

EnviroSort Community Liaison Group Meeting

Wednesday 6th October 2010, 19:00
EnviroSort, Norton

Present

Local Member	Rob Adams (Chair)
Severn Waste Services (SWS)	Fernando Capelastegui Mike Stass Michael Hornby
Worcestershire County Council (WCC)	Vincent Connor Andrew Davies
Norton-Juxta-Kempsey Parish Council	Christine McGovern Doug Lucas
Whittington Parish Council	Martin Baker
Woodbury Park Residents Association	Peter Morgan
Environment Agency	Lee Williams

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Richard Woodward (Worcestershire County Council), Paula Arrow (Norton Hall Nursing Home), and Jack Hegarty (Wychavon District Council).

2.0 Notes of the previous meeting, Wednesday 16th June 2010

- 2.1 The notes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3.0 Matters arising

- 3.1 6.2 – A local resident has previously contacted Severn Waste Services regarding a noise disturbance. Councillor Rob Adams will speak to the resident and liaise if necessary with Mike Stass.

RA

4.0 Report from Severn Waste Services

- 4.1 Mike Stass presented the headline report.

- 4.2 Additional works at the junction with Woodbury Lane are in progress to alter the footpath and access road. These works are expected to be complete in the next few weeks. Mike Stass advised that the only outstanding work is resurfacing which should commence week beginning 11 October or 18 October 2010.
- 4.3 Additional equipment has been installed to improve the recovery of paper within the plant. This has resulted in a significant reduction of containers handled each day.
- 4.4 Severn Waste Services continue to work with the County Council on the next phase of communicational material aimed at informing the public about what items can be put in their recycling and how it should be presented.
- 4.5 Recycling from all districts of Herefordshire and Worcestershire is now being processed at EnviroSort. The final district (Wyre Forest) moved on to the commingled collection system and completed the transition at the start of July. As the material is bulked, there has been a nominal increase in traffic.
- 4.6 Mike Stass confirmed that a noise survey was completed in July which showed the operation of the facility to be within limits set out within the Planning Conditions. Additional operational measurers have been put in place to reduce potential issues with noise and SWS has explored a number of options for further noise attenuation.
- 4.7 Peter Morgan requested further information regarding the survey that was completed in July. Mike Stass advised that four noise sensor locations were used and they monitored from 06:00 – 18:00. The operational noise levels of EnviroSort were recorded at 2-3 decibels higher than background noise levels, which is deemed to be within acceptable levels.
- 4.8 Peter Morgan reported that the first three houses experience noise and importantly vibrations when a container is dropped. Martin Baker questioned the explanation regarding the noise origin. Mike Stass explained that the noise occurs when a container slips off a hook when being loaded. Fernando Capelastegui advised that various options were being investigated in order to alleviate perceived noise issues, these include:
- Acoustic Buffalo fencing, 6-8 meters high,
 - Clamp on container to reduce impact sound,
 - Treating yard floor, to deaden acoustics, and
 - Psychological silencing.
- 4.9 Further to these, Fernando Capelastegui advised that the container wheels are being greased to assist with noise reduction.

- 4.10 Peter Morgan questioned the legitimacy of the previous noise surveys that have been undertaken. Fernando Capelastegui advised that SWS would happily fund another checked expert witness noise survey of Peter Morgan's choice.
- 4.11 Lee Williams advised that the Environment Agency also listens to noise levels when inspections are conducted, and feels that SWS are doing all they can to keep noise to a minimum.
- 4.12 Furthermore, Lee Williams will liaise with Geoff Carpenter to discuss the contents of Wychavon's previously conducted noise survey.
- 4.13 Peter Morgan advised that he believes that the container locations are contrary to plans that were submitted when planning permission was agreed. A copy of the plan was distributed by Peter Morgan. Fernando Capelastegui advised that SWS may move the containers to the rear of the plant once the number of reject containers are reduced.

LW

5.0 Adverse Effects of Operations

- 5.1 Martin Baker advised that he has experienced an increase in small glass fragments on the B4084. The different coloured glass is present on the highway, pavement and verge.
- 5.2 Fernando Capelastegui advised that the highway is mechanically swept fortnightly, on a Tuesday. Furthermore, Fernando Capelastegui offered for SWS to mechanically sweep the pavement up to the traffic island. FC will advise Martin Baker when this is due to take place.
- 5.3 Martin Baker advised that he has witnessed some littering originating from an RCV. Mike Stass confirmed that litter picking is conducted on a daily basis, which produces less than a bag of litter a day.
- 5.4 Doug Lucas advised that following discussion with the local parish council - as a result of the Counties, Districts and SWS litter picking action - the road is probably the cleanest in the country.

**SWS/
FC**

6.0 Operator Licence

- 6.1 Fernando Capelastegui advised that objection letters have been lodged regarding SWS application for a Vehicle Operators Licence, for five articulated HGV's at EnviroSort. The facility will continue to operate as at present should the licence be rejected, however, traffic would be reduced with the granting of the licence as the one vehicle based at the EnviroSort facility would not have to enter and leave the facility at the start and end of the working day.

6.2 Peter Morgan raised concern that the details of the Vehicle Operators Licence application, referencing the fact that Fernando Capelastegui had previously not advised the group that the Operator Licence was for five vehicles. Fernando Capelastegui referenced the minutes from 3 March 2010, 7.7:

6.3 Peter Morgan tendered his apologies for the oversight.

7.0 Agenda for next meeting

7.1 Adverse Effects of operations.

8.0 Date of next meeting

8.1 Wednesday 12 January 2011 at 19:00

9.0 AOB

9.1 Doug Lucas queried the ownership of the highway alongside EnviroSort that allowed access to the Morganite factory site. Fernando Capelastegui believed that the highway was owned by Worcestershire County Council.

10.0 Close

10.1 20:20