Minutes of the Purton liaison committee meeting held at The Millenium Hall, Purton on 18 June 2026 at 16.00.

PRESENT

Wiltshire Councillors
Cllr Jacqui Lay (JL)
Nick Dye (ND)

Wiltshire Council
Adrian Hampton (AH)

Braydon Parish Council
Emma Brook (EB)
Debbie Goodman (DG)

Purton Parish Council
Geoff Greenaway (GG)

Hills Waste Solutions Ltd
Simon Allen (SA)
David Byatt (DB)
Henry Newbery (HN)
Chris Waddell (CW)

APOLOGIES
None received

NOTE
HRC = Household Recycling Centre / WC = Wiltshire Council

Previous minutes	**ACTION**
Previous minutes agreed	
Parkgate Farm update	

- **DB** gave a brief overview of vehicle movements in and out of the site.

01.01.26 - 17.06.26	**Tonnes**	**Vehicle Movements**
Landfill Waste IN	11,450	1868
Landfill Leachate OUT	7,578	274
Clay OUT	10,466	589
	Total	2731

01.01.26 - 17.06.26	Tonnes		Vehicle Movements
Green Waste In	Total	15,662	1,343
	WCC	11,574	547
	GCC	3,976	704
	Other	643	92
Product Out	8,524		435
Waste Out	1,071		52
Leachate Out	3,298		119

- **DB** explained that the site was exporting an increased amount of clay for a reservoir project in Rugby as required by Severn Trent Water.
    - **DB** added that this accounted for approximately six loads per day or 589 movements in last six months.
- **JL** asked if this valuable resource of clay was limited.
    - **SA** confirmed there was an excess of clay which would be available through to 2036.
- **JL** asked how much more land around Parkgate Farm the landfill was owned by Hills.
    - **SA** said he would follow this up.
    - **SA** confirmed Hills doesn't have an EA permit to extend the landfills beyond existing areas but that other planning matters regarding an extended timeline for activities were separate to land-related planning.
- **JL** said that the local plan from WC was withdrawn and a new plan will be in development for three years including provision for mineral and waste could mean land being identified for landfill.
    - **SA** said that there would be a lot of difficulties in obtaining planning and permits if that was the case.
    - **JL** said councillors prefer landfill to incineration
    - **AH** said discussions were ongoing around waste disposal and treatment.
- **DB** said no complaints had been received about Parkgate Farm composting activities, and that composting tonnages and movements were on a par with previous years and that for obvious reasons garden waste increased in summer months.
    - **GG** said main issues with commercial traffic were in Cricklade not in Purton.
    - **ND** said there was a lot of feedback on volumes of traffic through Cricklade.

○ **JL** said previous complaints from Cowleaze about speed of Hills-related traffic seemed to have been dealt with ○ **SA** confirmed that Hills speaks with customers and its own drivers about the rules of the road and encouraged people to get in touch with any evidence. ○ **JL** said the commitment was for 20/25mph from Hills ○ **ND** said that it is intended to extend the 20mph limit down the Purton Road although he wasn't sure what difference that would make as it was only a couple of hundred yards. ○ **GG** talked about the installation of block paving near the buffer zone being unsatisfactory and that lorries put undue pressure on the blockwork and manhole covers. ○ **JL** said this was a design fault and that highways had let down residents with a shared space, and that ironwork hasn't been adopted by Thames Water despite it being part of the sewer system. • **JL** asked about more information on composting ○ **SA** confirmed WC has extended Hills' contract for garden waste/composting for a further 8 years from 01 August 2026. • **DB** said Stephen Leonard from WC had raised an issue with a kissing gate on a public footpath, but that a decades-old gate had now been restored to a regulatory standard. ○ **JL** said quite a few footpaths had been closed off near the solar development and across the village and that alternative route provision from other land ownwers needed addressing similar to one already at Calne and at Parkgate Farm. ○ **EB** asked if the Parkgate Farm route was well signposted. ○ **DB** said yes, although despite good signposting some stragglers did still wander onto Hills land or roads. • **EB** asked for contact details to report occasional issues regarding odours at Hills site. DB provided his details and asked for information on times of any incidents.	
Planning applications	
• **SA** said the only application relating to Hills land is the solar park and that the developer had enacted the planning but have delayed for a further year which SA had concerns about with a meeting planned for July. ○ **JL** asked if the planning would lapse.	

○ **SA** explained that enacting the planning meant no lapse despite lack of progress on the site. ○ **JL** asked who the developer was. ○ **SA** said the developer was ILOS and explained they had put a lot of time and effort into the solar project and that Hills was surprised about any delays as it had been expected to commence in 2025 but now looked like 2027. ○ **JL** welcomed delay because of other developments (Wain Homes) in Purton would put increased pressure on local traffic. • **ND** asked where access for the solar project would be. ○ **SA** confirmed traffic likely to come through Cricklade and then via Mopes Lane but for a very short period. ○ **JL** said that construction routes needed improvement and that construction traffic should come via the B4696 and B4040 which were more suitable. ○ **ND** asked how that would be enforced. **JL** had contacted Wain Homes about Widham Farm traffic and that enforcement are now involved but that anyone reporting on the monitoring sheet would have to sign to say they are prepared to go to court over any issues. **CW** added that Hills Homes' Pavenhill development would start late 2026 and that Homes would be talking to Lovells to avoid overlapping traffic issues between the two developments. **JL** said Lovells was only an outline application and that feedback from the village was that Lovells needed to change their access routes and that the public want traffic lights or a roundabout although this was a Highways issue.	
Recycling	
HN said that a three-year plus one-year extension to the HRC contract at Purton had been agreed with WC which was good news for Hills and the HRC team who would now see investment in the site with new offices and new compactors. **JL** asked about the proposed HRC booking system **HN** said that the booking system would be part of a WC trial across some of the HRCs. HN said some important points included: ○ Visitor numbers between January and May were up 10% on same period last year to 39,667 cars to site ○ 2261 tonnes of waste received - a 4.3% increase on same period ○ Staff do check proof of residency occasionally, but the booking system would ensure only Wiltshire residents used the site.	

○ September start of the trial which included a WC comms campaign with banners and social media advertising the scheme etc ○ There will be a short grace period for people who are unaware of the new system. **EB** asked how the system would work **AH** explained the importance of the system and that as he was responsible for Highways and Waste, he had an interest in traffic management along with waste tonnages. He added that vehicle registrations would be taken along with residency and the booking reference. **JL** asked about daily limits for people doing house clearances for example. **AH** said lessons learned for this trial from previous system used during Covid were that block bookings were an issue and that the trial would be set up to monitor for multiple bookings which could identify any rogue commercial operators who are not permitted to use the facility. **AH** added that other booking systems didn't necessarily see an increase in fly tipping after implementation. **AH** emphasised the trial basis of the scheme and that adjustments to technology would be made. **JL** asked about ad hoc allowances for short notice visits. **AH** said maximising visits was difficult although it was a priority. **HN** said operators also wanted flexibility support Wiltshire Councils proposal for a system that allows real time bookings. **SA** said lots of other councils have run successful booking systems. **JL** asked about skip provision from council for house clearances. **AH** said the council used to do this but there was an issue with skip provision especially asbestos and that free bulky waste collection and free garden waste collection were no longer possible. **GG** asked that Parish councils were kept up to date on the scheme. **GG** asked about limits on van visits (12 per year) being monitored **AH** confirmed that limit would apply **JL** asked about people who only have a van **AH** said that WC looked to maximise access where possible but previous abuse caused issues that WC was aware of. AH said there was a fine line between domestic and commercial access.	

JL said more public education on HRC rules was needed including the kinds of waste that are acceptable. **GG** asked about electric refuse trucks **JL** said pilots happening in Salisbury taking into account limited range and expense. **SA** confirmed this investment would be with Wiltshire Council and would have no connection to Hills from 01 August. **JL** said she would share details of council meeting on the matter **AH** also offered to be a point of contact on the subject of renewable and electric fuel	
AOB	
DB asked for confirmation of addresses for inclusion on his odour monitoring schedule **EB** said Braydon Road between Braydon crossroads and Gospel Oak/ B4696 **JL** confirmed electorate of 39 in Braydon **SA** said that due to contractual changes that HN would take over liaison meetings in Purton **JL** thanks SA for his responsiveness and help **JL** asked about the issue of batteries and battery fires particularly the recent fire at Lower Compton in Calne **SA** said that HRCs are the ideal place to dispose of batteries properly into the correct marked bins. **JL** asked which batteries were an issue **SA** explained that although small lithium batteries were the main issue any battery could potentially cause a problem especially with increased of vapes etc **HN** emphasised that residents should bag batteries and place on top of the blue-lidded bin and that a separate bag should be placed next to the bin for small electrical items, laptops, phones etc. The issue with these items being placed in regular bins was that this increased the chance of battery damage and therefore fire. **SA** said that recent incident might have been connected to rejected recycling but that in any case batteries should be kept separate from general recycling and regular waste. **JL** reminded everyone that aerosols should be fully discharged and acknowledged that more needed to be communicated on the issue. **AH** confirmed a big campaign was being communicated by WC.	

EB said that batteries could be disposed of at supermarkets. **JL** asked about rumoured HRC usage in Swindon with WC paying £1m for the privilege but that Swindon didn't have the capacity. **AH** said that all councils had limitations. **SA** said that the new booking system would help Wiltshire prevent Swindon residents using Purton HRC. **AH** said Wiltshire residents were WC's priority. **JL** asked if Purton was a licenced transfer station. **SA** said there was no licence for transfer station at Purton. **EB** asked if there was anything to stop people entering random Wiltshire postcodes on the booking system to use the HRCs. **SA** said the intention would be to use IDs for the booking system. **HN** said that extra staff would help monitor the situation. **JL** wondered if fly-tipping would increase with the booking system. **SA** said this was unlikely because HRC users are generally responsible people in the first place. **JL** said commercial fly tipping was the issue. **AH** said there was no such thing as cheap waste disposal and that residents should be wary of cheap offers as they will incur the fines for waste disposed of by bogus 'white van men'. **GG** felt that a booking system would help the situation for residents as people would be clear on rules. GG also said Swindon's booking system worked well. **ND** asked about mercury thermometer disposal **HN** said to make staff aware at HRCs and that they would assist.	
Next meeting	
Thursday 10 December 2026	