

Minutes of the 65th AWE Local Liaison Committee Meeting

Thursday 9th June 2011

Present:

Dr Andrew Jupp	MD, AWE	Chairman LLC
Heather Young	Director Environment, Safety, Health & Quality, AWE	
Stephen Fussey	Director Site, AWE	
Alan Price	Manager External Comms & Marketing, AWE	
Lindsey Appleton	Public Affairs Manager, AWE	Secretary LLC
Linda Llewellyn	External Communications	Secretary LLC
Cllr Philip Bassil	Brimpton Parish Council	
Cllr Mike Broad	Tadley Town Council	
Cllr John Chapman	Purley on Thames Parish Council	
Cllr Valarie Frost	Tadley Town Council	
Cllr Jonathan Chishick	Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council	
Cllr Patricia Garrett	Baughurst Parish Council	
Cllr Mick Hall	Burghfield Parish Council	
Cllr Kay Lacey	Pangbourne Parish Council	
Cllr David Leeks	Tadley Town Council	
Ian Lindsay	Wasing Parish Council	
Cllr Mollie Lock	Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council	
Cllr George McGarvie	Pamber Parish Council	
Jeff Moss	Swallowfield Parish Council	
Cllr Irene Neill	West Berkshire Council	
Cllr John Robertson	Mortimer West Parish End Council	
Cllr Dave Shirt	Aldermaston Parish Council	
Cllr Chris Souden	Sulhamstead Parish Council	
Cllr Marilyn Tucker	Basingstoke & Deane	
Cllr Tim Whitaker	Mapledurham Parish Council	
Cllr Jenny Williams	Silchester Parish Council	
Cllr David Wood	Theale Parish Council	
Peter McIntyre	Independent Member of the Nuclear Safety Committee	
Regulators:		
Stuart Parr	Environment Agency (EA)	
John Lindsay	Office for Nuclear Regulations (ONR)	
Dave Norman	HSE's Hazardous Industries Directorate (HID)	

Introduction

Dr Jupp welcomed members to the 65th meeting and explained that we would be sharing the findings of the investigation into last August's fire here at the Aldermaston site.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Michael Bound, Cllr Penee Chopping, Cllr Glenn Goodall, Cllr John Heggadon, Julie James, Cllr Royce Longton, Carolyn Richardson, Cllr Graham Round, Cllr Clive Vare & Cllr Richard Willis.

Actions from the last meeting

Action 64/1 – Mr I Lindsay asked if it would be possible for AWE to notify LLC members when important documents are due to be published. Alan Price undertook an action to ensure this happens – **Closed - Letters have been recently sent out to LLC members**

Minutes of the 64th Meeting

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman's remarks – Dr Andrew Jupp, MD, AWE.**LLC Membership**

Dr Jupp extended a warm welcome to the new LLC Member Councillor John Chapman. It was formally recorded that Company thanks go to Councillor Geoff Findlay who, since the last meeting, has indicated that he is stepping down from the LLC – the members were reminded that Geoff has served for the past year as the member's co-ordinator, the link between the LLC members and AWE.

LLC Members' Liaison Officer

Dr Jupp informed the committee that Councillor George McGarvie had offered to take on the LLC Members' Liaison role – the committee supported this.

Congratulations were expressed to Councillor David Leeks who has taken office as this year's Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane.

Senior Management changes

Dr Jupp informed committee members that Bob Irvin, AWE's current Director Major Projects would be leaving to take up a new role as Group Vice President for the UK & Ireland Group at Jacobs – in his time with the company, he has established a world-class project delivery group, as demonstrated by independent benchmarking. Ian Taylor, Head of Project delivery, Non Nuclear will take over as Acting Director Major Projects.

Coulport

Dr Jupp reported that the MoD had recently announced that the ABL Alliance – AWE with Babcock and Lockheed Martin Space Systems UK – has been confirmed as the preferred bidder to provide Strategic Weapon System services at the Royal Naval Armament Depot (RNAD) Coulport. Led by AWE, the ABL Alliance will develop and enhance the existing expertise at Coulport to manage the stockpile and support CASD. Formal contract award is not expected until late summer

Commercial Success

Dr Jupp reported that from time to time the technology and innovation required for AWE programme results in a spin-off with commercial potential. AWE is pleased to announce that we have joined forces with Lab Impex Systems to strike an intellectual property licence deal which will see the launch of new equipment designed for monitoring radioactive particles in the air. This is known as a Continuous Air Monitoring (CAM) system and was developed by AWE designers.

Exercises

The meeting was informed that a site exercise took place the previous day at the Aldermaston site, as part of a routine programme of exercises that the Office for Nuclear Regulation require AWE to conduct in accordance with the Aldermaston nuclear site license. The exercise was assessed by representatives from the Office of Nuclear Regulation. Later this month a Security Exercise will be held.

Hi-visibility vest

Dr Jupp informed the committee that as of 1 June, the wearing of hi-viz vests was made a personal choice for the majority of staff. The decision followed staff consultation. The hi-viz vests will remain mandatory in certain areas such as construction sites.

Community Involvement

For the fourth year running AWE sponsored a concert in the Newbury Spring Festival. The sponsorship made it possible for the workshops to be attended by several hundred school children.

LLC Secretary

Dr Jupp informed the committee that Lindsey Appleton would be handing over the role of LLC Secretary after three years. Lindsey has recently been promoted to become AWE's first Corporate Ethics Manager. She was thanked for the exemplary way she discharged her role and was

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presented with a floral display as a thank you on behalf of everyone. Linda Llewellyn was welcomed as Lindsey's successor as LLC Secretary.

Environment, Health & Safety Report – Heather Young, Director Environment, Health, Safety & Quality - Slides attached

The Committee members were issued with a copy of the Fire Report Findings Summary document and given time to read through it.

Mrs Young presented the Fire Report Findings and responded to questions on the report from committee members.

In response to a member's question, John Lindsay of the Office of Nuclear Regulation said HSE's own fire investigation was still ongoing and it was not yet clear when the report would be available. Mrs Young took an action to keep the LLC Members updated of the position of the report. – **Action 65/1**

Mrs Young's report is attached to the Minutes.

Infrastructure Report – Stephen Fussey, Director Site

Mr Fussey gave a general update on site issues.

Project Circinus

Chris Cunningham gave an introductory presentation on Project Circinus. Presentation attached to Minutes. [At the end of the meeting the committee was taken on a visit to the project site].

Ask the Regulators

John Lindsay reminded the meeting of the change of name from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). The ONR remains part of the HSE.

Cllr Leeks asked if there was any news on the Boundary Hall site. Mr Lindsay stated that the Secretary of State is due to make his decision on or before 22nd June 2011.

Cllr Whitaker asked whether the Regulators were involved in decisions surrounding the Pangbourne Pipeline (PPL). Mr Fussey said the regulators were monitoring progress. He said there were no further news at this stage but trials were being undertaken and an update would be given at the next meeting – **Action 65/2**

Any Other Business

Cllr Leeks asked for an update on the Falcon Pub site. Mr Fussey said the site was purchased subject to the demolition of the former public house and the ultimate intention is to improve the access to site at the Falcon Gate.

Cllr Broad asked whether the MOD had reached any conclusions in their project to find suitable sites for the dismantling of decommissioned nuclear submarine reactors and subsequent storage of radioactive waste. Dr Jupp said there was no further news at present.

Dates of 2011 meetings

Thursday 15 September 2011 at AWE Burghfield

Thursday 8 December 2011

Linda Llewellyn
Secretary to the AWE LLC