



**Working in Partnership Copeland**

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Copeland Working Group**

**Held at** **MS Teams**

**On** **14th January 2021**

**Commencing at** **10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:**

Mark Cullinan	Independent Chair
Nick Gardham	Independent Facilitator
Andy Ross	Genr8 North Ltd
Gary Bullivant	Irtton Hall Ltd
David Faulkner	Private Resident
Cllr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder
Steve Smith	Copeland Borough Council, Nuclear Projects Manager I
Chris Shaw	Copeland District Association of Local Councils (CALC), Liaison Officer
Cllr Andy Pratt	Copeland District Association of Local Councils (CALC), Chair
Gillian Johnston	RWM Community Engagement Manager
Claire Dobson	RWM Copeland Community Coordinator
Barnaby Hudson	RWM Siting Manager

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Annabelle Lillycrop	RWM Community Engagement Manager
Mike Brophy	RWM Head of Community Engagement
Steve Wilkinson	RWM Project Manager
Gillian Thorne	RWM Working Group Communication Lead
Hilary Bowen	RWM Events Manager
Kathryn Jones	Arvato, Contact Centre (meeting minutes taker)
Rhian Bellamy	Arvato, Contact Centre (meeting minutes taker)

**APOLOGIES**

- Apologies were received from Rob Ward, Copeland Borough Council Nuclear Sector Development Manager

**AGENDA ITEM 1: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- The Community Engagement Manager introduced this month's minute takers who are assisting whilst a permanent secretariat is being recruited.
- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEM 2: CONFLICT OF INTEREST, MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTIONS UPDATE**

- The Chair asked if there were any interests to declare. None were declared.
- Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed. A member requested that the discussion regarding visually impacted communities of any potential neighbouring electoral ward to the identified Search Area be recorded in these minutes as they were not reflected in the previous minutes. RWM reiterated the policy states the electoral ward boundaries within a district define the Search Area but that, because the Working Group has the power to agree a Search Area(s), it could define a Search Area(s) that accommodates this issue. It was also pointed out that the Search Area(s) could be altered by a Community Partnership if the issue arises in the future. The Working Group (WG) agreed the minutes should be updated to reflect the discussion.
- CALC would be interested in representing communities around any potential Search Area. The Chair confirmed the matter to be explored within workstream 2 and brought back to the Working Group. Minutes agreed.

**ACTION 1 - Involvement of visually impacted communities to any proposed electoral ward within the Search Area to be discussed within the workstream 2.**

**ACTION 2 - Consideration of CALC's request to represent communities be included as an action for workstream 2.**

- The Chair asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes that are either not in the minutes or on the agenda.
- A member of Copeland Borough Council advised a meeting has been scheduled with the National Park for 13.30 on 15th February 2021.
- The members were taken through the actions. Actions 1,3,5,6,7 and 8 were noted as complete.
- Actions 2 and 4 were noted as carried forward. RWM reported on action 9.
- Following a discussion with RWM it was proposed all WG members undertake General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) training.
- Actions were closed off. Any outstanding actions are to be carried forward to the next meeting.

**ACTION 3 - All WG members to undertake GDPR training. RWM to forward training to the members.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 3: UPDATES FROM THE WORKING GROUP**

- The Chair advised of recent conversations with Cumbria County Council. They will not be joining the Working Group, but the invitation to do so will remain open for the duration of the Working Group.
- The Community Engagement Manager updated on a meeting with HM Haverigg Prison regarding a training and work experience hub for inmates and the wider Community. This is being led by All Together Cumbria, Social Enterprise.
- It was noted that CALC held an Executive meeting following December's Working Group meeting and will do so after each meeting going forward. A member asked

whether approved Working Group minutes can be shared more widely. The Chair confirmed they could and are intended to be added to the Copeland Working in Partnership website once approved.

- There was a discussion regarding letters published in the local media and whether the view and opinions of individuals may be misinterpreted as the position of formal bodies, e.g. NuLeAF, and to that end what the Working Group position is on responding. RWM's recommendation is not to respond directly to letters published in local media. RWM would respond to factual inaccuracies.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: UPDATE ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- The Independent Facilitator thanked members for their comments on the Terms of Reference and Declaration of Interest. RWM has some points it wished to review would respond back with comments.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: WORK PLAN WORKSHOP REVIEW**

- RWM updated the Working Group on the Planning Workshop output and next steps. Three further workstream sessions are to be scheduled, the first on 19th January 2021, to progress the Communication and Engagement Plan which is targeted for completion by the end of the month.

#### **ACTION 4 - Community Coordinator to issue meeting dates for subgroups by the end of the week.**

- The Working Group discussed and agreed members could sit on more than one workstream.
- It was discussed whether workstream 2, Identifying a Search Area, should be prioritised ahead of the workstream 1, Engaging with Communities. It was noted that there is an expectation in policy that “*as it identifies*” the Search Area(s), the Working Group will start work to understand the local area and any issues or questions the community might have.
- The Chair noted that due to the Covid 19 restrictions, we have been limited on face to face engagement. However, the virtual exhibition should be going live on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and this will be a vital source of engagement.
- It was raised whether geologists will be involved during the Search Area(s) Identification process. RWM confirmed they would but will cover this in more detail in in agenda item 7.
- It was the opinion of one of the members that there was greater understanding of nuclear issues in Copeland than the rest of the UK and that the community engagement be geared to this level of understanding.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: REVIEW OF THE COVID 19 TIER RESTRICTIONS**

- The Chair highlighted the current Covid 19 restrictions which has moved from Tier 2 to Tier 4 (Full lockdown). The Chair requested Working Group members remain conscious of the restrictions and continue to seek innovative ways to engage with local communities.

The chair called a ten-minute break to the meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: SEARCH AREA(S) IDENTIFICATION**

- The Siting Manager led the members through a presentation following feedback from the planning workshop on the proposed Working Group approach to identifying a Search Area(s). The proposed approach uses readily available published information which will be collated by RWM and uses GIS to support the Working Group identify a Search Area(s). RWM advised the approach will be structured, transparent and needs to result in a robust output.
- A member expressed an opinion that Working with Communities Policy clause 6.22 stipulates a Search Area(s) is only defined by boundaries on land and this could prove problematic by not potentially capturing communities adjacent to the inshore area where a site could be located. RWM acknowledged the opinion and advised that the Working Group will have the opportunity within the Search Area identification workshop to explore the issue raised. The suggested approach not only considers the geological potential within the inshore area for this example but reviews a wider range of datasets including issues raised. It should be remembered that the Working Group is not selecting a specific site. Within the approach there also is an option for subsequent iterations to be considered before the Search Area is identified.
- A member asked whether it was expected the National Park boundary would be extended. RWM advised they are aware a formal submission has been made and whilst the process may take a number of years to complete it was prudent to consider the extension area with the Search Area(s) approach. A commitment has been made, in the Initial Evaluation Reports, to exclude any extension to the National Park from consideration of surface or sub-surface facilities in relation to a GDF.
- RWM took the members through the proposed approach which would review the subsurface and surface potential which, when combined, will give an understanding of a potential Search Area.
- A member reinforced the point that, during Search Area identification, ensuring it was appropriately documented was essential.
- They supported the earlier comments made in relation to the inshore area and ensuring its adjacent communities are acknowledged. They requested a wider understanding of how the previous Nirex and MRWS approach are different to support both the Working Group members understanding and community engagement.
- The final point raised was in relation to the degree of geological details that would be available to during the Search Area identification workshop. All the of points were documented and would be raised in the workstream two planning workshop.
- It was raised that, at the appropriate time, mineral rights of landowners may need to be considered.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FEEDBACK**

- The RWM Events Manager led the members through the virtual exhibition. She thanked members for their feedback which has been taken on board in the latest iteration.
- She noted that she is in discussion with the virtual exhibition developer to explore how a “user feedback” function may be incorporated.
- The Independent Facilitator advised he was unable to access the site via his mobile phone and whether this could be investigated. The Events Manager noted the issues and will pick up directly with the Independent Facilitator outside of the meeting.
- The Chair expressed how impressed he was with the virtual exhibition and thanked the Events Manager for the work in producing this site.

**ACTION 5 – The RWM Events Manager to identify mobile device access issues related to the virtual exhibition raised by the independent facilitator.**

- The question was asked as to what data may be available to help determine the number of people accessing the site, including, areas of the exhibition visited, and questions visitors may have that could be captured. The RWM Events Manager advised that she is in discussions with the developer to incorporate these functions. She is also investigating the potential of incorporating a web chat facility.
- A member of the Working Group questioned the lead time for any changes to ensure the exhibition remains current and up to date. The RWM Events Manager advised whilst changes can be done relatively quickly, monthly cycles are proposed to ensure enough time to secure correct approvals.

**AGENDA ITEM 9: COMMS UPDATE**

- The Communications Lead provided members with an update. The week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> January will see a number of communications including the third newsletter, virtual exhibition and Working Group Facebook Group launch on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021. RWM updated members on the proposal to issue social media posts three times a week, develop community content, and introduce third party voices, potentially via the Chairs engagement plan.

**ACTION 6 – RWM Communications Lead to circulate content of the third newsletter directly after the meeting. Members to provide feedback by close of play Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

- An update was given to the members on the February edition of the newsletter. The proposed content to include an update from the Chair and a workstream update, ‘Meet the Team’ – Copeland Council and Cumbria geology.
- The members were updated on the progress of communicating more widely. CALC have shared the newsletter with the parish and town councils; the *Around the Coombe* newsletter (c5.5k circulation) will feature a full-page article on the virtual exhibition and content will feature in the LLWR internal newsletter.
- The Independent Facilitator requested communications are joined up with workstream plans once they are developed, which was agreed. The Communications Lead also informed the members that they are looking into the potential of offering digital advertising which will link to the virtual exhibition on the

following platforms -Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, local news and Google - and will bring proposed artwork back to the Working Group.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: MEETING REFLECTION**

- The Independent Facilitator led the discussion sharing his reflection on today's meeting and how the members felt going forward. Notably that he felt progress was being made. He is looking forward to the work progressing within the sub-group meetings.
- A member asked for clarity on the position of CoRWM within the process. RWM advised the members that CoRWM don't have a statutory role selecting a site but they are being proactive regarding their position on geological disposal and RWM are keeping them informed of the Working Group's progress. CoRWM would respond positively to any request by the Working Group – for example to meet with Working Group to explain their role or to help with any community engagement activities.
- The Chair asked the members to reflect on this meeting and to feedback any thoughts ahead of the next meeting or if they would like to provide feedback separately, they could do so directly.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: AOB**

- RWM noted that they were hoping to invite the Community Data Cooperative (<http://www.communitydatacoop.co.uk>) to the next meeting.
- The members were made aware that RWM are developing a collaboration area for Working Group members in order to reduce the volume of emails.
- The communications Lead offered to take the CALC members through the communication and engagement briefing which was delivered to the other members of the Working Group during the formation process.

#### **ACTION 7 – Communications Lead to provide communication and engagement briefing to the CALC members.**

- RWM made the members aware that a Working Group was launched in Allerdale on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021, with the first meeting will be held at the end of January. Similar to the Copeland Working Group, it has its own website: <https://allerdale.workinginpartnership.org.uk/>
- A member commented two of the three intrusive licenses at West Cumbria Mining (WCM) will lapse in ten days' time and whether it was appropriate opportunity to register with the Coal Authority that any renewal should not be granted too close to Sellafield. He would provide more information to RWM, who would consider if a response was appropriate.

#### **DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

**13.00 – 16.00**

**11<sup>TH</sup> February 2021**