



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 28



2 December 2014, 10:00 to 13:00

Principal Contract Project Office and site, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Chair
Maggie Paterson	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Liam Soden	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Stuart Swainson	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Gavin Martin	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)

Apologies for Absence:

Steven Brown	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Jon Moore	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Rod McCullagh	Historic Scotland (HS)
Wendy McCorrison	West Lothian Council (WLC)

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	EDT provided an introduction and apologies.	
2	Actions from previous meeting (ELG 27)	<p>EDT advised that the minutes from ELG meeting 27 have been uploaded to the website.</p> <p>EDT confirmed progress regarding actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCBC has received Headland's report regarding removal of the remaining section of the entrance wall at St. Margaret's Hope Lodge. FCBC to append to Headland's Archaeological Watching Brief Report 2013 and submit to EDT. Updates to the Sustainability Management Plan subsidiary plans have been provided by FCBC to EDT, with the exception of the Transport Strategy Plan, which is in progress with FCBC to address one outstanding comment before Christmas 2014. Recording of anecdotal evidence of marine mammal /ecological activity in vicinity of marine and land-based works is ongoing by FCBC in the quarterly ecological reports. A final report will also be provided to SNH at the end of the project, the format of which is to be agreed with EDT/SNH. Sustainability Reports for M9 Junction 1a and Fife ITS are to be uploaded to the website following completion of EDT's review in December 2014. 	<p>Note</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT/FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p>
3	General		
3a	Project update	<p>EDT advised that the plant nursery delivered 15,000 plants 01/12/14 for planting to be undertaken in areas adjacent to Dundas.</p> <p>Following approval (09/07/14) from SNH for FCBC's design for St. Margaret's Marsh sluice gates, FCBC installed four out of five of the internal sluice gates in November 2014. Installation of the fifth internal sluice gate and three sluice gates in the sea</p>	FCBC

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		<p>wall will commence in December 2014 or January 2015.</p> <p>Cutting and removal of the rank grassland lying between the seawall and the reedbed will be undertaken by FCBC, as requested by SNH, before installation of the sluice gates in the sea wall is completed, to facilitate the establishment of saltmarsh or coastal grassland once inundation commences. Setting out for the area of grassland to be cut and the reed bed boundaries was agreed on site 19/11/2014.</p> <p>In addition, FCBC will install marker posts in St Margaret's Marsh along the reedbed boundaries to facilitate monitoring the spread or dieback of reeds in response to increased inundation.</p> <p>SNH requested copies of the most recent aerial photos of St. Margaret's Marsh from EDT.</p> <p>The Estuarine Bird Survey annual comparative report, June 2013 to May 2014, was issued to SNH and FCBC 28/10/14. Completion of the Estuarine bird survey quarterly report QR13 (June to August 2014) is imminent and will be issued to SNH and FCBC when completed.</p> <p><u>Post meeting note:</u> [redacted – protected species information].</p>	<p>FCBC</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>EDT</p> <p>EDT</p>
3b	Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website	<p>All updated EMP subsidiary plans were finalised by mid-October 2014. A number of plans were uploaded to the project website in November 2014 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Management Plan • Cultural Heritage Management Plan • Landscape Management Plan <p>The remaining plans will be uploaded in December 2014.</p> <p>Air Quality Monitoring Reports for August and September 2014 have been uploaded to the project website. The October 2014 report is currently under review by CEC.</p>	EDT
3c	Complaints/issues arising	No new complaints have been recorded. Consultation with residents at South Queensferry is ongoing.	
4	Principal Contract (FCBC)		
4a	Programme October – November 2014		
	i) Site tour	EDT/FCBC conducted a site visit to St. Margaret's Marsh to show SNH the newly installed pipes for internal sluice gates. SNH and EDT observed that future excavation either side of the pipes may be beneficial to assist the flow of water between reed beds.	
	ii) Land (north):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of CMC piles at Whinny Hill/Castlandhill Road commenced. • Installation of pier protection at Jameston Viaduct ongoing. • Construction of Ferrytoll Road/King Malcolm Drive road and footpath realignments completed and opened 24/11/14. • Construction of Ferrytoll gyratory overbridges and Ferrytoll viaduct ongoing. • Construction of B981 road and footpath realignments completed and opened 24/11/14. • Concrete works, steel fixing, welding, assembly and installation of launch foundations and gantry crane rail at north launch ongoing. 	
	iii) Land (south)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting and welding works at southern launch steelwork assembly area ongoing. • Concrete finishing works at south abutment commenced. • Excavation and rock breaking at Echline. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilities diversion works, road formation, drainage and kerbing works at B924 realignment ongoing. • Footpath construction and soiling or surfacing to verges at A904 and Queensferry gyratory ongoing. • Installation of drainage at Dundas west ongoing. • Topsoiling embankments from Dundas to Echline strip woodland completed, in preparation for planting during planting season 2014/2015. • Installation of Dundas noise barrier west ongoing. • Earthworks and road formation at B800 widening ongoing. • Installation of beams and deck construction works for B800 overbridge ongoing. • Installation works at gantries in vicinity of Scotstoun and M9 spur ongoing. 	
	iv) Marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pier lifts at N1 commenced. • 24th tower lift achieved at all the towers. • South viaduct launched to pier S4. (Viaduct will extend to S3.) • Foundation at S3 almost completed. • Excavation of cofferdam at S2 ongoing in preparation for foundation works. 	
	v) Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site-wide environmental monitoring ongoing for noise and vibration, air quality, met data and groundwater. The programme of monitoring for groundwater may be revised after inundations at St. Margaret's Marsh have commenced. • Monitoring of silt mitigation measures for site runoff ongoing. • [redacted – protected species information]. • Bat box inspection undertaken 31/10/14. (Greatest number of bats noted in box near Inchgarvie House, closest to the construction works.) Report awaited. • Estuarine bird surveys ongoing by EDT. • Treatment of invasive species now ceased until Spring 2015. 	
4b	Outline proposals December 2014 - March 2015	<p>All ongoing items detailed in 4a to be progressed. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piers N1, S1, S2 and S3 to be progressed. • Delivery of a further 15,000 plants to complete the areas adjacent to Dundas and also areas beside the B981 and Rosyth. 	
4c	Consultation requirements	<p>FCBC have retracted the CAR licence for Queensferry cutting, in consultation with SEPA.</p> <p>SNH requested plans of the completed B981 to progress de-notification of small areas currently designated as St. Margaret's Marsh SSSI. EDT to source and provide.</p>	EDT
5	Any other business	None	
6	Next meeting and venue	<p>Following consultation with ELG members, ELG meetings will be held every three months, or to coincide with milestone construction events, with an emphasis on site visits.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 03/03/2015 at 10.00hrs in the Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth.</p>	