



Protos Community Forum

Minutes of the meeting 6th April 2022

7.00pm Zoom meeting

Present:

Voting Members:

Cllr. Sarah Temple, Helsby Parish Council
 Cllr. Tim Lloyd, Ince Parish Council
 Cllr. Mark Parry, Little Stanney and District Parish Council
 Cllr. Pauline O'Reilly, Elton Parish Council
 Cllr. Graham Heatley, Gowry Rural Ward

Advisers:

Lois Kay, Peel NRE
 Jane Gaston, Peel NRE
 Richard Bates, Peel NRE
 Joe Harper, Sisk
 Andy Smith, Covanta
 Phil Bridges, Environment Agency

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Apologies	Cllr. Andrew Eardley, Ince Parish Council Cllr. Clare Wright, Thornton Le Moors Parish Council Daniel Gaskarth, Environment Agency	
Absences	Cllr. Felicity Davies, Frodsham Town Council Cllr. Martin Dickinson, Elton Parish Council Cllr. Paul Bowers, Helsby Ward Cllr, Margaret Parker, Gowry Rural Ward Cllr. Chris Basey, Frodsham Ward Justin Madders MP Ellesmere Port & Neston	
Minutes of Last Meeting	The minutes of the meeting on 19 th January 2022 were accepted as a true record	
Matters Arising	Hydrogen and CCUS presentation given at January meeting was circulated to members by LK. Amends requested by AE were made to the October meeting minutes – approved version of minute is now on the Protos website	



	<p>Station Road drainage – RB confirmed that the Council have been on site and have cleaned a pipe section and removed roots. Section of pipe removed to allow access by camera. Pipes look clear. In location where hydro break is , Peel are to hand dig and reveal the hydro break and investigate what it looks like.</p> <p>MSBG Community Liaison group – AS confirmed that there is a section in their e-newsletter (copy can be found on the project website). Application forms for the liaison group are available if anyone interested (contact Andy Smith). Some targeted invites will also be sent out to try and access a good mix of members including members of the public, elected representative, and community groups. No timeline to report on first meeting of the group at the moment,</p> <p>Piling – all piling now complete on phase 2 and plot 8.</p> <p>Plot 8 recruitment. AS advised that still a bit away from starting this, but AS to keep members updated.</p> <p>Community Benefit fund project limit has been increased from £4000 to £5000. This is now reflected on updated applications guidelines on the website</p>	
<p>Energy from Waste Facility, Plot 8, Protos from Andy Smith Covanta</p>	<p>Update note circulated in advance of the meeting (copy attached)</p> <p>ST – commented that being notified in advance of large loads arriving to site was helpful so that members are informed if members of the public ask them about this. AT – advised that there will be constant flow of materials ongoing now into site. And any large of heavy loads are managed via the haulier and will ensure consents in place with Highways authority.</p> <p>ST noted the current 170 person/day workforce and asked will this increase. AT confirmed that this is ramping up now. With continuation of civil works and then moving into mechanical installation and later in the year electrical installation works, expect a peak workforce around 600 person/day in the Autumn.</p>	<p>AS to advise forum members of any future abnormal loads</p>
<p>Phase 2 works update</p>	<p>Update note circulated in advance of the meeting (copy attached)</p>	



<p>from Joe Harper, Sisk</p>	<p>ST - how frequently drone footage is captured? JH confirmed that they normally take a drone out on a monthly basis. He commented that the February video is representative of what is on site however will in due course circulate a video with March footage.</p> <p>GH – In the phase 2 ecological areas, is the planting and seeding in line with Cheshire Nature/native species.</p> <p>JH and RB confirmed that the areas have been designed by landscape and habitat specialists (RSK) to reflect habitat requirements and include native species, in line with the planning consent and with involvement from Cheshire Wildlife Trust.in the design process</p>	<p>JH to provide updated drone footage</p>
<p>Protos update</p>	<p>ST - How definite that the plastic park application is going to the June committee? LK and JG - we have been advised by planning officers that it is going to June committee.</p> <p>ST - Plot 1, will this be aligned with the plastic park? JG – application for plot 1 won't be aligned with timings of planning for plastic park. For re processing of plastics, the facility will be sufficiently sized for the activity in the plastic park. Some discussions still to be had around configuration of site, planning and property agreements.</p> <p>ST – requested a copy of an updated masterplan. LK and JG will circulate updated masterplan and in due course visibility of further versions of masterplans.</p>	<p>LK to provide copy of updated masterplan</p>
<p>Benefit fund update from Sarah Temple</p>	<p>*Confidential update note* circulated in advance of the meeting No questions on this</p> <p>Accounts have now been produced for last year. These were approved by the forum.</p> <p>Once minor amends to formatting made, this will be uploaded to the website.</p>	<p>LK to upload 2021 accounts</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>TL – raised the matter of the railings on station road (following from previous email correspondence with LK)</p>	<p>LK to respond to TL regarding railings</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Provisional date of Wednesday 13th July 2022 proposed for the AGM and the next meeting. AGM 630PM and Meeting 7PM on Zoom</p>	

Protos Energy Recovery Facility Project

Project Update for Protos Community Forum – April 2022

Site Progress Since Last Meeting

- Completion of piling works across the site – c.6,450 piles installed;
- Continuation of fuel storage bunker construction – walls now c.6.5m above ground level;
- Completion of the foundations for flue gas treatment, stack, steam turbine hall and administration & control building – c.16,000m³ of concrete poured to date;
- Continuation of erection of structural steel and precast concrete structures
- Commencement of boiler equipment installation;
- Average site workforce of around 170 persons per day; and
- Over 270,000 hours worked without a single lost-time accident.

A video showing progress on site from March 2021 to January 2022 can be found on the Covanta YouTube channel at: <https://youtu.be/KtEAFgl2PCU>



Look-ahead

- Continuation of bunker upper-structure construction;
- Continuation of reinforced concrete works to main building foundations;
- Continuation of erection of steel & pre-cast concrete structures;
- Continuation of erection of Line 1 boiler & preparation for commencement of Line 2;
- Commencement of flue gas treatment system installation; and
- Delivery of steam turbine, generator, flue gas stack and other key equipment.

Other Items of Interest

- As previously advised, an application for a Variation to the Environmental Permit for the operation of the facility has been submitted to the EA to align the Permit with certain details of the proposed plant design.

Further information

- Supply-chain opportunities: <https://protoserf.com/supplier/>
- Employment enquires: <https://protoserf.com/jobs/>
- Project Newsletter: <https://protoserf.com/e-newsletter/>

John Sisk – Protos Phase 2 – 06/04/2022

Progress and Updates Since Last Meeting

- Road construction is 95% completed and the initial layers of asphalt have been installed on the roads and footpaths.
- Works on TANG Bridge have commenced and are currently due to be complete in Summer 2022. The Piling element was completed in February as planned and the concrete piers and abutments are 90% complete. The beams will start to be lifted in to position after easter.
- The third and final ecology area is currently being constructed (Ecology Area E). All other areas have received topsoil and ready to seed.
- Plot 10B road construction was completed on the 25/02 and has been handed over to Peel.
- 82 000 hours worked without any reportable lost time incidents.
- Achieved 'Excellent' Status from CCS in the last audit.

Lookahead

- Wearing course to be installed in Spring 2022
- Safety fencing Planned to be installed Spring 2022.
- Completion of Ecology Areas including seeding planned spring 2022
- Construction of TANG Bridge is ongoing and will be completed by Summer 2022
- All works to be completed by Summer 2022



Image 01: Showing TANG piling complete and FRC in progress



Image 02: Showing Plot 10B construction complete (25/02)



Image 03: Showing WCD Bridge preparation for Waterproofing



Image 04: Showing Topsoil works complete ready to receive seed

Other:

Video Link of progress: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6M_yJ0gTj4

Plastics Park

The Plastic Park planning application is expected to go to the June planning committee. Core planning documents are on the website along with a link to the CWaC planning portal.

Plot 1

No further update - Peel NRE are in discussions with a couple of occupiers interested in taking plot 1 for use as a plastics re-processing facility

10b – Plastic to hydrogen facility

S73 app has been approved along with the NMA for the reallocation of traffic movements. All the pre-commencement conditions have been approved and the access road to plot 10b and plot 13 has been constructed.

Plot 13 – Enviroo, Plastic Recycling Facility

Subject to agreements, currently expect to start on site in Autumn this year.

Substations

The construction phase of the two substations on land to the east of plot 11 and the associated infrastructure continues and is now completed despite some delays caused by a culmination of contributory factors including Covid and ways of working, delivery delays, obtaining kit and materials. The construction was split into 2 Projects both with the same main contractor; Smith Brothers:

1. Contestable Works: This includes a Substation and connection to the 132 KV supply from the newly installed pylon which connects into the Overhead line. This part of the build shall be fully adopted by SPEN. Commissioning of all internal HV control and switching systems is now complete. The site is now fully secured, SPEN has now taken over technical control of the building in readiness of connection to the 132KV supply that is due to happen imminently upon completion of legal documentation.
2. Private works: This comprises a new Substation and power distribution equipment to provide 11KV and 33KV to the Protos tenants. All Major Equipment and Switchgear is now installed on site and system commissioning is still ongoing.

It is anticipated that the first connection 'Phase 1' enabling 50MW of export and circa 6MW of import will be available by 3rd quarter 2021 with provision into plot 10B (Plastic to Hydrogen) in time for their connection.

The final completion date for all the works (as SPEN will continue their non contestable works following the completion of the substations – including upgrades to their existing infrastructure at Frodsham and Capenhurst) is October 2023 when there will be 124MW of total export capability and 57 MW of import/supply. Which will coincide with the completion of the Energy from Waste plant.

Protos Progress Update – 6th April 2022**Materials Management**

No further update. Ongoing activities as previously advised: We continue to carry out preparatory work with pre-development clearance and stabilisation of development plots to facilitate their availability for potential developers. This involves the creation of working platforms through the importation of naturally occurring construction fill materials (in accordance with Environmental regulations and planning requirements under the outline consent.)

Newsletter

A community update newsletter was issued in March. This was shared with forum members, uploaded to the website, sent to anyone who has registered to receive it, and shared on our social media.

Estate Management

We continue to report fly tipping to CWaC. We ask users of the area who notice flytipping to please let us know by sending photos and description to community@peel.co.uk

Gritting contract in place on Grinsome Road and Protos estate roads.

Ongoing security patrols by Securitas.

Planning permission has been granted for three CCTV towers at Protos. One on Grinsome Road Roundabout, one on one of the internal estate roads and one on Grinsome Road. Installation of the Grinsome Road CCTV Tower including 2 ANPR Cameras will commence shortly with current programme for it to be fully constructed and operational by the end of Q2 2022. The other towers will be installed over the next year when services are installed for adjacent development plots.

Air Quality

Preparations under way for the second annual Air Quality (AQ) monitoring report for the Helsby AQ monitoring station. This will be ready in advance of the next forum meeting/AGM.

Nature Areas

Management and monitoring of Goldfinch meadows and Snipe Haven is ongoing. Cheshire Wildlife Trust will commence monitoring and surveying of phase 2 ecology areas in April 2023

In accordance with a Natural England licence, water vole translocation will be taking place w/c 4th April moving a number of water voles found in one of the ditches within Plot 4 to the phase 1 ecology area A(Snipe Haven).