

Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Date	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Attendees	<p>Craig Kirkland (CK), Plant Manager          David Morrison (DM), Environmental Manager          David Mumford (DMU), East Lammermuir Community Council          Pippa Swan (PS), Dunbar Community Council          Alasdair Swan (AS), Dunbar Community Council          Lyn Jardine (LJ), East Lothian Councillor for Dunbar and East Linton          Carol Sim (CS), Site Administrator</p>

**MINUTES**

1	<p><b>Welcome</b>          CK commenced the meeting, welcomed all and provided a general safety induction.          The frequency of meetings was agreed as 6 monthly.</p>
2	<p><b>Plant Update</b>          DM provided an update on the staff structure and recent personnel changes. CK informed the group of improvements to the plant and investment in the business, confirming the staff headcount as approx. 150 plus contractors. DM delivered an update on the first quarter of 2024, reporting that the construction market had been steady, but has seen a downturn UK wide this year.          LJ agreed that political uncertainty has had a negative impact along with inflation and Brexit.          CK then informed the committee of positive business for the plant with the award of an energy transition facility contract near Ardersier. We are well placed to service the site from the rail depot in nearby Inverness.          Distribution by rail has increased significantly in general with support from Transport Scotland.</p>
3	<p><b>CO2 Focus</b>          Improvements in kiln operation have allowed further reductions in the use of imported coal and an increase in the use of Alternative Fuels. Levels are now over 40% with aspirations of 50%.          DM explained that electricity use is 100% renewable. Options for waste heat to be recycled are already maximised.</p>

	Changes have been made to the concrete standards, allowing modified cements with lower embodied CO2 to be produced. Test are ongoing with the Tarmac National Laboratory on product optimisation.
4	<p><b>Energy Efficiency</b></p> <p>DM provided an update on recent improvements and repairs including air inleaks, roof replacements, mill optimisation and base load reduction which have resulted in significant savings for the plant.</p> <p>PS &amp; DMU reported a smell of burning carried on the wind, querying whether it had come from the stack. DM confirmed this could not be the case as the stack is temperature controlled, cooled by water and has an automatic shut off should temperatures exceed the strict controls. Dust and other stack gases are being analysed 24/7 with results available to SEPA at any time.</p>
5	<p><b>Apprentice and Charity Work</b></p> <p>Work with early careers is progressing with regular visits to schools and local universities.</p> <p>Recruitment of graduates and apprentices from within the local community continues with another four starting later this year.</p> <p>Staff retention remains strong with some recent retirees leaving the business after 45+ years of service.</p> <p>The plant continues to support local charities, working to a standard criteria and ensuring equal opportunities for funding.</p> <p>All applications for funding or materials are welcome, an application proforma is currently being developed and will be available for use shortly.</p>
6	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>DMU informed the meeting of a new on demand bus service, servicing the local area. CK would welcome this service on site and thought it was a great idea. There were reports of broken glass on the cycle route. These fell from lorries when going over the speed bumps and are not sharp. Drivers have been asked to remove debris from back doors after tipping and the situation is being monitored.</p> <p>PS enquired about the future of the quarry lake. DM confirmed that the plant has indefinite responsibility. The geography of the site requires pumping to discharge the water and maintain levels.</p> <p>The quarry restoration plan is ongoing with many aspects to consider.</p> <p>LJ requested that communications remain ongoing and that spikes/problems are reported proactively.</p> <p>DMU will nominate a representative from Innerwick Community Council.</p> <p>All attendees found the meeting informative and were thanked for their attendance.</p>
7	Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November at 12pm