



Forth Replacement Crossing Community Forum Minutes

Meeting Location: FRC Contact & Education Centre, South Queensferry

Meeting Date/Time: 22 February 2017 – 7 pm

Participants: **Transport Scotland – Employers Delivery Team**

Lawrence Shackman - FRC Project Manager

Alan Shirley - Head of Policy, Governance and Stakeholder Liaison

Raymond Kirk - Governance and Stakeholder Liaison Outreach and Education

Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors

Ewen Macdonell - FCBC Community Liaison

Katrina Bruce - FCBC Community Liaison

AMEY

Chris Waite – Media and Communications Manager

Community Representatives

Wayne Morris - Inverkeithing Community Council

Lin Collis - North Queensferry Community Council

Grant Sangster - QDCC

Bert Scott - Cramond & Barnton Community Council

Keith Giblett – QDCC

Tim Beesley – Newton Community Council

Doug Ross - Cramond & Barnton Community Council

Doug Tait – BRIGS
Les Chapman - BRIGS
David Buchanan – Kirkliston Community Council

Apologies

Bill King - Inverkeithing Community Council
David Sinclair – City of Edinburgh Council

		Action
1	Welcome and introductions	
1.1	<p>Meeting Chaired by LS.</p> <p>LS welcomed all to the Community Forum and reminded everyone of the Health and Safety arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets are located on the ground floor in reception area. • No smoking policy in and around the entrance to the building. • No fire alarms planned for this evening. • If the fire alarm sounds, make your way to the nearest exit and congregate at the muster point in the car park (red phone box). <p>LS welcomed Chris Waite from AMEY (Transport Scotland's current Forth Bridges Operating Company) to the Forum and explained that AMEY will in due course take over responsibility for community engagement for both bridges .</p> <p>LS explained that contact and other relevant details would be contained in a revised 'Engaging With Communities' booklet which will be published in due course.</p> <p>Chris Waite said that if any Forum member wished to contact him, he is available at chris.waite2@amey.co.uk</p>	
2	Review of Minutes from Previous Forum - 30 November 2016	
2.1	<p>LS confirmed that the draft minutes had been circulated to members and no comments were received.</p> <p>The minutes will now be classed as agreed and posted on the</p>	Noted

	Transport Scotland website.	
2.2	<p>Outstanding Actions from the Minutes of 30 November 2016</p> <p>LS stated that there were 2 actions outstanding from the Community Forum of 30 November 2016:</p> <p><u>Item 3.9 – Forth Bridges Forum Public Meeting</u></p> <p>LS stated that he had raised the issue with the organisers and that the views of Community Forum members were noted.</p> <p>KG suggested that future public meetings should be targeted around specific topics/events and should try to avoid dates which clash with other Community Council events.</p> <p>Lin C agreed saying that previous public meetings had clashed with North Queensferry Community Council meetings.</p> <p>LS agreed that the EDT would raise the issue with organisers.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note – LS raised this at the Forth Bridges Forum meeting on 28 February 2017.</p> <p><u>Item 5.2 – Northbound Bus Lane to B800</u></p> <p>LS stated that the various Road Orders for the FRC Project were being taken forward by Transport Scotland for trunk roads and Fife Council and Edinburgh City Council for the local roads. As such, it would not be possible to get a single Road Order processed early.</p> <p>LS informed the Forum that a Training Day would be held shortly for bus companies to explain the nuances of the Queensferry Crossing and Forth Road Bridge when the former opens.</p>	EDT
3	Update from Employer's Delivery Team	
3.1	<p>Queensferry Crossing Opening</p> <p>LS stated that the Queensferry Crossing remains on schedule to</p>	Noted

	open in May 2017 – weather depending, and a fuller update would be provided later in the meeting by AS.	
3.2	<p>Rural Economy and Connectivity (REC) Committee Appearance:</p> <p>LS reported that he and David Climie appeared in front of the REC Committee on Wednesday 14th December 2016. The main items discussed were;</p> <p>Programme – On target for opening to traffic in May 2017 – weather depending.</p> <p>Workforce - Site workforce averaged 1,196 in the past 12 months, with a peak of more than 1,300 in the spring.</p> <p>Progress – Update on site progress since September appearance.</p> <p>FRC Budget – Information detailing complete FRC expenditure provided to the REC Committee.</p> <p>LS concluded by saying that the Official Report of proceedings is available at: http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10507</p> <p>Next appearance scheduled for Wednesday 8th March 2017.</p>	Noted
3.3	<p>FRC - Annual Briefing Sessions</p> <p>LS reported that the Annual Briefings sessions to inform the public and stakeholders about the FRC Project were held on 24th & 25th January 2017.</p> <p>These sessions were attended by almost 250 people and, together with the numbers who attended the Presentation Series later that week meant that around 450 had attended an FRC Presentation in January.</p>	Noted
3.4	Community Forum Site Visit	Noted

	<p>LS stated that Forum members will be given the opportunity for a site visit in 2017 and that the EDT will write in due course to Forum members with proposals for this.</p>	
3.5	<p>Queensferry Crossing Deck Sections</p> <p>LS stated that all 110 deck units have now been lifted leaving a small gap of about 400 mm to be jacked closed once final welding and stitching are completed and that the final gap is expected to be closed this weekend – weather permitting.</p> <p>LS reported that the Queensferry Crossing Project is now 95% complete and Transport Scotland and the Contractors are fully focused on tackling the wide range of complex technical finishing works which make up the final 5%.</p> <p>LS stated that the final deck lift was covered extensively by the media and showed the tight margins within which engineers have to work to safely.</p>	Noted
3.6	<p>Queensferry Crossing Opening Celebrations Committee</p> <p>AS stated that at this stage, Transport Scotland have not yet finalised arrangements for the opening events for the Queensferry Crossing and are looking at the full range of options in order to satisfy the significantly high volume of interest that has already been received.</p> <p>AS concluded by saying that Transport Scotland anticipate that further information will be available with regards to the opening celebrations or public access events by the end of March.</p>	Noted
3.7	<p>Contact and Education Centre (CEC) Update</p> <p>RK updated the Forum on activities that have been happening at the Contact and Education Centre;</p> <p>Schools Programme – on-going. In 2016 the Contact and Education Centre received in excess of 5,000 pupils as part of the Schools Education Programme. This brought the total number of</p>	Noted

	<p>pupils attending to 20,420 since August 2013.</p> <p>Project Exhibition – on-going. In 2016 the Contact and Education Centre received 5,634 visitors to the Project Exhibition. This brought the total number of visitors attending to nearly 21,000 since August 2013.</p> <p>FRC Presentation Series – On-going. Since 2014 over 4,000 people have attended a Presentation Series event.</p> <p>Overall the Outreach and Education Programme has now attracted over 70,000 individuals across all activities.</p>	
3.8	<p>Social Media</p> <p>RK reported that over 254,000 people have watched project videos on the Queensferry Crossing YouTube channel, with subscribers up to 728 and that the Official Queensferry Crossing twitter account @FRC_Queensferry now has a total of 5,469 followers, an increase of more than 1100 since the last update.</p>	Noted
3.09	<p>Compensation Claims</p> <p>LS reported that there has been no change to the number of claims received since the last meeting.</p> <p>LS stated that as previously noted, to date, we have received 136 claims from the 316 owners / General Vesting Declaration's carried out in April and June 2011 and that of these;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 claims have been settled in full (no increase since the last meeting) • 27 claimants received 90% part payments (No change from previous Forum). • The part payments are as a result of advance payment requests from the claimants. 	Noted

4	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors (Principal Contract)	
4.1	<p>EM provided a slide presentation to Forum members including photos of work currently on-going, noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southbound Public Transport Link – all but complete. • A90 at Dalmeny – new bus stop works almost complete. Some tidying up to be done. • Gantries – all gantries have now been erected, however, there is still some electrical work and signage to be added prior to completion. • Ferrymuir Roundabout and Footpath – traffic lights are in place but currently bagged – awaiting power. • B800 Bus Lane – Green ‘Bus Lane’ markings in place but lane coned off for safety reasons as, for example, some drivers have been using the bus lane to turn left onto the A90 at Echline Roundabout. • Queensferry Gyratory – traffic lights are in place but currently bagged. • Cycleway and Footpath (A904 via South Abutment to B924)– this is progressing and will incorporate the bridge access road. • SUDS drainage basins – work currently on-going on the east ‘pond’. • South Approach Viaduct – surfacing work still to complete immediately to the south. Expansion joints are now in place and concreted in - joints can move up to 2.3m. Fit-out works on-going inside the Abutment. Rails for the gantries which will be used for inspection and maintenance of the viaducts are being installed using the ‘dance floor’ travelling platform • Deck Lift – final deck section lifted on 3 February which leaves a 400 mm - 600 mm gap. Once attached to the preceding section, FCBC will jack up the deck at the adjacent piers to align the decks and the approach viaducts can then be pulled to close the gap using 300 ton jacks. 	Noted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work Outstanding – Queensferry Crossing<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 3 pairs of stay cables to be erected on the north side○ Under deck shuttle needs to be installed○ Electrical and Plumbing work needs to be completed○ Lifts to be installed in the towers○ Lighting to be added to the towers and gull wings of the deck○ Trestles on either side of each tower to be removed○ Tower cranes to come down○ Caissons to be cut under sea level and environmentally disposed of○ Final erection traveller to be dismantled○ Windshielding and vehicle restraint systems to complete○ Waterproofing of decks requires to be completed○ Blacktop requires to be laid – two layers of asphalt binder followed by one layer of ‘TS2010’ surfacing. • Emergency Links – connections have been incorporated both to the north and south of the bridge to form ‘emergency links’. These are both currently being used. In the future, if deemed appropriate by the operating company/emergency services, they could be used to divert traffic back across the Forth Road Bridge in the event of the Queensferry Crossing closing for any reason. • A90 North - The A90 carriageways are currently using the north emergency links which will remain as a permanent feature. The A90 carriageways will shortly be diverted to run along the new southbound carriageway to allow removal of the temporary bridge and complete the northbound carriageway. • King Malcolm Drive/Castlandhill Road Junction – works are largely complete. • Ferrytoll Gyrotory – works on-going to the southbound slip road from Ferrytoll to the Forth Road Bridge/Queensferry Crossing including retaining wall construction. The new northbound on slip will be opened to traffic in the next few weeks	
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- **Ferrytoll Park and Ride** – bus turning circle sub-base work now complete with concreting to follow - should be complete by end March 2017.
- **Castlelandhill Road** – planting now complete.
- **Hope Street** – work should be complete by end March 2017.

EM also stated that Information is posted on the FRC section of the Transport Scotland website as part of the 'Weekly Traffic Management Update' updated at the end of each week:

<http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/information-road-users>.

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.

Questions relating to the FCBC Update

Approach Viaduct

Les C sought clarification on apparent dust coming from the deck in one of the presentation slides. EM stated it could be dust, steam, smoke etc.

Future Responsibilities

KG asked for clarification in relation to the 5 year maintenance period and wished to know who will be responsible for what.

LS stated that the revised **Engaging With Communities** booklet will detail who is responsible for what, where and when. Essentially there is a 5 year defects liability period during which time FCBC is obliged to correct any defects which may arise. Defects are usually categorised depending on their severity and rectified accordingly.

If a defect was on a Trunk Road, notification would be via AMEY and then onto FCBC if appropriate. If on a local road notification would be via City of Edinburgh Council or Fife Council and again onto FCBC if appropriate. Following the completion of the 5 year defects liability period all defect rectification/maintenance would fall

	<p>to the relevant authority.</p> <p>In respect of winter maintenance, this is already the responsibility of the relevant authority.</p> <p>KG asked for clarification on, for example, who would be responsible for weeding of the fawn Monobloc paving?</p> <p>LS confirmed that landscaping issues, grass-cutting etc was the responsibility of FCBC for 5 years after completion. After this period, responsibility would revert to each relevant authority.</p>	
5	Community issues	
5.1	<p>Responsibilities and Boundaries</p> <p>KG stated that there were a number of areas where clarification was required relating to future roles and responsibilities. He stated it was vitally important that City of Edinburgh Council take up the offer of attending future Community Forums where they can be questioned by Forum members about issues pertinent to the Council.</p> <p>LS suggested that it was up to City of Edinburgh Council to attend the Community Forums or not and that they had been invited as usual and had intended to attend tonight's Forum but due to unforeseen circumstances had been unable. In relation to the question of site boundaries/responsibilities, he agreed to hold a separate meeting at an appropriate time to clarify these to Forum members.</p>	EDT
5.2	<p>Landscape Commitments on the B924</p> <p>Les C asked for clarification relating to landscaping commitments relating to Scottish Power on the B924.</p> <p>EM agreed to check the utilities commitments and update the Forum accordingly.</p>	FCBC

5.3	<p>Pathway through Echline Field from Springfield.</p> <p>DT asked for an update relating to the pathway through Echline Field from Springfield.</p> <p>LS stated that he was waiting for City of Edinburgh to give permission that the FRC team could proceed to build the footpath - the EDT are content to proceed once permission is granted. KG has already provided a letter on behalf of QDCC to TS to confirm that the path could proceed.</p> <p>DT again stated that City of Edinburgh representatives should be coming along to Community Forum meetings to discuss these on-going matters.</p> <p>LS reiterated it was up to City of Edinburgh Council to attend Community Forums and that Transport Scotland would continue to invite them and encourage them to attend.</p>	
5.4	<p>Noise – M9 Junction 1a</p> <p>DB asked about the issues regarding the noise barrier installed on the M90 spur, the levels of noise on the western side of Kirkliston and what progress had been made?</p> <p>LS stated that a reply had been issued to DB stating that the effects of the project are assessed one-year after completion for the purposes of informing any claims under the noise regulations/part 1 claims. The initial report undertaken indicated that no additional mitigation was required.</p> <p>LS continued by stating that notwithstanding the report, it is not physically possible to erect a noise barrier or extend the existing barrier in the location due to geometric/sightline constraints relating to the road and embankment. Any barrier would be in the line of sight for drivers.</p> <p>LS confirmed that planting in the area would be re-examined in case there were any plants that hadn't established themselves.</p>	EDT
5.5	<p>Metal Posts at Dundas Golf Club Entrance – B800</p> <p>DR asked if the pinch-point metal posts on the B800 at the entrance to Dundas Golf Club could be looked at by the Contractor</p>	

	<p>as there may be a requirement for warning signs?</p> <p>EM agreed to consider this further.</p>	FCBC
5.6	<p>Drop Pavement at ARUP Office</p> <p>DT asked why there was a drop pavement outside the ARUP office?</p> <p>EM explained that this formed part of a designated crossing point which coincided with a drop kerb on the opposite side of the road.</p>	Noted
5.7	<p>Dirt on Road – U221</p> <p>DT raised the point that the sweeper is active on the roads at Echline but appears not to be picking up the dirt.</p> <p>EM agreed to look at the issue and report back to the Forum.</p>	FCBC
5.8	<p>Strip Lighting at the Contact and Education Centre</p> <p>Lin C asked if the issue could again be raised to try to get the timing of the CEC strip lighting sorted.</p> <p>EDT agreed to raise the issue again with the building facilities team to ask if the timing adjusted.</p>	EDT
5.9	<p>Archaeological Finds</p> <p>Tim B asked if any archaeological finds had been unearthed during the construction of the FRC.</p> <p>LS stated that post holes and artefacts relating to a 10,000 year old dwelling had been found in the Echline area close to the South Approach Viaduct as part of an archaeological survey undertaken in advance of the main construction contract.</p>	Noted
5.10	<p>Sunday Working</p> <p>Les C stated that he had evidence of contractors working on Sunday 5th February 2017 and Sunday 12th February 2017 and that there were some polystyrene sheets in Echline field which required to be cleared away.</p> <p>EM asked Les C to pass on the details for investigation and that he would look to clear away the polystyrene sheets.</p>	FCBC

5.11	<p>Future of Forum Meetings</p> <p>LS highlighted that there would be a transition for Community Forums and Engaging with Communities as AMEY took over the responsibility for the Queensferry Crossing and responsibility for community engagement. The Forth Bridges Forum public meetings are already held with the most recent meeting well attended and received by the attendees. Further information will become available in the coming months. LS confirmed there would still be a Transport Scotland presence as the transition took place with colleagues responsible for Trunk Road Management and the FBOC contract envisaged to attend regular meetings with the community as required.</p>	EDT
5.12	<p>Launch of Aircraft Carrier</p> <p>DR asked if the EDT were aware of the proposal to launch the aircraft carrier on 16 March 2017.</p> <p>LS stated that the EDT were aware of proposed spring launch.</p>	Noted
6	Any Other Business	
6.1	No other business was raised.	Noted
7	Next Community Forum	
7.1	Community Forum – Wednesday 31 May 2017	Noted