

Minutes of the 68th AWE Local Liaison Committee Meeting

Wednesday 7th March 2012 at AWE Aldermaston

Present:

Dr Andrew Jupp	MD, AWE Chairman LLC
Heather Young	Director Environment, Safety, Health & Quality, AWE
Steve Fussey	Director Site, AWE
Alan Price	Manager External Comms & Marketing, AWE
Fiona Rogers	Head of Corporate Communications
Linda Llewellyn	External Comms & Marketing – LLC Secretary
Michele Maidment	External Comms & Marketing, AWE
Cllr Philip Bassil	Brimpton Parish Council
Cllr Michael Bound	Basingstoke & Deane Council
Cllr Jonathan Chishick	Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Council
Cllr Patricia Garrett	Baughurst Parish Council
Cllr Keith Gilbert	Padworth Parish Council
Cllr Mick Hall	Burghfield Parish Council
Cllr Carol Jackson-Doerge	West Berkshire Council
Cllr David Leeks	Tadley Town Council
Cllr Heather Leighton-Jones	Pangbourne Parish Council
Cllr Ian Lindsay	Wasing Parish Council
Cllr Marian Livingston	Reading Borough Council
Cllr Mollie Lock	Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council
Cllr Royce Longton	West Berkshire Council
Cllr Jeff Moss	Swallowfield Parish Council
Cllr Susan Mullan	Tadley Town Council
Cllr Irene Neill	West Berkshire Council
Cllr Barrie Patman	Woking Borough Council
Carolyn Richardson	West Berkshire Council
Cllr John Robertson	Mortimer West End Council
Cllr Chris Souden	Sulhamstead Parish Council
Cllr Marilyn Tucker	Basingstoke & Deane Council
Clive Vare	Aldermaston Parish Council
Cllr Jenny Williams	Silchester Parish Council
Cllr Richard Willis	Reading Borough Council
Cllr David Wood	Theale Parish Council
Paul Cooper	AWE
Gemma Taylor	AWE
Graham Day	AWE
Kevin Clarke	AWE
Gary Butler	AWE

Regulators:

John Lindsay Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Introduction

Dr Jupp welcomed members to the 68th meeting.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Marjory Bisset, Cllr Mike Broad, Julie James, Cllr Graham Round, Cllr David Shirt, Cllr Tim Whitaker

Actions from the last meeting

Action 66/4 - Steve Fussey undertook to present the findings of the habitat survey in 2012 at a future LLC meeting – **Action remains open**

Action 67/1 - Paul Cooper to liaise with the ONR to produce a 'lay-person's guide' to REPPiR risk assessments and associated processes ahead of the next LLC Meeting. **Action addressed in 68th meeting presentation– Action closed**

UNCLASSIFIED

Action 67/2 – Paul Cooper was asked to provide further information relating to the AWE Off-Site Emergency Plan and supply link to the off-site contingency arrangements. **Action addressed in minutes of the 68th Meeting as a post meeting note. Action closed.**

Action 67/3 – Shan Martin to provide a full list of universities with which AWE have sponsorship arrangements. **Information sheet is in member's handout packs. Action closed.**

Action 67/4 – Shan Martin to provide the number of female applicants who will go through the next selection process for the AWE Apprentice Scheme. **As at 7 Feb there were 230 applicants – 10 are women – 5 have gone through to the next round = 4% of total but 50% of total of women the have applied. Action closed.**

Action 67/5: Paul Cooper will work with John Lindsay to prepare a presentation to answer these questions relating to the DEPZ and AWE. . **Action addressed in 68th meeting presentation. Action closed.**

Minutes of the 67th Meeting

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman's remarks – Dr Andrew Jupp, MD, AWE.

LLC Membership - Dr Jupp extended a warm welcome a new LLC Member:

- Councillor Susan Mullan of Tadley Town Council (replacing Councillor Val Frost)

Orion Fires on all beams – Orion, AWE's replacement laser facility, fired 10 long-pulse beams and 2 short-pulse beams simultaneously for the first time. This achievement was the culmination of a year's worth of effort and was another major step forward in Orion's commissioning process.

New Head of Corporate Communications – Dr Jupp was pleased to announce that Fiona Rogers has joined AWE as our new Head of Corporate Communications and knows that she is looking forward to working with the LLC Members. Dr Jupp also announced the departure of Alan Price who has decided to move on having worked closely with this committee over the past nine years. Dr Jupp expressed a personal thank you to Alan and wished him farewell.

Long Service Recognition – More than 4,000 years of AWE expertise was represented when almost 100 long-serving members of staff were recognized for their loyalty and dedication. The Celebrate Loyalty at AWE event gave us an opportunity to thank those who have given more than 40 – and in some cases more than 50 – years of continuous service with AWE.

Technology Development Centre planning application – In December Dr Jupp informed the LLC that AWE had submitted a planning application to West Berkshire Council for the construction of a Technology Centre (TDC) to support hydrodynamics work at the AWE Aldermaston site. Dr Jupp was pleased to report that the council's eastern area planning committee granted AWE planning permission at their February meeting.

Nuclear Information Service – Dr Jupp informed the meeting that he believed that most of the LLC members were aware that the local group, Nuclear Information Service, has for some time been working on a study of ways in which the AWE LLC might be improved. Recently, following a request from the NIS, Steve Fussey and Alan Price have met with their director Peter Burt who ran through the findings of their report. It was made clear that, while the report contained some helpful suggestions, AWE would continue to look for ways of improving the way it works with the local community in liaison with our stakeholders, not least the Local Liaison Committee.

Dr Jupp acknowledged the LLC Members and their role as the voice of the local community and our on-going work to provide support to members needs.

Action 67/1 – Dr Jupp asked Steve Fussey to work up a process to further engage with the LLC

Dr Jupp informed the members that AWE will in May this year be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the AWE Apprentice Scheme and that the members will be invited to attend the celebrations.

Environment, Health & Safety Report – Heather Young, Director Environment, Health, and Safety & Quality

Heather Young presented on ESH performance, The Annual Review of Safety 2011, ESH Focus, the ESH Culture development process & the ESH Culture framework including early benefits.

Heather Young informed the committee that during the recent Mensa concrete pours (which were every 7 minutes) AWE received no community complaints, this is a good result.

Infrastructure Report – Stephen Fussey, Director Site

Steve Fussey gave a general update on site issues including updates on:-

Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) –We are looking at different options on how to move forward, with major UK stakeholder engagement. There is a stream of activities looking at storage options.

Pangbourne Pipeline (PPL) – We are in the process of a series of investigations looking at the way to move forward – trials have been completed and data has been gathered. A report will be created for summer 2012. We will then be in a position to start moving forward. There is still some work to do but this meeting will be briefed later this year.

Steve Fussey also extended a warm welcome to Kevin Clarke, AWE's new Chief Fire Officer

Further presentations were given as follows:

Paul Cooper, Manager Emergency Response: The presentation covered AWE Detailed Emergency Planning Zones – including AWE's Key responsibilities, Radiation Emergency, Levels of Detail of Emergency Plans, Challenges, Risk Evaluations & Changes to the DEPZs

Councillor Wood asked if Project MENSA would increase or reduce the risk. The response was that Project Mensa will reduce the risk

John Lindsay from the ONR – Presented on REPPIR and the Role of the Regulator – including REPPIR Duties, HSE/ONR Process, DEPZ Determination, Outputs, For AWE – Where we are now? and What next?

Graham Day – Head of Site Control/Utilities – Presented on AWE Fire Service Resource, Capability, Facts and Statistics.

Councillor Tucker asked if AWE has sprinkler systems in their new builds? – The response was that they are fitted only where suitable; AWE uses a range of appropriate fire systems

Kevin Clarke – Chief Fire Officer, AWE Fire & Rescue Service Presentation - including Liaison with RBFRS (Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service), Training/Reciprocal Training Agreement.

Councillor Bound asked if we charge for the use of AWE under the reciprocal agreement with RBFRS? – The response was only for the consumables

Ask the Regulators

Councillor Tucker asked when the ONR would give a response back regarding the fire? – The response from John Lindsay was that unfortunately it is still going through the legal process and that they are waiting for a meeting with Counsel for a result. That hopefully will be by the next LLC meeting.

Dr Jupp also responded saying that he would inform the LLC as soon as he receives a response from the ONR

Any Other Business

Councillor Leeks asked what is happening to the unsightly Falcon site – Steve Fussey explained that eventually it will be used to increase the access, but there are no plans for the immediate future, work though is in hand to tidy this area.

Dr Jupp reminded the LLC that AWE has a strong focus on Ethics, on integrity and that should the members have any ethics concerns and in support of the local community, they can contact Lindsey Appleton who is the Corporate Ethics Manager at AWE

At the end of the meeting LLC members were taken on a tour of the NNS facility at AWE Aldermaston.

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 20th June 2012

Linda Llewellyn