

HIGH HEAVENS LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES

TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2016

Attendees:

Cllr Jean Teesdale	(JT)	Chair	
Gurbaksh Badhan	(GB)	BCC	
Roger Seed	(RS)	BCC	
Hedley Luxton	(HL)	Booker Common and Woods Protection Society BCWPS	
Julian Smith	(JS)	Environmental Health, Wycombe District Council	
Gillian Sinclair	(GS)	FCC Environment	
Jenny France	(JF)	Great Marlow Parish Council	

Apologies:

Darren Hayday	(DH)	BCC Councillor, West Wycombe	
Dominic Henry	(DH)	BCC	
Charlie Trousdell	(CT)	Countryside	
Sara Perry	(SP)	FCC Environment	
Matt Rice	(MR)	Environment Agency	
Neil Stannett	(NS)	Environmental Health Manager, Wycombe District Council	
Simon Hughes	(SH)	Environment Agency	
David Uren	(DU)	FCC Environment	
Amba Latimer	(AL)	Marlow Bottom Parish Council	
Cllr Mike Pack	(MP)	Marlow Council	
Chas Farmer	(CF)	Resident	
Harrie Cooke	(CH)	Resident	

Notes: Sally-Anne Boosey (SAB) BCC

	Actions
1. Introductions	
Introductions were made. Apologies noted	
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
Minutes agreed.	
3. Update on EfW programme and tour- GS	
GS advised on the time line of events:	
Bucks household waste started to be processed at the EfW site. This has proved a success, both operational and service wise.	30 th November 2015
The EfW site started to accept household waste from the southern districts.	End December 2015
The waste bunker was treated	January 2016
End to the commissioning phase	January 2016
Export of electricity	End January 2016
Final certificates were received for the plant to run for 30 days to test exactly what it does as a plant. This will be a full facility commissioning test. At the end of 30 day period the plant will be closed, cooled and a visual inspection will take place.	11 th April 2016
Anticipated hand over date for the facility. This will take into account the minimum of 41 days in case anything untoward is found or a part needs to be replaced or repaired. If anything major is discovered during this period, discussions will take place to possible extension of the hand over date.	22 nd May 2016
From a technical perspective FCC are very pleased with the way the plant is	

running. It is producing in excess of the electricity output expected. Equivalent to supply 36,000 homes @ 24/25 megawatts of power.

900 tons a day of household waste is being processed. 500 tons comes from BCC, the remainder from Herts and Luton. At the moment the waste from Herts and Luton is only a proportion of their household waste. All this waste is being diverted from landfill. Once fully operational the site will receive household waste from London to Calvert direct by rail as well.

GB said this change to treatment at the EFW facility will be a major service switch away from landfill.

All recyclable material should have been taken out by the time waste reaches the EFW facility. The local councils have their own arrangements for recycling materials as part of their statutory duty as Waste Collection Authorities. The EFW facility is able to recover some metal after waste has been incinerated, this is material that slips through a grate for large items in the Incinerator Bottom Ash.

- Emissions

GS suggested holding the next Liaison Meeting at EfW Greatmoor to help understand the cleaning process for emissions from the EFW facility. There are emissions from the combustion process, but these are thoroughly cleaned and particles are collected in Air Pollution Control Residues which are then taken off site. A plume of condensation is visible sometimes depending on atmospheric conditions, but any emissions are well within allowing limits and as such the EfW facility is not polluting the atmosphere.

- Amersham Transfer Station

Provisional planning has been granted. There are three important considerations:

1. Ground Water – discussions to take place and confirm ground water does not affect the site.
2. Green Belt – Secretary of State permission needed
3. Agree the final conditions under Section 106 for FCC and Bucks CC

- Special routing has been drawn up for vehicles exiting the site.
- Agreement is needed between FCC, Bucks CC and Chiltern DC
- 3-4 weeks planning permission is expected.
- Once planning permission is agreed it enters the Judicial Review stage where it can be challenged. All are expecting a challenge from the local objector group and it has been noted they have set up a Facebook page to ask for funds to carry this through.
- The Judicial Review process is the correct way to challenge. FCC are confident they have followed due process and BCC has followed external advice for due process.
- The public can express their views, criticisms and concerns and attend planning and consultation meetings.

- Local Issues around High Heavens

Concerns were expressed at the impact on the local community. Local surveys have indicated public have concerns around lorries travelling to and from the site.

GB said BCC and FCC are working hard to minimise impact in the local community. Once this site was on the very edge of the town but over the years the town itself has grown and expanded closer to the waste site. GB said she shared the concerns that new housing developments create more waste to be disposed of. This site is to deal with the rubbish not create it.

HL was disappointed at the attendance at the Resident's Association meetings. Most of the members now are commuters who don't attend meetings and so miss the chance to make their mark on the community. There are grave concerns that this area could become a mini Cressex if residents are complacent enough to let

<p>things happen around them. The Air Park is already giving concerns along with the urbanisation of the town. More development could take place with housing developers looking for suitable sites. HL reminded that promises had been made to return the High Heavens site to green fields but this was taking time.</p> <p>GB advised HL to be aware of the District's Local Plans for the next few years. Further housing development is a concern to BCC and FCC as more houses will create more waste to be dealt with and this site will have to adapt accordingly.</p> <p>HL said it was disappointing that a site had not been identified nearer the rail link so waste could be transported direct by that route, rather than using lorries.</p> <p>GS said she was happy to share information regarding rail transfers with HL. GS said that the EFW facility was unique in having a rail head. Discussions are taking place with HS2 regarding the rail head. Altogether there is not a lot of potential in the south of the county for a rail head to transfer waste.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drivers and Routes at High Heavens <p>All drivers who come to the site are operating a variety of vehicles. They undergo driver instruction, rules of the site, PPE, use of telephones and safety on site. They are advised of the route to take between High Heavens and Greatmoor. The reverse shows the route from Bicester junction to High Heavens. If any driver is caught not using the designated routes they will undergo disciplinary procedures.</p> <p>If any deviations are observed, please note vehicle number plates and the times seen so this can be investigated. Send to FCC or Bucks County Council. There are already in-cab tracking for speeding check, the same as used for refuse collectors. The drivers are representing FCC and Council Tax Payers. They are also working and providing a service for us.</p> <p>A concern was raised about vehicles being driven over grass verges. Again, complaints of this nature need evidencing with timings and number plates. There is also CCTV at the site.</p> <p>Contact details for concerns of this nature to go out with the minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tour of the site <p>Attendees went on a tour of the site with high viz jackets and hard hats. After being signed in, were accompanied round the site and questions were answered as we went round the site.</p> <p>A concern was raised about the litter around the fences and slip road. The group was advised that clearing this up this was tackled on a regular basis.</p>	<p>GS</p> <p>SAB</p>
<p>4. Current High Heavens Site Update Q&A</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shredding Area <p>GB advised on the new shredding process. Large items such as mattresses and items collected by the Council need to be broken down small enough to go through the EFW. This is moved within site to the Transfer Station and then transported to EFW. Again this is saving these items going to landfill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bio Waste <p>Currently food waste is stored in the shed ready for transfer. However the shed is not fit for purpose and there are plans to replace with a new build on the same footprint. A business case has been submitted and expected to be approved July this year to move straight into procurement and construction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fridges and Freezers 	

GB advised that fridges and freezers are covered by different legislation and when they appear on site they are moved into the right disposal stream.

6. Date and time of the next meeting:

Tuesday 5th July 2.00 p.m., at EFW Greatmoor

GS to send directions to SAB to send out with the minutes. Members of the Committee to make their own way to Greatmoor and organise car-shares between themselves.

Limit to 25 people first of all. If more people show interest, a follow up visit can be arranged. Keep initial visit to expanded CLG and other residents.

SAB