



ENVIRECOVER COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP (CLG)

Minutes of thirteenth meeting, held at the HZI site office.

Monday 20th February 2017 at 17.00 hrs.

Attendees

Caroline Macdonald (CM) – Managing Director, OggaDoon
Ian Barber (IB) – Marketing Director, Severn Waste Services
Richard Woodward (RW) – Waste Services Manager, Worcestershire County Council
Eve Jones (EJ) – Member of Hartlebury Parish Council
Sheridan Tranter (ST) – Chair of Hartlebury Parish Council
John Jordan (JJ) – Clerk to Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council
Paddy Kelly (PK) – General Manager, Mercia Waste Management
Doug Ingram (DG) – Chair of Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council
Cllr Nigel Dowty (ND) – Local Member, Wychavon District Council and CLG Chair
Kate Stott (KS) – Education Officer, Severn Waste Services
Mark Lane (ML) – Monitoring Officer, Planning, Worcestershire County Council
Sian Potter (SP) – Environment Agency
Sarah Dennis (SD) – Environment Agency

Apologies

Javier Nicolas (JN) – Technical Manager, Mercia Waste Management

Invited but no response

Nicolas Wright (NW) Clerk to Elmley Lovett Parish Council
Peter Tomlinson (PT) – Ward Member, Worcestershire County Council
James Homer (JH) – Chairman of Elmley Lovett Parish Council
Mark Bishop (MB) – Planning Development Control Manager, Worcestershire County
Phil Merrick (PM) – Head of Community Services, Wychavon District Council

1. Welcome and Introductions

ND: Introductions made as there were new faces at the table.

2. Actions from last meeting

All actions have been completed.

IB: In responding to EJ's query about wet and dry gases. We went back to Fichtner Engineering about this; there are two issues to take into account for this facility:

1. You need to take into account the oxygen present in gas flues which is a variable
2. This facility has quite a bit of flue gas recirculation that happens due to unburnt oxygen

Therefore there is not a direct comparison to other facilities.

Action: IB to share response in writing.

3. Update from Mercia/HZI and commissioning plans – see attached update

ST: During the 5th February shut down, was the secondary vent used as the photo here suggests there is steam from the stack?

PK: There is no secondary stack. On the 5th of Feb the boiler was being shutdown and depressurised. There is a steam vent on the roof to aid the depressurisation process.

IB: Is that sufficient to go back to your residents or do you need more? We can put together a short note about what happens?

PK: For normal operations, you see this very rarely; it is only for planned and unplanned shutdowns. It won't be a regular event.

EJ: If more regularly, the public would be concerned.

PK: When the education centre is up and running, we will have communications to go with that.

ST: Where is the drainage pipe?

IB: There is no room in the corner, hence there is a pipe. There is open ditch elsewhere until discharge. The EA etc. prefer open ditches.

DI: Was phase 5-6 continually for 60 days?

PK: Phase 5 included various tests, one of which was a 14 day performance test.

Phase 6 begins at the point of handover and includes a 60 day reliability test.

DI: The Government is clamping down on diesel fumes with a need for air monitoring. As there are extra lorries with increased diesel fumes, would it be prudent to do air monitoring?

SD: This is not for the EA because we are looking at emissions from stack. Outside the facility, it is down to the local authority

DI: I will pick it up with district.

ND: Or the parish council can email about it.

EJ: What about emissions reporting?

PK: We've now got shareholder agreement – we will do this one month in arrears. My environmental technician is looking at it and will include overview of what comes out, monthly performance, biodiversity and ecology on site. This will be published on a monthly basis on the website.

EJ: What about the Annual Report?

PK: We can look into it.

SD: This year's Annual Report is probably not too much use as it covers the commissioning period. End of February 2018 would be better.

ND: Sarah, what is your involvement?

SD: I'm covering permitting and reports agreed. There are 6-7 improvement conditions post operation, coming in later this year. Compliance steps up and goes to the permit. One notification of monitoring which was oxygen probe. There hasn't been anything from residents.

EJ: Who was the independent certification body?

PK: TUV

4. Feedback from Mercia

IB: ND had a concern about lighting at the site. The lights are movement and brightness sensitive and there will be a manual over ride. Monosol have visited. One resident has been in touch via HZI about a range of issues, they were invited down, and went away happy.

5. Handover/opening

IB: We are on for the handover; the formal opening will be undertaken at a later stage due to the proximity of local elections. The plan is for a formal opening in summer (June/July) and to mark hand over, there is a local launch including a press release with a photocall suitably low key. It is unusual for projects of this size to come in on time and we are. The formal opening in summer will involve the local community.

6. Future of CLG

CM outlined how the CLG was originally convened for the construction of the facility; this is now done so the question arises if we need on for the initial phase of operation. If so, the current CLG members should be aware that the new CLG has slightly different responsibilities due to the operational nature. There will now be two levels of responsibility – to the local area for daily operations and the two counties for performance means. The discussion was then opened to the group.

IB: I'd like to state that Mercia/Severn are happy to continue provided there is a need. It doesn't need to be a stand alone meeting; Severn/Mercia could present at quarterly intervals at the parish council meetings. There isn't a prescription in planning say there has to be CLG.

EJ: It is in the outline business case.

IB: It is but that doesn't make it mandatory. We are happy to continue; happy Nigel continues as chairman as there is a wider remit through Worcestershire and Herefordshire, so a District Council Member as chair sits quite comfortably.

ST: What about the WCC ward member instead?

ND: Ian asked what the ward member's view was and he'd like to see the CLG continue. I did ask the ward member about chairing the CLG due to change in nature. I received an email back – he thanked me for the offer but gently turned it down.

DI: What frequency should it be?

PK: We feel that quarterly is sufficient.

DI: That sounds good.

ND: We should continue so the project is big.

EJ: This works, well lets continue.

All agreed to continue as CLG.

IB: On the subject of representation, at the start we got all three councils together; for O&DPC, the main issue was traffic. We did address the concerns so there is a case for O&DPC not to be directly represented. All agree there is an opportunity to bring two others for Hartlebury due to the day to day relationship with the site.– this is not an addition but different representation. Moving forward, if community representatives are not from the parish council, the following applies:

1. Need to know who they are
2. The community representatives have a public duty responsibility – formally tell Mercia/Severn in writing that they act on behalf of the parishes
3. Not just any substitutes
4. More beefed up/substance how you are reporting back. We are hearing from public that is either wrong or mis-informed; they should be hearing stuff from the community reps. You owe more to your constituents out there.

ST: We are trying to be transparent.

Action: Community representatives must put minutes and update bulletins on their websites (not just links)

JJ: Our only concern was about traffic; we've had meetings and not picked up any major issues.

CM: It is really important that the community representative are clear in their public duty to act on behalf of the whole community and to report back in full.

EJ: We need people with the right background and knowledge.

ST: Both our suggested community representatives attended the Parish Council meeting on 7th February 2017 and received council's approval. Mr Graham Hipkins has been involved in the incineration process and the power generation industry. Mr Peter Townley has a background in design and technology. Both live very local to the site.

PK: They are welcome to come along to a pre-meeting and a site tour, to be accompanied by ST chair of HPC.

JJ: To be clear, we are not talking about increasing over all numbers, but O&DPC can step back. We continue to have the opportunity to raise issues, but we don't attend regular meetings to give HPC opportunity to increase representation.

IB: You need to share this with ELPC.

ST: I have contacted James Homer from ELPC but so far have not received his reply.

ND: I'll email to arrange a meeting to get together and agree it.

Agreed: quarterly, same format, ND as chair with different representation

Action: ND get this agreed by email

7. Next meeting

Site tour in April 24th April 2017.

8. AOB

IB: Kate and I met with Sandra and George and Roger from the parish hall committee to look at the community fund due to a project. Company are receptive to the idea doing something. LCF will be winding down as there isn't landfill tax due to no landfilling.