



**MINUTES OF THE PURTON LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING
ON 20 February 2012**

Present:

Purton Parish Council

Mike Bell, chairman (MB)
Ron Harris (RH)
Tony Price (TP)
Geoff Greenaway (GG)

Wiltshire Council

Dean Thomas (DT)
Jacqui Lay (JL)
Jo Riley (JR)

Cricklade Parish Council

John Harmer (JH)

Braydon Parish Meeting

Chris Herbert (CH)
Emma Brook (EB)

Purton Ps and Qs

Richard Pagett (RP)

Hills Waste Solutions Limited

Ed Dodd, waste operations manager (ED)
Simon Allen, landfill operations manager (SA)
Andrea Pellegram, technical services manager (AP)

The Hills Group Limited

Monique Hayes, group communications officer

	<p>Purpose of the meeting</p> <p>MB stated that the purpose of this special meeting was to discuss Hills' further plans for the additional three fields comprising 40 acres south of footpath 7 in the Parish of Braydon.</p>	
1	<p>Current status of the landfill site at Parkgate Farm</p> <p>SA advised that in the period January to December 2011 the site had accepted 40,000 of hazardous and non-hazardous waste for disposal and had exported 3,400 tonnes of clay. In terms of the current planning permission this shows the site is operating at 20 per cent capacity.</p> <p>The committee questioned why tonnages had decreased and ED stated that this would be for a number of reasons eg fewer brownfield sites being developed due to the economic downturn and more treatment of waste 'on-site'. ED confirmed that Hills is not taking any putrescible, non hazardous waste into the site.</p> <p>MB asked what routes trucks use to access the site and ED responded that Hills</p>	

	<p>does not have control over what routes are used. ED advised that HWS will confirm with transport department regarding preferred or specified routes.</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p>Update on composting due to commence at Parkgate Farm on 2 April 2012</p> <p>ED confirmed that composting operations are due to commence at the site on 2 April 2012 as previously advised. JL queried where the compost would come from and ED confirmed that it will come from all over Wiltshire.</p> <p>ED explained that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current planning permission allows for 25,000 tonnes of green waste to be processed at the site • Some of the north Wilts green waste will go directly to the site in recycling collection vehicles • Green waste from other areas will first be taken to Lower Compton and then transferred into bulk artics for transport to Parkgate Farm <p>JL asked if the green waste in the south is taken to Greatley. ED confirmed this is the case, but that Greatley site operates under an exemption and Hills understanding is that the Environment Agency is reviewing the use of exemptions to capture operations under the Environmental Permitting regime. This will result in the closure of sites that do not have the level of infrastructure required to gain a permit.</p> <p>AP advised that Hills has submitted a planning application for a recyclables management facility in Amesbury and, subject to planning permission, green waste will be taken there and then transferred into bulk artics for transport to Parkgate Farm.</p> <p>JH queried what route trucks would take to reach Parkgate Farm and ED confirmed that in most cases this would be up the A419, through Cricklade and on to the site. JH stated that this was not ideal as the trucks would pass through the centre of Cricklade. ED confirmed that there is no vehicle weight limit through Cricklade, but that there is one through Purton. JL stated that vehicles could also access the site via The Pry and Braydon Road.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Status of planning application to convert 12,000 tonnes of tyre shredding to compost</p> <p>JL queried what the wording in the current planning permission (Section 6 dated May 2007) states and AP read the section out : <i>The compostable waste for Parkgate Farm will arise in and around Swindon. Much of the green materials will already have been bulked up at household recycling centres. Minimising vehicles numbers needed to carry it. Other sources of compostable waste may include green waste kerbside collections, local authority parks and gardens services or commercial landscapers.</i></p> <p>MB stated that there appeared to be a misunderstanding in the interpretation of the wording in the supplementary statement and the conditions in the planning permission and requested AP to provide a copy of the entire document to him.</p> <p>ED confirmed that Hills do not currently have any agreement with Swindon BC for waste or green waste collection services.</p> <p>CH enquired how much compost would leave the site after processing and ED</p>	<p>Hills</p>

	<p>explained that due to moisture loss during processing, only around a half to two-thirds of the tonnage received would leave the site as compost.</p> <p>In response to queries on the size of vehicles that will be used to transport compost, ED stated that this would vary from bulk artics, HGVs (8 wheelers) and a 10 tonne vehicle delivering bulk-bag compost.</p> <p>MB asked how many vehicles will go in and out of the site and ED referred committee members to the figures stated in the planning permission :</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="363 544 1240 844"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><i>Average</i></th> <th><i>Maximum</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Estimated daily number of loaded vehicles likely to enter the site</i></td> <td><i>14</i></td> <td><i>20</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Estimated capacity of loaded vehicles entering the site daily (tonnes)</i></td> <td><i>12</i></td> <td><i>20</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Estimated daily number of loaded vehicles likely to leave the site</i></td> <td><i>3</i></td> <td><i>6</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Estimated capacity of loaded vehicles leaving the site daily (tonnes)</i></td> <td><i>12</i></td> <td><i>20</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>MB asked what the current status is regarding the permission for tyre shredding. ED explained that Hills would not look to vary the current permission, but would instead make a planning application to increase the compost tonnages and do away with the tyre shredding.</p> <p>In response to a question from MB, ED confirmed that there are no plans to extend the concrete pad.</p> <p>MB queried if Hills will be producing low grade compost anywhere else. ED advised that Hills intend to manufacture some low grade compost at Lower Compton for internal use as topsoil and subsoil at that site.</p> <p>JL asked what the capacity of the concrete pad was and what would happen if more than 50,000 tonnes of green waste was received. ED explained that the compost only stayed on the pad for 12 weeks</p> <p>JH stated that Cricklade Town Council had not been consulted on the planning application and permission granted in 2007. DT confirmed that normal consultation procedures would have been followed by Wiltshire Council.</p>		<i>Average</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Estimated daily number of loaded vehicles likely to enter the site</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Estimated capacity of loaded vehicles entering the site daily (tonnes)</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Estimated daily number of loaded vehicles likely to leave the site</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Estimated capacity of loaded vehicles leaving the site daily (tonnes)</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>20</i>	
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<p>4</p>	<p>Traffic impacts including size and daily frequency of lorries to be used</p> <p>In response to various questions on traffic frequency, suitability of roads and interpretation of the planning permission / supplementary statement and conditions, AP explained that Hills are implementing an existing planning permission and that these queries and discussions had already taken place. AP suggested that committee members address their concerns to the collection authority and not Hills.</p> <p>ED explained further that Hills interpretation and intention of the existing planning permission did not restrict collection of green waste to the Swindon area.</p> <p>DT confirmed that Wiltshire Council would use both the application documents</p>																

	<p>and conditions in respect of the planning permission when determining interpretation of the permission.</p> <p>Both RP and MB requested that Wiltshire Council provide the committee with a clear interpretation of the planning permission to resolve this issue.</p> <p>ED stated that Hills would never have restricted the collection of green waste to the Swindon area as the company has household recycling centres across the whole of Wiltshire.</p>	<p>Wilts Council</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Will Hills be undertaking composting for Swindon at Parkgate (planning decision 08/07022 and WC Regulatory Committee 14 Nov 2007) and what impact on traffic and routes to the site?</p> <p>MB stated that this issue had already been addressed in previous discussion.</p> <p>JL asked whether Parkgate Farm will be used for the disposal of waste from Swindon. ED stated that Hills Waste Solutions will look to optimise the operations and may take green waste from the Swindon area.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>What are Hills future plans for the additional 40 acres south of Parkgate Farm (Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Site Allocation which state Materials recovery facility/ Waste Transfer Station, Local Recycling, Inert Waste Recycling/ Transfer and Waste Treatment) and will this include material/waste from Swindon</p> <p>ED confirmed that Hills had always intended for the additional 40 acres to be included in the Waste Sites Allocation DPD and referred to a presentation he had given to Purton Parish Council in 2009 setting out Hills proposed plans.</p> <p>ED further confirmed that with regard to increasing the composting tonnages and access / egress points at Lower Paven Hill, both of these items had also been mentioned previously.</p> <p>For the record ED stated that Hills plan is to submit a planning application to increase green waste tonnages (50,000 – 60,000 tonnes per annum) as well as establish some sort of waste processing facility. In principle Hills see Parkgate Farm as a strategic treatment facility for North Wiltshire and Swindon. This is based on the industry's move to reduce landfill and recover resources. ED advised that these new treatment facilities are in contained / closed buildings which contain numerous separation systems.</p> <p>MB enquired what size facility Hills were anticipating and ED stated that it would be classed as small to medium with the capacity to handle around 60,000 tonnes with a maximum of 30 employment opportunities.</p> <p>CH enquired if these plans were definite. ED stated that details would be outlined when the planning application is prepared. ED advised that the current permitted (under planning permission) tonnages for the existing operations would not be exceeded. Any additional operations would see no net increase in tonnages.</p> <p>MB asked what impact this type of facility would have in terms of noise and dust. ED confirmed that modern waste treatment facilities had minimal impact as they are designed to keep noise, dust and odours contained within the building - the mechanical biological treatment (MBT) plant being constructed in Westbury by Hills was given as an example.</p> <p>MB and RP both voiced their concerns as to apparent lack of consideration for</p>	

	<p>the visual impact of these types of buildings. ED and AP both confirmed that a landscaping and visual impact assessment would form part of the planning application and be an important consideration.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Impact of potential future activities on traffic and routes to the site</p> <p>AP stated that it was not appropriate to discuss traffic volumes or movements at this stage as the planning application has not been prepared and these figures have not been finalised.</p> <p>MB stated that the committee need to understand the transport impacts as they have a bearing on other proposed developments in the area which are currently being considered.</p> <p>ED advised that Hills would not be drawn into the specifics of an application that had not as yet been prepared.</p> <p>JL queried where waste would come from if a treatment facility was built at Parkgate Farm and would it come from Swindon. ED stated that Hills did not know what Swindon’s intentions are and Hills currently does not have waste treatment contracts with Swindon BC.</p> <p>JH queried the ownership of both Chapel Farm and Parkgate Farm. ED confirmed that Hills owns Parkgate Farm. Chapel Farm is leased from Swindon BC and that lease will expire in 2016.</p> <p>ED confirmed again that the additional 40 acres site was not going to be used for landfill purposes, but there was potential to build a treatment facility there which would be located in a closed building.</p> <p>GG queried the status of the planning permission for a concrete batching plant on the site. ED stated that as Hills Quarry Products did not have a representative at the meeting he was unable to answer that question*. GG stated that if the concrete plant was progressed this would have a further impact on vehicle movements and requested that an update be provided to the committee.</p> <p><i>* Note: Subsequent to the meeting this update has been given by Hills Quarry Products – ‘Due to the current economic situation, there are no plans at present to further develop the concrete batching plant’.</i></p> <p>JL requested a breakdown of vehicle movements in relation to planning permissions. ED explained that the planning permission deals with tonnages and different lorries carry different tonnages – as a result vehicle movements would always be an estimate.</p>	<p>Hills</p>
	<p>MB confirmed that there were no further questions and the meeting closed at 5pm</p>	