

Community Liaison Group Meeting

28th April 2016, 2pm, Burton Agnes Hall

Attendees

Sue Burt (elected by BA Parish Council) (SB)

Matthew Sunman (planning officer, Local Planning Authority) (MS)

Simon Cunliffe-Lister (Burton Agnes Renewables Ltd) (SCL)

Rick Dewhirst (Burton Agnes Renewables Ltd) (RD)

Rob Heap (Rob Heap Consulting, project manager for Burton Agnes Renewables Ltd) (RH)

Apologies

Simon Caine (environment officer, Environment Agency) (SC)

Clive Neale (elected by BA Parish Council) (CN)

Agenda

- Apologies (Simon Caine, Clive Neale)
- Project update (Rob Heap)
- Matters raised by the community
- Any other business
- Date of next meeting: Thursday 14th July 2016, 2pm

Minutes

Apologies for absence received from Clive Neale, and Simon Caine.

RH gave an update on the build programme and activities on site. No health and safety issues throughout duration of project; no environmental or operational issues during the operational phase of the project.

The reception pit that was converted into a digester for first phase, worked well. This was seeded on 3rd February, with nine tanker loads of inoculum from a Future Biogas Plant, near Brigg. No representations or complaints raised to BAR during this phase. Northern Gas Networks satisfied themselves that gas being produced was of the right quality. At c.12:30pm on 22nd March, gas was injected into the northern gas networks (NGN) grid; by 13:55 NGN were happy that they had seen enough gas going into the grid. NGN took gas samples, and signed the commissioning document. Following this commissioning the combined-heat-power unit (CHP) was commissioned. By 25th March the site was ready for decommissioning. Neil Buckton (the spreading contractor) spread out the digester from the super pit onto the fields surrounding the plant with the dribble bar spreader. The digester was rinsed out, by evening of 26th March everything was decommissioned in time for an Easter break.

Silage clamps are now being constructed. All but two bays are being constructed; these final two are awaiting further works near them to be completed first. The main digester is being constructed. The inner walls have been constructed and roofed, the outer walls are up, to be roofed.

Images were presented of the site, showing the main digester; the gas processing containers; the combined heat power unit (CHP); the pipelines and valves at the point where Northern Gas Networks take ownership of the gas; and the gas sampling and processing equipment within the containers.

There remain two to three months of finishing off the site, to then be able to cold test the technology, with commissioning around second half of August. Seeding of the main digester to take

place, then, with c.6,000 cubic metres of seed material to come in. Seed inoculum is then heated up to around 40 degrees Celsius in the main digester. The combined heat and power unit will be connected up to the electrical power grid, by northern power grid, for commissioning of electrical generation. First biomethane injection to the Northern Gas Networks pipeline will be around November 2016, ramping up to full gas production early 2017.

RH reiterated that there have been a number of alterations to the site necessitated by regulations that would be picked up as non-material amendments. For example the addition of an extra kiosk, at the request of Northern Gas Networks because of the practical requirements of where in the process odouring can occur. Also the relocation of the c.4 metre square substation. MS reiterated the suggestion to continue the build and then review these changes at the end for presentation in one application. MS commented there is planning allowance for being within two metres of the red line. Also non-material amendments are considered in relation to the scale of the initial planning.

SCL added to RH's points that the rye harvest will take place late June/mid July; and the maize harvest September/October. The meeting discussed the introduction of a farm track access for harvest from land around the site and to the north, coming in from the east off Pit Lane. MS was to look into what planning considerations there may or not be. Factors affecting planning considerations will be if it is agricultural permitted access; and if the public road 'Pit Lane' is a 'conditioned road' or not. MS was to check with highways.

MS commented that no complaints had been received by the council; SB that none had been raised by the community.

SB commented on the reassessment of the speed limits, to extend the village speed limit beyond the site access. It was agreed this would be worth reviewing once the site is operational.

Site visit for SB, CN, Gary Burt, and other interested community members proposed by RH for when digester is completed, c. end of May. To be arranged between SB and RH.

MS commented that committee members; and ecology/landscaping officer(s) may be interested to visit once the site is complete.

SB commented that anecdotal comment from the community was that the digestate spread couldn't be smelt; from someone walking their dog nearby at the time.

A date for the next meeting was proposed as Thursday 14th July, 2016, 2pm at Burton Agnes Hall, in the Courtyard meeting room.