

COCKENZIE COMMUNITY FORUM

MEETING – Wednesday 30 May 2018, 1900-2045 hrs, Port Seton Centre

ACTION NOTE

Present: Ferhan Ashiq, Chair, Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership
Graeme Jeffrey, Chair, Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Council
Brian Weddell, Chair, Prestonpans Community Council
Philippa Barber, Longniddry Community Council
Sandra King, Preston Seton Gosford Area Manager
Ray Montgomery, Project Manager, East Lothian Council
Douglas Proudfoot, Head of Development, East Lothian Council
Susan Smith, Economic Development, East Lothian Council
Iain McFarlane, Service Manager Planning, East Lothian Council
David Ostler, Coastal Regeneration Forum
Philip Wark, Coastal Regeneration Forum
Gillian Stewart, Cockenzie West Tenants' & Residents' Association
Larry Tomlins, Cockenzie West Tenants' & Residents' Association
Liz Clark, Secretary, Cockenzie & Port Seton Community Council
Cllr Lachlan Bruce, East Lothian Council
Cllr Fiona O'Donnell, East Lothian Council
Cllr Neil Gilbert, East Lothian Council
Cllr John McMillan, East Lothian Council

1. Apologies

Introductions were made with elected members asked to outline their specialism/brief.
Apologies from Sheila Chambers, Cllr Innes and Calum Miller.

2. Action note of previous meeting

Approved - proposed by GJ and seconded by BW.

3. Matters arising

- Elected member engagement. FA thanked elected members for their engagement and attendance at this meeting.
- Key milestones/timeline. DP introduced the key milestones table, amended, and commented that this is subject to ongoing review.
- Ash pipe. RM said that correspondence between ELC and Scottish Power had been circulated with the papers for this meeting. Scottish Power is willing to undertake its obligations on the ashpipe leaving it in place encased by concrete and maintaining it in its current condition on an ongoing basis. BW asked about COSHH (control of substances hazardous to health) certificates. RM advised that there are no substances hazardous to health present if it is left alone. It was added that Scottish Power has agreed in a meeting with Prestonpans Community Council to share further details of the maintenance regime.

4. Planning Update

IMF reported that East Lothian Council has approved the Local Development Plan for adoption with the plan now referred to Scottish Government Ministers for subsequent ministerial approval. Accordingly, the Council's planning approach moving forward in

relation to Cockenzie is in seeking firstly to influence NPF4. In relation to the called-in Planning Application from RedRock, there will be a site visit on 2 July; East Lothian Council will prepare its Statement of Case for Council approval on 26 June; the Reporter will review the written submissions and visit the site. At that stage the Reporter will determine if further submissions be invited or hearing be held before making recommendation to the Minister.

In response to a question about the status of the Cockenzie Masterplan, IMF reported that this did not form part of the LDP. Rather the Masterplan will be used to influence policy (including the NPF) and inform the future approach. DP added that originally this was envisaged as being able to come forward as supplementary guidance but this option was removed by the Reporter and it would now require to be brought forward as part of the next LDP. IMF commented that NPF3 remains in place and it is more important to engage with SG Ministers and officials to influence NPF4.

With SG focus on the current Planning Bill, the timescale for NPF4 remains unclear. The process and consultation should be known late 2018/early 2019. BW asked about the Council's Statement of Case, IMF responded that this will set out material considerations, including public objections and referencing the Masterplan, and consultation responses.

5. Site condition issues

RM continues to monitor site condition issues. Security is a concern – eg public access to jetty – although repairs and enhanced locks have improved this. The Council has had the agricultural fields topped and there is tree growth on rail siding. Measures will be put in place to stop access to the lighting towers and security visits were in place. FOD was reassured that a daily security visit to the site will be undertaken during the school holidays. PW asked about biodiversity.

6. Feedback event

DP advised that ELC has explored with PBA proposals for such an event or series of events but the RedRock call-in has impacted on timing and the outcome of the application process was significant itself in terms of feedback. DP suggested postponing the event(s) (ideally one for stakeholders, the other for community) until after the RedRock application call-in has been determined. PW suggested that there should be community information that the decision is deferred and it was agreed that more interactive events would encourage greater community input and engagement. It was agreed that a draft programme be presented to the next meeting with an indicative date of September; there was a suggestion to widen the geographic spread and include an open forum, ideas for community engagement should be sent to SS. **(ACTION: SS/DP to prepare a draft programme/specification of event(s) for presentation to next meeting, including format, date and target audience).**

7. Engagement with interested parties

These include the Department for International Trade, Scottish Enterprise/Scottish Development International, Marketing Edinburgh, as well as a responding to a number of enquiries. DP added that the meeting with the Department for International Trade representative was particularly useful and referred to the planned meeting with Scottish Government Economic Development colleagues. In discussions with interested parties, the NPF timescale and site conditions are outlined. RM added that the Council needs to

understand demand for either the whole site or sub-division thereof and how to do this. It is important to appreciate that site preparation and marketing is a long-term project. NG asked about BREXIT and this is perceived as both a threat and opportunity by potential investors. The partnership approach and how to ensure council input to delivery of jobs is important with a number of models, such as SPV's, to be considered and agency expertise to be captured. JMM referred to the East Lothian Community Planning Economic Development Strategy 2012-22 that is currently being refreshed. The EDI Group was suggested as an organisation with expertise in property development.

8. AOB

SS reported that Cockenzie site information / meeting papers for this group will be uploaded to the new council website. Also, DP reflected that the East Lothian Courier were content to be kept up to date through the published meeting papers.

FA referred to the Port of Prestonpans report commissioned by Prestonpans Community Council, and offered the opportunity for a presentation at a future meeting. BW responded that the report is out for consultation and feedback.

FA asked about the direction of this group and suggests a broader remit. Draft and revised terms of reference will be produced for discussion and agreement at the next meeting, 1 August. **(ACTION: FA/SK/SS to review remit)**

Future meeting schedule:

Wednesday 1 August, 1900 hrs, Port Seton

Wednesday 26 September, 1900 hrs, Port Seton

Wednesday 28 November, 1900 hrs, Port Seton