

Stop Hinkley and related Activities June 2018 to May 2019

List presented to 2019 AGM



Stop Hinkley (SH) has had another busy year.

SH members continue to meet each month on the 3rd Monday. The meetings are open for new people to attend.

Sue Aubrey (SA), Jo Smoldon (JS), Allan Jefferies (AJ) and Val Davey (VD) continue to work as a

coordinating team. SA, JS and AJ meet when necessary to respond to Consultations, write letters or to discuss nuclear issues of concern. VD painstakingly works on the Newsletters and sends them out as well as working on the website, and on the membership and as treasurer. Pete Roche (PR) is an invaluable resource to consult on nuclear issues and acts as our Press Officer with Roy Pumfrey (RP) and AJ responding as local press contacts as well as Richard Carder (RC) if necessary.

The Community Forum (CF) for Hinkley Point C (HPC) and the Site Stakeholders Group (SSG) meetings for Hinkley A and B are always attended by an SH rep. Concerns about the decommissioning of A station and the working of B station which shows aging of its graphite core.

Roy gives a monthly Nuclear News Round that is often quite lengthy. Roy's good relationship with Clinton Rogers (BBC Points West) keeps him well informed and Roy is often interviewed to give the opposite view to EDF.

SH is invited to National meetings for NGO's run by Dept for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR). These meetings are always attended by at least 2 SH members at least one will be a member of the coordinating group. During the last year we have found the ONR to be open to working well with us.

JUNE 2018

Katy Attwater (KA) raised the issue of rising sea levels as reported by Andrew Shepherd, Lancaster University, 2018 and proposed we send this information to the Press as nuclear reactors will be under water. Antarctica is losing ice, the sea is warming, rising sea levels increasing from 0.2mm per year up to 0.6mm per year. Previous calculations did not include Antarctica so situation much worse than predicted. This began a major issue SH has worked on throughout the year.

Nikki Clark (NC) reported there had been meetings about increased lorry movements. Glastonbury complaining about movements to and from the Mendip quarries.

Another earthquake from Norwich to Wales

South Wales agitated about the planned 300 tonnes of mud from Hinkley (likely to be radioactive) to be deposited in Cardiff bay. To support this campaign the Welsh anti-nuclear alliance (WANA) requested an old car air filter that has been used in the area near the Hinkley site.

JULY & AUGUST 2018

Plans were already in place for preparing barrels for the demo at Springfield in April 2019 and fliers distributed.

16th Aug CF Discussion about tritium release from reactors, it was suggested CF should be asked to do a base line test of mud for tritium and consider doing it ourselves. AJ spoke at the CF about the testing SH had done on the soil samples we had collected with Environment agency. We were also concerned about the mud to be transferred to Cardiff. As a result EDF were offering to arrange for us to meet an expert regarding the mud.

JS and SA spent a day cutting out material to be put in kits for barrel making. JS offered to run groups to show how to make them.

We received some responses following the Press release about rising sea levels a danger to nuclear reactors and ONR are working on a response to our letter to them that included the press release.

Molly Scott Cato article in local Press after legal challenge by Austria failed.

Zac Goldsmith approached to be a SH patron, when he did not even respond to decline we gave up pursuing him.

SEPTEMBER 2018

JS, AJ and SA attended the celebration of Philip Wearne's life in Bideford, he had been a staunch North Devon health services campaigner and also a member of Stop Hinkley and sometimes came all the way from Devon to SH meetings and demos. His life was inspiring.

Cian Ciaran, from Super Furry Animals with Welsh Anti-nuclear Alliance (WANA) and Tim Deere-Jones submitted an injunction to the Welsh Assembly to stop moving the mud without adequate testing it. They raised money to do this through crowd funding.

Roy's idea of buying a trailer to promote SH put on hold.

SA visited HPC on the EDF bus. A lot of cement, it wasn't possible to see the sea wall very well and staff very smug about progress. 10 % of all the buses are sitting on site at any one time in case there is an incident and they need to move workers off site quickly.

AJ and SA went to BEIS/NGO meeting in London Sept 19th. The topics were GDF and disposal of waste; the nuclear sector deal (NSD) cost reduction of new build and decommissioning, increasing diversity of staff up 40% female staff. Siting of new development of nuclear sites was discussed and NGO's very concerned about recent publicity about rising sea levels.

28th Sept SA went to Cardiff to support WANA, Cian Ciaran and Tim Deere-Jones at the NLFA meeting discussing the mud. We discussed the possibility of getting a core sample, possibility of using a team at Exeter University. Tim has a boat but I think the issue that is problematic is the sample needs to be underwater? SA gave WANA the filter that had been sourced by JS from a car that had been driving around Stogursey for years, they were going to test it for radiation

OCTOBER 2018

Welsh Assembly Members had agreed removal of the mud. Uproar in Wales, 1st phase of mud dumping has finished, took much less time than we thought. Now will not restart until 2020

11th Oct SA and AJ attended ONR/NGO meeting London. Hunterston B been off line since March 2018 and EDF have to prove the safety case to restart. HPB is the same generation discussion about graphite core of Hunterston and the core of HPB which was made slightly differently and so far seems to be wearing better. Hunterston has 350 cracks and 70 keyway cracks.

21st Oct AJ attended the National CND conference in Bristol at the Wills building where there were a series of workshops. AJ gave a power point presentation about the history of the SH campaign and where we are now with HPC. Molly Scott Cato, Theo Simon, Rik and Lis Fields from Kick Nuclear present.

23rd Oct. JS, SA and AJ attended a meeting with EDF at their centre at Angel Place. We were invited .as a result of AJ asking questions at CF about the Hinkley mud to be moved to Cardiff bay. Chris Fayers Environmental manager for EDF said everything was going to plan rumours weren't true, there wasn't too much clay to dump and the mud wasn't sticking to the boat. Timescale seems to have changed and dredging done much quicker. Now stopped to be continued in 2020.

Chris Fayers said they were drilling 6 vertical shafts where they are taking the mud away needed for the 3 km long intake water pipes.

They only do sampling of mud 3-5 cm deep no deeper. We said they should do testing of gamma emitters, they theorize what they think will be there rather than doing new testing.

26th Oct AJ and Alan Debenham (AD) attended the SSG meeting. Discussion about the waste coming from other Magnox sites. Emergency plans will have to be made for all 3 sites. Working together?

Rife report has doubled the safe limits, raised the radiation to 2.7 millisieverts as people on houseboats are stuck on the mud at Watchet.

Electric pylon cables to be underground at Mendips, the new line for Hinkley.

29th Oct: AJ meeting with Linda Pens Gunter and Dr Carl Clowes in London

NOVEMBER 2018

SH were very sorry to learn of the death of John Large. He was a nuclear engineer, in his early working life designing nuclear reactors but in later life he warned of the dangers of nuclear. He was pivotal in shutting down HPA in May 2000 as he exposed the danger from corrosion in its inlet pipes which could lead to a nuclear fire.

Toshiba pulled out of proposed new nuclear power station at Moorside near Sellafield in Cumbria.

Also it was announced that Thorpe, a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant, at Sellafield had closed.

9th Nov AJ and John Urquart (in place of SA) attended the nuclear Resilience/Emergency preparedness meeting with BEIS/NGO's. Because UK leaving Euratom, the Government is changing the way the UK defines things to make sure our emergency procedures are similar to Europe.

KA encouraging SH to keep up the pressure on ONR about sea level rises in light of new scientific statements that sea level rises are anticipated to be much higher than previously stated.

Nov 15th Community Forum Now 20 health workers, including a GP, are providing health support for HPC site.

NOV 29th ONR Webinar. Presentation by ONR for ½ hour about ONR's permissioning of the nuclear island concrete pour at HPC then questions from NGO's. ONR have licenced 3 sets of concrete, the platform for the first reactor has had concrete approval. AJ asked where the steel parts were being made and was told Japan.

Further delay in start up of Finnish EPR at Olkiluoto.

DECEMBER 2018

More bad news from Flamanville more delays slipping to failing to complete by 2020. But Taishan reactor in China, also similar to HPC, is now in commercial operation.

Financial Times latest financial index for HPC over £105 per mega watt hour in 2018

The telegraph- true cost 25 billion to build HPC extra because of interest on borrowing money. Wylfa looking vulnerable as Hitachi looking for more finance.

Bradwell ONR have a list of safety concerns about the proposed Chinese reactor.

The co-ordinating group with KA and PR's help have drafted a list of questions for ONR to be sent out in the new year.

EDF have announced they do not wish to use the sonic fish deterrent as they think it will make it impossible for divers to check the pipes as it will be too noisy, damaging to hearing. Article in the Burnham News states that this will have a devastating effect on fish in the Severn Estuary. 2,500 million gallons of water per day to be sucked into the cooling mechanism, 4x that used by HPB that kills 2 tonnes of fish per day.

JS was due to do a barrel making workshop in the Lake District which was cancelled due to snow.

Japanese journalist Atsuhide Ito has edited a short promotional video he made of AJ and SA in 2018

Witch Watch moved to lay-by/turning at Shurton

JANUARY 2019

JS travelled with NC to Preston where the Barrel event, 27th April will take place. They ran a barrel making workshop in Preston New Road which will then be rolled out to groups in the Lake District, Edinburgh and Yeovil. We had a target of 100. SH decided to book rooms at Premier Inn Central Preston, travelling by mini bus on the Friday coming back Sunday. Mini Bus will be paid for by SH and the rooms to share leaving the option of offers of donations. This will be the main SH event of the year.

CF minutes under AOB EDF requesting not to use sonic fish deterrent even though it was in their original application. SH wrote to EA regarding our concerns.

Hitachi suspended work on Wylfa and Oldbury. Another blow to the nuclear industry following loss of Moorside.

Hawk Contractors at HPC have gone bust but been taken over by another firm.

Concern in the press that Chinese have too much control over our energy. BBC had a piece saying Chinese taking the lead at Bradwell EDF being junior partner.

AJ attended an emergency SSG meeting to vote for chair and deputy

Tim Deere-Jones sent his Report on Sea to Land transfer of man-made radioactivity 2018 and 2019

Jan 24th SA and AJ attended BEIS meeting: Climate change presentation from Sizewell, talk from Richard Bramhall, What do we mean by radiation? He was trying to get some understanding that could be agreed between NGO's and BEIS. He asked BEIS to produce a panel of experts.

NGO's said the siting of nuclear power plants up to 2025 needs to be looked at again as only one is in progress and sea level rise is relevant to all.

FEBRUARY 2019

7th Feb RP and AJ attended CF. EDF will be consulting on their application to change the terms of the DCO as they want to do away with the Acoustic fish deterrent (AFD). Problems with technology, some questions of efficiency and expense. 12 ton skip of fish from HPB are disposed of every week there will be a much bigger fish loss from HPC.

25,000 job opportunities at HPC not employment for ever. At the end only 900 jobs on site, so 21,400 firings along the way HPC already 8 years behind schedule minimum estimate. David Eccles still predicted finish in 2025, this does not make sense, In Paris they predict 2027 finish.

Reply expected from ONR FOI on 13th Feb but as we asked for more information it will take longer
14th Feb Webinar European peer review. Disappointing as we hoped to talk about graphite core but these are not used in Europe.

15th Feb Welsh Independence event in Cardiff with Charlotte Church and Super Furry animals. SH was asked to have a stall. AJ, JS and RP and Sian offered to go. AJ produced a power point presentation on a loop.

Property prices continue to rise, 40% increase in 18 months

HPB accident man falling through glass window resulted in EDF and Doosan/Babcock being fined £350K

EDF going to renationalize all existing nuclear reactors in France, Where does that leave HPC?

IAEA says concrete pour for the reactor this summer is the starting point for HPC, everything up until then just ground works.

AD has sent some brilliant letters to local papers.

Emma Britton, Radio 4 *Not the biggest hotel in Europe*, discussing the hostel accommodation in Bath Road, Bridgwater at £25 per night bb

EDF asking the Gov for more money for Sizewell, will they pull out?

28th Feb RP attends Radioactive Waste management consultation on GDF in Exeter

MARCH 2019

Roy had letter in Mercury and Cannington Target

Feedback from RWM Consultation in Exeter attended by Roy. Only one GDF planned which needs the right conditions. Looking for a willing host community that could pick up £5 million. Roy was to do draft response to Consultation.

14th March phone call between Rachel ONR and KA and JS following the ongoing dialogue referring to rising sea levels and global warming. Data dated 2009 was submitted with the application for HPC which has determined the height of the concrete platform recently built so now set in stone.

16th March SA, AD, JS, Ian Horsfield (IH) RP and SP caught the 7.30 Berry bus for London to attend the 8th anniversary of Fukushima. We took radioactive barrels and Remember Fukushima flags. We started off at the Japanese Embassy and proceeded to parliament square where there were speeches including one from Roy, but the wind was bitter and the police stopped us using amplification (previous years it had been allowed.) So it was difficult to hear. However, we all felt it had been worth remembering the ongoing disaster of Fukushima.

28-29 March ONR meeting in Manchester. ONR paying for travel and overnight stay. SA unable to go KA going in her place along with AJ. John Busby an ex engineer also attends ONR meetings for SH. Climate change is not on the Agenda but Katy raised the issue including a list of 8 questions she and PR had written following on from the correspondence SH has had with ONR over the last 8 months. ONR agreed to look at these questions as FOI.

We hope that a press release regarding climate change could link with the Friday children's climate change marches.

30th March Barrel making workshop Manchester JS and NC

APRIL 2019

7th April JS and NC Barrel making workshop Glastonbury

Mercury printed RC's letter on Hinkley's woes in response to AD's letter to County Gazette.

RC contacting SCC to research emergency preparedness.

RP and AJ interview Eleanor Naylor from Why Theatre Co in Bridgwater.

SH had a formal request from EDF to respond to the Consultation on proposed application for material change to the DCO for HPC (removing the fish deterrent AFD on the water intakes 3km out in the Bristol Channel. JS, IH, AJ, SA and Chinks Grills (CG) attended the Consultations. AC and JS have responded to EA and EDF regarding the Consultation.

RP beginning to research emergency plans around HPB that do not seem to be in the public domain. To contact Sedgemoor DC, SCC and the ONR for more information.

April 20th JS and NC barrel making workshop South Wales

April 26th SH gathered in Bridgwater before setting off for Preston. Dressed in our barrels we made a good photo in the following weeks Mercury. SA, JS, CG, AJ, KA climbed into the mini bus that IH kindly drove us there and back stopping at the Gloucester services both ways. Lizzie joined us the next day. The journey there was rather slow with traffic but otherwise quite painless and we shared rooms at the premier Inn. On Sat we drove to Springfields where we met other campaigners who were joining us. Hurricane Hannah was blowing us along in our barrels and the wind was cold. There were speeches, some music and hot food.

There was going to be an exhibition in the church hall that had been booked and paid for in advance but the vicar would not allow us admittance. However we all pulled together and made a success of the weekend. Part of the events was a webinar link to indigenous people in Canada, New Mexico and India this was a moving experience and there is to be a film available. The indigenous people are linking from their sacred sites week of 16th June. There will be a meeting on Pixie Mound on the same day (the 7th birthday of Witch Watch).

SH members really enjoyed having a weekend together and felt we should have more relaxed time together in future.

JS and AJ had letters in local press, WMN, WDP and the Mercury regarding the AFD and RP was on Points West with Clinton Rogers

MAY 2019

8th May JS and AJ responded to EDF and EA regarding the AFD

10th May KA and AJ attended a National Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) seminar in London run by BEIS learning about what happens to waste.

23rd May ONR Webinar on External hazards KA and SA met at AJ to take part in this. Disappointing

Magnox preparing to present Consultations, in June, about bringing 14 lorry loads of cut up skips to HPA, that have carried waste to Sellafield from Magnox stations at Oldbury, Sizewell and Dungeness