

Crawberry Hill Community Liaison Committee Meeting

7.00pm on 27 November 2014

Bishop Burton Village Hall

Notes of Meeting

Attendees: David Montagu-Smith (Chairman, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - DM-S
Tom Selkirk (Project Manager, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - TS
Caroline Foster (Field Manager, Rathlin Energy (UK)) - CF
Jonathan Foster (HSE Manager, Petroleum Safety Services Limited) - JF
Tony Fildes (HSE, Petroleum Safety Services Limited) - TF
Kate Smith (Security, Rathlin Energy) - KS
David Oxtoby (Chair, Bishop Burton Parish Council) - DO
Margaret Hebb (Bishop Burton Resident) - MH
David Drew (Chair, Walkington Parish Council) - DD
Peter Rolinson (Walkington Resident) - PR
Simon Taylor (Rathlin Communications) - ST

Apologies: Jason Chester (Bishop Burton Resident) - JC
John Castle (Walkington Resident) - JCstle

1. Welcome

DM-S opened the liaison group meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and approved as an accurate reflection of that meeting.

He reminded the community liaison committee members that Rathlin Energy (UK) Limited (Rathlin) is not undertaking any high volume hydraulic fracturing in the Bowland Shale in East Yorkshire and that the company does not plan to do so in the future.

He also confirmed that a decision had been taken not to exercise the company's permitted option to undertake the Namurian flow test or the Bowland Shale mini fall-off test at Crawberry Hill. He reminded resident representatives that in oil and gas exploration it is important that a company understands the key components of the petroleum system in the basin. These include: the source rock, the sealing rock and the reservoir rock. Without detailed knowledge of these, Rathlin's knowledge of the petroleum system would be incomplete. Therefore an understanding of the component parts would always be essential to the company's ongoing operations.

He said that the main reason for not undertaking the Namurian flow test or the mini fall-off test in the end at Crawberry Hill is that the company had now analysed and established all that it needs to know about the Namurian sands and the Bowland Shale, from the core samples, drill cuttings and wire-line logs recovered when the well was drilled last year. This would mean that Rathlin's forward plan will focus exclusively on the conventional Permian carbonate reservoirs.

2. **Rathlin General**

DM-S gave an update on the West Newton A well, plans for West Newton B and the recent public consultation meeting in Aldbrough on 07 and 08 November 2014 (please click [here](#) to view the notes of the West Newton liaison committee meeting on 06 November and [here](#) to view the information panels from the West Newton information sessions on 07 and 08 November 2014).

3. **Crawberry Hill Planning Application**

TS confirmed that Rathlin's application to extend its operations at Crawberry Hill were approved with councillors voting 11-1 in favour of lengthening the company's planning permission for a further 18 months – six months less than Rathlin had requested.

He said that Rathlin was pleased that the planning committee was minded to approve the planning application at Crawberry Hill. However, he said the shorter timescales given could make it more challenging for Rathlin to complete its testing operations for conventional oil and/or gas due to the ongoing disruption from people who are campaigning against fracking at a site where no fracking is taking place. TS said that having made its decision to approve the planning application, Rathlin had now called upon the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to do more to help the company in dealing with these people so that Rathlin can deliver its lawful work in the timeframe that the authority has granted.

He explained that having completed the work at West Newton A, and due to the availability of equipment and ongoing discussions with the Environment Agency about the best and most appropriate flare, work would not start on the testing phase at Crawberry Hill until, at the earliest, Q1 in 2015.

4. **Security**

KS said that around 10 protestors consistently remained outside the Crawberry Hill site on the grass verges – mostly from outside the area, with day visitors to the camp. She said that more tents and structures were being erected and that a static caravan had been delivered to the site.

Resident representatives said that it was an eyesore.

5. **Environmental Matters**

JF said that there had not been a lot of activity since the water monitoring boreholes were installed. He showed maps of the area and water-flow was discussed. He said that the wells were drilled to approximately 90m and water levels were observed and sampled.

JF said that his team had gathered baseline data over three visits and a baseline report was produced and sent to the Environment Agency. He said the monitoring took place on 9 September, 16 September and 15 October.

PR asked what was found. JF said that the findings were typical of ground water located in the Yorkshire Wolds. He said that these latest findings had been compared with the previous samplings from the last round of monitoring (from nearby private boreholes). JF said that monitoring will take place on a monthly basis during operations and then every three months once the work is completed. JF said he would happily share the information with PR if he was interested in reviewing it.

He said that the Environment Agency do not consider the drilling operations as a serious risk, despite Rathlin carrying out on-going monitoring, but they do require that the testing phase be closely monitored – which it will be.

JF confirmed that the Environment Agency have visited to assess the whole site as part of a compliance audit and had observed that everything is in order.

TS then explained about some the flaring challenges experienced at West Newton (West Newton notes refer – please click [here](#)). JF said that Rathlin's team was working with Environment Agency to find a different flaring solution for Crawberry Hill.

6. Testing Programme Update

TS confirmed:

- a) That the data gathered during the drilling phase consisted of:
 - drill cuttings
 - mud weights
 - gas monitoring
 - electric log data

 - b) That the cores cut and recovered were:
 - Permian (reservoir analysis)
 - Namurian (reservoir analysis)
 - Bowland (source rock analysis)

 - c) The testing programme will now only consist of:
 - Kirkham Abbey (flow test)

 - d) The Kirkham Abbey test objectives:
 - to assess whether oil/gas is present in the reservoir
 - to assess whether there is a commercially significant rate and volume of oil/gas present

 - e) Test programme equipment will include:
 - A service rig, pump and tank, catwalk and ancillary equipment
 - A coil tubing unit, pumping unit, N2 tanks and an acid tank
 - A wire-line unit
 - A tank farm – six x 4,000 bbl tanks
 - A flare unit
- This will take around 12 lorry loads to mobilise
- f) That the water aquifer is protected by five steel casing strings all cemented in place.

 - g) That the testing operation will involve:
 - Putting the service rig up
 - Logging the well
 - Sealing and cementing the lower portion of the wellbore (above Bowland Shale)
 - Perforate the Kirkham Abbey formation

- Acidizing the KA
- N2 lift with coil tubing
- Flow testing
- Shut in and pressure build up
- Suspend the well

The proposed programme duration, should last approximately 45 days.

h) The range of possible test outcomes within the Kirkham Abbey, may include:

- No oil/gas flow – plug and abandon the zone
- Low rate and volume oil/gas – suspend or plug and abandon the zone
- Good rate and volume oil/gas – suspend the zone

i) The programme, following the testing phase, may include:

- Reviewing the test results
- Refining the geological model
- Assessing the commercial potential
- Identifying a follow-up drilling location

7. **Public/Parish Council Meetings**

MH asked if Rathlin would be prepared to hold an update meeting with residents before work started back at the Crawberry Hill site. TS said that the company was happy to meet to talk about the testing phase (above).

However, he was clear that Rathlin would not meet with anyone associated with the anti-fracking fraternity. He said that their fight lies elsewhere and the unnecessary disruption that has been caused at the location had been completely unacceptable since they arrived in East Yorkshire in May 2014.

TS confirmed that he, DM-S and ST would look at possible options for undertaking wider public consultation and that they would advise the liaison committee as soon as possible.

8. **Any Other Business**

DM-S asked resident representatives if there was any other business to discuss. No further items were raised.

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

DM-S suggested that the next meeting be held once the next phase of operations gets underway in the New Year. He said that ST would make contact in January to make the arrangements.

He thanked resident representatives for their proactive input and reminded them that Rathlin Energy (UK) intended to be a good neighbour at all times.

He also said that the company is accessible 24-hours a day, seven days a week and urged anyone with any concerns to get in touch.

He said that further updates are available via Rathlin Energy (UK) Limited's website: www.rathlin-energy.co.uk and reminded resident representatives about the 24-hour emergency number: 0800 1959154.