



Forth Replacement Crossing North Community Forum Minutes

Meeting Location: FRC Contact & Education Centre, South Queensferry

Meeting Date/Time: 18 February 2015 – 7pm

Subject: North Community Forum

Participants:

Community Representatives

Bill King (Rosyth Community Council)

Lin Collis (North Queensferry Community Council)

PC Kate Blackhall (Police Scotland Community Officer – Inverkeithing, on Behalf of Steven Bell)

PC Ian McArthur (Police Scotland, Community Officer – Rosyth, on Behalf of Steven Bell)

Transport Scotland – Employers Delivery Team

Lawrence Shackman (Chair and Project Manager)

Alan Shirley (Head of Policy, Governance and Stakeholder Liaison)

Charles Cozens (Governance Officer - Secretariat)

Aidan Merrilees (EDT – Observer)

Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors

Ewen Macdonell (Community Liaison Officer)

Katrina Bruce (Assistant Community Liaison Officer)

Apologies

Steven Bell (Police Scotland, Community Sergeant)

		Action
1	Welcome and introductions	
1.1	Meeting chaired by Lawrence Shackman.	Noted
2	Review of minutes and outstanding actions North Community Forum 12 November 2014	
2.1	Minutes were approved for EDT to post final version on the TS website. LC raised a question regarding item 6.2 where EM advised the forum that there was funding available for educational activities, and asked whether this included sports activities as North Queensferry were looking for assistance with building a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)? EM confirmed that funding was available for educational community projects and that this included sporting activities. However the request for assistance in building a MUGA in North Queensferry had previously been requested and declined as FCBC rate each request against key indicators and this request had failed to meet the requirements. FCBC regarded this as a specialist activity.	Noted Noted
2.2	Outstanding actions paper	
NCF121114/ 6.1	BK raised an issue regarding the south end of Castlandhill Road where there is no pedestrian footway south of the old A90 slip road adjacent to where the old layby used to be situated EM stated that he had researched this, and yes, there was a layby there but no, there wasn't a footpath. This is the reason why no temporary footpath has been provided. However, a footpath will be provided in the final configuration of Castlandhill Road which is targeted for completion this coming summer.	Noted
3	Update from Employer's Delivery Team	
3.1	LS provided a short update on EDT activities over the last 3 months, noting the following highlights: Annual Briefing Sessions – January 2015	

	<p>The FRC Annual Project Update Briefing Sessions took place on 27 and 28 January with an additional Information Day held on the 31 January.</p> <p>These were for Elected Representatives, Stakeholders, the Media and the public to attend.</p> <p>Across the 7 sessions held on 27 and 28 January nearly 200 people attended, with a further 200 attending the Information Day on Saturday 31 January.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
3.2	<p><u>Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities Visit – 27 January 2015</u></p> <p>Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities visited the FRC Project on the 27 January to announce that the towers were now halfway to their final height, that 10% of the deck was now in place and that the project remains on time and under budget.</p> <p>Media were also invited on the day with positive articles appearing in all the main press titles.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
3.3	<p><u>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee - FRC appearance - 18 February 2015</u></p> <p>David Climie and Lawrence Shackman appeared at the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee on 18 February 2015 to give a progress update on the project.</p> <p>This was part of the regular communication that the Project has with the Committee.</p> <p>In advance of the session, the Committee were keen to hear the views of the community and had invited members of the community groups to submit their views on the project. North Queensferry were one of the groups who had made a submission.</p> <p>The full session can be viewed at: http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurentCommittees/80468.aspx</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

3.4	<p><u>Fife ITS and M9 Junction 1A</u></p> <p>LS informed members of the current status and monitoring of the Fife and M9 Junction 1A Schemes.</p> <p><u>Fife ITS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened 4 December 2012 • Traffic flows – similar flows had been noted since 2011 • Journey time savings – typically 3 to 8 minutes in the peak period heading towards the Forth Road Bridge • Bus Lane usage – up to 12 in peak period • Accident reductions - the average of 12 injury accidents in the 3 years prior to construction had reduced to 3 in the 1st year since completion with 1 in first 6 months of the 2nd year. <p><u>M9 Junction 1A</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened 1 Feb 13 • A904 traffic flow through Newton – A reduction of 24% in the daily traffic flow and a 68% reduction in daily HGV traffic had been recorded. • Journey time savings – 2 to 3 minutes in the AM Peak from Echline to Newbridge (savings being constrained by the Newbridge Junction) • Bus Lane usage - up to 5 in peak period from FRB and up to 4 from West Lothian (M9). • Accident reductions - the average of 10 injury accidents in the 5 years prior to construction has reduced to 3 in the 1st year since completion with 0 in first 6 months of the 2nd year. 	Noted
3.5	<p><u>Bridge Control Room</u></p> <p>Work has recently been completed (end of Jan 2015) to form a control room within the existing FETA office, for both the existing FRB and Queensferry Crossing. As works on the Queensferry Crossing proceed, FCBC will equip the control room with all the relevant equipment. The room will be further adapted to house control equipment for the FRB.</p>	Noted
3.6	<p>Contact and Education Centre (CEC) - Update</p> <p>AS provided a short update regarding the CEC Outreach and Education programme.</p> <p><u>FRC Project Exhibition</u></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been over 8,000 visitors to the Project Exhibition since it opened in 2013 • The Project Exhibition is due to re-open on 7 March 2015. <p><u>FRC Talks and Presentations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 9,000 people have attended a pre-booked presentation. • The FRC Presentations Series will re-commence in March with the first Presentation day being held on the 27th. <p><u>FRC Schools Education Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 6,000 pupils have attended a visit since the education programme commenced in 2013. • 32% of attendees were from the Fife region • 60% of the overall attendees visited from Edinburgh, the Lothian's and Fife. <p>To date approximately 25,000 people have visited the CEC, attended an educational visit or a pre-booked presentation.</p> <p>LC requested posters be provided for North Queensferry advertising the Contact and Education Centre.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting note</u></p> <p>CC arranged for 6 posters plus 30 advertising flyers to be posted to LC for distribution. These were posted on 5 March 2015</p>	EDT
4	Update on Forth Bridge Operating Company (FBOC) and Forth Bridges Forum (FBF)	
4.1	<p>LS provided a short update regarding FBOC and the FBF.</p> <p>Arrangements for the Forth Bridges Operating Company (FBOC) Contract remain on schedule. The Contract was awarded in December 2014 to Amey LG Ltd and they are due to commence service delivery in June 2015.</p> <p>The next Forth Bridges Forum meeting is scheduled to take place on 25 February 2015.</p> <p>The next Forth Bridges Forum Public event will take place in</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

	<p>the evening of 18 March 2015 in the FRC Contact & Education Centre. The event aims to provide the public with an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Forth Bridges Forum – Traffic Impact Assessment, the Tourism Consultation and the new Forth Bridge Operating Company Contract ○ The Forth Bridge World Heritage Nomination <p>Further information about the FBOC Contract, the Forum and its subgroups can be found via the Forum's website http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk/ or via Transport Scotland's website http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/road/bridges/forth-bridges-special-project, or by contacting Transport Scotland on 0141 272 7290. Minutes of Forum meetings are published on the Transport Scotland website.</p>	Noted
5	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract)	
5.1	<p>EM provided a slide presentation to forum members that included photos of the work currently on-going, progressing from south to north:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>B800 Bridge</u> - The replacement B800 bridge beams were installed in November 2014, panel infills and steel reinforcement are well underway with deck concreting in progress. The bridge and the realigned B800 will be open to traffic in Summer 2015. • <u>Dundas/ Echline</u> - Earthworks and drainage have progressed well throughout 2014 and roadworks will follow on with a view to the motorway surfacing being completed during 2015 in this area. • <u>Queensferry Gyrotory area:</u> • The removal of the Temporary Traffic Lights on the B924 on 7th February meant that all road surfacing was completed in the area at that time. Lanes remain coned off on Queensferry Gyrotory pending the completion of verge works. • Works will continue to complete the footpaths and the earth bund opposite Echline Corner together with associated landscaping. FCBC are targeting completion of all the gyrotory associated works by end spring 2015 bar sign plates and traffic lights both of which will be installed in 2016. • The various outstanding works between the A904 east 	Noted

	<p>and the gyratory will be substantially completed by end of spring 2015 and all works including the wall opposite the cottages are targeted to be completed by summer 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The completion of footpaths around the gyratory will allow FCBC to commence removal of the old A904/B924 and start the mainline earthworks in that area. However, this is very dependent on timely diversion of BT cables and the 'rippability' of rock in the deep cutting. There could be some pecking work required to shift the rock, particularly towards the base of the cutting. FCBC are targeting the earthworks being substantially complete in this area late summer 2015. • <u>South Approach Viaduct</u> • 450 metres of the box girder sections for each carriageway have now been launched with a further launch of 93 metres remaining on each carriageway when Pier S3 is completed in the by spring. • Excavation works in Pier S2 cofferdam and reinforced concrete works in Pier S1 foundation are on-going. These piers are targeted to be complete in good time for the placing of the main crossing deck segments. • Following the final launch in spring 2015, deck concreting will commence targeting completion in early 2016. • <u>Towers</u> - All three towers are progressing well with completion due late summer. Cabling will commence in spring 2015 and the main crossing deck sections will take a year to install commencing this spring. • <u>North Approach Viaduct</u> - Pier N1 is now well above cofferdam level and will be completed for the launch of the steel deck in summer 2016. Deck concreting will follow in late summer and is targeted for completion in summer 2016. • <u>Ferrytoll Viaduct</u> - bridge beams are in the process of being installed. The viaduct will be completed Summer 2015. The embankment works between the viaduct and Ferrytoll Roundabout will recommence in March and will be continuous through to the end of 2015. • <u>Ferrytoll Junction area</u> • The new northbound carriageway and associated embankments between Ferrytoll and Dunfermline Wynd will be constructed by late spring 2015. Traffic will be 	
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	<p>diverted onto the new road alignment and 40mph average speed cameras will be installed between Scotstoun and Admiralty in summer 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The works at Ferrytoll are highly complex – there are around 15 traffic management phases to undertake before summer 2016. We are currently in Phase 5. Email alerts relating to the works at Ferrytoll are being issued for those who sign up for them at www.frc-ferrytoll.info. The current phasing can also be viewed here. Information will also be posted on the FRC section of the Transport Scotland website as part of the ‘Weekly Traffic Management Update’ that is updated at the end of each week: http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users. 	
6	Community issues	
6.1	<p>BK raised an issue regarding excess mud on the footpath of Castlandhill Road acknowledging that the road cleaning has been maintained, however the path has been neglected.</p> <p>EM advised that he would make the necessary arrangements to have the footpath cleaned and checked.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting Note</u></p> <p>The footpath was cleaned on 19 February</p>	FCBC
6.2	<p>LC raised an issue regarding vehicles stopping on the new B981 to admire the views of the Queensferry Crossing and St Margarets Marsh and asked if there was provision for a layby to be installed to avoid vehicles obstructing the traffic flows to/from North Queensferry.</p> <p>LS confirmed that no layby was to be installed at this location principally because it would take more land from St Margaret’s Marsh which is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and also because use of a layby would likely generate litter which would spread across the marsh.</p>	Noted

	However, a new/replacement car park is due to be constructed as part of the FRC Project on behalf of Fife Council beside the Dunfermline Water treatment works which will act as the overflow car park for Deep Sea World and Ferrytoll park and ride. This car park, which is due to be constructed in 2016, would be ideal for those wishing to stop to view the area concerned.	
	Any Other Business	
7.1	No additional topics were brought forward for discussion.	
8	Next Community Forums (proposed)	
8.1	North Community Forum – Wednesday 20 May 2015 at the Contact and Education Centre. South Community Forum – Wednesday 27 May 2015 at Contact and Education Centre.	Noted