

NUCLEAR WORKING GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2006

Present: Councillors A Holliday (In the Chair); B Dixon; D Banks; D W Moore; A Norwood; Ms E Woodburn

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Blackwell

Officers: F McMorrow, Corporate Director Economic Prosperity and Sustainability D Davies, Head of Nuclear Policy & Sustainability: Z Bergmann, Sustainability Officer; F Duffy, Nuclear Policy Manager; L Taylor, Member Services Officer Technical Support

Also present: B Snelson, B Anderton, D Mason, British Nuclear Group – Agenda Item 1 – 4 only

Appointment of Chairman

Due to Councillor G Blackwell submitting his apologies it was moved by Councillor B Dixon, duly seconded and

AGREED – that Councillor A Holliday be appointed Chairman for the meeting

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2006 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Arrangement of Agenda

It was **AGREED** that Agenda Item 7 - Draft CBC Nuclear Policies would be considered as Agenda Item 5

BNG

Members received a presentation from Dave Mason of BNG on Environment, Health, Safety and Quality at Sellafield, which was then open to a question and answer session from Members.

During the presentation Members stressed the importance for Safety Records to be kept at all times for contractors.

Draft CBC Nuclear Policies

Members considered the first draft of Nuclear Policies, which would be put before Council for approval for adoption and would provide a consistent approach when dealing with nuclear issues.

During consideration of this item Members felt that the document was more in line with statements rather than defined policies and asked that the document be looked at again with a view to firming up the policy issues.

It was therefore **AGREED** that the document be agreed in principle subject to it being redrafted as discussed and circulated to all Members for comment prior to further consideration by the Nuclear Working Group and subsequent approval at Council.

(Note: Councillor Woodburn left the meeting following consideration of this item.)

End States – Discussion Paper

Members discussed the options and requirements of Copeland's Nuclear Sites between the present and site closure in line with the agreed Council Policy prior to submission to the NDA. It was noted that our current policy was that the site should be cleaned to the same standard as other nuclear sites. If ground conditions were worse than elsewhere it was not a reason for avoiding a full clean up on the principle "polluter pays".

Members stressed the importance of 'getting it right' by achieving a totally acceptable standard which would not disadvantage the local community

DEFRA LLW Consultation

Consideration was given to the proposed response to the Governments Consultation on Low Level Waste, which was published on 28 February.

It was noted that there was going to be a Special meeting of Drigg Parish Council at which their response to our consultation would be requested.

It was **AGREED** – That the proposed response to the Governments consultation and the views and recommendations of the Council be forwarded to DEFRA by 31st May, the consultation date end.

Standard Reports

(Note: Councillor A Norwood declared a personnel interest due to being employed by BNG)

Members received and noted updates on: -

- a) the meeting of the NDA on the 20 June 2006
- b) the CoRWM bulletin No. 6; and
- c) outstanding planning issues as appended to the agenda.

Committee for Radioactive Waste Management (COWRM) – Draft Recommendations

Consideration was given to draft recommendation for the storage of nuclear waste arising from discussions of the Committee for radioactive waste management (CORWM) prior to consideration for approval by the Councils Executive on the 23 May 2006.

It was **AGREED** that subject to approval by the Portfolio Holder and the Councils Executive the recommendations as outlined in the report be supported and submitted to CORWM

Any Other Business

Consideration was given to a proposal to extend the use of the Yottenfews Car Park at Sellafeld, which was subject to a planning application. During consideration of this item members stressed the importance of adhering to existing policies, which would ensure the use of local sites.

The meeting closed at 2.55pm