

EnviroSort Community Liaison Group Meeting

**Wednesday 10 December, 19:00
EnviroSort, Norton**

Present

Local Member	Rob Adams (Chair)
Severn Waste Services	Michael Hornby Gracian Orts
Worcestershire County Council	Vincent Connor Andrew Davies
Whittington Parish Council	Martin Baker
Woodbury Park Residents Association	Janet Taylor
Norton Juxta Kempsey	Tony Bennett

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Richard Woodward (Worcestershire County Council), Fernando Capelastegui (Severn Waste Services), Phil Merrick (Wychavon District Council) Valerie Lewis (Stoulton Parish Council).

2.0 Notes of the previous meeting, Wednesday 23 July 2014

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

3.0 Matters arising

3.1 There were no matters arising

4.0 Report from Severn Waste Services

Operational Issues

4.1 Michael Hornby advised that ongoing trials of removing glass particles from exiting vehicles, including rumble strips appear to be working well.

4.2 The rumble strips will be doubled in length to ensure a full tyre rotation to flex out any glass fragments.

The rumble strips are being used in addition to the existing speed bumps to shake any loose material to reduce the chance of material littering the highway.

CLG members raised concern over any increase in noise levels from vehicles travelling over the rumble strips.

Michael Hornby advised that SWS have been trialling methods to reduce noise associated with containers being exchanged:

- 4.3 Rubber matting has been installed and is showing positive results. However keeping the matting secured to the ground is proving challenging.

Cllr Adams requested details of container maintenance.

Michael Hornby explained the process involved in container exchanges and advised that containers are checked biannually and a defect reporting mechanism is in place if damage occurs to the container or wheels that facilitate the containers movement.

- 4.4 Containers are predominately exchanged at the rear of the facility.
- 4.5 Gracian Orts advised that driver education is important and safe working practices regarding container exchanging has been reflected in the induction training.
- 4.5 Officers from WCC and SWS explained to Janet Taylor that it is the drivers responsibility to ensure that the RCV is swept of material before exiting the facility.

Plant Upgrades

- 4.6 Michael Hornby advised that incorporation of a glass breaker designed to remove the glass at the start of the process is likely to be installed May – July 2015.

The kit is designed to break and sieve glass at the beginning of the sort process.

- 4.7 Martin Baker raised concern over any elevated noise levels associated with the glass breaker.

Michael Hornby advised that removing glass from the beginning of the sorting process would reduce noise levels within the facility.

Michael Hornby advised CLG members that the plant was in operation during the meeting.

- 4.8 SWS will upgrade the fire sprinkler system in early 2015.

5.0 Planned Changes to Operations

- 5.1 Cllr Rob Adams passed the Chair responsibility to Vincent Connor for this agenda item.

5.2 Michael Hornby outlined the proposed amendments to the planning permission and distributed a summary sheet, including:

- A summary of the proposed amendments to the planning permission
- Plant upgrades
- Operations issues including:-
 - Rumble Strip to remove glass fragments: Photograph and update
 - Noise from Exchanging Containers: Photograph and update

Condition 8 – amending waste deliveries to allow District Council split bodied waste collection vehicles to access the site to off-load recyclables whilst still carrying household waste.

5.3 Michael Hornby explained that Malvern Hills District Council requested via WCC the above amend to the planning condition to allow operational efficiencies, as some Malvern Hills vehicles are split bodied (70% Recycling, 30% residual). Therefore invariably the recycling / residual waste would fill at varying rates and recycling cannot be deposited at EnviroSort if any residual waste was present on the Refuse Collection Vehicle.

Janet Taylor raised concern over increased littering from the Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) movements:

Michael Hornby and Gracian Orts explained to Janet Taylor that the RCVs would not contribute to littering of residual waste as the RCV compartments are sealed units and only recyclables would be deposited at the EnviroSort Facility.

Condition 35 – extending the operational hours by 1 hour (22:00 to 23:00) and by 4 hours (13:00 to 17:00) on a Saturday.

5.4 Michael Hornby advised that there will be infrequent circumstances in which Collection Authorities work Saturdays. For example Wychavon DC will work three catch up Saturdays following Christmas.

Janet Taylor raised issue with Saturday afternoon hours of operation, highlighting bleeping reverse alarms, containers dropping when exchanged, and fork lift truck movements outside the building.

5.5 Michael Hornby confirmed that the doors are shut when not in use and explained that only limited crossway movement is possible inside the facility – therefore the forklift would occasionally need to exit via one door and re-enter through another.

Michael Hornby also explained that all SWS vehicles are fitted with white noise alarms – the noise associated with a bleeping reversing alarm was a hire vehicle as the usual loading shovel was receiving scheduled maintenance (once in the lifetime of the vehicle).

5.6 CLG members asked whether the height of the acoustic buffalo fencing could be increased. Vincent Connor advised that the current height is as per the

original planning permission. Michael Hornby also advised that the fence would become structurally unsound if the height was increased.

Condition 36 – extending the maintenance hours to allow activities to take place (within the building only) at any time during the week.

- 5.7 Martin Baker raised concern over the noise implications of overnight working specifically what maintenance would be conducted.

Michael Hornby provided the example of exchanging a conveyer belt that would otherwise impact on the operational hours of the facility.

- 5.8 Janet Taylor advised that the Harbournes were unable to sleep during the night of the 21 October 2014 as the extraction fans were left on – no answer on the reception telephone number when called to complain the following morning.

- 5.9 Michael Hornby advised that the extraction fan that removes plastics could be insulated to reduce any perceived noise intrusion.

- 5.10 Michael Hornby advised that an independent noise assessment has been conducted – no receptors breached their set limits.

CLG members requested further details:

Michael Hornby advised that the noise survey was conducted independently and is part of the planning application process and therefore knew no further details. The noise survey will be available as part of the full planning application submission.

- 5.11 CLG members asked whether the planning application could be granted on a trial basis. Vincent Connor advised that if permission was granted there would be no review – only the right to appeal the decision and enforcement if granted permissions were breached.

- 5.12 Cllr Adams advised that it was important for CLG members to liaise with their own Parish Councils in relation to making comments on the planning application.

Should any individuals wish to visit the facility Michael Hornby stated he was able to accommodate visitors to the facility upon request to EnviroSort on 01905 761680.

- 5.13 The planning application is expected to be submitted imminently.

6.0 Glass on the Highway

- 6.1 Martin Baker raised the above issue on the B4084.

- 6.2 Michael Hornby and Phil Merrick visited the affected area on the B4084 and reported glass fines that have collected in driveway entrances.

6.3 Phil Merrick will work with their contractor to ensure that drive entrances are swept.

6.4 An update will be requested from Phil Merrick and shared with the group.

6.5 Janet Taylor raised issue with Wychavon District Council, specifically RCVs littering glass and showed photographs of littered large glass fragments:

Complaints can be made direct to Wychavon District Council Client Services Team on 01386 565018.

6.6 Vincent Connor requested further details and photographs from Janet Taylor by e-mail in order for the complaint to be followed up with Wychavon District Council.

6.7 Vincent Connor asked all CLG Members and residents who may witness any litter / glass on roads and footpaths to report the problem 'on the day' to either:

Worcestershire County Council – 01905 768264
or
Severn Waste Services - 01905 761680

7.0 Agenda for next meeting

No additional agenda items were raised by the group.

8.0 Date of next meeting

Upon request of CLG members.

9.0 Any other business

9.1 A copy of all reported complaints from 1 April 2014 were distributed to the group by Vincent Connor.

10.0 The Meeting closed at 20:30