

Lake Lothing Third Crossing Key Stakeholder Group Minutes

Friday 14th February 2020, 10:00 – 12:00 | RS-G02S, Riverside



Attendees	Apologies
<p>Peter Aldous, MP for Waveney (Chair) Paul Ager, Associated British Ports Andy Jarvis, East Suffolk Council Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk Council Desi Reed, East Suffolk Council Kate Ellis, East Suffolk Council Cllr Norman Brooks, East Suffolk Council Paul Wood, East Suffolk Council Cllr Amanda Frost, Lowestoft Town Council Jennifer Cushion, Lowestoft & Waveney Chamber of Commerce Richard Perkins, Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Andrew Pearce, Suffolk County Council Bryn Griffiths, Suffolk County Council Katherine Potts, Suffolk County Council Cllr James Reeder, Suffolk County Council Cllr Matthew Hicks, Suffolk County Council Jon Barnard, Project Advisor</p>	<p>Richard Musgrove, Associated British Ports Carolyn Barnes, East Suffolk Council Gary Bellward, East Suffolk Council Paul Mackie, East Suffolk Council Cllr Peter Byatt, East Suffolk Council Philip Ridley, East Suffolk Council Sharon Bleese, East Suffolk Council Christos Galanopoulos, Highways England James Bradley, Network Rail Matt Brennan, Network Rail Chris Starkie, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership Ellen Goodwin, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership Cllr Sandra Keller, Oulton Broad Parish Council Mark Ash, Suffolk County Council Cllr Mark Bee, Suffolk County Council Michael Wilks, Suffolk County Council</p>

	Description	Lead
1	<p>Welcome, apologies & introductions PA welcomed the stakeholder group to the meeting</p>	Peter Aldous MP
2	<p>Political Update including DCO update PA has been advised an announcement on the bridge is due imminently. The DCO examination ran until 5th June 2019 followed by a 3-month period where the examiners wrote their report. This was then submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport who had a further 3 months to make a decision. An announcement was due on 5th December 2019 however this was delayed due to the General Election on 12th December 2019. Unfortunately, the legislation governing the DCO is silent regarding what should happen following a delay caused by an election. PA advised we are awaiting a written statement to Parliament which will set out the new decision timetable.</p>	Peter Aldous MP
3	<p>Project Progress Update BG advised that towards the end of last year JB left SCC to become an independent consultant. AP will now be the interim Project Manager and JB will work as a Project Advisor. Beyond this, when we approach construction phase, we will look to recruit a permanent Project Manager as well as a new project team who are more specialised in delivering such projects.</p> <p>A paper will now be prepared for MH to present to SCC Cabinet – this will cover the final business case and project programme (subject to planning consent).</p> <p>AP showed the project timeline which has been revised due to the delay discussed in item 2. ARUP are completing the design and is expected to be completed end of February 2020. BAM Nuttall have the Stage 1 design and build contract and will be completing the final design of the bridge. SCC are currently in the middle of the tender process for the Stage 2 construction contract and expect to receive tender price submissions in early April.</p> <p>In terms of timescales, AP advised that works starting on site is linked to the new contract award date, currently in June. Following this SCC will need to discharge planning requirements before construction can start, with the new contractor feeding into this with reports such as the Code of Construction Practice.</p>	Jon Barnard/ Andrew Pearce

	<p>AP advised the final detail design is almost complete and now comprises a huge number of drawings and documents. Successful wind tunnel tests took place in Italy recently which were commissioned by ARUP. Because the bridge is a unique design, these tests sought to confirm design factors and assess the stability of the design in various wind conditions. The tests gave positive results and proved that the design is suitable.</p> <p>With regards to vehicles passing over the bridge in high winds, road use will be able to continue as normal but in high winds the bridge would not be able to open with wind speeds of over 50 knots. This is the same operating conditions as the Bascule bridge. Paul Ager confirmed that last week AB Ports docks were full as vessels did not want to leave port during Storm Chiara and anticipated the same this weekend for Storm Dennis. Therefore, the bridge not being able to open with such wind speeds will not have a huge operational impact on the port. SCC have been working with ABP on the design of the control tower to ensure that it is fit for purpose.</p> <p>MH queried whether there was a DfT deadline for funding, and if so would the delay in the decision affect the funding. JB advised this would not be the case and that he and AP had met with the DfT last week to discuss this.</p> <p>JC queried whether there will be road traffic delays from the construction that will affect the town once construction starts. JB advised that where possible, materials will be brought in by water but that there will inevitably be delays from the construction of the new roundabout by Lings and the closure of Riverside Road. However, the team will look at how to minimise disruption throughout the build and will ensure people have good forward notice of any expected disruption.</p> <p>The longevity of the design guaranteed for 120 years. Major refurbishment will of course need to take place during this time, and we would expect the bridge would need repainting every 30 years and ram replacement at 40-50 years although servicing would be required on a more frequent basis throughout the service life.</p> <p>PA was keen to emphasise that we need to promote the bridge as being more than construction, but what the wider benefits for Lowestoft will be.</p>	
4	<p>Project next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain development consent DCO decision from Secretary of State. • Complete detailed design and construction drawings/spec expected Feb 2020 • Obtain SCC cabinet approval May 2020 • Submit FBC to Department for Transport to draw down the £73m • Award new construction contract June 2020 • Discharge DCO planning conditions • Construction start to be outlined at Cabinet meeting 	
6	<p>Comms</p> <p>KP advised that the team continue to seek opportunities to keep the public up to date with the progress of the crossing and will be meeting the Waveney Chamber of Commerce on 4 March and addressing the Lowestoft Town Councils Annual Assembly on 3 March.</p> <p>The winning name for the bridge will be announced at the time of the DCO decision, and initially directly to the children before the wider public. BG would like the stakeholders to promote the fact that the bridge named by school children, with the panel including Lowestoft Town Council, Lowestoft Chamber, Lowestoft Rising, Peter Aldous MP, and not by council officers</p> <p>The latest newsletter is about to be released but we are just awaiting the announcement from DfT before SCC publish.</p>	
7	<p>AOB</p>	All

2020 meeting dates (Riverside)

Friday 12th June, 10am | Friday 18th September, 10am | Friday 11th December, 10am