

EnviroSort Community Liaison Group Meeting

Wednesday 12th January 2011, 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	Tony Harborne Mrs Harborne Mrs Parsons
Wychavon District Council	Jack Hegarty

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Richard Woodward (Worcestershire County Council), Peter Morgan (Woodbury Park Residents Association), Paula Arrow (Norton Hall Nursing Home) and Lee Williams (Environment Agency).

2.0 Notes of the previous meeting, Wednesday 6th October 2010

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

3.0 Matters arising

3.1 4.11 – Councillor Rob Adams confirmed that the Environment Agency has undertaken subjective unannounced noise assessments on two separate occasions during the site's operational hours. These did not highlight any noise or vibration problems at the time. The assessments were done at the corner of Woodbury Park.

3.2 5.1 – Martin Baker advised that he has witnessed a further build

up of glass fragments on the pavement of the B4084. Fernando Capelastegui confirmed that SWS swept the pavement a week following the previous ECLG in order to monitor the glass littering rate. Furthermore Fernando Capelestegui advised that the SWS sweeping frequency would need to be agreed.

4.0 Report from Severn Waste Services

- 4.1 Mike Stass presented the headline report.
- 4.2 Works at the junction of Woodbury Lane are now complete.
- 4.3 SWS are currently looking at potential upgrades to the plant to improve the quality of outputs.
- 4.4 SWS continue to work with Worcestershire County Council on the next phases of communication 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 Worcestershire and Herefordshire are now being processed at EnviroSort. SWS will shortly be altering the hours of operation to introduce a twilight shift between 17:00 and 20:00, with further progression required to amend the maintenance schedule to allow this work to be completed in conjunction with the new shift pattern.
- 4.6 Martin Baker queried the impact of the operational change through introduction of a twilight shift. Fernando Capelastegui and Mike Stass confirmed that the work would be in-house maintenance only.
- 4.7 Following an enquiry from Doug Lucas, Mike Stass confirmed that the plant is currently processing 70,000 tonnes of recyclables annually.

5.0 Adverse Effects of Operations

- 5.1 Woodbury park residents advised that warning beeps on reversing vehicles are causing continued noise disturbance. Mike Stass confirmed that all SWS vehicles are fitted with reversing alarms that emit white noise; therefore the noise issue is likely to be arising from Local Authority vehicles – which SWS have no jurisdiction over.
- 5.2 Following a query from Mrs Harborne, Michael Hornby explained that white noise is a random sound with a flat power spectral density. Therefore the sound contains equal power within a fixed bandwidth at any center frequency, therefore it is more audible when in close proximity but does not emanate as far as the standard reversing alarms.

- 5.3 Vincent Connor offered to assess the reversing alarm warning sounds currently installed on the three Local Authorities (Worcester City, Malvern Hills and Wychavon) that direct deliver into EnviroSort, in order to price the potential cost of installing white noise alarms on the vehicles. Fernando Capelastegui indicated that SWS may be able to contribute towards any potential costs. **VC**
- 5.4 Councillor Rob Adams advised that he has received a formal complaint from Peter Morgan - highlighting that the use of containers within the EnviroSort yard is in breach of the planning application and the planning conditions. The matter has been forwarded for further investigation to Mark Bishop (Development Control Manager) at Worcestershire County Council. **WCC**
- 5.5 Doug Lucas queried the interpretation of the planning consent, specifically the exchange, movement and storage of containers at the facility. SWS offered to listen to the noise complaints from the resident's perspective, and purposely drop a container to assess the noise impact. Tony Harborne will contact SWS to arrange a convenient time and date for this to be arranged. **TH**
- 5.6 Fernando Capelastegui advised that containers are now positioned at the rear of the facility.
- 5.7 Doug Lucas acknowledged that a compromise must be made between SWS and local residents, as the land is designated for industrial use.
- 5.8 Mike Stass advised that the goods vehicle operators licence for the site to permit five vehicles and five trailers has now been granted by the traffic commissioner. The operating of one vehicle and one trailer from site will commence within the next few weeks.
- 6.0 Agenda for next meeting**
- 6.1 Adverse Effects of Operations
- 7.0 Date of next meeting**
- 7.1 19:00 Wednesday 27th April 2011
- 8.0 AOB**
- 8.1 Mrs Harborne enquired as to why Buffalo fencing had not been installed to assist with acoustic dampening on site. Fernando Capelastegui advised that this would have contravened the planning conditions.
- 9.0 Close**
- 9.1 The meeting closed at 20:05

