

# Tilbury Liaison Committee: Minutes: July 2015

<b>Date</b>	Monday 6 July 2015, 19:00
<b>Location</b>	Tilbury Community Association, Civic Square, Tilbury, RM18 8AA
<b>Attendees</b>	Cllr Steve Liddiard, Tilbury St Chads Ward (SL); Cllr Lynn Worrall, Tilbury St Chads Ward (LW); Cllr Bukky Okunade, Tilbury Riverside & Thurrock Park Ward (BO); Rodney (Barney) Barnard-Hill, Tilbury Community Forum (BH); Tessa Dallyn-Roberts, Thameside Community Forum (TDR); Len Orpin, NGAGE (LO); Mark Lawlor, Tilbury Green Power (ML); Majella McCarron, Tilbury Green Power (MM); Brian McGrellis, Tilbury Green Power (BM); Paul Zanin, Tilbury Green Power (PZ); Alex Doel, Bellenden (AD)
<b>Minutes</b>	Thomas Atkinson, Bellenden (TA)

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## 1. Welcome

Alex Doel (AD) opened the meeting and thanked those present for their attendance. AD asked those present to introduce themselves given that there were several new people in attendance.

## 2. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received for the meeting, although Cllr Steve Lilliard (SL) said that he would have to leave the meeting early.

## 3. Minutes

There were no amendments to the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23 March 2015.

## 4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 5. Update on 'Tilbury Green Power' (TGP) Project

Mark Lawlor (ML) from Tilbury Green Power (TGP) gave a presentation to update the Committee on the progress of the scheme. ML explained that the project reached financial close in March

2015; which represented the move from the development phase to the construction phase of the project. ML said that TGP is currently set to become operational in Spring/Summer 2017. ML explained ESB's role on the project as the Construction Manager and a partner in the joint venture. ML also outlined who the main contractors would be and the main fuel supplier.

Tessa Dallyn-Roberts (TDR) from Thameside Community Forum asked for confirmation that TGP was a power plant because she had understood that the project was to dispose of waste wood. ML confirmed that TGP generates electricity from waste wood.

SL asked about the exact location of the site, and it was confirmed that it is by Tilbury Power Station. SL asked that TGP think about employing residents of Tilbury. ML said that there would be employees at the power plant as well as sub-contractors. Paul Zanin, TGP, said that a jobs strategy had been prepared as part of the application for TGP, as a condition of the application.

Cllr Bukky Okunade (BO) asked for clarification around the term "financial close". ML explained that this was the point at which all of the contracts for TGP were signed as the project moved into the construction phase. Companies set a day where all contracts are signed at once for better coordination. BO asked when the end date of the project would be. ML said that construction was set to be complete in July 2017, with the project then entering the operational phase. BO asked about recruitment. ML said that the jobs strategy that had been prepared as part of the planning permission would be implemented and that it covered both the construction and operational phases.

SL asked whether there had been any changes to the planning permission since consent was granted. ML said that there were no changes that he was aware of. ML went on to say that there were currently 12-15 people on site as some demolition work had started. ML said that one aim of tonight's Tilbury Liaison Committee meeting was to introduce the team that would oversee the construction phase.

SL asked about dust from the site and whether there would be anything else that residents represented by local Councillors would be concerned about. ML said that piling during construction would generate some additional noise and that there would be some extra traffic. SL asked whether the traffic would enter and exit at the Port of Tilbury entrance. ML confirmed this. SL said that it was likely that TGP would not impact too many people. ML said that there would be some dust, but Brian McGrellis (BM), TGP, explained that dust levels would be monitored.

Cllr Lynn Worrall (LW) said that the area had a high level of pollution. PZ said that TGP had to manage and plan how to mitigate noise and dust, for instance by washing all lorry wheels and monitoring dust levels. PZ said that feedback helped TGP in ensuring that mitigation measures were the best they could be.

ML talked through the site layout, including access and the areas where the waste wood would be burned, processed and stored. TDR asked where ash would go during and after the process. ML said that ash was collected and disposed of offsite at a control area. TDR asked how the ash were transported and ML said that this would be by road but that the traffic movements to do so would be a smaller number of movements than for deliveries of waste wood. PZ said it was difficult to

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coordinate logistics for sea delivery, so road had been favoured at this stage as the most straightforward option. However, TGP would look at if the river could be used as a transport route.

Len Orpin (LO), NGAGE, asked if fresh or sea water would be used in the process. ML said that it would be fresh water. TDR asked where the fresh water would come from. ML said that it would come from the Port of Tilbury's supply, but that TGP would use less water than the Port. TGP would not use a coolant and would recycle water through the process.

SL asked if the Environment Agency would regulate the site. ML said that it would, as would the Local Planning Authority and Ofgem. LW asked if the local community would see a difference to their lives. ML said that the construction of the buildings and the stack would have some impact in addition to some increased activity and traffic around the site. However, this would not be a great impact. LW asked again about noise and pollution and ML said that gases would be cleaned as part of the process and that a construction plan was in place. The nature of the project would cause some noise, dust and traffic, but mitigation plans are in place.

SL asked whether the height of the stack would mean that gases emitted would bypass Tilbury and come down to ground level outside the town. PZ said that gas plumes did usually come down further away because of the height of the stacks. TGP had to do an air quality assessment which included an air dispersal study. This looked at the impact of TGP against the current conditions and showed that there would be no significant impact in terms of gas and dust.

Rodney (Barney) Barnard-Hill (BH) said that Tilbury had a life expectancy 20 years lower than average because of pollution. BH said that TGP had to not contribute to this. PZ said that points such as BH's illustrated the value of the TLC. By raising these points, TGP was aware of concerns in the local area. PZ said that TGP had looked closely at human health and this was also scrutinised by the Environment Agency. PZ said that TGP would continue to prioritise human health and not forget about this aspect of the project. BM said that there would be continuous monitoring at all times on emissions during construction and operation of TGP and remedial measures would be taken if levels increased.

BO turned from local concerns to ask what the key positives of TGP would be: would the electricity be used to power homes locally?; what would the economic and employment benefits be? BO said that she felt reassured on health, but wanted to know who would benefit from the project. ML said that the electricity generated would go into the National Grid and so would go to wherever the power was needed. The energy would be clean and renewable because it was being generated from waste wood. TGP would provide local employment and knock-on economic benefits for local companies that would gain more customers. TDR asked who would benefit from the power generated. PZ said that it was a national and regional benefit.

SL asked if this was the first such power plant in the UK. ML said that there was an operational plant in Sleaford, Lincolnshire and one in Lockerbie in Scotland. SL said that it might be a good idea for the councillors to talk to the local communities around these existing sites to hear their experiences. TDR asked if the proposals by Proctor and Gamble for a biomass plant four miles away from Tilbury would impact on TGP. PZ said that TGP were much further ahead in the

process than Proctor and Gamble and determination around Proctor and Gamble's scheme would need to take the TGP project into account.

LO said that he did not want large quantities of timber to be stored in Tilbury, but that he had been reassured over storage early in the process.

LW asked how many extra lorries there would be each day. PZ said that he did not have the exact figures to hand, but that he would come back to LW with the figures.

**ACTION:** AD said that he would send out the previous traffic management presentation to attendees.

TDR said that she was concerned about the Proctor and Gamble plans. BM said that TGP would be background context for the Proctor and Gamble proposals. TDR thanked TGP for setting a high standard.

PZ outlined the jobs plan and how it related to education and skills. TGP would seek to get involved with local schools and colleges; produce educational resources about renewable energy and climate change; and talk about apprenticeships. BO said that in Tilbury there were more lower skilled jobs than management level positions and that those skills needed to be built up.

LW asked if TGP would be liable for Section 106 payments. ML said that the Unilateral Undertaking was the equivalent of Section 106. Majella McCarron (MM), representing TGP, said that TGP would seek to tie its educational work into STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects. PZ said that there was a large office space proposed as part of the plant and that this could be used for educational purposes and to welcome school and college pupils to the site.

LO asked whether electricity would be transported from TGP through pylons or underground. PZ said that this would be underground.

## **6. Community Engagement**

MM introduced TGP's plans for community engagement as the project entered the construction phase. MM said that TGP asked "Why? Who? How? and When?" when thinking about community engagement. TGP would be operational for 20 years, so wanted to become part of the community. The TLC was set up as agreed in the Unilateral Understanding, but would have been set up anyway as part of TGP's commitment to community engagement. The community engagement could include a website; the TLC; community newsletter; meetings; and social media. It was confirmed that the point of contact would be the construction team, members of which were present at the meeting. MM said that the education space at TGP had a big value, proving that TGP had wider benefits, and not just monetary.

BO said that any resources had to be spent in the right way. BO said that more electronic communication would be helpful and that TGP needed to get its messaging right around the benefits of the project. BH said that there still needed to be face-to-face and traditional

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communications, as many in the community were not proficient or regular users of, the internet and email. LW suggested that informational materials be placed in the library and community hub including all of the key facts about the project in Plain English. PZ said that TGP would make all previously published information available.

BO asked if permission for TGP had been from the Thames Gateway Corporation. PZ confirmed this.

## 7. Date of next meeting

AD asked attendees whether evening meetings were preferable. All attendees indicated that evening meetings were best and that the usual 7pm time was convenient. AD suggested that the next TLC meeting be held in October. Attendees said that a date should be set and then they could make sure that it was in their diaries with plenty of notice. ML said that a community newsletter could potentially be published before October.

## 8. Any other business

AD said that the minutes of the previous meeting would be published online.

**ACTION:** Bellenden to add minutes of the TLC meeting held on Monday 23 March 2015 to the TGP website.