

Bishop Burton and Walkington Liaison Committee (Crawberry Hill)

16 April 2013

Site Meeting Room, Crawberry Hill

Notes of Meeting

Attendees: David Montagu-Smith (Chairman, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - DM-S
Margaret Hebb (Bishop Burton Resident) - MH
John Castle (Walkington Resident) - JCstle
Jason Chester (Bishop Burton Resident) - JC
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 (Walkington Resident) - PR
David Oxtoby (Chair, Bishop Burton Parish Council) - DO
David Drew (Chair, Walkington Parish Council) - DD
Cllr Phyllis Pollard (Chair of Planning Committee and Ward Councillor) - PP

1. Welcome and Introductions:

DM-S opened the liaison group meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. The meeting followed a site visit, which was the second to be held over two days for officers and members from East Riding of Yorkshire Council and resident representatives from the Crawberry Hill Liaison Committee.

MH, JC and JCstle all attended the site visit, which was designed to inform and educate attendees about the drilling operation so that they in turn could advise and reassure members of the community about the work at Crawberry Hill.

2. Notes from the Previous Meeting (21 March 2013):

The notes from the meeting on 21 March 2013 were approved by DM-S as an accurate record of what was discussed. Attendees were reminded that the notes are always posted on Rathlin's website (www.rathlin-energy.co.uk) after the meeting. The site is updated also regularly with the latest news about Rathlin's projects and liaison group members and the public are were asked to check the site regularly for up-to-date information.

3. **Operations Update:**

PS thanked MH, JC and JCstle for taking the time out of their busy schedules that day to attend the site visit, along with four councillors from East Riding of Yorkshire Council, and asked if anyone had any questions at all.

Resident representatives said that they had found the tour very helpful and thanked Rathlin for the opportunity to see, first-hand, the drilling process. They said that they had been reassured by what they had seen. JF was thanked for his detailed explanations of what was happening and what the next steps would be.

Whilst an enormous amount of information had been given during the site visit, PS said he had a few other matters to update the group about:

Water monitoring – PS said that water monitoring was continuing. With the last community liaison meeting having only taken place three weeks before, PS said he could not update the group on the results of the fourth phase of testing at this stage as the samples were still being analysed. A further update would be given at the next meeting.

Air monitoring – Further monitoring had been undertaken since the last meeting, from nearby properties, and once again PS said he was waiting for the results – the details of which would be made available at the next community liaison meeting. PS confirmed that the air emission samples would be collected and analysed every two weeks throughout the drilling operations.

Noise monitoring – PS confirmed that noise monitoring equipment had been reinstated with the mobilisation of the large drilling rig. This would be reviewed during the operations to confirm compliance with the applicable planning condition.

PS said that, with the smooth installation of the drilling rig, linked to the efficient start to the operational phase, everything was currently going to plan and he wasn't expecting the water and air monitoring results to show any real changes.

West Newton update – TS said that the West Newton site was progressing well and that the passing places, on the road to the site, had now been installed. He said that the site preparation work was very similar to what took place at Crawberry Hill and that the top soil strip was now underway. He explained that the plan was to install the liner towards the end of the week. He said that the dry and windy weather had been helpful from a construction perspective.

TS said that the main drilling rig would be moved from Crawberry Hill to West Newton once the work between Bishop Burton and Walkington was complete. He said that there was a critical path project management-wise and that Rathlin was working hard to make sure that the transfer of equipment goes as smoothly as possible.

Resident representatives asked if there would be any differences in the drilling process. TS said that the well design would be slightly different due to the differences with the land at West Newton but that it would largely be the same. He said that the drilling depth at Crawberry Hill is 2,500m, however, at West Newton Rathlin would be drilling to a depth of 3,200m. This, TS explained, is because the lay of the land is different – with the rock beds dipping towards the shore.

PS said that he didn't have any other matters to discuss at this stage and asked if there were any further questions. There were none.

4. Any other business:

DM-S said that Rathlin had received an unfortunate complaint that he wanted to bring to the attention of committee members. He said that a complainant reported to the site that she had been unseated from her horse when two site lorries passed her on a nearby road. She said that the vehicles had spooked the horse.

DM-S said that he and the team were really very sorry to hear that this was the case and that a full investigation was underway. CF and Tony Fildes (HSE Manager) went to visit the complainant and DM-S confirmed that he had written to her personally. DM-S said that to him, and the company, one incident is one incident too many and that all possible would be done to prevent a recurrence.

DM-S asked if there had been any feedback from villagers about the operations.

Resident representatives said that they hadn't heard anything at all. JC said that it had been extremely windy in the last few days and that its direction had been towards the village. Despite this, he said that having stood outside and listened carefully, he hadn't heard anything at all from the site or the drill rig.

DM-S thanked JC for his feedback. He once again asked resident representatives to get in touch straight away if they became aware of anything that was concerning nearby neighbours.

5. Date and time of the next meeting:

The next meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 21 May 2013 at Bishop Burton Village Hall.

MH was kindly asked to check and confirm the Hall's availability.

Further updates about the project are available via Rathlin's website:

www.rathlin-energy.co.uk