

Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

Welcome

Welcome to this public drop-in session event updating you on our progress on the Aldbrough Gas Storage site. We are committed to being a good neighbour and welcome the involvement of the local community.

As we complete Phase One, it is important that we continue to engage with local residents about development on site as well as our future plans.

In response to local feedback, we have extended our communications more widely. The boards today provide information on:

- Update on Phase One
- Further information about Phase Two
- Consultation on tree planting
- Consultation on bridleway diversion
- Supporting the community
- Contacting us.

About SSE and Statoil

SSE and Statoil are the joint developers of the Aldbrough Gas Storage facility. SSE operates the facility through its subsidiary SSE Hornsea Ltd.

SSE is the broadest-based energy company in the UK – our core purpose is to provide the energy people need in a reliable and sustainable way.

Statoil is an international oil and gas company, building on more than 35 years of experience from oil and gas production on the Norwegian continental shelf.

Background history

The facility was originally planned to be developed by British Gas and Intergen in 1997. British Gas planned to develop Aldbrough North as a gas storage facility while Intergen planned to develop Aldbrough South.

SSE and Statoil became owners of the two projects in 2002 and 2003. The two companies combined the projects in late 2003. Site work commenced in March 2004 and leaching of the first cavern started in March 2005.



Aerial photo of the site taken in April 2011

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Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

Completion of Phase One

Significant progress has now been made on Phase One of the Aldbrough facility with eight of the nine caverns in operational use. The one remaining cavern is about to enter commercial operation – this will mean that all nine caverns will be completed and we will update the community once this has happened.

As part of completion of Phase One, over the next few months, we will be completing removal of coastal protection, removing some site equipment and constructing a centralised store.

Screening Improvements

This photomontage shows the view from the closest point to the site from the B1242 of the stores building as it is now, and how it will look with a two metre increase in the bunding. Trees will then be planted on top of this increased bunding which will provide further screening from the site.

What is the process for storing gas?

The storage caverns were created by using directional drilling. From a central area of the site, boreholes were drilled down to the salt strata located 2km underground.

After completion of drilling, leaching was carried out by pumping seawater into the boreholes to dissolve salt and create a cavern. Natural gas was then pumped into the caverns and stored under high pressure.

It includes an above ground gas processing plant equipped with three large compressors. The gas caverns of the facility are connected to the UK's gas transmission network through an 8km pipeline.



Existing



Proposed



Key plan



Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

Phase Two

An amendment to the already consented Phase Two was approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council in July 2012, subject to the satisfactory completion of a Section 106 agreement.

The amendment included the relocation of the Wellhead platform to ensure that the quickening rate of coastal erosion in the area will have less impact on the design life of the development.

Construction of Phase Two is now subject to a final investment decision from both partners and we will write to you ahead of any planned construction.

Before we can begin, we will need to satisfy conditions set out within the S106 agreement.

What is a Section 106 Agreement?

We have committed to completing a Section 106 (or S106) Agreement with planning officers at East Riding of Yorkshire Council, which is the local planning authority.

This will allow us to agree a way of delivering or addressing matters that are necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms.

In this instance the Agreement will include bridleway diversion to the existing S106 – we have set out our proposals for this on the next board.



On site at
Aldbrough Phase One

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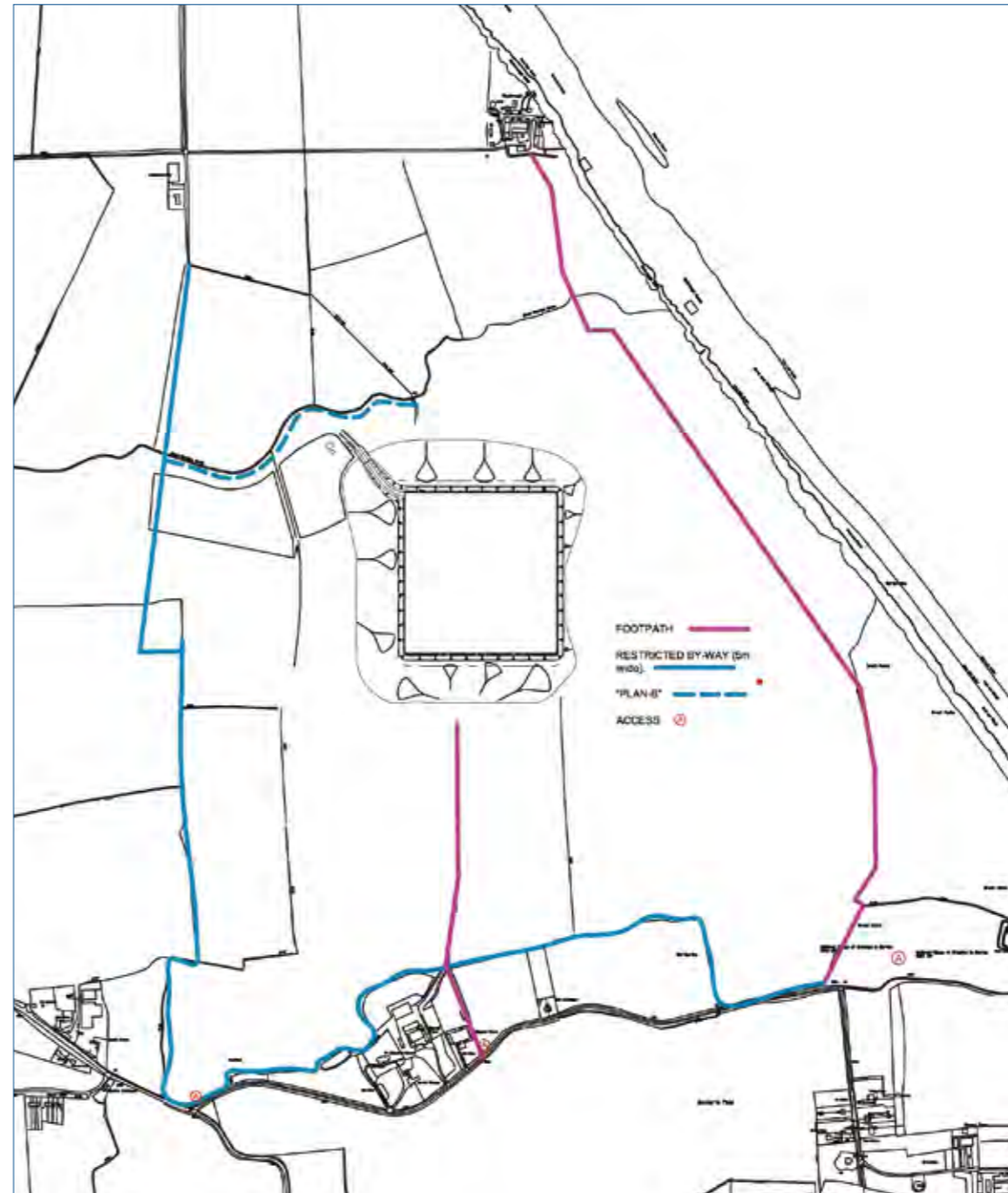
Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

Bridleway diversion

The relocation of the Wellhead for Phase Two requires diverting the existing bridleway. We are committed to ensuring that local users are not inconvenienced by this. We have therefore been developing a plan following an informal meeting with regular users in May this year. This is now available below for public comment. We would be interested in your views before we provide final proposals to the Community Liaison Group later this month.

Key features of the diverted bridleway

- Bridleway diversion will be implemented before construction on Phase Two begins.
- Intention to create a circular route including a restricted byway to the west of the proposed wellhead and a footpath to the east.
- The northern section of the restricted byway (to the west) would need to be agreed with the landowner. As an alternative, we have suggested a 'Plan B' as shown.
- Proposed access points.
- New bridge.
- Increase in length of public routes.



Bridleway diversion plan

Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

Woodland General Scheme

As part of the initial Section 106 Agreement for Phase Two, we agreed to establish approximately 8 hectares (20 acres) of new woodland and associated works.

Although we are not required to plant this until Phase Two begins, it was considered to be a gesture of goodwill to bring forward at least part of the planting. We have now agreed to bring forward all of the planting of the woodland.

We are also aware of wider community ideas for further planting. While we are only committed to planting the woodland shown in the plan below during this coming planting season, we are happy to work with the local community for a future plan of works.

Developing the proposals

We recognise that the planting for Phase One was not as successful as it could have been. We are determined to learn lessons from our previous experience. We have had several meetings with local arboricultural experts in order to develop proposals.

We have aimed to accommodate the views of individual residents as far as possible, but it is important to remember that the Scheme will be for the benefit of the whole community. Please do let us know your views.



Woodland planting plan

Aldbrough Gas Storage Community Update – October 2012

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Supporting the local community

Thanks to SSE's new project 'Community at Heart', your organisation, charity or group can now 'borrow' a team of hands, minds, ideas or skills for a whole day. All at no cost to you.

We've given each of our 20,000 employees a day out of their typical working life to support local community projects. This means you can ask a team from SSE to work with you for a day. From crushing boxes, to crunching numbers – as long as it makes a difference to what you're trying to achieve, we are willing to help if we can.

'Community at Heart' supports initiatives that are happening on our doorsteps. It's an opportunity for us to actively make a difference to things we're passionate about outside of work.

Although our organisation stretches across the UK, we work locally. And supporting the communities around us is something that's important to us.

The great thing is the project has few restrictions. From DIY and clean-up tasks to projects that involve strategic planning, we can offer various types of help. We've many talents across the company so we hope we'll be able to offer lots of different help to lots of different people.

Can we help you?

SSE employees are already out and about in the community helping organisations like yours to achieve their goals. Can we help you? Tell us how you could benefit from 'Community at Heart'!

Community Liaison Officer (CLO)



The position of Community Liaison Officer for the Aldbrough project has now been taken on by Jayne Williams (pictured). She will ensure that local residents are kept up-to-date with progress on the site and is also available to speak to about any issues or questions relating to construction or operation. Jayne will be regularly at site and in the local community and is also available to contact on **07825 015537** or jayne.williams@sse.com.

Community Liaison Group

As part of our planning consent back in 2006, we made a commitment to hold a regular Community Liaison Group (CLG) made up of local representatives, which members of the public are welcome to observe.

The CLG currently meets every six weeks "to ensure that during construction and subsequent operation of the Aldbrough Gas Storage facility, the developer/operator and the community work together to minimise the impact of the facility on its neighbours. Fundamental to this role, the CLG needs to promote open and honest communication between all parties".

Members of the CLG include:

Michael Gillatt – SSE – Site Manager

Jayne Williams – SSE – Community Liaison Officer

Andy Wainwright – East Riding of Yorkshire Council
(Planning Officer)

Cllr Matthew Grove – East Riding of Yorkshire Council
(Ward Councillor)

Kevin Blackwell – Aldbrough Parish Council

Mick Robinson – Aldbrough Parish Council and Sports Hall

Avril Crawforth – East Garton Parish Council

Steve Mattinson – East Garton Parish Council

Derek Harris – Parochial Church Council

Aldbrough Primary School (TBC)

Bail Wood Scout Camp (TBC)

Billie-Jean Henry – Temporary member representing local horse users



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