

**DUDDON ESTUARY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE:** (<http://www.duddon-estuary.org.uk/>).

**Minutes of the Duddon Estuary Consultative Committee meeting held at the Victory Hall, Broughton in Furness on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 7.00pm.**

Present:

Brian Crawford, NWIFCA & Millom Ironworks Local Nature Reserve (MILNR) (Chair)	Jack Park, CBC & Millom TC
Derek Lyon, FoLD (Vice-Chair)	Barbara Copley, Kirkby Ireleth PC
Wendy Battersby, Millom without PC	Ian Dixon, NWIFCA
Brian Wright, Millom without PC	Jos Curwen, SLDC
Nicola Evens, Natural England	S. Hadwick, Askam & Ireleth PC
Ian Cameron, South Cumberland Wildfowlers Ass.	L Cragg, Kirkby Ireleth PC
Mhaire Maclauchlan, RSPB, Hodbarrow Nature Reserve	Julian Carolan, Dong Energy
Peter Sills, Dong Energy	
Jodie Hall, Dong Energy	

**1. Introductions and Apologies:**

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting and acknowledged apologies that had been received from Richard Scott, Walking for Health, Neil Forbes, National Trust, Bob Morris, Kimberley Clark Ltd, Steve Solsby, BBC, Christopher Sparrow, Broughton Estate, Rachel Osborn, CBC, Graham Standring, LDNP and Bill Shaw, ARC-Trust.

Those present then introduced themselves.

The Chairman pointed out a couple of amendments to the distributed Agenda in that the date of the previous meeting was 20<sup>th</sup> March not 13<sup>th</sup> and the date of the next meeting is the 7<sup>th</sup> not 17<sup>th</sup> November.

**2. Chairman's Report:**

Since the meeting of the DECC at Barrow Town Hall on the 20<sup>th</sup> March, it has been a less busy period.

Since March 20<sup>th</sup>, I have attended the following meetings of relevance to the DEP:

- a. 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Morecambe Bay Partnership at Morecambe. This covered H2H and introduced the Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary Local Nature Partnership (MB&DE LNP). (About 60 stakeholders attended).
- b. 12<sup>th</sup> June, AGM of the NWIFCA and its Technical, Scientific & Byelaws Sub-Committee, followed by normal meetings at Morecambe.
- c. 12<sup>th</sup> July, Senior Strategic Stakeholder Meeting of Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary Local Nature Partnership & H2H at Carnforth. (14 attended)

**3. Presentation: Proposed Extension to Walney Offshore Windfarm and Dong Energy.**

A presentation was given by Peter Sills, Sillson Communication, for Dong Energy, supported by Julian Carolan and Jodie Hall of Dong Energy.

Using a PowerPoint presentation Peter outlined features of the proposed wind farm and used maps and visualisations to illustrate the scope and impact.

They would like to invite you to the Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm second series of community consultation events, to take place at the following venues:

**Middleton – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012 – 1pm to 7pm**

Middleton Parish Hall, Low Road, Heysham, LA3 3JT

**Douglas, Isle of Man – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – 1pm to 7pm**

Villa Marina, Promenade Suite, Harris Promenade, IM1 2HJ

**Barrow-in-Furness – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – 12pm to 6pm**

The Forum, Grasmere Room, Duke Street, LA14 1HH

**Millom – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September – 10am to 4pm**

Millom Network Centre, Higgins Suite, Salthouse Road, LA18 5AB

**Egremont – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September – 11am to 5pm**

The Co-operative Food Store, The Foyer, 42 Main Street, CA22 2AD

**Walney Island – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September – 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm**

Walney Library, Central Drive, Barrow-in-Furness, LA14 1HH

**Blackpool – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September – 11am to 5pm**

The Winter Gardens, The Floral Hall, 97 Church Street, FY1 1HL

These events will provide an opportunity to discuss the project plans and timescales. The feedback from the local community and users of the area at these events will be invaluable in

shaping plans for the proposed Walney Offshore Wind Farm Extension, and they would be most grateful if you could encourage colleagues and local people to attend.

[http://www.dongenergy.co.uk/en/UK\\_Business\\_activities/renewables/Pages/Renewables.aspx](http://www.dongenergy.co.uk/en/UK_Business_activities/renewables/Pages/Renewables.aspx)

#### 4. Minutes of last meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012:

Agreed as a true record, proposed by Derek Lyon, seconded by Jos Curwen and signed off by the Chairman.

#### 5. Matters arising:

- a. Partnership Secretariat: Following further discussions with Paul Pearson and David Southward MBE, CCC, it appears that CCC will cut off all support to the DEP in the very near future. This means Paul will not attend any future meetings or be able to offer office support and CCC will not be offering financial support or our account management. This also means that we will have to seek to appoint a Secretary at the November AGM. Volunteers are very welcome. We will also require to seek support from another local authority such as CBC, BBC or SLDC to manage our finances and ensure we do not incur financial or legal liability. If we cannot do this we will need to set up our own bank account and take out relevant legal liability insurance as per our draft ToR. Following a discussion, it was agreed that CBC, BBC and SLDC would be contacted to see if they could take over this role.
- b. ToR: A draft ToR has been prepared and circulated to all members of the DEP. This will need to be on the AGM Agenda for acceptance. Comments are required before then.
- c. MoA: A draft MoA has been prepared and circulated to all members of the DEP. This will need to be on the AGM Agenda for acceptance. Comments are required before then.
- d. Item 4a: CRUG: I contacted Tony Potts of CRUG <http://www.crug.org.uk/> and Gary Tordoff of Network Rail on May 1<sup>st</sup> regarding issues raised at the last meeting. Tony Potts replied that he would raise it at the next CRUG meeting but I have had no further feedback. I heard nothing from Network Rail. Josh gave updates and information relating to signal boxes and crossing gates.
- e. Item 6b: Interpretation Panel for Kirkby: Following various emails regarding a slate one in Millom Park, I obtained a quote of £500 plus VAT from David Cooper of the Stone Workshop Ltd. I believe this was circulated to DEP members. If we are to go ahead with this we need to look at its funding which may be up to £1000 to include siting installation. Another option would be one similar to the interpretation panel at the bottom of Duddon Road, Askam, although I would expect this to be a similar cost but more easily vandalised. The DEP could fund this as we have finances for this or we could look at community funding from the Community Benefit Fund attached to the RWE NPower Renewables "Kirkby Moor Wind Farm" which has already donated over £14,000.00 to the parish. This fund is administered by the Cumbria Community Foundation. <http://www.cumbriafoundation.org> Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Chairman contact Paul and Jenny Wain to find out cost and supplier for Askam interpretation panel and then look at funding etc.

#### 6. Standing items

- a. Budget: The Chairman received a payment of £100.50 to cover expenses in attending meetings in Kendal, Penrith and Morecambe on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March. The current DEP balance stands at £4154.68.
- b. Energy Infrastructure Update: National Grid:  
<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/MajorProjects/NorthWestCoastConnections>  
Following the close of the consultations on the 6 proposed option grid routes from Moorside new nuclear power station on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012, National Grid are preparing a consultation feedback report which will outline the preferred option to be presented in a Strategic Options Report to be published later this year.
- c. Marine & Coastal Issues:
  - (i) NWIFCA: <http://www.nw-ifca.gov.uk>. At the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> June, a new Byelaw 5 covering cockle and mussel gathering was agreed and subject to Ministerial approval would allow the commercial interests to proceed at the earliest possible date. However, following sampling on all cockle beds in the NWIFCA area, it was discovered that the only area of commercial interest was the Foulnaze Bank in the Ribble Estuary with the result that the NWIFCA will be issuing a Byelaw 13A order preventing cockling in all other areas as from the opening of the season on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, sampling and testing of the cockles on the Foulnaze Bank indicated they were contaminated with E.coli 16000. Therefore this bed will not be open in the near future although regular sampling will take place in the hope that gathering can take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> September although it is estimated a total of only 750 tons may be available.

- (ii) MBP: <http://www.morecambabay.org.uk> As indicated above, I have attended a full stakeholder (about 60 attending) meeting of the MBP introducing the MB&DE LNP & H2H, plus a Senior Stakeholder (14 attending) meeting covering the MB&DE LNP & H2H. I was informed yesterday that the MB&DE LNP and the Cumbria LNP have both been approved and can now proceed with development.
  - (iii) Copeland Coastal Partnership: <http://www.copeland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2245>  
The Copeland Coastal Partnership Conference & Launch of the International Coastal Communities Conversation Project - The second Copeland Coastal Partnership conference took place on the 6th July 2012. Partners discussed what had been achieved over the last 12 months and proposals for the next 12 months. The conference was held jointly with UCLan and the Samuel Lindow Foundation and was also the launch of an international project to create a conversation with other coastal communities around the world. There was a live web link with the Rector of UCLan's brand new university campus in Pyla, Cyprus and the two Mayors of Pyla. A conference report will be posted soon.
  - (iv) Coastal Partnership Network:  
[http://www.coastalpartnershipnetwork.org.uk/search/mapsearch.php?cpn\\_area=15](http://www.coastalpartnershipnetwork.org.uk/search/mapsearch.php?cpn_area=15)  
Newsletters distributed to DEP members.
  - (v) North West Coastal Forum: <http://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk>  
Newsletters distributed to DEP members.
  - (vi) Environment Agency: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk>  
Jane Sansbury informs me of a new "Working Together" consultation:  
<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/ho/wfd/working/together/2012>  
This information has already been circulated to DEP members.
  - (vii) CCC Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan Consultation:  
[http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planningenvironment/policy/minerals\\_waste/MWLP/home.asp](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planningenvironment/policy/minerals_waste/MWLP/home.asp)  
Closing date 8th August 2012.
- d. Nature Conservation:
- (i) Millom Ironworks Local Nature Reserve: <http://friendsofmillomironworkslnr.btck.co.uk>  
At present UU are carrying out natterjack toad trapping before commencing work to install a new wastewater drainage pipe across the reserve. Bill Shaw announced that following the bit of wet weather, there are lots of natterjack tadpoles and toadlets around the pool. ([www.arc-trust.org](http://www.arc-trust.org))
  - (ii) Hodbarrow Lagoon Nature Reserve: <http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/h/hodbarrow>  
Following the appointment of a new warden, Mhairi Maclauchlan ([mhairi.maclauchlan@rspb.org.uk](mailto:mhairi.maclauchlan@rspb.org.uk)), things are looking up with lots of events and publicity. Mhairi Maclauchlan gave an update as to recent activities and local community involvement. Not only are there major improvements being made in the Mainsgate Rd car park and paths in the Reserve to make it easier for buggies and wheelchairs to get around (helped by the South Copeland Disability Group), the RSPB are also having a serious look at the island. Tornado Wire is kindly donating enough fencing to make a trial 'floating fence' to deter predators from invading this protected area. Again, the two island 'horns' will be detached with deep channels for the same purpose.
- e. Unauthorised Commercial Activities – none reported.
- f. Rail Liaison: nothing reported. There was a brief discussion and mention that contracts are up for renewal in 2013.

**7. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012, 7pm, Millom Network Centre, (AGM).**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked those attending and for their input and closed the meeting at 8.56pm.

Apologies for any incorrect or missing information but it is difficult to Chair a meeting and take full notes.

Brian Crawford

Chairman

DEP/DECC

[brian@crawford-cumbria.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:brian@crawford-cumbria.fsworld.co.uk)