

ARLA LIAISON GROUP MEETING

SECOND MEETING

28/02/12

Attendees

- Mr Brian Barnes – Aylesbury Canal Society
- Cllr Phil Yerby – AVDC
- Cllr Keith Wilkinson – Weston Turville Parish Council
- Wing Commander Stephen Borthwick – RAF Halton
- Cllr Bill Chapple – Bucks County Council
- Mr Alan Sherwell – Aylesbury resident
- Mr Andrew Freeth – Aylesbury College
- Cllr Tom Ross – Drayton Beauchamp Parish Council
- Mr Rob Evett – College Farm
- Cllr Paternoster – AVDC
- Cllr Clive Carlile – Buckland Parish Council
- Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts – AVDC Bedgrove
- Cllr Steven Mitchell – Aylesbury Town Council
- Mr John Carter – The Red House
- Cllr John Watson – Aston Clinton Parish Council
- Cllr Jonathan Gilpin – Bierton Parish Council
- Mr Tim Evans – Arla Foods (TE)
- Mr Jakob Nielsen – Arla Foods (JN)
- Victoria Walker – Beattie Communications (VW)

Apologies

- Chris Bradley – Arla Foods
- Cllr David Thompson – AVDC

1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1.0.1 TE welcomed attendees to the second liaison group meeting
- 1.0.2 VW apologised for the confusion regarding the start time and asked if a 6.30pm or a 7pm start time was most convenient – it was agreed that 6.30pm was preferable
- 1.0.3 VW circulated a copy of a Q&A which detailed all of the questions raised by email between meetings. It was agreed that this would be circulated with the minutes and VW would add to this information as more questions were raised – ACTION POINT - VW

2.0 ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MEETING

- 2.0.1 Temporary signage will be erected to ensure that construction traffic uses College Road North entrance. Some of the temporary signage has been installed unfortunately Arla hasn't followed the correct procedures and the signs had to be removed and will be reinstalled imminently. TE shared the plan highlighting the locations the temporary signage would be erected.
- 2.0.2 The temporary low level lighting will go onto the construction site tomorrow.
- 2.0.3 It is expected that the route of the services will be along the A41. Arla is attempting to coordinate supplies so only one trench has to be dug. Mr Evett highlighted this council include some of the Evett's land on College Road North.
- 2.0.4 Additional action points from the previous meeting will be covered in the agenda items below.

3.0 ACCESS

- 3.0.1 TE and VW explained that it was necessary to agree with the authorities the use of the bridleway for the archaeologists to reach the site as the College Road North and crossing the site became impassable due to the weather conditions. The bridleway was used so that none of the vehicles came through Buckland Village. Arla has agreed to repair any damage the archaeologist's vehicles cause to the bridleway.
- 3.0.2 The vehicles using this access were the two archaeologist's cars and their work on site will be completed very soon. However, complaints have been raised regarding a variety of vehicles including a water board van. As these vehicles were not Arla vehicles or accessing our site we were unable to do anything about this.
- 3.0.3 The haul road into the site from College Road North is now underway and this will be the only access into the site available for construction traffic. As the access from the bridleway will be blocked off to all but emergency vehicles (ambulance/fire).
- 3.0.4 A question was raised regarding signage for College Road South and also Buckland Village to ensure that construction traffic uses the correct routes. TE agreed these would have signage and he is happy to look at additional signage requests over and above those included within the plan which was tabled at the meeting. TE highlighted he was keen to have local knowledge of the roads contributing to the plan.
- 3.0.5 It was highlighted that vehicles using College Road South near Aston Clinton village had traffic turning in trying to reach the site and drivers didn't realise until they had reached the bottom that this is a dead end. Can we ensure signage is at the end so drivers do not make this mistake ACTION POINT – ARLA
- 3.0.6 Cllr Chapple highlighted that he had met with the parish council and together they are seeking to change the name of College Road South to something 'End' in order to emphasise that this is a dead end and not a through route to College Road North.

- 3.0.7 It was queried if a temporary sign could go up onto the bridleway. TE agreed to look into this. It was agreed Arla would liaise with Clifford Marshall from Bucks County Council and Joanna Rights of Way officer. ACTION POINT – VW/ARLA
- 3.0.8 It was queried if there would be signs further afield – such as Weston Turville – A413 – to try to stop contractor using these routes. TE explained that it is not in plan at the moment but we can identify where these are required and happy to sign post these if BCC agrees. ACTION POINT -ARLA

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGY

- 4.0.1 Late Iron Age, early Roman and later Roman enclosures which define a small rural settlement. The settlement sits on a ridge that would have been surrounded by very wet ground which at time included distinct ponds and at other times just boggy areas. The changing shape of the settlement over time reflects the increasingly wet environment.
- 4.0.2 10 inhumation burials and 5 cremation burials have been identified and excavated, all believed to be from the final phase of occupation. There is no evidence for industrial or ritual activity (with the exception of the burials).
- 4.0.3 The settlement is a relatively low-status farm with no evidence for stone buildings. Only one (timber & earth) building has been positively identified. It is assumed there would have been other buildings but these have left no archaeological trace apart from the numerous nails found across the site
- 4.0.4 There are large quantities of pottery, and some of this is high status / imported – these could have been special ‘family’ pieces rather than indicating high status. There was limited metalwork recovered, the majority of items being nails. A ‘dolphin’ brooch and part of a bronze cosmetic implement were the most interesting pieces of metalwork recovered. However, it is also noted that there were numerous visits by illegal metal detectorists and this will have removed some of the evidence
- 4.0.5 All the finds are being taken back to the Northamptonshire Archaeology offices for cleaning, initial quantification and transfer to the specialists for assessment. Once the assessment is done, we will receive reports from each of the specialists and these will be incorporated into the assessment report – this information will be used to determine the precise nature and extent of additional analysis required for the final report.
- 4.0.6 Once the digging team are complete and the specialists have undertaken their initial analysis the archaeologists will organise an event to enable residents to view the finds. This will be a few months away.
- 4.0.7 Cllr Paternoster highlighted that the Parish Council has written to say would like at least one to come to the cemetery. Part of the burial ground is not consecrated and Buckland endorses archaeologist’s sentiments that they wanted to keep some for research purposes but Buckland would welcome one being returned home. Cllr Carlile queried if Arla will settle the costs for this and the commemorative plaque and TE agreed. ACTION POINT Cllr Carlile and VW to liaise.
- 4.0.8 It was queried if there would be a written report which could be kept with the Buckland archives. TE highlighted that we are sure we can organise this for Buckland Village. ACTION POINT – VW TO LIAISE WITH ARCHAEOLOGISTS

5.0 START ON SITE

5.0.1 JN outlined the draft programme of works as follows:

- From today: The muck shift and work on the bunds has now begun
- Feb - April – foundations work commences
- April/May – steel erection starts
- May – begin cladding works
- By the end of the year we hope to have the dairy building complete and we will then focus on the installation of the equipment within the building

6.0 CONTRACTOR APPOINTMENT

6.0.1 Caddick has been appointed and a contact number for the onsite administrator has been provided to attendees. Caddicks will also erect a notice board on site and provide a viewing window.

7.0 CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN (JN)

7.0.1 The draft Construction Management Plan outlines:

- Construction hours: 7.30am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 7.30am to 1pm on a Saturday (including site deliveries)
- Temporary directional signs to be placed at key junctions
- All construction traffic will use the routes set out in Construction Management Plan with site access/egress via A41/College Road North
- Caddicks is responsible for enforcing the CMP and the mobile number above is available for any queries.
- The main construction site will not be illuminated until the end of September 2012. If there is any need for temporary lighting, three weeks' notice will be given to the council

7.0.2 Mr Carter asked if construction work could not take place outside the Red House until after 8.30am. ACTION POINT – ARLA TO LIAISE WITH CADDICKS

7.0.3 A query was raised if Arla was moving earth from the site. TE said that no earth would be moved off the site as it was being used to create the bund.

7.0.4 The entrance into the site from College Rd North has been established. Wheel cleaning is in operation so should minimise any problems on College Road North.

7.0.5 The construction site not illuminated until September but we will have some temporary lighting with baffles to minimise light egress. Temporary accommodation can be seen on site. Later on, more accommodation will be established nearer to the dairy.

- 7.0.6 In terms of noise mitigation an acoustic fence will be erected on top of the bunds as soon as possible. In addition sub-contractors will be encouraged to switch off engines when not needed.
- 7.0.7 A query was raised regarding the piling method? JN explained this would be bore piling which was quieter.
- 7.0.8 JN tabled plans of the site accommodation and layout and it was queried if the construction work would happen before the bunding is complete. JN responded that the bunding creation is underway now and should be completed in 14 weeks.
- 7.0.9 It was queried when Drayton Mead Brook would be diverted. ACTION POINT JN TO CONFIRM.
- 7.0.10 It was also queried if the entrance into the site had moved north. JN believed that the haul road was slightly further north than the final entrance and permanent road would be. ACTION POINT – JN TO CLARIFY AND CONFIRM AT NEXT MEETING

8.0 LANDSCAPING

- 8.0.1 Work has begun on creating the bund around the site. The acoustic fencing will then be erected on this bund.
- 8.0.2 TE explained that the soil is not at the right quality so we have had to employ a scientist to come up with the correct nutrients for the soil to take and nurture the 65,000 trees which will be planted. An irrigation system is also being installed. Therefore, in terms of the planting season we will not make the planting season this Easter. The second planting season this year is in autumn and the soil will be assessed to ensure it is in the right condition for the planting to take place, but if it isn't it may be early next year before the trees can go in. However, the bund and acoustic fence will be in place as soon as possible.
- 8.0.3 A query was raised regarding the species. The species will include (VW TO INSERT) TE explained that Cllr Paternoster had provided details of the landscaping on the other side of the A41 and Arla is working with the landscape company to seek to replicate this on the other side of the A41 edge to the site. VW confirmed that the species included evergreens – Scot Pine. The rest of the trees and hedgerows had sought to be native species. There will be 32 acres of new planting.
- 8.0.4 In terms of the cladding colours samples of the colour schemes were erected on site in early February so that the council could view the samples from a number of viewpoints around the local area and agree the colour scheme they wanted. Cladding panels – all of the mixture of colours which were erected on site. The panels will be horizontal. Mr Carter explained that he would prefer the corporate colours (silver). TE explained that AVDC has selected the colour scheme now and Arla was unable to influence the final decision.

9.0 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

- 9.0.1 In answer to queries, College Road North will be widened from the junction with the A41 to the new entrance (which is north of the household waste site).
- 9.0.2 TE tabled a set of drawings showing the layout of the new proposed roundabouts and asked the liaison group members if it was felt that this was simple enough to distribute. It was agreed that part of the problem is that there is too much information. Mr Sherwell explained that the key concern is what will be taken away from any pavement or verge and what the pattern of traffic movement will actually be (in terms of priorities) i.e. how is it designed for people to turn left and right. Cllr Carlile said that it will all be done to the design of BCC – it is a fait accompli. TE explained that the key difference was the roundabouts would become signalised junctions with intelligent phasing traffic lights.
- 9.0.3 A query was raised as to whether people would therefore queue at an empty road at night. VW explained that as the lights will have cameras they are able to work intelligently and the light would change to green when a car was approaching.
- 9.0.4 Cllr Carlile queried that as the only issue on these junctions was during the peak hours if it would be preferable to turn the lights off when not required. TE explained that these intelligent lights are also able to recognise from which direction the greater flow of traffic is coming so the aim is that they will be able to allow more time on green in the right direction in order to reduce queuing. ACTION POINT - TE AGREED TO LIAISE WITH BCC TO SEE IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE LIGHTS TO BE SWITCHED OFF WHEN NOT REQUIRED
- 9.0.5 It was queried what happens when you come out of the petrol station and want to go right to town. At the moment people use the roundabout to turn around. ACTION POINT – VW to check with transport consultant. It was discussed that last year, when put in the Sainsbury's there the exit was changed to only allow a left turn out onto the side road. Can we remove this forced left to give this an opportunity to turn right again (will need to assess re pelican crossing) ACTION POINT – VW TO LIAISE WITH TRANSPORT CONSULTATION/BCC
- 9.0.6 Mr Ross raised a concern regarding protecting Broughton Avenue residents. If people come to the traffic lights and see a red light may take Broughton Avenue as a rat run. This is a heavy residential road with a school on it. TE explained that these occurrences have been inputted into the model and it was able to prevent that. ACTION POINT IT WAS AGREED VW WOULD LIAISE WITH THE TRANSPORT CONSULTATION AND REPORT BACK TO THE NEXT MEETING.
- 9.0.7 ACTION POINT – Can we simplify the roundabout plans and circulate with the minutes?
- 9.0.8 It was queried if there was a Plan B if the new junctions didn't work once installed. TE explained as part of the planning process, BCC had a model and Arla had to design the junction and install it into the model – this threw up issues which highways designer then worked on and it was inputted again into the model. Then the model was tested by putting in new scenarios and error calculations and retested (Ultimately poorer scenarios including the 'worst case' scenario were inputted and the junction still worked even allowing these errors.) The figures inputted into the model include any development which has planning

permission but hasn't been built yet as well as all existing traffic and growth predictions finally all of the traffic from the dairy and the proposed additional developments (outline planning sites) Arla is now as comfortable as it can be in saying that the new design will work.

9.0.9 Arla would prefer to construct the junctions this summer but BCC has requested summer 2013. This is still being discussed with BCC and we will confirm as soon as we can when this will be.

9.0.10 It was queried if there is now no opportunity to turn around between Tesco and Aston Clinton? It was commented that this would be better as U-turns on the roundabouts are problematic. It was also queried that coming out of Weston Turville and attempting to turn right is dangerous and if you can't turn round this issue will be compounded. TE asked Cllr Paternoster if the upgrade of the Weston Turville Junction was already planned in the MDA application. It was agreed that this was the case. ACTION POINT – CAN THIS BE RAISED WITH BCC AS AN ISSUE. TE agreed to do this and also highlighted that attendees can also bring this up with BCC.

9.0.11 TE explained that the roundabout improvements weren't actually required for construction of the dairy (just for the outline planning sites) but Arla has committed to bringing this forwards earlier so that it will improve the transport situation locally, delivering betterment as soon as possible.

10.0 CANALSIDE IMPROVEMENTS

10.0.1 Arla is investing £367,630 on the upgrade of the towpath between Aston Clinton and lock 15 at Aylesbury. These funds will be gifted to British Waterways which will appoint and oversee the contractor managing this work to British Waterways specifications. Queries regarding safety and speeding can be directed to the local waterways office and we will also feed comments received to British Waterways.

10.0.2 It was queried if this investment formed part of the Green Travel Plan. TE explained that yes this was the case, it was an element of that plan and the aim is to provide an off road route between Aylesbury and the site for those who wish to walk or cycle.

11.0 OUTLINE AREAS

11.0.1 TE explained that the construction of the dairy was the priority and there was unlikely to be any news regarding the North and North West outline plots this year. It was queried what would happen to the land temporarily? TE explained that it would be kept tidy, but unsure at this stage how they will look after this area at the moment.

11.0.2 It was queried if the services being installed would handle these areas as well. TE said yes that was the intention so that the road only had to be trenched once ideally.

12.0 RECRUITMENT

12.01 An advert rang in Bucks Herald, VW circulated a copy. It has also been advertised on the Arla website. There have been more than 200 applications for the jobs advertised so far.

Caddicks has also appointed a local recruitment agent and is seeking local employers. They have just recruited a local site administrator. M&E consultant, NG Bailey will also be recruiting locally.

12.0.2 It was agreed that Arla will keep providing recruitment updates in the newsletter and at each meeting. ACTION POINT - VW.

13.0 NEWSLETTER

13.0.1 VW circulated the first draft of the newsletter for comment. It was agreed that the Who is Arla section can now be removed. Attendees agreed to contact VW with any other suggestions and VW will then redraft and circulate with the minutes for use on local notice boards where possible. ACTION POINT – ALL LIAISON GROUP MEMBERS

14.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14.0.1 It was requested that VW circulate the Q&A out with minutes (and the newsletter) – ACTION POINT VW

14.0.2 It was requested that every paragraph was numbered in the minutes so members can highlight any amends before the final copy was circulated for distribution.

14.0.3 It was queried if the contact number for site administrator goes to the site and what happens out of normal working hours. It was explained that it will go to the site during working hours and we will look into what will happen with this number out of hours. TE said that ideally a Site Director could take it home and check it regularly if possible. ACTION POINT – CADDICK

14.0.4 TE asked if this forum was felt to be working in the right way and if it was useful for members. It was agreed that it was a useful flow of information between Arla and the wider community and members were happy for TE to continue to Chair the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held at **6.30pm on Tuesday 22nd May 2012** at the Holiday Inn, Aston Clinton. The meeting is by invitation only to members and VW will write out with invitations so that members are able to confirm attendance in advance.

TE thanked all attendees for coming to the meeting.