**Mossmorran & Braefoot Bay**

**Community & Safety Liaison Committee Meeting**

Date: 24th November 2022

Time: 18:30

Location: Maxwell Centre, Cowdenbeath

Present: Councillor Alistair Bain, Convener - Fife Councillor (AB)

Councillor Julie MacDougall - Fife Councillor (JMacD)

Councillor David Barratt – Fife Councillor (DB)

Tom Antram - ExxonMobil (TA)

Emma Bradshaw - ExxonMobil (EB)

Ian Brocklebank - SEPA (IB)

Martin Burrell - ExxonMobil (MB)

Craig Burnett - Shell (CB)

Luigi Creazzo – Hill of Beath Community Council (LC)

William Dryburgh - Aberdour Community Council (WD)

Peter Franklin - Dalgety Bay & Hillend Community Council (PF)

Eleanor Martin - Lumphinnans Community Council (EM)

James Martin - Lumphinnans Community Council (JM)

In attendance: Kenny Bisset – Fife Council (KB)

Secretariat: Lesley Kirk, Fife Council

Apologies: Tyne Bradley - Shell

David Fisher - SEPA

Martin Grey -SEPA (MG)

Nigel Kerr - Fife Council (NK)

Neale Hanvey MP

Alex MacDonald - Burntisland Community Council (AMacD)

Mairi McKay - Shell (MMcK)

****Wendy Thornton - SEPA (WT)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Noted.

1. **Declaration of Interest**

None.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes accepted.

LC advised Hill of Beath CC had been omitted from the membership list in the report.

1. **Current Situation Reports**

4.1 Councillors

JMacD advised she had nothing to report.

DB advised he had nothing to report.

AB advised he had nothing to report.

4.2 ExxonMobil (MB)

MB talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* The site had its first unplanned flaring event in August which occurred following a local lighting strike that required a section of the plant to be shutdown. This was reported to SEPA.
* Stakerholders advised of a period of planned low volume flaring on

2nd October which was required to undertake necessary maintenance.

* FEP received ten complaints through SEPA associated with both events.
* Enclosed ground flare is progressing with a target date for completion for the end of this year with start-up forecast 2023. Key benefits include no vibration, completely smokeless, virtually invisible on a clear night, quieter than a petrol lawnmower. Progression can be viewed at [www.exxonmobil.co.uk/fife](http://www.exxonmobil.co.uk/fife)
* Sixteen new employees recruited in the last six month.
* FEP have supported several careers events at High Schools across Fife.
* FEP continue to support different good causes in Fife with over £72k donated this year.

PF advised with regard to the safety rings, Coastwatch West Fife will take overlooking after them and will report any damage to the Community Council.

JM raised concerns about no safety equipment at the Swans Pond in Lumphinnans which has been discussed with local members and would welcome funding support. After discussion it was agreed TA would get JM’s contact detail.

4.3 Shell UK Ltd (CB)

CB talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* Recently announced a new investment to install new, enclosed ground flares at the plant in 2025.
* Completed upgrades to their elevated flare stack which included the replacement of one of its flare tips and installing a combustion-monitoring camera.
* There were no process safety or personal safety incidents in the period since the last report.
* Attendance and input at Air Quality EAG continues. Data provided for 2021 annual report.
* Seven emergency exercises completed since the last report.
* Three site visits have taken place since the last report.
* Seven community notices issued since the last report.
* CB gave an overview of complaints received since the last report and advised he was happy to provide further details if required.
* Launch of a new Shell Twilight session at Burntisland.
* Refurbished laptops are available to donate. The contact is [mairi.mckay@shell.com](mailto:mairi.mckay@shell.com)
* Equipment has been donated to Beath Boxing Club.
* Students from Lochgelly High School benefitted from hands-on experience through work experience and work placements across our maintenance disciplines and operations team.

DB enquired about land owned by Shell and ExxonMobil for tree planting. CB advised it was his understanding there is a long-term lease for farming but would be happy to take details and pass on.

A discussion arose surrounding windfall tax which AB confirmed taxes are set by the UK Government.

4.4 SEPA (WT)

IB talked to the slide previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* Mossmorran Hub site has been updated to make it easier to navigate.
* Desktop and onsite inspections continue. Particular focus on the progress of the FEP ground flare and reduction of nitrogen dioxide emissions from the furnaces.
* ExxonMobil FEP COMAH safety report is undergoing a review by SEPA and the HSE.
* 24 complaints received since the last report, with the majority relating to flaring. IB commented the number shows there have been improvements due to community notices.
* In June 2022 SEPA varied Shell FNGL’s PPC permit to require the installation of the new ground flares.
* SEPA are currently looking at an application by FEP on a variation to the ExxonMobil FEP PPC permit.
* SEPA have installed new air quality monitoring equipment; eight sensor arrays located in communities around the complex, one reference air quality monitoring station downwind of the complex.
* Two noise monitoring stations are in situ, one in Lochgelly and the other is on farmland immediately north to the complex (this will be moved slightly in January 2023).

4.5 Questions

LC enquired if any of the complaints received are out with Fife as the plant is visible over the water. IB confirmed the majority received were from the local area/within Fife. IB stated community notices have increased awareness and has made a difference to the number of complaints received but said SEPA do still receive occasional complaints even if a notice has been issued.

AB asked if Councillors could be notified in advance of any ‘emergency practices’ taking place as concerns have been raised in the past by residents on Facebook.

1. **Update on Expert Advisory Groups**

KB talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* It has been agreed that the IOM should be retained to produce the 2021 Independent Air Quality Report. It is anticipated that this will be produced in December 2022.
* The Air Quality EAG is to interact with the Communications EAG regarding the non-technical summary report of the 2021 Independent Air Quality Report.
* Fife Council are currently improving the design/layout of the Mossmorran and Braefoot Bae web pages with a separate landing platform being developed by Fife Council and NHS Fife. This is due to be finalised soon.
* Automatic continuous monitoring equipment was installed at Auchtertool in August and is now fully operational. Public dissemination of this data via SEPA web pages is anticipated Spring 2023.
* The installation of portable sensor arrays at eight lamppost locations is also complete and again it is anticipated these monitors will be fully operational and downloading data on the SEPA website by Spring 2023.
* It is proposed representation of Community Councils on EAGs will be sought from this Committee.
* Noise, Light & Vibration EAG have met twice and agreed to share available data. Shell to provide the group with Air Quality FAQs with ExxonMobil to provide a presentation to the Group on past noise surveys carried out. Updated ToR updated and agreed. Two places are to be offered to Community Councils. The Group is to produce FAQs on Noise, Vibration and Light issues and to liaise with Communications EAG in this respect.
* Communications EAG have met twice. The group agreed to review information which will consider what does and what doesn’t work in terms of engagement and communication with the local community. The Group are considering a wider survey to address know data gaps and establish baseline metrics. ToR updated and agreed. Consideration will be given on have community council representation on the group. Discussions have taken place on methods of interaction between EAGs and the Community & Safety Committee. The Group also agreed to review the Mossmorran Action Group's website to focus on the current issues highlighted therein.

AB stated the three EAGs need two representatives from Community Councils with one Fife Council councillor on each.

1. **Review of Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Community and Safety Committee**

KB talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:

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* Provide an update on the review of the Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Community and Safety Committee as reported to Environment & Protective Services Sub-Committee on 17th September 2020.
* Seek approval for a change in the Constitution and Terms of Reference of the Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Community and Safety Committee and associated groups.
* Discuss and agree the position with respect to the Chair of this Committee and format and timing of the annual report.
* Approve the proposed recommendations detailed in section 4 of this report.

4.1.2 AB stated this committee should choose a chair and commented it would be impossible to action through three Area Committees.

AB stated Hill of Beath to be added to the membership list. This was agreed.

A discussion arose surrounding financial recompense for an independent chair, and it was noted this topic had been discussed previously. The committee agreed the role should continue to be held by an elected member which AB agreed to do. This would be discussed at the next meeting.

Committee Report Appendices

4.1 AB stated there are no elected members on the membership lists for EAG’s. KB advised he chairs the Air Quality EAG, NK chairs the Communication EAG and DT chairs the Noise, Light and Vibration EAG. Membership of the EAG’s was discussed and it was agreed KB would take this forward, an invitation would be extended to elected members.

**7. Any Other Business**

7.1 AB raised the matter of the voting structure. Representatives from Fife Council are classed as attendees so do not have a vote. IB advised he would check and report back. AB said the Chairperson would have the casting vote and over the past five years elected members have not had a vote, but Community Councils do as they are representing their communities.

7.2 JM enquired why social events e.g. pantomime, burns supper etc organised by the site had been stopped. A discussion arose which highlighted this was due to bad publicity and participants being on the receiving end of criticism but as the general mood as changed there may be benefit to looking at getting this restarted.

7.3 EM advised she hoped that the pond dipping trips for local school children could recommence as they were an invaluable part of their learning experience for nature and are missed. EM commented on some of the outdoor learning projects being undertaken by Lumphinnnans Primary School.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting to be agreed. AB stated meetings are held quarterly.