

## **Bishop Burton and Walkington Liaison Committee (Crawberry Hill)**

**21 March 2013**

### **Bishop Burton Village Hall**

#### **Notes of Meeting**

**Attendees:** David Montagu-Smith (Chairman, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - DM-S  
David Oxtoby (Chair, Bishop Burton Parish Council) - DO  
Margaret Hebb (Bishop Burton Resident) – MH  
John Castle (Walkington Resident)  
Jason Chester (Bishop Burton Resident) – JC  
John Dunning (local resident) - JD  
Tom Selkirk (Project Manager, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - TS  
Philip Silk (Planning Manager, Moorhouse Drilling and Completions) – PS  
Jonathan Foster (HSE Manager, Moorhouse Drilling and Completions) - JF  
Caroline Foster (Field Manager, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - CF  
Simon Taylor (Rathlin Communications) - ST

**Apologies:** Peter Rolinson – PR (Walkington Resident)

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions:**

DM-S opened the liaison group meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He said that Cllr Phyllis Pollard had been in touch to say that she had another appointment and was unable to attend the meeting that evening.

#### **2. Notes from the Previous Meeting (12 February 2013):**

The notes from the meeting on 12 February 2013 were approved as an accurate record of what was discussed.

#### **3. Operations Update**

PS explained that at the last meeting Rathlin discussed the conductor rig operations and how that process would work. He confirmed that work to drill down 200m was now complete. He said that the first casing had been inserted to a depth of 100m and a second string inserted to 200m below ground level. Both casings had been cemented in place and provided a barrier between the wellbore and aquifer. He then showed some pictures of the protective casing being cemented in.

Resident representatives commented on how neat everything looked. PS said that this was clearly only the first stage of the drilling operation and that as drilling continues and more casing is added, it would serve to further protect, particularly the area surrounding the water aquifer. Each of the casing strings will also be cemented in place creating additional barriers.

PS said that the site had now been cleared in readiness for the new, larger, drilling rig's arrival.

PS confirmed that further ground water monitoring had been completed – the third round, but the first since Rathlin had started the drilling phase. He said that there had been no changes from the baseline and second surveys. PS then circulated the latest report for discussion. He said that all of the reports have been sent on to the Environment Agency, who have stated that they agree with Rathlin's hydrogeologists that salt on the road is creating higher levels of chloride. He said that the fourth round of monitoring was collected this week.

PS said that ESG has been appointed to perform air emission monitoring. He explained that ESG would be responsible for conducting continuous environmental air monitoring and assessment during the Crawberry Hill drilling operations. He said that ESG's team are highly experienced and have been involved in a number of similar operations around the UK. He confirmed that their work at Crawberry Hill would monitor for and assess the following; BTEX, VOC, hydrogen sulphide and methane. Samples would be collected via diffusion tubes which are left in place for two weeks. Methane would be sampled via spot checks.

PS then showed some pictures of the equipment installed at Crawberry Hill and he explained how it would work. He explained that the monitoring equipment had been set up on all four sides of the site that day. He said meteorological conditions would be taken into consideration during the analysis phase and regular reports will be provided by ESG.

PS also explained that during the drilling, mud loggers will be monitoring the well and drilling fluids for traces of gases. This information is stored and will allow the air emission monitoring to be cross referenced against the mud loggers' records.

PS reconfirmed that the air monitoring will take place throughout the whole drilling process – starting immediately to give a baseline position.

PS then circulated some noise monitoring graphs for discussion. He said that Spectrum Acoustics have completed noise monitoring for Rathlin 1,000m from the site. He said that Spectrum is widely recognised as being a leading acoustic, noise and vibration monitoring company.

He said the equipment was in place throughout the whole conductor drilling process. He discussed the period from 17 January-24 February 2013 and said that all of the independent monitoring had shown that Rathlin was performing within the standards imposed by the planning authority.

Mr Dunning said that he had heard more noise from the A1079 than he had from the drill site.

PS said that the bigger drill will be marginally noisier, however the sound power level is within the levels that were assessed during the original planning application and therefore it is anticipated that any noise would still be well within the limits set.

DM-S asked if there had been any comment from the community. Resident representatives said that they had not received any feedback whatsoever.

JF then said that Rathlin is now preparing to move to the next phase of operations and that the final plans are now in place to mobilise the new drill to the site. Equipment would begin arriving at the site from 02 April and the rig construction would take around six days in total. All being well the main drilling operations are scheduled to begin on 11/12 April 2013.

He said the drilling rig will be coming in from Germany with a sequential logistical plan. He said that there would not be anywhere near as much traffic as when the stone came in. It will come in on approximately 17 trucks a day, via the approved route and only during the day time. He said the rig will be on site for 42 days (minimum) depending on progress through the strata and should any initial testing be required. He reassured resident representatives that Rathlin's approved traffic management plan will be followed

Finally, he said that office and staff accommodation may be delivered beforehand, but this would be very minor work.

4. **Any other business:**

DMS said that he would be delighted to invite members of the liaison group to an open day/visitors' day when the drill is operational. The suggested date was 16 April. He said that visits would likely be spread over two days so that council members, council officers and other statutory consultees could attend as well. He said that committee members would be asked to meet at a central point before being transferred to the site in a mini-van. He said that it would seem sensible to hold the next liaison meeting that evening so that the group can discuss what they see on the visit. CF would be in touch to make the necessary arrangements.

Resident representatives said that one of the lights at the drill site was pointing slightly outwards and that it was noticeable from the route from Newbald. JF said that he would look into this and address the matter straight after the meeting.

5. **Date and time of the next meeting:**

The next meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 16 April at Bishop Burton Village Hall.

DO is kindly asked to check and confirm the Hall's availability.

Further updates will be available via Rathlin's website: [www.rathlin-energy.co.uk](http://www.rathlin-energy.co.uk)