



Working in Partnership Copeland

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Copeland GDF Working Group

Held at Microsoft Teams
On Thursday 15th July 2021
Commencing at 13:00

PRESENT:

Mark Cullinan	Independent Chair
Nick Gardham	Independent Facilitator
Gary Bullivant	Irton Hall Ltd
David Faulkner	Private Resident
Cllr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council, Councillor & Nuclear Portfolio Holder
Steve Smith	Copeland Borough Council, Nuclear Projects Manager
Cllr Andy Pratt	Copeland District Association of Local Councils (CALC), Chair
Chris Shaw	Copeland District Association of Local Councils, Liaison Officer
Gillian Johnston	RWM Community Engagement Manager
Claire Dobson	RWM Copeland Community Coordinator
Gillian Thorne	RWM Working Group Communications Lead

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sam King	RWM Head of Community Engagement and Site Evaluation Agenda Item 3 – RWM Update
Chris Eldred	RWM Senior Project Manager, Technical Site Characterisation Agenda Item 3 – RWM Update
Justin Chamberlain	RWM Head of Campaigns, Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Agenda Item 10 – Yonder Survey Results
Owen Thomas	Yonder, Director Agenda Item 10 – Yonder Survey Results
Charlie Rollason	Yonder, Senior Consultant Agenda Item 10 – Yonder Survey Results
Karen Agnew	RWM Secretariat Copeland Working Group Minutes
Steve Wilkinson	RWM Project Manager Agenda Item 8 – Workplan Schedule Update

APOLOGIES

Rob Ward	Nuclear Sector Manager for Copeland Borough Council
Mark Walker	Genr8 North
Barnaby Hudson	RWM Siting Manager
Andy Ross	Genr8 North



WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees confirmed.

AGENDA 1: IDENTIFY VOTING MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. CHAIR

- Recorded voting members from each organisation.
- Any changes to voting members to be notified.
- Assuming members attending the meeting hold the vote for themselves/their organisation unless they say declare otherwise.
- Minutes of previous meeting are a correct record - confirmed
- No declarations of interest.

AGENDA 2: OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND REVIEWS

Chair reviewed outstanding actions.

AGENDA 3: RWM UPDATE

Opportunity for non-intrusive investigations from next year to understand the geology of a Search Area. This will require engagement with a community but is not be confused with the work of the Community Partnership(s).

These are essential geological investigations and marine seismic surveys which would take place only after the formation of a Community Partnership(s). Understanding the geology is fundamental to a GDF and this in-depth information is not currently available. A compressed air sound source is used to generate sound waves which are reflected from the geological layers below the seabed. The reflected sound waves are recorded by sensors which are spaced along the streamers which are towed behind the vessel. Procuring seismic surveys takes time and RWM want to be ready to respond within the timescale preferred by a Community Partnership(s). No work will be undertaken until such time as the Search Area(s) and timings of any surveys have been agreed with a Community Partnership(s). A tender has been issued which is for a national framework. Permitting to allow a survey to take place currently takes 6 months and are usually carried out between April and September due to weather and sea conditions.

Q – Will procurement cover any work which may be required?

A – Yes as it is a national framework which will allow us to do surveys anywhere off the coast of England should they be required.

Q – Previous land surveys have been carried out by other companies and these could be physically felt, would this be the case for seismic surveys?

A – An air gun is used which is situated about 5m below the surface, it will be felt and may impact marine life, which will be assessed as part of our studies, but on shore this will not be noticeable as it is a few kilometers out to sea.



A – Also be aware if any Community Partnership(s) were formed by December 2021, there could be an opportunity to commence seismic surveys in 2022 but a delay could push this to 2023.

A – There is an environmental window and capacity in the marketplace with common practice being that vessels are reserved Nov/Dec for work the following year.

Q – In relation to timescale, if a national agreement is in place, how long to mobilize a particular area survey?

A – It is dependent on the ability to secure a vessel; the marketplace normally looks to secure vessels in November/December for the following year.

Q – If there are multiple Search Areas which are close to each other and share some of the same area to be surveyed, what would happen if one area agreed and the other didn't?

A – This would be a matter to be agreed between the Community Partnership members of those Search Area(s) but we have the flexibility to respond to any scenarios.

This is a national tender but has been shared locally via BECBC and this will now be known within the local business community

Q – What is the process if communities are concerned that the results from the seismic surveys are unfavorable and they are then discounted from the process?

A – No work will commence until a Community Partnership(s) is formed and they have agreed to where and when any searches take place.

Q – As this is a large piece of work and could generate many spin-off opportunities for local communities to benefit socio-economically, how will this be communicated to them?

A – The requirement to provide social value has been included in the tender and although a specific community has not been identified there is a provision for a commitment from the contractor to identify added value for a community.

Q – LLWR are undertaking work within a community and are less engaged, is this relevant to the GDF project?

A – LLWR are doing is totally different piece of work, they are carrying out near surface investigations onshore.

Q – Is it possible to integrate the approach with the work being carried out by LLWR?

A – The project is to establish a footprint for a repository so this would not be possible.

AGENDA 4: COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARISH COUNCILS

Following a meeting with Millom Without Parish Council on the 1st July 2021, an action point was for them to receive more information which was relevant to parishes. We have proposed a monthly update which will be led by the Independent Facilitator and will be distributed via CALC.



It has also been agreed that a meeting will be offered in August with the Parish Councils with the purpose of keeping them informed of the progress of the Working Group and the formation of a Community Partnership(s) and Parish Councils involvement.

It was proposed that Parishes within a Search Area(s) be offered the opportunity for representation within a Community Partnership(s) as well as representation from CALC. This will need to be taken forward by Workstream3

Workstream 3 have been asked to consider Borough and County Council representation within a Community Partnership(s).

Q – Some Parishes may not be represented individually within a Community Partnership(s) and some councilors may not have a positive view, has this been considered?

A – This topic is being considered by Workstream 3 and this includes all implications.

A – All residents in a ward area will be asked for their view in any test of public support, it will not only be those residents who are within the Search Area(s).

Q – How are residents within a ward but outside the Search Area(s) being considered?

A – Residents of the area will be considered in the test of public support

Q – Has there been clarity around the Policy and ward boundaries?

A – The boundaries are fixed, and the Policy cannot be changed.

Q – Once a Community Partnership has been formed will it then be up to the initial membership to invite others to join?

A – The Policy is flexible with regard to the Community Partnership(s) reviewing its membership.

AGENDA 5: OPPORTUNITY FOR UPDATES FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

There were several actions which were taken away from the meeting with Millom Without Parish Council.

Newsletters

It was requested that the content of the Newsletter contain more information which would be relevant and of interest to the Parish Councils.

Contact Centre

It was highlighted that the responses could be more personal and specific to the questions raised by members of the community.

A meeting with the Chair, Community Engagement Manager and the Contact Centre team took place on the 15th July with further monthly meetings scheduled.

RWM Video

An RWM member is reviewing ~~all~~ video content to establish which content is applicable to the communities within Copeland.

Approach to Community Partnership(s) membership



The approach, process and criteria will be shared when it has been developed and agreed by the Working Group.

Yonder Survey

The Yonder Survey results will be made available after being shared with the Working Group members.

Popup Events

An additional pup up event will be held in Millom in July.

Workstream Update

Updates on the progress of the Workstreams will be shared via CALC and a further meeting with Millom Without Parish Council will be held in September.

Copeland Strategic Nuclear Energy Board

An update was given to the SNEB on the progress of the Working Group and a draft of the Community partnership Agreement was shared. The conversations and subsequent responses have allowed for a draft Memorandum of Understanding to be created which will be shared with the Executives on the 27th July 2021.

Irton Hall

Irton Hall have been invited to a meeting with Trudy Harrison with regards to discussion of Community Plans. It could be of interest as it may provide insight into a Community Vision.

Q - Would it be possible for those who attended the Millom Without Parish Council meeting to share their views on the community sentiment?

A – the impression was that the focus of the meeting was predominately to improve the engagement between Millom Without Parish Council and the Working Group.

CALC

The CALC Executive had a meeting which the representative of Millom Without Parish Council attended and during their update it was stated that the responses from the Contact Centre has improved. There is a further meeting next week with the Exec at which the Yonder Survey will be shared.

AGENDA 6: WORKSTREAM 1 UPDATE. ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Slides shared

There has been good progress made with the plan to host pup-up events within Copeland which will commence on the 22nd July 2021. It is planned that there will be an event held once per week, every week throughout the summer. Due to Covid restrictions and the size of the events, the decision has been taken that the RWM Engagement Team only will be in attendance.

The events will be held in the following locations and will take place between 10am and 3pm. There has been a press release which has been shared by Trudy Harrison. The Community Engagement Team have also prepared an information pack to be issued to the public in attendance.



Cleator Moor Town Council Office
Thwaites Village Hall
Whitehaven Town Traders Fair, St Nicholas Church
The Meeting Place, Egremont
Seascale Library
Millom Conservative and Unionist Club
Pop Up Shop, 72 King Street, Whitehaven

Q – Are the Working Group members being asked not to attend the events?

A – Although Covid restriction will be lifted from the 19th July, RWM has carried out Risk Assessments on the venues and have agreed to continue to follow the current safety measure for the period of these pop-up events. As a result, the capacity within the venues are limited and for safety reason have suggested we limit the number to just the Community Engagement Team. There will however be banners which will feature the images of Working Group members and further opportunities to attend the larger Exhibitions in September 2021.

Online

Webinars are currently on hold as we establish a protocol to be able to host them utilizing Zoom which will increase flexibility and efficiency.

Direct Mail Out - August

There will be a Direct Mail out sent to every household in Copeland, the leaflet is currently in draft form, but it will include a QR code which will link to a short, 4 question survey.

Q – Part of the reasoning to undertake a Direct Mail Out was to engage with those households which may not have access to the internet, how will they be able to complete the proposed survey?

A – There is an awareness of this however the Direct Mail Out is for everyone and those that do have access to the internet are able to access the survey and for those households who are unable to, there are alternative means of making contact and participating included within the leaflet.

Face to Face Exhibitions

The Exhibitions will be commencing on the 1st September until the 17th September 2021. Rescheduling these events presented challenges around the availability of venue and Subject Matter Experts.

AGENDA 7: WORKSTREAM 3 UPDATE. IDENTIFYING MEMBERS FOR A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP Draft Milestone Plan

Working Group to agree the Milestones, Handover Pack and Program of Activities



Workstream 3 have identified what can be achieved in advance to be able to launch a Community Partnership(s).

The required documentation is the Community Partnership Agreement, and Terms of Reference (ToRs). These are currently being reviewed by the Legal Team who will be attending the Workstream 3 meeting on the 23rd July 2021. Once all documents have been completed, they will then be shared with the Working Group.

Program of Activities

This is not an exhaustive list and will be discussed with the Working Group once Workstream 3 have completed their recommendations.

Engine Room

This is still under discussion with RWM and Copeland Borough Council

Q – Will Interested Parties be members of the Community Partnership(s)?

A – This has not been discounted at this moment as further updates are required.

Further updates from RWM have been received and there is the potential for a Community Partnership(s) Lead Officer who will sit alongside the Chair and could be the member who liaises with the different streams within a Community Partnership(s).

A Working Group member raised a concern that the Lead Officer should not deputize for the Chair as they may be an employee of RWM.

Q – There is still a lot which needs to be achieved within Workstream 3 and the Milestone Plan suggests that there are still some outstanding decisions to be made by the Working Group, what is the plan to achieve this?

A- The Working Group Agendas will include an Agenda Point which makes it clear which decisions will be made during these meetings.

Q – Would it be possible to bring members of Workstream 1 and Workstream 2 together to join and assist Workstream 3?

A – It has been agreed that this will be actioned.

The Policy in relation to member selection is that a Selection Panel would be made up of the following:

RWM
Copeland Borough Council
Chair

There is nothing new to report with regards to Workstream 2.

AGENDA 8: WORKPLAN SCHEDULE UPDATE.

The next 4 Working Group meeting Agendas will include an Agenda point to make decisions on outstanding actions.

AGENDA 9: COMFORT BREAK



AGENDA 10: YONDER SURVEY RESULTS

The questions which were asked of those taking part was discussed and the breakdown of information and demographics were shared via a slide deck.

Q – The Net support of 32% for proposal, was this search or construction?

A – It was the construction.

Q - Did you consult the Moray report of 2012?

A – Yes, I have seen it.

A – The numbers cannot be compared as it was a different question which was asked.

Q – Transport - was there any attempt to differentiate the transport of waste or transport in relation to general infrastructure?

A – Most people were concerned about the current infrastructure in the focus groups, but this is difficult to differentiate in a survey,

Q - The numbers of those surveyed and from the focus groups will look very small to the non-statistically minded, how will this be addressed?

A – there is a plus/minus 5%. This is the first survey which provides a data point and the 400 people who were surveyed is a viable sample size.

AGENDA 11: COMMS AND ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Response from Simon Hughes to Marianne Birkby to be released 16th July 2021.

Millom have been awarded £20.6 million in Towns Funding.

Japanese Times Interview

The interview has appeared in the Japanese Times and a copy which was translated into English has been shared by the Comms Team.

Interview with Interested Party and RWM to be in the Financial Times in September 2021.

Leaflet to be shared to include QR code and Face to Face Exhibition details

West Cumbria Sites stakeholder meeting on 3rd August

RWM presenting on WWC Policy. Chair presenting on Copeland Working Group and Interested Party will deliver the Allerdale presentation.

AGENDA 12: AOB

No further items

AGENDA 13: DATE OF NEXT MEETING 29th JULY 2021

Ref	Meeting Decision Log	Status
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CWG006	WG members to collaborate and support WS3.	GJ/SW/CD
Ref	Meeting Action Log	
CWG004	WS3 to consider members of a Community Partnership(s)	Ongoing
CWG005	Yonder Survey results to be shared to Parish Councils Shared and on website	CALC/KA Completed
CWG005	Workstream Update to be shared to Parish Councils Added next week	CALC/KA/NG ongoing
CWG008	Key decisions from WS3 recommendations to be added to WG Agendas	GJ/SW Completed
CWG011	Comms Leaflet to be shared which includes QR code and Live Exhibition details	GT Completed
CWG011	Photo of surface works for newsletter to be shared with WG	GT Completed



Working in Partnership Copeland

Comms Dashboard - June 2021 (21 May – 22 June)

Summary

- Website saw 274 unique visits (555 May) of which 217 were new (347 May)
- Virtual Exhibition received 5 unique visits (17 May) of which 3 were new users (16 May)
- Press release issued highlighting 2x geology webinars (27 May)
- Development of walk through exhibitions - dates moved to Aug / Sept – and direct mail.

Metrics

Contact Centre



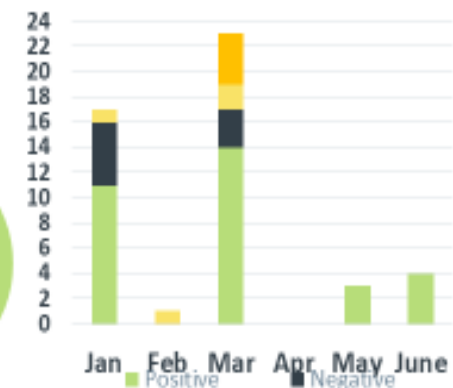
Enquiry themes:

- Location of a GDF
- Community benefit amount
- Environmental monitoring

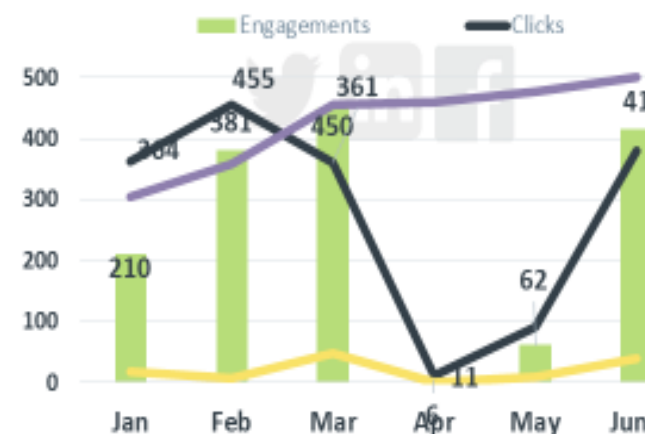


Media

4 articles
+1 May

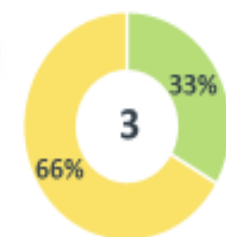


Social Media



Conversation Themes

Twitter & Facebook Inbound Sentiment



Twitter & Facebook Inbound Sentiment