



HARWELL CHILTON CAMPUS LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

Minutes of the 104th meeting held at The Satellite Applications Catapult Centre, Harwell on Tuesday 5th November 2024

ATTENDEES:

Chair	Chris Broad, Chilton Parish Council
Deputy Chair	John Sharp, East Hendred Parish Council
Secretary	Emma Burwood, Magnox, Communications lead
Minutes	Jessica Peart, Magnox
Emma Burwood	NRS
Bethany Sear	NRS
Gary Reid	NRS
Laura Street	NRS
Jon Blackmore	NRS
Bill Hamilton	NDA
Alistair Findlay	NDA
Christine Williamson	MRC Harwell
Amy Griffin	Diamond Lightsource
Kat Roarty	Diamond Lightsource
Rebecca Cleverley	Environment Agency
Aidan Kelly	Environment Agency
Bill Hawks	Member of public
John Wilkins	Member of public
Susan Holdrolds	Member of public
Paul Mann	Oxfordshire County Council
C. J. Broad	Chilton Parish Council
Clive Hooker	West Berks Council
Derek Whitmill	Upton Parish Council
Paul Bryant	Shaw-cum-Donnington Parish Council
Joe Kelleher	ISIS/STFC

Apologies for absence: Bethia Thomas, Vale of White Horse District Council, Mark Pledger, Jacobs, Neil Fawcett, Vale of White Horse District Council

1. Chairmans Remarks – Chris Broad

Chris Broad welcomed everyone to the meeting, and provided some opening comments:

- Gary Reid appointed as NRS Site Director for Harwell & Winfrith.



- 26th April SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs national forum held in Manchester. Concern was expressed regarding the difficulty of getting NDA to attend SSG meetings. NDA responded, admitting a lack of resource available, but did note that recruitment was in progress.
- NDA hosted a Site Stakeholder Group Chairs meeting in Manchester. This was a good opportunity to speak and hear from senior NDA.

2. Minutes of the 103rd meeting

- Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and accepted.

3. Matters Arising:

4. NRS Harwell Licensed Site Matters

a) Site Directors Report – Gary Reid (NRS)

Gary Reid gave a short presentation to update on site operations and current work programmes at Harwell.

Site Operations

- NMT (Nuclear Materials Transfer) – On target, progressing towards 165 Waste Packages consigned this year.
- RHILW (Remote Handled Intermediate Level Waste) – below target at present. A series of unplanned plant breakdowns have hindered progress, but 7.4Te is still achievable.
- Remaining waste targets across site are progressing well.

NRS Harwell has several programmes underway, including:

- Land Release – NRS has a lot of potential land for release, but it takes time to work through the process of delicensing. Laura Street (NRS) will be submitting a strategic plan to the NRS Board to help prioritise and determine a strategy.
- Nuclear Materials Transfer – One of the largest Nuclear Waste Transfer projects. Roughly two years away from completion.
- Remote Handled Intermediate Level Waste – Estimated four years until completion.
- Legacy Waste – Consigned 150m³ of legacy waste this year. Expect to reach target of 208m³ by end of the financial year.
- Compliance and End States Programme
 - Almost at the end of LETP Land Remediation.
 - West Meashill Land Release – Delicensing case submission due Spring 2025
 - Meashill Trenches Remediation – Progressing with initial options assessment.
 - Downs Way East Land Remediation – Minor remedial works but any further project work has been deferred to prioritise other high priority areas.

Decommissioning



- B220 Characterisation and asbestos survey contract is progressing.
- B418 demolition planned for 2025/26.
- B401.8 asbestos strip out is nearing completion prior to demolition.

Other Site News

- Bethany Sear has been appointed as Communications and Socio-economic Lead for South Sites.
- 15 roles have been filled since April 2024.
- 20 open vacancies
- 5 new apprentices

The meeting was opened to for discussion.

Q1. How did the site exercise run virtually?

A1. A virtual SECC is not first choice, however it does benefit in some scenarios. For example, in an emergency when buildings are locked down, it isn't possible to get everyone together in a centralised control room.

Q2. In the site emergency when a gas leak was discovered, the local community was not connected?

A2. Chris Broad was notified. NRS will take into consideration learning points, and the need for local communities to be notified where appropriate in an emergency.

Q3. Will the Land Release Report produced later this month, be available to be shared with all?

A3. No. This will be intended to secure internal resource to focus on areas that need to be progressed and identify opportunities to bring forward additional plots of land which are not currently scheduled to be released until later in the programme. Laura Street will do a short presentation at a follow up SSG to provide an update.

5. Reports

a) Nuclear Decommissioning Authority – Alistair Findlay

Alistair Findlay attended the meeting and provided a brief update on NDAs submitted report.

b) Office for Nuclear Regulation – Vincent Malachanne

ONR submitted a report for review.

c) Environment Agency – Rebecca Cleverley

Rebecca Cleverley and Aidan Kelly (EA) attended the meeting. Rebecca provided and overview of the EAs submitted report.

6. NRS Corporate Update/Think Insights – Bill Hamilton

Bill Hamilton (NRS External Affairs Director) attended the meeting and gave an NRS corporate update.



- Socio-economic funding available – If anyone knows of any community projects that need funding, please get in touch.
- Dounreay have joined NRS.
- A video was shared of the general public's views of living near to an NRS site.

Q1. The message taken from the video is that people living around NRS sites do not know what is going on. Locally can't recall any publications from NRS updating the local communities?

A1. Bill Hamilton advised there has been some press in local papers, but not as much as would like. Bill noted the communications team at NRS is growing and therefore hope to produce more updates for the community.

Q2. It was mentioned NRS are now considering early decommissioning of reactors and plant. For Harwell does DIDO & BEPO appear as a consideration?

A2. Gary Reid advised there is a desire to look at the reactors, however there is a strong argument to let them decay for a period of time.

7. NRS Site Update – Jon Blackmore

Jon Blackmore gave a presentation on the Groundwater at Harwell. (A copy of the presentation included with the meeting minutes).

- An updated map of borehole data was given, as requested at the last SSG.

Q1. Can WSP's report be shared?

A1. At present the report is in draft format so can't be shared at this present time.

Q2. Can a copy of the presentation slides be shared with SSG?

A2. Yes, the slides can be included with the minutes.

8. Campus Matters

a) Science and Technology Facilities Council

Joe gave an update of events at STFC.

b) Diamond Light Source – Amy Griffin

Amy Griffin attended the meeting and provided an update on Diamond Light Source.

- 97% machine up time during the last period.
- Annual review will be published online in the coming months.
- Awarded gold from the Employee Recognition scheme for the Armed Forces covenant.
- Diamond extension construction is progressing, due to finish early 2025.
- Solar panels have been commissioned contributing to 5% of Diamond power usage.
- Public Open Day March 2025. Ballot to enter opens today.

Q1. Is there a cost analysis of Diamond available?



A1. Yes statistics are due to be published, will included in next years SSG.

9. AOB

Nothing to report.

10. Next Meeting – 17th April 2025