review Learn and Improve session was held to address congestion around site. A strategy has been developed and is being discussed with West Berkshire Council.

The new style environment presentations will focus on how AWE affect the local community and will look at one area each meeting. The focus this meeting is discharges to air and water

### **Managing Water Discharge Activities**

Gemma Wilson gave an overview of AWE's arrangements for making discharges to water, including outlining the consents and permits which are agreed with the Environment Agency. She also described how AWE monitors its discharges to ensure that it is complying with the levels set.

Gemma confirmed any anomalies are thoroughly investigated.

All AWE's levels are extremely low and a fraction of the allowable dose. Even if we discharged at our maximum limits the maximum dose to an individual would equate to the consumption of one tenth of a bag of Brazil nuts. Assurance was given that the impact on the local area is extremely small.

### **Question arising from Environment presentation**

**Cllr Bridgman** asked in relation to waste management and landfill, are you recycling or putting towards energy consumption, the depth to the numbers you are quoting would be useful.

Action 1/93 AWE to confirm statistics for the level of waste being recycling and directed to energy consumption.
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Action: Nick Bolton

**Cllr Leeks** asked with regards to a Brazil nut, is it the outer shell or the nut which contains the dose?

**Gemma Wilson** confirmed it was the nut.

**Cllr Richards** mentioned that Basingstoke Council have been monitoring the air quality and have identified an issue on the A339. He asked whether air quality monitoring for Tadley is done by AWE.

**Nick Bolton** advised that AWE only measure for radioactivity and not air quality relating to vehicle emissions.

**Cllr Mullan** asked whether the Environment Agency check the monitoring.

**Gemma Wilson** stated that the EA accompany AWE. There is also an independent report called RIFE (Radioactivity in Food and the Environment).

**Rob Greene of the EA** added that the EA also sample on a regular basis.

**Cllr Fisher** asked with regards to the monthly routine of sampling, do you have to wait 4 weeks before discovering anomalies.

**Gemma Wilson** advised that if any anomalies are found additional monitoring would be carried out as soon as the problem was identified.

AWE undertakes real time monitoring in the Decoy Pond to test the Ph levels, and receive readings every hour.

**Rob Green** added that AWE would not wait to take a sample if there was an issue.

**Gemma Wilson** told members that AWE's utilities team also regularly check outfalls. AWE also has real time PH monitors in areas where they are needed

### **General Update**

#### Protestor Activity

Nick reported that the only protestor activity to take place was the routine woman's peace camps.

#### EMCOR Electric Vehicles

As part of EMCOR UK's AWE drive to deliver innovation, a suite of 5 electric vehicles have been introduced at AWE.

The aim of the initiative is to reduce the carbon footprint by selecting a solution that is sustainable and practical for use by the EMCOR UK service delivery teams.

**Cllr Fisher** asked what happens to the used car batteries.

**Haydn Clulow** advised that all batteries across the Sites are collected and sent to a recognised waste stream.

**Cllr McGarvie** stated that 5/6 years ago there was another fleet of electric vehicles on site, what happened to them?

Action 2 /93 AWE to report on what has happened with the previous fleet of cars.

Action: Nick Bolton

### **Site Update and Planning and Development**

**John Steele**  
**Planning & Estate Development Manager**

John Steele gave an overview of the Site Context Development Plan 2018 and discussed the future land use of the Aldermaston site. The LLC welcomed the presentation and considered it was very useful to be able to understand the rational for future development proposals for the Aldermaston and Burghfield sites. An offer was made that should members like a presentation to their wider Council's then please approach AWE.

Post meeting note: Councillors Graham Bridgman and Ian Morrin requested a joint presentation to their constituents.

Action 3 /93 AWE to confirm potential presentation dates to Cllrs Bridgman and Morrin

Action: John Steel

### **Questions arising from the Site update**

**Cllr Burdett** asked whether there is any possibility that the steam pipe will go.

**John Steele** replied that as the site is developed over the next 10/20 years the pipe will be reduced. There are very few operational facilities which need steam for processes.

**Cllr Leeks** asked if AWE is going to do anything with the Falcon pub area.

**John Steele** replied that the intention was to use it to create an improved vehicular access to the site but it was not possible with the existing road junction arrangement.

### **Emergency Response Update**

**Scott Davies-Hearn**  
**Manager Emergency Response (Acting)**

Scott gave an overview of the new emergency planning zone for AWE Burghfield which was determined by the ONR in March (just after the last LLC meeting). He reassured members that the change does not represent any increased risk. The revised zone is now defined by clear boundaries.

On 13th June 2018 a Level 1 demonstration exercise took place at Burghfield

The exercise was observed and assessed by regulators, ONR, DNSR, DFRMO and assessed as an adequate demonstration of the AWE B Site Emergency Plan and Arrangements. A range of strong performances were observed from the AWE Fire and Rescue Service, Health Physics and Local and Corporate Command and Control.

**Cllr Bridgman** mentioned that the DEPZ came up at the Grazley development consultation which held by Wokingham Council. There is a proposal to build a railway station.

**Carolyn Richardson** confirmed that West Berkshire had advised there should not be a railway station within the DEPZ zone.

### **Ask the Regulators**

**Gary Cook Lead Site Inspector**  
**Office for Nuclear Regulation**

Gary Cook gave a brief summary of the CNI report and flagged that the details are on both AWE's and ONR's websites.

January to March report, this will be the last which covers a three month period. In future the report will cover 4 months.

Within the period there was a range of inspections carried out, 2 Amber (LC10 and LC34). AWE responded well to the regulatory issues.

ONR completed assessment of the second AWE Burghfield Periodic Review of Safety (PRS2) at the end of March 2018. Our decision was that AWE's Periodic Review of Safety for the Burghfield Assembly Technology Centre was not adequate to support operations for the full ten years from the submission date of September 2016. However, recognising AWE's commitments to progress the outstanding shortfalls, we have agreed to support operations in the short term subject to the implementation of the most significant upgrades. We will reconsider this decision if AWE fails to deliver these key upgrades. Our support for longer term operations will be dependent upon AWE producing an adequate Periodic Review of Safety close out report, including a demonstration that risks from Assembly Technology Centre operations have been reduced so far as is reasonably practicable, which we will assess.

There have been two LC17 improvement notices closed out,  
There is a programme of work going forward which will be monitored.

LC13 – ONR recently suspended two Specifications but will continue to monitor work as part of normal regulatory business.

The Structured Improvement Programme (SIP) – ONR is working with AWE to ensure this is being delivered in the right manner.

### **Questions arising from the ONR Report**

**Jonathon Chishick** asked if Gary could interpret the last sentence on page 3 of the report which refers to SQEP (suitably qualified and experienced person)

**Gary Cook** advised that the inspector was not able to gain access to records on the day, they were there but unavailable. He confirmed that all personnel are SQEP'd.

**Rob Green**  
**Environment Agency**

Rob Green told members that he has taken over as the EA's Lead Nuclear Regulator for AWE Sites from Stuart Parr. A copy the EA report was circulated to the LLC members. Rob briefed members on key points of the report and invited questions from the LLC members.

There were no questions arising.

### **Community Programme**

**Philippa Kent**  
**Community Engagement Manager**

Philippa told members that AWE connected with around 1,300 students from 62 schools and colleges during its summer term schools outreach programme.

The company's annual Primary Science challenge proved so popular that it was expanded to include 20 schools across West Berkshire and North Hampshire. A range of events were delivered in secondary schools and sixth forms with highlights being engineering masterclasses and interactive science workshops.

A short overview was provided on the two new AWE Charity partners, Thrive and Bucket List Wishes. The charities have been invited to present at the next meeting.

### **Any other Business**

None

Close

### **2018 Meeting Dates**

Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup>