

Walleys Quarry Landfill
Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes
23rd May 2019

Present

Ian Barnett (IB)
Neil Goodwin (NG)
Elaine Moulton (EM)
Susan Durber (SD)
Darren Walters (DW)
Steve Rogers (SR)
Simon Tagg (ST)
Angela Drakakis-Smith (ADS)
Nigel Bowen (NB)
Jon Clewes (JC)
Dean Broadhurst (DB)
Sam Boden (SB)

Apologies

Henryk Adamczuk
Marion Reddish
Amelia Rout
Dave Jones

Other invitees (not in attendance)

Brian Johnson
Nigel Jones
Jan Siery
Tony Eagles

Action points/ follow up for next meeting highlighted in red.

1. Introductions

ST welcomed everyone to the meeting.

At the last meeting, ST pledged to sit down with NB to discuss Terms of Reference and ensure we're abiding them.

Section 6 1.4 – have checked appropriate membership. All Borough Councillors had AGM – same as previous. Parish Councillors are members. Would like to invite representative from Knutton Residents Association – Tony Eagles has been invited but not responded. Local residents – ADS, SD, and Nigel Jones. Nigel has failed to attend any meetings and therefore will be replaced – invitation offered to IB. Accepted and approved by Committee.

Section 7 – appointment of Chair. Any nominations for Chair and/or Vice Chair should be submitted to SB (sboden@redindustries.co.uk). At the next meeting we will elect and Chair and Vice Chair.

4th point in Section 7 – “recommend appropriate action” – not something we have been doing, but this is part of the agreement and recommendations can be provided.

2. Apologies

Marion Reddish, Amelia Rout, Henryk Adamczuk, Dave Jones.

3. Minutes of last meeting

Amendments – comment from IB to be included “I did notice one omission which was easy for me to spot as I only said two things in the meeting. The second time I spoke was to

concur with Darren Walters dates where odours were detected on the persimmon estate. I characterised them as persistent and strong to very strong and above and with my background was able to determine the landfill odour, although mentioning that these had not been validated (their term is substantiated) by the EA.”

Otherwise all agreed.

4. Matters arising

- i) Tony Eagles to be invited – email sent, but no response
- ii) Feedback on unsuccessful LCF applicants – will be reviewed at next LCF Committee Meeting
- iii) Layby on Cemetery Road – Red have voluntarily paid for bollards to be installed and the grass verge to be restored
- iv) Information on other company’s vehicles parking in other areas to be provided to Red – no information has been passed over. DB received message saying vehicles had stopped parking further down the road now.
- v) Answers to the TRA questions – these were circulated by Red to the Committee
- vi) AMU findings – to be covered in EA report later in the meeting
- vii) Pest control at Traveller’s Site - no contact made by Aspire to Red. DW advised Borough Council has contract with Aspire – have not noticed anything untoward from management of the site or monitoring at the bait station. Travellers would report any issues to Aspire – DW not aware of any complaints.
- viii) Community newsletter – to be covered in Red’s site update
- ix) Councillors to email Red with details of local residents association meetings – no information has been provided to Red

5. Red Industries update - SB

Landfill Communities Fund:

Over £1 million has now been awarded in the local area since the fund began.

Recent projects approved for funding:

- Bucknall Park Bowling Club – new glass in windows
- St Michael’s Community Church – audio system, tables, decorating and gates
- City of Stoke Football Club – grass cutting and maintenance equipment
- Trubshaw Cross Ladsandads – grass cutting and maintenance equipment

Next deadline for applications is 2nd September.

SD advised that residents in her area had complained about not receiving any funding – although there aren’t any community venues that could benefit. SB advised if an application is submitted for a community project, this can be considered. Also resident’s may be benefitting from funding at places they visit, for example Silverdale Library.

Should any not-for-profit have a community project, they can contact SB directly for more information/ arrange a site visit etc. Project must be through a not-for-profit organisation.

Community Newsletter

Under development at the moment. **Will be circulated to the Committee prior to posting.**

ST asked if comments could be fed back from the Committee – NB advised we would review any feedback, however it is a company newsletter (not a Committee newsletter) so we may not be able to accommodate all suggestions.

6. Site update – DB/ NB

Tonnages remain the same as last time.

Fewer instances of issues with drivers.

Hoping to award contract for liner and cap engineering works in the next few weeks.

Amendment to permit submitted to increase tonnages from 300k p/a to 400k p/a. Won't affect any planning conditions. Should see site completed sooner. No change to number of vehicle movements. No change to materials taken. Shouldn't see any increase in odour, more gas wells will be drilled as enter new areas. There will be a review of the gas management plan and a gas audit is taking place in 3 weeks. Infrastructure in place should be adequate to cope with the waste being received. Will cover daily, as is done now.

EA consultation goes live tomorrow and will be live from 24th May – 21st June. Search on EA Consultation Hub for ref# EPR/DP3734DC/V002

7. Environment Agency update - SR

AMU still in place – expressed frustration at results not being ready yet – however need more data before robust report can be produced. AMU should cease to be in place from mid-June. No indication of what results will be.

Still one gas leak that has not been repaired (close to methane detector) that is likely to skew results. Other 4 gas leaks have been repaired and were checked on EA's odour tour.

Have three other measuring devices in the field - **Locations to be provided to Committee.** Methane detectors.

Marked decrease in complaints:

Feb – 220

March – 52

April – 41

May (to date) – 19

Five unannounced site visits have taken place – odour tours and site checks. Not detected any odours at a level likely to cause a nuisance. Investigated a complaint that was reported as officers were in the area – not able to substantiate. Tours took place on 19/03, 11/04, 16/04, 17/05. Last two tours took place between 9.30am-1pm. IB said he believed odours more likely morning/ early evening – was discussed that a number of factors are involved in creating conditions more conducive to odours including weather, wind speed etc.

Major audit of gas infrastructure at Walleys to be done mid-June. Red has provided data requested. Half way through Q1 returns report.

IB queried location of AMU as within 1m of building and he deemed an inappropriate location. SR advised EA's experts had selected it as a suitable location and have to listen to the advice of their experts. If an issue is found by their experts, this will come out in the report.

SD queried if waste had changed resulting in reduction in complaints. Red advised no changes to the wastes taken at site.

Photographs shown that had been taken by a member of the public – these had been circulated at the Knutton meeting with the belief that there was some activity occurring that shouldn't be. SR advised that this had been fully investigated and can confirm the site is permitted to take the waste shown in the photos, source of waste has been appropriately checked, and it is compliant within the scope of the permit. SR also advised he had spoken to the person in question, but they do not seem to want to receive the facts. Subsequently no action is required to be taken and the waste can continue to be accepted at the site.

NB added that people are welcome to arrange a site tour.

ST asked if odours had been detected in Barracks Road area. SR advised odour tour does not extend that far.

ADS asked if sewers could be checked when leachate is disposed of. JC advised the leachate is treated – no untreated leachate enters the sewer system and therefore there should be no odour.

8. Newcastle-under-Lyme EHO update - DW

Reported at last meeting had received 64 complaints via website. Had a further 8 since then – 2 in last few days. Some people say landfill odour is there all the time, which cannot be possible.

SR advised when 'smelly' waste is brought into the site, it will produce an odour until it is tipped and covered – this is short lived and nothing Red can do until it is at their site. DB advised have procedures in place to quickly tip and cover – also waste samples are analysed prior to receipt and particularly strong odour waste will not be accepted.

Have seen dust cloud above tree line. On one occasion was a council road sweeper. Other occasions seems to be from landfill. DB confirmed tractor and bowser units are in operation approx. every 45mins in dry conditions. There are also dust monitoring equipment around the perimeter of the site that have not detected a spike in results. Will continue to monitor.

9. Staffordshire planning update - NG

No change to planning conditions. No complaints regarding planning.

10. Newcastle-under-Lyme planning update - EM

Application for site adjoining (Hamptons) for residential planning. Delays as impact of coal mining legacy investigated. Investigation has shown change to layout required – this can't

be accepted as part of current application so expect the current application to be withdrawn and a new one submitted.

EM/ DW advised gas risk assessment would be carried out, buildings would have to be in compliance with building regs etc. If it was identified that special measures were required for houses within 25m of the landfill boundary, these would be addressed. Site is clay, which is more resistant to gas migration.

11. Local councillor and residents' representatives comments

SD asked if solicitors letter had been sent to Garners garden centre revoking the lease of the land for the car park. NB advised that they have been put on notice. The potential revoking of the lease would be made as part of a business decision if land was required for future use by Red.

SD questioned whether it was a right of way (as formerly Rosemary Street) and if Red had rights to the land. NB advised that as far as Red and their solicitors are concerned, it is leased, lease payments are made, and Red have the right to withdraw the lease as required.

EM advised that just because there was a road there doesn't mean it always has to be a public highway, although cannot comment on this particular case. **NG to check definitive maps and advise if there is a right of way.**

12. AOB

None.

Reminder for Chair and Vice Chair nominations to be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the next meeting.

Meeting closed 4.14pm

Date of next meeting: 19th September 2019 at 3pm. **Location TBC.**