



## Protos Community Forum

### Minutes of the meeting 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019

7:00 pm Elton Community Centre

#### Present:

#### Voting Members:

Cllr. Sarah Temple, Helsby Parish Council  
 Cllr. Andrew Eardley, Ince Parish Council  
 Cllr. Maureen Wilson, Elton Parish Council  
 Cllr. Roy Greenwood, Little Stanney and District Parish Council

#### Advisers:

Jane Gaston, Peel Environmental  
 Lois Kay, Peel Environmental

Keith Butterick, Secretary

<u>Issues Discussed</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action by</u>
<p><b>1. Apologies</b></p> <p><b>• Absences</b></p>	<p>Justin Madders MP Ellesmere Port &amp; Neston            Sue Pugh (Justin Madders assistant)            Cllr. Tim Lloyd, Ince Parish Council            Cllr Clare Wright, Thornton-le-Moors Parish Council            Cllr. Martin Dickinson, Elton Parish Council            Alex Sutherland, Environment Agency</p> <p>Cllr. Adam Wordsworth, Frodsham Town Council            Rod Brookfield, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Clare Appleyard, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Cllr. Andrew Dawson, Frodsham ward, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Cllr. Matt Bryan, Upton ward, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Cllr. Diane Roberts, Netherpool ward, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Cllr. Alan McKie Helsby ward, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Cllr. Paul Donovan, Sutton ward, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council</p>	

<p><b>2. Minutes of Last Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>AE</b> In section 6, change from Ince Parish Council to Ince Village Hall. With that correction, the minutes of the meeting on 12 December 2018 were accepted as a true record</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters Arising</b></p>	<p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
<p><b>4. Progress Report</b></p>	<p><b>JG</b> and <b>LK</b> delivered the Progress Report:</p> <p><b>Infrastructure Works</b> Peel has now the final completion certificate for the S278 works from CWAC. All phase 1 works are now formally signed off.</p> <p><b>Biomass</b> The biomass plant got through 21 days of their final acceptance test before Christmas before an issue was discovered with some of the kit. This has now been resolved and a further 10 days acceptance test has now been commenced. If no further issues are identified during this the plant will be passed into full operation by the middle of March.</p> <p><b>Timber</b> Whilst a large quantity of feedstock has been removed from the timber plant site, the knock on issues with the biomass acceptance test has meant that they are still waiting for sufficient to be removed so that the final area of ground can be prepared for the concrete slab to be installed. The building will then need to be constructed prior to it being passed into full operations. Peel are aware of some issues with woodchip and dust on the estate roads which have arisen recently and have requested that more regular sweeping of the roads is undertaken by both the timber plant and the soils operation to minimise debris on the estate roads.</p> <p><b>Igas</b> No change. Igas have halted all activities on Protos until the Merseyton Road planning appeal has reached an outcome.</p> <p><b>UKGEOS</b> <b>LK</b> shared an update provided by Cristina Chapman from BGS:  The Ince UKGEOS Planning application was submitted on 21st December 2018. The statutory consultation process ran from early January to February. The planning application is available at <a href="https://www.bgs.ac.uk/research/energy/esios/cheshire/planning.html">https://www.bgs.ac.uk/research/energy/esios/cheshire/planning.html</a>  42 public comments were received (50% support, 50% opposition) which are visible on CWAC planning portal. Statutory consultees are still coming back with responses and BGS / project team are dealing with outstanding issues  A formal reply was sent to Elton Parish Council (attached). An event was also held at Ince community hall on Wednesday</p>	

	<p>February 13th, 2pm to 6pm at Elton Parish Council's request. Some 20 residents of Elton and surrounding areas were in attendance.</p> <p>Current indication of a committee date for determination is early spring</p> <p>UK Geoenery Observatories website is due for launch in spring <a href="http://www.ukgeos.ac.uk">http://www.ukgeos.ac.uk</a></p> <p>The next Community Liaison Forum likely to take place in late spring following a decision. They have asked for the forum members to confirm that they would like to be invited to this.</p> <p>Any questions, please contact <a href="mailto:ukgeosenquiries@bgs.ac.uk">mailto:ukgeosenquiries@bgs.ac.uk</a></p> <p><b>Soils</b> Peel are now working under the permit issued by the EA to process soils in preparation for the start of the phase 2 infrastructure works at Protos. Export of soil and import of poorer-quality soil and non-soil materials for construction is continuing.</p> <p><b>Energy from Waste</b> The appeal against the planning decision will take place on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Peel will then await a decision for the Planning Inspectorate on this matter. Peel continue to work with Covanta in good faith that a satisfactory resolution can be achieved on this. Covanta have received an EA permit for the facility.</p> <p><b>Plot 10b</b> <b>LK</b> reported that Peel are working with a potential occupier on a proposal for plot 10b at Protos.</p> <p>The proposed facility will convert 25 tonnes per day of unsorted unrecyclable plastic into electricity and hydrogen.</p> <p>Property terms have been agreed and Peel expect that a pre-app meeting with CWaC to discuss this will be arranged in the coming weeks with the intention to submit a planning application for this in April/May.</p> <p><b>Plot 4</b> Progressive Energy is making good progress with its planning application for the Bio Substitute Natural Gas (BioSNG) renewable fuel facility on the Protos site. Following submission of the</p>	
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	<p>application last November the application was validated by Cheshire West and Chester Council in early January and the consultation process is now well underway. Two community consultation events were held in Elton at the end of January and despite the poor weather conditions there was a good turnout and useful feedback was received. The project also featured in an article in Cheshire Live which generated significant local interest in the project. In the meantime other project development activities continue, including discussions with potential engineering contractors and an ongoing dialogue with the DfT given the proposed use of the renewable gas in the transport sector.</p> <p><b>Local Industrial Strategy</b></p> <p>Peel are supporting CWAC and the Cheshire and Warrington LEP in producing their local industrial strategy for submission to government in April this year. Energy and clean growth is a key tenet of their response and as such Protos and its successful delivery is seen as important to underline this.</p>	
<p><b>5. Community Benefit Fund</b></p>	<p><b>ST:</b> Updated members on the Community Benefit Fund. The 2019 Report and Financial Statements for the Protos Community Benefit Fund were presented to the Forum. There were no comments or questions.</p> <p>Agreed that the 2018 and 2019 Report and Financial Statements should be placed on the Protos website.</p> <p>The minutes from the Community Benefit Fund Panel had been circulated in advance of the Forum meeting.</p> <p>Committed Expenditure: Ince Village Lamp, Frodsham Bellringers, Little Stanney &amp; District Council (sign), Friends of Elton School (carpets) – were all in progress. The application from Elton Church Hall had lapsed. KB had written to the applicant asking them to resubmit.</p> <p>New Applications: Elton Parish Council (Dog Park) Elton Parish Council (Play Area) Two applications from Elton PC had been received. The panel had said both applications were acceptable but would only fund one of</p>	<p><b>KB and LK</b></p>

