



## HIGH HEAVENS LIAISON COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2013**

**Attendees:** Cllr Jean Teesdale (JT) - Chair  
 Gurbaksh Badhan (GB) - BCC  
 Roger Seed (RS) - BCC  
 Chas Farmer (CF) - Resident  
 Lorna Parkin (LP) – Marlow Bottom Parish Council  
 Geoff Edwards (GE) - Resident  
 Hedley Luxton (HL) - Booker Common & Woods Protection Society  
 Jenny France (JF) – Resident and Gt Marlow Parish Council  
 Julian Smith (JS) - Wycombe District Council  
 Neil Martin (NM) - Environment Agency  
 Matt Smith (MS) – Environment Agency  
 Charlie Trousdell (CT) – Country Style Group  
 Dan Murphy (DM) – FCC Environment  
 Alan Bulpin (AB) – FCC Environment  
 David Uren (DU) – FCC Environment

**Apologies:** Harrie Cooke  
 Mark Harris

	<b>Actions</b>
<b>1. Introductions</b>	
<b>2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> August 2013)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The correct email address and telephone number for the EA incident hotline is:  <a href="mailto:Incident_communicatiion_service@environment-agency.gov.uk">Incident_communicatiion_service@environment-agency.gov.uk</a>            Report an incident on 0800 80 70 60 (Freephone, 24 hour service)</li> <li>• The Minutes of the previous meeting were then agreed.</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Biowaste Update and changes</b>	
<b>Re-Cap of August Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GB gave an update on her presentation of the 15 August 2013.</li> <li>• The key changes to the District collections are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chiltern District Council are collecting food and green waste</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<p>separately with a charge for the green waste;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wycombe District Council will collect food and green waste separately from 28 October 2013. They will not be charging for the green waste collection.</li> <li>○ South Bucks District Council will be collecting food and green waste separately with a charge for green waste. This is due to start late February 2014 through to the end of March/early April 2014.</li> <li>○ From April 2012 Aylesbury Vale District Council have been collecting charged green waste and from September 2012 a separate food waste collection.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In view of the changes to District collections outlined above, the High Heavens IVC is no longer the appropriate treatment solution. The current contract with Bio Group will expire on 27 October 2013.</li> <li>• From 28 October up to possibly 2015/16 Country Style Group are contracted for the bulking of green and food waste for onward treatment/processing.</li> <li>• Bulking and onward transmission is necessary to maximise transportation movements, reduce carbon emissions and reduce inefficiencies for all parties, e.g. travel times/distance for the waste collection vehicles.</li> <li>• There will be no processing/treatment of mixed biowaste at High Heavens after December 2013.</li> <li>• Operational hours and traffic movements for the bio-waste will remain the same with up to 40in/40out movements per day.</li> <li>• BCC are planning to decommission the current IVC treatment bays at High Heavens during 2014.</li> <li>• BCC will also be replacing and widening the reception hall doors for the Dano building, phase 1 September/October 2013, phase 2 commencing mid-November 2013.</li> <li>• BCC will continue to monitor tonnage and movements as the different Districts roll-out their new collection schemes. It may be that charged green waste services will result in less volume of green waste, therefore helping to contain traffic movements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p> <p>LP: Will the fact that WDC do not charge for green waste change; how much others charge; will this cause an increase in fly tipping?</p> <p>GB: District Councils collect, not BCC. GB is not aware of any plans to change the charges by other Councils in Bucks.</p> <p>JT: Would need to wait and see how things turn out over time.</p> <p>GB: No increase in fly-tipping of garden waste is anticipated, green waste can be taken to the HWRCs</p> <p>HL: Green waste is tipped over garden fences on to the Common.</p> <p>JT: Felt that in that case they run the risk of prosecution for fly tipping.</p> <p>HL: Felt this would be a good opportunity to point out via a subtle letter that this was not acceptable when delivering the bins. GB and JT will discuss this further. LP requested a copy of any such letter.</p> <p>JF: Said that she felt anxious about future plans for the site as this was a large site.</p> <p>CT: Said that at the next meeting of the Committee Country Style would have had operation time and would be in a position to give more information on the transfer of the garden and food waste.</p> <p>CF and HL re-iterated their concerns about the increase in traffic.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GB/JT</b></p>
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<p><b>4. EfW Update and HH Waste Transfer Station construction programme</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan Murphy, FCC Project Manager, gave a short update on the EfW programme. Notice to Proceed was issued by BCC to FCC on 11 September 2013. FCC is one month into the build, starting with the access roads and the builder compounds. The build will take 29 months. Further details of this project are available on the FCC website: <a href="http://www.fccenvironment.co.uk/buckinghamshire-efw.html">http://www.fccenvironment.co.uk/buckinghamshire-efw.html</a></li> <li>• AB and DU then gave a presentation on the High Heavens Waste Transfer Station (WTS):</li> <li>• Planning Permission for the WTS was received July 2012 and the Environmental Permit August 2012.</li> <li>• Why High Heavens: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Close to major sources of waste</li> <li>○ Collection efficiencies for Wycombe District Council</li> <li>○ The site has BCC Planning Policy support</li> <li>○ The site is an existing waste complex and history of waste related use</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The building will measure 2x39x11.85m to give sufficient clearance for crane/loading shovel and sufficient to ensure clearance for tipping vehicles</li> <li>• The internal area will give sufficient space to allow multi-tipping: sufficient area to minimise queuing and sufficient capacity to store waste for more than one day if for example, the M40 was temporarily closed.</li> <li>• Operations: RCVs and HGV bulkers will reverse into the WTS; waste will be unloaded from the RCVs within the building; a loading shovel will collect the waste and drop it into a bulker HGV which will then exit the WTS and depart for Greatmoor via the M40.</li> <li>• The hours of operation will be Monday to Friday 07.00 – 17.00; Saturdays 07.00 – 12.00 (maximum of 10 HGV collections); up to 12 catch-up Saturdays: 07.00 to 17.00 for RCVs following Public Holidays or adverse weather during the preceding week; Sundays 08:00 – 12:00 for deliveries from BCC HWRC sites only.</li> <li>• Maximum daily vehicle movements for the residual WTS: 57 in and 57 out RCVs or similar sized C&amp;I vehicles; 22 (empty) in and 22 (fully loaded) out HGVs. These movements do not include other movements undertaken for other operations at the complex.</li> <li>• There will be modifications to the site entrance and the access road will be widened. Trees along the current access road will be removed to enable the road to be widened.</li> <li>• Visual impact: Screening will be provided by the existing trees and vegetation surrounding the yard will be retained where possible. New tree and hedgerow planning will take place.</li> <li>• Odour: all waste is unloaded and loaded inside the building and is removed promptly. The Environment Agency Permit controls and monitors the operational activities.</li> <li>• Site noise will not exceed the relevant British Standards and road traffic noise will be within permitted limits.</li> <li>• The proposed ecology plan will provide mitigation and enhancement.</li> <li>• Enabling works for the access road are anticipated to start February 2014 to end May 2014. Subject to discharging planning conditions and bird nesting season the works may slip into the Autumn 2014.</li> </ul>	

- WTS design and investigation works will start end April 2014.
- There will be a traffic light system on the access road during the works to ensure there will be no build-up of traffic back to the highway.

**Questions and Answers**

JF: asked how confident were FCC regarding the timing of traffic, starting at 7.00 and finishing at 17.00.

AB said that the District RCVs would not have completed their first rounds before 7.00. Planning enforcement would be in place to ensure that the Planning Conditions were adhered to.

GB: confirmed that there would be no District vehicles visiting the WTS outside the permitted hours.

HL: asked whether the lagoon would drain into Marlow Bottom.

AB: confirmed that the lagoon would take surface water only, internal water would go in to the sewer. Any overflow from the lagoon would go into the soakaway in the wood. This water would be rainwater only. The lagoon will be sealed and will not be able to drain through the waste.

GB: added that the HWRC water (sewer connection) is piped through to the water treatment site at Marlow.

**5. Environment Agency Update**

- MR circulated an update on the composting site, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.
- 7 odour complaints have been received so far this year. The bulk of these occurred in June 2013.
- As of 15 October 2013 the EA have received no complaints since 26 June 2013.
- In 2012 there were 71 complaints. MR thought that weather conditions played a part in these figures, for example it was much wetter last year.
- The EA were working with BCC and Country Style during the transition and would continue to monitor the site. He said that when composting on site stops it may indicate odour from elsewhere.
- Once transition had taken place the waste will be cleanly moved off site.
- Regarding food waste, a fast turnaround was necessary to ensure the food waste containers had capacity to accept the waste from the collection vehicles.

**Questions and Answers**

CF: commented that the situation definitely seemed to have improved.

MR: said that the EA had been keeping pressure on Biogroup, it was possible the mixture had changed.

CF: commented that the condition of the road made noise the empty lorries worse.

AB: said that under the terms of the Planning Consent, FCC will be undertaking certain repairs to Clay Lane and Cressex Road.

HL: asked if BCC could reduce the speed limit. He felt that with an improved bellmouth this would encourage speeding.

CF: asked if ASM were instructed to drive the routes as everyone else (bottle collection).

JT: said that she would take these various comments back to the County Council.

<b>6. Dates and times of the next meetings</b>	
<p>2.00 Tuesday 26 November 2013 – Booker Memorial Hall</p> <p>2.00 Tuesday 28 January 2014 – venue to be confirmed</p> <p>2.00 Wednesday 19 March 2014 – venue to be confirmed</p> <p>2.00 Tuesday 24 June 2014 – venue to be confirmed</p> <p>2.00 Tuesday 23 September 2014 – venue to be confirmed</p>	
<b>7. AOB</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HL referred to obstruction caused by bins being left on the pavement all the time on the Arundel Estate. JS agreed take this back to the Waste and Cleansing Department at WDC. Members of the Committee agreed that an indication of where to refer issues such as this would be helpful.</li> <li>• LP asked whether it would be possible to have some facts on where the re-cycling ends up. GB said she would contact CDC/WDC Contract team.</li> <li>• GB reminded the Committee that when the tree-felling took place in preparation for the work on the road the HWRC would close over the weekend. This would be publicised well in advance.</li> </ul>	<p><b>JS</b></p> <p><b>GB</b></p>