

LGA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held online on 9th March 2022

Present:

Cllr Matthew Riddle	South Gloucestershire Council (Out-going Chair)
Cllr David Moore	Copeland Borough Council (Vice-Chair & Incoming Chair)
Cllr Sean Chaytor	Hull City Council (NFLA Vice-Chair)
Cllr Marion Fitzgerald	Allerdale Borough Council
Cllr David Southward	Cumbria County Council
Cllr David Godfrey	Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Cllr David Blackburn	Leeds City Council
Cllr Mike Caswell	Sedgemoor District Council (Incoming Vice-Chair)
Cllr Richard Smith	Suffolk County Council
Cllr Chris Morgan	West Somerset and Taunton Council
Jonathan Cook	Copeland Borough Council
Rachel Whaley	Cumbria County Council
Linda Marsh	Folkestone & Hythe District Council
Linda Townsend	Gloucestershire County Council
Charlotte Rushmere	Maldon District Council
Richard Outram	Manchester City Council
Jo Manley	Sedgemoor District Council
Louise Martin	Somerset County Council
John Burton	Somerset West and Taunton Council
Vicky Ashton	South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils
Cameron Clow	Suffolk County Council
Philip Matthews	Nuleaf
Catherine Draper	Nuleaf

	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES	ACTION
	<p>Cllr Riddle welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from: Cllr Craig Rivett & Bethany Rance – East Suffolk Council, Helen Smith – Hartlepool Borough Council,</p>	

	Andy Gutherson – Lincolnshire County Council, Cllr Eddy Newman – Manchester City Council, Gillian Ellis-King – South Gloucestershire Council, Angharad Crump – Ynys Mon County Council.	
1.	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2021 AND MATTERS ARISING	
1.1	The Minutes were held to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and will be posted on the Nuleaf website. There were no matters arising.	CD
2.	ELECTION OF OFFICERS	
2.1	Cllr Riddle thanked his Vice-Chairs and the Nuleaf secretariat for their support over his three years of office. Cllrs Chaytor and Moore thanked Cllr Riddle for his service and noted that his period of office had covered a time of national emergency.	
2.2	The Executive Director confirmed that the meeting was quorate. He advised that no candidate other than Cllr David Moore had been put forward for the position of Chair, that Cllr David Wimble had not completed his nomination as Vice-Chair by the deadline. Therefore Cllr Mike Caswell was the only candidate for that role.	
2.3	Cllr Richard Smith noted that he was concerned that Cllr Moore's position at Copeland Borough Council, the West Cumbria SSG and on the Copeland Community Partnerships could affect external perception of Nuleaf and sought reassurances as to how Cllr Moore would address this.	
2.4	Cllr Moore noted that his candidature was as Copeland Borough Council's representative, and that he stood on the Community Partnerships in the same capacity. He had represented Nuleaf at national and international meetings and his engagement in the GDF siting process was seen as an advantage. Cllrs Southward and Caswell spoke in support of Cllr Moore, and he was duly appointed Chair of Nuleaf.	
2.5	Cllr Caswell was appointed as Vice-Chair as the only candidate nominated and seconded for the position.	
2.6	Cllr Sean Chaytor of Hull City Council has served one term as Vice-Chair (NFLA) and would continue in that role.	

3.	ANNUAL REPORT	
3.1	PM introduced the paper which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The paper highlighted work activities carried out by Nuleaf over the past year. All activities had been achieved unless prevented by external issues.	
3.2	The AGM agreed that the report presented a true picture of organisational developments and activities.	
4.	FINANCE AND FUNDING REPORT	
4.1	PM presented the report which provided a financial statement for 2020-21, forecasted out-turn for 2021-22, budget for 2022-23 and prospects for future funding and staffing. He noted that the delay in commissioning work on a report on community benefits resulted in a larger than expected surplus this year and a small deficit the following year, but over the two year period Nuleaf would break even or record a small surplus.	
4.2	Cllr Smith congratulated the secretariat on the state of Nuleaf's financial management.	
4.3	The Chair expressed his pleasure in this year's financial settlement, but added that he felt we should be pressing for a three-year settlement, and asked that the secretariat follow this up with NDA.	PM
4.5	The meeting agreed the budget for 2022-23 and that membership fees would be held at the current level for a further year. Proposed by Cllr David Moore. Seconded by Cllr Matthew Riddle. Agreed unanimously.	
5.	PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NULEAF CONSTITUTION	
5.1	Following discussions at earlier Steering Group meetings about Nuleaf's scope of work it had been agreed to amend the constitution to permit consideration of emergency planning and issues relating to Net Zero Carbon in as much as they affected nuclear decommissioning and in particular NDA sites. A form of words had been submitted to the December Steering Group and had been approved. The paper to the AGM was to formally adopt the amended form of words into the constitution.	
5.2	Richard Outram spoke on behalf of Cllr Eddy Newman, Manchester City Council, who was unable to attend the meeting. He was concerned that with the new phraseology permitted Nuleaf to engage with new nuclear issues, and he asked that the words 'non-nuclear' be inserted so that the text read "new non-nuclear energy generation". He felt that SMR and fusion developments	

	would not take place until 2040s and 2050s respectively and there was no need to address these issues now.	
5.3	PM responded that Nuleaf had been addressing new nuclear issues in their relation to nuclear decommissioning and the legacy sites for many years. The form of words had been discussed at the previous meeting and agreed upon.	
5.4	The Chair asked if there was a second for Cllr Newman's proposed amendment: Cllr Blackburn confirmed he would second and highlighted his concerns about Nuleaf's engagement with new nuclear. The amendment was put to the vote: a total of 10 councillors were eligible to vote but only 2 votes were in favour of the amendment.	
5.5	The Chair asked for a vote on the amendment as it stood in the paper submitted to the meeting and 7 votes in favour were recorded. The amendment was therefore adopted and a revised constitution will be posted on Nuleaf's website.	CD
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
6.1	Cllr Chaytor asked for further information on the dismantling of nuclear submarines at Devonport.	
6.2	PM advised that Nuleaf and NFLA had been involved in earlier stages of the ISOLUS and SDP programme set up by MOD around the decommissioning of submarines, but since the public consultation in 2016 there had been limited communication from MOD. The programme was running behind schedule and over budget. PM would seek an update from MOD and bring this back to the next meeting.	PM
6.3	There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.14.	

ACTION LIST

9th March 2022			
Item	Action	By	Outcome
2.1	Post minutes of 2021 AGM on website	CD	Done
4.3	Engage with NDA on a three year financial settlement	PM	On going
5.5	Amend Nuleaf constitution to incorporate new form of words as agreed at the meeting and post on Nuleaf's website	CD	Done
6.2	Contact MOD for update on submarine dismantling programme	PM	A visit to Rosyth was held on 8 th September 2022

