



Meeting Notes

Environmental Liaison Group Meeting No. 9



3 April 2012, 10:00 to 12:00

Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth

Attendees:

Elizabeth Morrison	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT) - Chair
Steven Brown	FRC Employer's Delivery Team EDT
Maggie Paterson	FRC Employer's Delivery Team EDT
Rebecca Spalton	FRC Employer's Delivery Team (EDT)
Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
Janet Brown	City of Edinburgh Council (CEC)
Mike Bland	Marine Scotland (MS)
Neil Abraham	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Steven Cox	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Zoe Miller	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Ellie Slee	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (FCBC)
Kirsty Strannigan	John Graham (JG)
Richard Docherty	John Graham (JG)
Roland Tarrant	Sisk Roadbridge (SRB)

Apologies for Absence:

Rebecca McClenaghan	FRC Employer's Delivery Team
Carolyn Clark	Scottish Natural Heritage
Rod McCullagh	Historic Scotland
Gavin Martin	City of Edinburgh Council
Brian Carmichael	West Lothian Council
Wendy McCorrison	West Lothian Council
Colin Megginson	Marine Scotland
Chris Gall	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Douglas Mayne	Fife Council

Item	Subject	Description	Action
1	Introductions and apologies	All parties introduced themselves.	
2	Minutes of previous meeting(s)	EDT confirmed that the minutes from ELG meeting 7 are now available on the website. EDT advised that the draft minutes from ELG meeting 8 will be corrected to indicate that the extension to the environmental barrier at Fife ITS has yet to be completed.	EDT
3	Actions from previous meeting (ELG 8)	EDT confirmed that the following actions have been closed out or remain outstanding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDT estuarine bird surveys are on-going – the second quarterly report has now been issued to SNH and EDT will issue this to FCBC. FCBC discussed air quality monitoring with CEC 28/02/12. FCBC re-submitted their air quality management plan to CEC for comment. EDT requested that FCBC and SRB provide a report on the archaeological brief undertaken during the top-soil strip to confirm that no findings were observed. 	EDT CEC FCBC/SRB

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCBC consultation ongoing with Marine Scotland and Forth Ports with respect to works in the estuary. 	FCBC
4	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project update 	<p><i>Advance planting</i> Advance planting has been completed at Castlandhill and is due to be completed at Echline early April 2012.</p> <p><i>Archaeology</i> Reporting for the areas 1 and 4 on the pottery and charcoal is complete. Charred nut analysis is currently ongoing.</p> <p><i>Sustainability</i> The contractors have submitted draft sustainability reports for initial review. CEEQUAL assessments at M9 J1a and FITS will begin shortly.</p> <p><i>Environmental Commitments</i> Monitoring by EDT is ongoing for environmental commitments.</p> <p><i>St. Margaret's Marsh</i> EDT have received a site condition monitoring report from SNH, which will inform the vegetation monitoring to be undertaken by EDT in August 2012 to re-establish the baseline before inundation works are undertaken by FCBC.</p> <p>SNH requested that a separate meeting is held to discuss implementation of the Habitat Management Plan.</p>	EDT/SNH/FCBC
	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review/approval of environmental information for publication on website 	EDT confirmed that draft copies of the updated Environmental Management Plans (EMPs), provided by FCBC, JG and SRB would be available on the project website for 7 days to allow consultees to comment before final versions are uploaded.	EDT
	General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints /issues arising 	No complaints about the FRC project received during March 2012.	
5	Principal Contract (FCBC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme and outline proposals 	<p><i>Works undertaken March 2012</i></p> <p><u>Land</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demolition of Inchgarvie garage under licence and with supervision of a licensed bat worker due to the presence of a bat roost. Four new bat boxes installed in the Inchgarvie area to compensate for loss of roost habitat. Construction of Southern Compound at Echline ongoing. Diversion and protection works for all utilities ongoing. Construction of the realignment for Castlandhill Road using rock excavated from Beamer Rock ongoing. Erection of permanent road boundary fencing commenced. Environmental monitoring of noise, air quality, meteorological data, groundwater and ground gas ongoing. Ecological monitoring including monthly otter and badger surveys ongoing. Monitoring for nesting birds commenced. 	

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		<p><u>Marine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South shore access construction ongoing. • Milling of Beamer Rock to form the correct shape for the central tower foundation ongoing. • Dredging at the southern side of the Firth of Forth commenced. This was initially 24 hours a day, 6 days a week. Following review of monitored noise levels after approximately 1 week, this was extended to 7 days a week subject to review by the NLG at its meeting on 5 April 2012. • Fabrication of caissons commenced. • Assembly of the concrete batching plant is ongoing at Rosyth docks. Batching plant designed to have no emissions. CEC requested information regarding storage of materials at the batching plant. <p><i>Works to be undertaken April/May 2012</i></p> <p><u>Land</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance of a section of South Queensferry Wood and minor areas of scrub vegetation clearance at Whinny Hill under Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) supervision and subject to monitoring for breeding birds. • Tests at Echline to determine aquifer properties. • Blasting at Whinny Hill, North Abutment and pier N2. • Land based foundations to commence at piers S7 and S8. • Excavation of the cutting west of South Queensferry to commence and continue for 10 months. • Drainage works at Echline to commence. <p><u>Marine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cofferdam trial near S4/S5. • Excavation and milling of Beamer Rock. • Inspections of Beamer Rock using SCUBA divers and coring using a jack-up rig. • Dredging at the southern side of the Firth of Forth, followed by the northern side. • Delivery of the caissons. • Commissioning of the concrete batching plant at Rosyth docks. • Piling works, monitored by Marine Mammal Observer (MMO) and Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM). 	FCBC
	<p>Principal Contract (FCBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation requirements 	<p>Consultation with SNH regarding the following Appendix R assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scour protection for the pier foundation excavations • marine piles • northern launch <p>FCBC to send SNH the results of groundwater monitoring at St. Margaret's Marsh to confirm existing levels of nitrate and phosphate.</p> <p>Licences required from Forth Ports Authority for individual elements of the work in the Firth of Forth, including</p>	<p>EDT / FCBC</p> <p>FCBC</p> <p>FCBC</p>

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		<p>construction of the towers for the Main Crossing.</p> <p>FCBC sent HS a report of the survey of shipwrecks around Beamer rock. FCBC to send report to EDT.</p> <p>FCBC to arrange and conduct a site tour to provide CEC with an understanding of the construction works in relation to the receptors, the air quality monitoring and the timing of the works.</p>	<p>FCBC</p> <p>FCBC/CEC</p>
	<p>Principal Contract (FCBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMP 	Updated EMP submitted to EDT for review.	EDT
6	<p>Fife ITS (JG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme and outline proposals 	<p><i>Works undertaken March 2012</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ducting works ongoing. Drainage works ongoing. Earthworks ongoing. Piling works. Grouting mine workings completed at gantry site G20F and ongoing at G18F. Topsoiling ongoing. Planting completed at gantry site G02F. Planting at gantry sites G07F, G10F, G17F and G19F commenced. Mine working consolidation ongoing at gantry site G18 and G20. Signage works commenced. Fabrication of gantries ongoing. <p><i>Works to be undertaken April/May 2012</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurfacing works to the southbound carriageway. Completion of planting and commencement of seeding, under supervision of Landscape Clerk of Works. Completion of piling works. Commencement of hardstanding and finishes to gantry base locations. Installation of gantries. Dust monitoring ongoing. Monitoring of groundwater at gantry G18F and small drainage channel to the south of Gantry 18 to continue until no longer required, with replacement of sediment barriers as required. 	
	<p>Fife ITS (JG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation requirements 	None required at present.	
	<p>Fife ITS (JG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMP 	JG to submit updated EMP to EDT by 06/04/12 for review.	JG/EDT
7	<p>M9 J1A (SRB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme and outline proposals 	<p><i>Works undertaken March 2012</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of tree felling and site clearance under ECoW supervision. Completion of construction, earthworks and erection of gantries at G13 to G16. Earthworks within loop ongoing. Piling for foundations at Overton Bridge and M9 bridge extension ongoing. Demolition of Newmains Bridge headwalls completed. Rock excavation at M9 cutting ongoing. 	

Item	Subject	Description	Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Niddry Burn culvert extension ongoing . • Electro-fishing at Niddry Burn. • Excavation of Niddry SUDs detention basin ongoing. • Excavation for new Swine Burn culvert and re-alignment ongoing. • Construction of embankments at west-bound merge and east-bound merge ongoing. • Dust, water, noise and ecological monitoring ongoing. • SRB's ECoW provided advice to Pikes Pool Group. <p><i>Works to be undertaken April/May 2012</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthworks, access and piling works for Gantries on M9. • Cultivation of topsoil and seeding at gantry sites G13 to G16, followed by handover to Transport Scotland. • Earthworks and seeding at River Almond SUDs detention basin and M9 embankments. • Construction of Overton Bridge abutment and beams. • Raising of Newmains Bridge to abutment level. • Refurbishment on the existing M9 bridge. • Installation of the mammal ledge at the Niddry Burn culvert. • Installation of the new Swine Burn culvert and mammal tunnel. • Construction of the Niddry tributary headwall north side. 	
	M9 J1A (SRB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation requirements 	SRB issued Method Statement for the re-alignment of the Swine Burn to SEPA. SEPA site visit arranged 3/4/12 regarding potential contaminated land. SEPA approved Method Statement for the use of material from the former quarry at the location of the Swine Burn realignment.	SEPA SRB/SEPA
	M9 J1A (SRB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMP 	SRB submitted updated EMP to EDT for review.	EDT
8	Any other business	None	
9	Next meeting and venue	The next meeting will be held 01/05/12 at 10.00hrs in Principal Contract Project Office, Rosyth.	All