

Norton CMRF Community Liaison Group

Wednesday 28th November 2007, 7pm

Education Room, Hill and Moor MRF

In attendance:

Cllr Rob Adams (Chair)	Local Member
Ian Barber	Severn Waste Services
Fernando Capelastegui	Severn Waste Services
Mike Stass (left during Item 5)	Severn Waste Services
Doug Lucas	Norton-Juxta-Kempsey Parish Council
Mike Reeves	Norton-Juxta-Kempsey Parish Council
Bob Marchant	Stoulton Parish Council
Tony Aston (left during Item 5)	Woodbury Park Residents Association
Peter Morgan (arrived after Item 4)	Woodbury Park Residents Association
Ian Holebrook	Worcestershire County Council

Also present:

Geoff Carpenter	Wychavon District Council
Jack Hegarty	Wychavon District Council
Martyn Hencher	Worcestershire County Council

1. Apologies for absence

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- 1.1 Apologies were received from Martin Baker (Whittington Parish Council) and Geraldine Cooper (Norton Hall Nursing Home).

2. Minutes of the last meeting, Monday 29th October 2007

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 **Item 7.2 – Speed limit on the B4084** – the section 278 agreement will only cover moving the speed limit. Severn Waste Services would support any moves to reduce the limit to 30mph. This is an issue that Parish Councils may want to raise directly with Worcestershire Highways. Rob Adams agreed to investigate the possibility of having a speed survey and traffic count.

**Rob
Adams**

- 3.2 **Item 7.5 – Vehicle movements** – the vehicle movement estimates distributed at the previous meeting referred to 105,400 tonnes being handled at the site. However, the planning permission stated that 105,000 tonnes would be the limit. It was clarified that the data was only provided in the context of traffic numbers. It was an extract from the planning application and contained the original estimate of arisings in 2028. Severn Waste Services agreed to revise the document to show the 105,000 tonnes figure to remove any confusion.

**Severn
Waste**

- 3.3 Mike Stass was introduced to the Group. Mike is the manager of the Hill and Moor MRF and will be the manager of the Norton CMRF when it is operational. He may attend some future meetings.
- 3.4 **Item 7.13 – Access to the site** – Condition 6 states that vehicular access shall be from the B4084 and Woodbury Lane to the east of the site only. This is inconsistent with the Section 106 Routing Agreement, which states that other routes can be used by vehicles collecting recyclables from properties on or close to these routes. The Section 106 Agreement is a legal document, and as such can only be amended by a Deed of Variation.
- 3.5 It would be possible to instruct the Contractor collecting from the Norton and Littleworth area to go back through the villages in keeping with Condition 6. However, this may not be in the public interest.
- 3.6 Clarifying this inconsistency is the responsibility of the Planning Authority. The Waste Disposal Authority was asked to write to the Planning Authority to seek written clarification of this issue.
- 3.7 **Item 10.1 – J7 Action Group signs** – Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council has written to the Action Group asking for signs to be removed. Some are on private properties and the individuals concerned do not want to remove them. Signs on the public highway have been removed. It was agreed that the Chair write to the J7 Action Group on behalf of the Community Liaison Group.

Ian
Holebrook

Rob
Adams

4. Report from Severn Waste Services

- 4.1 **Noise** – The Environmental Health Officers (EHO) have agreed the sensitive noise receptors. Severn Waste is putting together details of the equipment and plant and designing noise mitigation around that.
- 4.2 **Air quality** – Ian Barber advised that it is possible to model NO_x, NO₂ and PM₁₀ using existing information, to determine whether traffic related emissions are likely to breach Air Quality Objectives. The Company is likely to get this done in early 2008. The Company also agreed to buy a PM₁₀ meter for the site, and make the results available to Wychavon.
- 4.3 **Bio-aerosols** – this is a broad term generally describing small organic and inorganic particulates attached to water in the air. As the CMRF will handle only clean dry materials, bio-aerosols are not expected to be an issue.
- 4.4 Regarding possible future assessments, Severn Waste's consultants have stated that bio-aerosol levels vary greatly anyway and a background assessment is therefore of little value. The Environment Agency approved methodology for composting sites is to monitor levels upwind and downwind of the plant once it is operational. The consultants may be asked to visit the site and undertake an outline qualitative risk assessment.
- 4.5 **Planning conditions** – Severn Waste is currently dealing with important but detailed bits of work. For example, the Company is currently talking to Morganite regarding the access road. The outcome of this will also affect landscaping and fencing.

4.6 **Drainage** –In response to a question regarding surface water drainage, and the impact, if any, this may have on Woodbury Lane, Ian Barber confirmed that everything will be drained within the site. Morganite`s sewerage plant would be used for foul water, and all surface water, with the exception of the main entrance roadway, would be collected for grey water harvesting.

5. Questions to the Environmental Health Officer

5.1 Geoff Carpenter was introduced to the Group. Geoff is a very experienced Environmental Health Officer (EHO) from Wychavon District Council. Geoff outlined Wychavon`s role from hereon.

5.2 **Air quality** – hotspots are mainly in urban areas. The EHO`s role is to ensure that air quality levels achieve objectives specified in legislation.

5.3 PM₁₀ are small particulates, which can be inhaled but which the body cannot subsequently get rid of. There is no PM₁₀ problem in the district at present.

5.4 Nitrogen Oxide emissions are caused by traffic. Geoff Carpenter did not foresee there being a problem at this location. He agreed to set up NO_x diffusion tubes to assess the background levels in the area and confirmed that these would be in place by the next meeting. They would probably be located close to residential properties in order to measure the impact on people. However, the data is measured as an annual average so the results would not be immediate.

5.5 Wychavon has statutory nuisance powers in relation to issues such as dust, smoke and effluvia etc, if there is an impact on human health or reasonable enjoyment of their property. There is a duty to investigate any complaints to see if a nuisance is taking place and the Council has powers to resolve matters through Formal powers. .

5.6 **Noise** – Wychavon agrees with the methodology used by Severn Waste in its figures. Three noise sensitive dwellings have been agreed. There are no legal limits on noise levels but the levels are within World Health Organisation guidelines. Wychavon has statutory nuisance powers on noise and plenty of monitoring equipment. Based on the levels specified within the planning application appendices it is considered to be unlikely that disturbance will be caused. The worst case of 46 decibels at the boundary of nearby properties would be negligible inside buildings.

5.7 The process for discharging conditions cannot be negotiated and there cannot be any third party involvement.

5.8 The actual background noise levels were measured by an acoustic consultant in July 2006. Geoff Carpenter agreed to arrange for background noise measurements to be undertaken.

**Geoff
Carpenter**

5.9 A scheme of noise mitigation must be agreed between Wychavon and Severn Waste. An acoustic consultant is currently putting this together. It will be a

ACTION

precise document on noise levels and noise levels would be specified within any permit or waste management licence issued by the Environment Agency.

- 5.10 Geoff Carpenter suggested the drafting of a fact sheet for members of the group on the public health/nuisance issues of the site to address common misconceptions around issues such as air quality, odour, dust and noise.
- 5.11 It was commented that the greatest public concerns are smell and noise. Geoff Carpenter said that it is not possible to measure odour prior to the site being operational. Any problems can be dealt with under statutory nuisance powers and require a subjective assessment.
- 5.12 There was a brief discussion over what could be learned from residents' experience with Morganite. Morganite is not known to be monitoring anything. Problems that have arisen have been swiftly resolved once reported.
- 5.13 Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council expressed its appreciation for the formation of the Community Liaison Group. Although the Parish Council was opposed to this development, and remains convinced that it is not the correct way forward, it recognises that the democratic process has resulted in permission being granted, and wishes to see a successful facility with the least possible disruption to residents. The Parish Council will be putting a basic page in its newsletter to inform residents about the formation of the Group.
- 5.14 The issue of bio-aerosols was discussed again. There was debate over whether it would be worthwhile monitoring bio-aerosols at this stage, and whether there are likely to be existing emissions from Morganite. It was agreed that it was desirable for Geoff Carpenter to liaise with the Health Protection Agency (HPA) and gain some correspondence on these questions. It was noted that the HPA had already been consulted through the planning application.
- 5.15 Tony Aston and Mike Stass left the meeting during Item 5.14.
- 5.16 It was noted that the site will be licensed by the Environment Agency and that the Company will comply with the Environment Agency's requirements.

**Geoff
Carpenter**

6. Agenda of next meeting

- 6.1 The next meeting would include reports back from the letters and the discussion with the Health Protection Agency on bio-aerosols.
- 6.2 Javier Peiro, Severn Waste's Construction Project Director, may attend.
- 6.3 Peter Morgan distributed a list of planning conditions, which he had prioritised as requested at the previous meeting. Some had already been discussed during the meeting. It was agreed that this be on the agenda of the next meeting.

**For
agenda**

7. Date of next meeting

- 7.1 It was agreed that the next meeting take place on Wednesday 23rd January 2008 at 7pm in the Education Room at Hill and Moor MRF.

ACTION

8. Any other business

8.1 **Flies** – a scheme needs to be agreed for controlling fly levels. Measures include monitoring the numbers and spraying. These are the procedures currently occurring on the Landfill Site, as agreed with the Environment Agency. It was noted that this was not done for the Hill and Moor MRF, where the meeting was taking place, as flies were not an issue. Flies were not expected to be a problem at the Norton CMRF. The issue would be part of the Waste Management Licence and also falls under the statutory nuisance regime. Any measures would be risk assessed under regulations governing the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH).

8.2 **Parish meetings** – Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council expressed a desire to hold special parish meetings to keep people as informed of the development as possible. This would be in addition to reporting back from the CLG meetings. It was suggested that a 3-D model be provided but it was felt that this might be prohibitively expensive. Severn Waste Services would like to produce a 3-D diagram once the kit supplier is determined. The Company agreed to look into this issue.

Ian Barber

8.3 **Woodbury Lane closure** – the landlords of the Retreat had asked if it was anticipated that Woodbury Lane be closed during the development. Ian Barber agreed to look into this.

Ian Barber

9. The meeting closed at 9.10pm