

Notes of Clayton Hall Landfill Site Local Liaison Group – Chorley Town Hall
Wednesday 17 January 2019

Present: Cllr Mark Clifford (MC) Chairman – Chairman of Clayton le Woods Parish Council
David Clough (DC) – Residents' Committee
Sue Clough (SC) – Residents' Committee
John Neville (JN) – Environment Agency
Neville Whittham (NW) – Chorley Borough Council Representative
Michael Green (MG) - LCC
Chris Turner (CT) – General Manager - Quercia
Matthew Barlow (MB) – Landfill Manager – Quercia
Amanda George – Note taker - Quercia

MC welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and wished all a Happy New Year.

1 **Minutes of last meeting**

MC asked if all were happy with the notes of the last meeting and all agreed.

2 **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

3 **Current Situation on Site**

3.1 **Odour Control and Complaints**

MB stated that there had been zero complaints for odour associated with the landfill since the last meeting. There had been a few emails, but these were subsequently found not to be landfill related.

3.2 **Engineering Works**

MB reported that contractors were still on site constructing the new cell when weather allowed. Drilling had also started prior to capping. MB again stressed that any works were being completed under the strict eye of the EA and under CQA requirements.

3.3 **Waste Inputs**

Inputs continued at the rate of 1300t per week of non-putrescible waste. A concern had been raised by a member of the public with regard to the medical waste that MC had reported in his update on the Facebook website. MB confirmed that low grade healthcare waste as it is termed is being landfilled but that it was non-hazardous and allowed within the permit. MB also assured the meeting that it was deep buried. CT added that the site would be totally lined and any healthcare waste would eventually be completely encapsulated, it was also a very low volume in comparison to the total volume of other general waste received.

MC asked if the inputs continued at the rate of 1300t p/w whether that would take

filling to the end of the licence and CT confirmed it would.

MC raised a concern re odour from a resident from the Flowers estate. MB stated that this had been investigated and nothing found in connection with the landfill. MB did say that farmers would wait for dry days to land-spread so the smell could be attributable to that. Not only that given where the complaint came from MB said that it would be hard for any odour to be there without being smelled anywhere else and there had been no other complaints received from that estate.

SC asked whether the smell was in connection with the MRF and MB replied possibly as there would always be a residual odour. MB also stated that every now and then a landfill will naturally “burp” for no apparent reason. MB assured SC that Quercia was still remaining vigilant and that the now routine checks and drive rounds had revealed nothing.

3.4 Communications

MB stated that the company remained committed to providing communications and was being as pro-active as it could be and again suggested that if anyone had any concerns to report them via the EA.

MC asked if any calls had been received now that Sirius the marketing agency that Quercia had engaged during the height of the issue had been stopped and MB replied no. SC stated that she felt that communication was far better and that it was appreciated.

4 Environment Agency Update

4.1 – Multiagency Group, 4.2 – Inspections/Data, 4.3 – Complaints. These items were all covered off by JN stating that from the MAG point of view the incident was now drawing to a close and was in the recovery stage but did stress that didn't mean that the scrutiny would reduce and confirmed that regular visits by the EA were being maintained.

The gas levels monitored were a normal background levels of 1-2ppb as opposed to June when it was 12ppb.

The capping process continued to be monitored by them and also other regulators.

There had been 5 complaints received on 3 and 12 December and 12 December of rotting waste/vegetation but no reference to an eggy smell. JN confirmed that they were too short lived to track and that some could be attributable to agricultural activities.

4.4 Communications

JN advised that communication would revert to quarterly at the end of the month and then these meetings would take their place.

MC asked if the complaints were individual or repeat locations and JN said that three were in a similar location with two further away.

5 **Local Community Groups**

5.1 DC said he had nothing really to add and that it had been very quiet. He had closed the email associated with the issue down to avoid the cost and that residents found the updates reassuring. The main area of concern were walkers walking on the footpath next to the plant.

DC mentioned that there had been some comments concerning illness but that he believed this to be down to the time of the year, SC confirmed this given she was just recovering from a cold that had lasted for two weeks.

MG said that he had nothing to add and was pleased to hear that the number of complaints had dropped and NW added that he thought it had been managed and monitored successfully.

MC asked MB concerning the height of the drain and pipe depth and MB gave an explanation.

6 **Any other business**

There was no other business.

7 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was suggested that the meetings move to be quarterly and all agreed. Quercia would continue to issue a monthly update in the meantime.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 6pm, Wednesday 10 April 2019 at the Town Hall.