



SCA Community Consultation Forum
Prudhoe Mill

14th October 2010

Present:	Tony Richards Katie Hilton John Bone Jim Smith	Factory & Site Manager, SCA Human Resources Manager, SCA (Acting) Site Services Engineer Environment & Energy Leader
Minutes:	Hazel Noble Anna Graham Paul MacDonald Andrew Jones Alan Steedman	PA to Tony Richards, SCA Bradley O'Mahoney PR, representing SCA Ovingham Parish Council Prudhoe Community Partnership NCC Business Development Team
Apologies:	Tony Bradley, Amy Davison Ian Hall Mike Senior Les Embleton Keith Laidler Peter Nevin Tony Mitcham	Bradley O'Mahoney PR, representing SCA Bradley O'Mahoney PR, representing SCA Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council Horsley Parish Council Northumberland Fire & Rescue Northumberland Fire & Rescue Prudhoe Parish Council (co –opted) Wylam Parish Council

Tony Richards (TR) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone back to Prudhoe Mill. Meeting apologies were read out and the minutes from April 2010 were agreed and accepted.

TR suggested a round of introductions for two new attendees, Andrew Jones (AJ) from Prudhoe Community Partnership and Katie Hilton (KH) from SCA - Acting HR Manager.

TR gave AJ a copy of the Meeting Constitution for his records.

Actions from the last minutes, TR gave an update on SCA's support for a tree planting initiative in the Wylam area – S. Begg, SCA Environmental Manager has been working with the local residents to fund the project alongside Trees for Britain, approximately 80 residents have also signed up as partners. TR added that it is an SCA policy to be actively involved in helping the local community either by funding local projects or supporting social responsibility within the local community.

Agenda

Site Development

John Bone (JB) gave a presentation on:

Energy Savings – installation of new pumps with variable speed drives will give SCA savings of about 1083 MWh pa and payback in approximately 1 year. Intelligent lighting is also being installed in our High Bay Reel Store giving savings of about 264 MWh per annum.

Projects – Zig Zag Hand Towel Line update from our last meeting, the machine layout has now been finalised and the machinery ordered and delivery expected on site from Feb – May 2011. Operating crews are now being chosen from internal applications and there will be some positions for external applicants.

Pybelles Warehouse – JB revealed that we are currently changing Pybelles Warehouse from finished products storage to pallet repairs, storage and management. This area will include also welfare facilities for a small team of people. Prior to this all pallets went off site to an external supplier. Paul MacDonald

Compactor Replacement

Original compactor failed and with modern safety requirements, the machine was uneconomical to repair. A new compactor replacement was delivered to site in November and due to operation characteristics, there will be 25% fewer pick-ups than previous.

Apprentice & Graduate Update

Katie Hilton showed the SCA Apprentice and Graduate Program.

- Prudhoe Mill have led the way within SCA UK running 2 apprenticeship programmes
- We have developed an in-house programme aligned to SCA's business needs also incorporating the NVQ framework.
- Other SCA sites across the UK have adopted the Prudhoe Mill Apprenticeship Programme
- On completion of the 2 or 4 year programme our apprentices will have attained process and technical skills to a high standard to enable them to fulfil a full-time role within an operating team.
- Successful apprentices will attain nationally recognised qualifications in line with Awarding Body (SEMTA) Standards.

Graduate Programme

Four graduates joined the graduate programme in September 2010.

TR informed the meeting that potentially 150 people could retire over the next 3-5 years from the mill and SCA have developed a strong graduate and apprentice programs that will give young people good employment opportunities for their future.

KH said that our training development co-ordinator (David Walker) picked up an award from the Training Development Resource on behalf of SCA in recognition of SCA's employee learning and development achievements.

Environmental Update

A presentation was given by Jim Smith (retired):

- Monitoring is carried out in line with BS 4142 which defines measurement methods and procedures for assessing the likelihood of noise causing complaints
- Noise monitoring has been carried out since 2000 and annually since 2006
- An Independent specialist consultant carries out the work and produces a report with results and opportunities for action to reduce noise emissions
- Monitoring positions at Bells Lonnen, Cockshott Dean, Western Avenue and castle View
- Monitoring carried out at 00:00 – 02:00 when other noise sources are at a minimum

Noise Attenuation – Major Investment

- 1. Acoustic Barrier
 - ♦ Installed in 2005 around Vacuum Pump discharges
 - ♦ Significant (10b dB(A) Noise Reduction in All Areas
- 2. Quiet Fan Technology
 - ♦ Installed to High Vacuum Fan in 2008
 - ♦ Installed to TAD Exhaust Fan in 2009
- 3. Acoustic Barrier Refurbished in 2010
 - ♦ Original barrier corroded, replaced by Stainless Steel

Other Environmental Activities

- Sludge press Installation.
 - ♦ Will reduce the water content of solid waste from 57% to 40% with corresponding reduction in vehicle movements
- Effluent Plant Control
 - ♦ The average BOD of Final Effluent to river has reduced from 2.7 mg/l to 1.7 mg/l from improved control
- Energy and waste Efficiency Programmes

Community PR Activity

Update given by Anna Graham

- SCA support and/or assist individuals, organisations, charities and initiatives through the local community
- Profiling SCA as an employer of choice
- Profiling Apprenticeship Scheme which provides employment skills, training and qualifications targeting young people aged 16+

Examples:

- SCA Mural with Prudhoe East Youth Club
- The implementation of the Cycle to Work Scheme and its effect on employee health
- Staff profile on long service employee, Sue Smith's Retirement with the Hexham Courant
- The new intake of apprentices in September 2010
- The Hexham Courant Pride in Tynedale Awards
- Corporate Social Responsibility

Local Community Update

Prudhoe

Hazel Noble gave a presentation on behalf of Peter Nevin

- **Prudhoe Library** is to be completely rebuilt to re-situate all Prudhoe 'Information Services'
 - ♦ Citizen's Advice
 - ♦ Credit Union
 - ♦ Partnership & Council Office

This work to start in January 2011

- **Transport**, the 604 service will be a quicker service to Newcastle and has been renamed 11 - it will leave the interchange and travel up to Station Road/Front Street direct through Crawcrook & Ryton, Scotswood and finally arriving at Eldon Square.

Additionally a new service (111) covering West Wylam, Moor Road and Castle Road and Finally a new improved service from Ovington via Wylam to Prudhoe

- **Rail**, a new ticket machine will be situated on the Newcastle bound platform will take credit cards
- **Flooding at Castle Fields** - Northumbria Water presented three proposals for consideration to the town council
- **Town Centre**, the planning department have now received new regeneration proposals submitted for Prudhoe town centre.

Ovingham

Paul Macdonald said that there is a lot of concern locally for parish and town funding with budgets tightened and many applications for funds being turned down as not applicable. The Ovington/Prudhoe bridge budget standing at 240 million is to be reduced and this would cause a lot of heart ache.

Prudhoe Community Partnership

Andrew Jones said that he welcomed the opportunity to join the meeting and to update on current projects.

- SCA have agreed to provide funds for Prudhoe Life Magazine - issued 4 times per year covering stories, news, information, people and places and local business information.
- EBay auction activities – SCA offered to provide used packaging materials to support the initiative and HN asked AJ to get in touch when the auction was up and running.
- Simon Edge – SCA Area Operations leader has now joined the board of Prudhoe Development Company, which is a Social Enterprise operation creating funding for the Partnership's work.

NCC Business Development

Alan Steadman update on local businesses.

- Daisy Telecommunications (formerly BNS Telecom) have bought Fone Logistics and in the process of relocating 27 jobs to Prudhoe site, Thompsons of Prudhoe - recent announcement of 67 job losses in Waste management side of business - 45/50 of those affected found jobs with Tyneside based skip Hire Company.

AS to provide Katie Hilton contacts information for all 5 Regional Universities regarding Engineering Graduate placements and recruitment.

Date of Next Meeting Date

2.30 Thursday 14th April 2011