



## Hills Community Liaison Committee - Chapel Farm

Minutes of a Liaison Committee meeting held at the Blunsdon Village Hall on Thursday 12 March 2009

### PRESENT

#### Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council

Councillor Stuart Boyd  
Councillor Michael Compton

#### Hills Waste Solutions Ltd

Ed Dodd, Disposal Team Manager  
Cliff Carter, Recycling Team Manager  
Stuart Knight, Site Manager

#### The Hills Group Limited

Monique Hayes, Communications Officer

### APOLOGIES

Councillor Doreen Dart

INTRODUCTION	ACTION
Ed Dodd introduced:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monique Hayes, who will replace Cliff Carter on the committee (contact mobile number 07774 976735)</li><li>• Stuart Knight, the new Site Manager at Chapel Farm (contact mobile number 07824 708263)</li></ul>	
MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and there were no outstanding actions.	
LANDFILL UPDATE	
<p>Cllr Compton enquired whether Hills had made an application to raise the profile of the landfill. Ed Dodd to investigate. <i>(Confirmed following the meeting that no application has been made by Hills.)</i></p> <p>Ed Dodd reported that a complaint had been received by the Environment Agency (EA) regarding litter and leachate. Subsequent investigations revealed that the litter was minimal and within the site boundary and that iron-staining on surface water had been mistaken for leachate. Whilst EA are satisfied with this outcome, what is of concern to Hills is that whoever reported these issues would have been trespassing</p>	ED



<p>on the site. This was a serious health and safety risk and Ed Dodd requested members to advise interested parties to contact Hills if they wished to visit the site.</p> <p>Cllr Boyd reported that some residents were concerned about drainage issues and Ed Dodd requested that these parties be referred to Hills via the hotline telephone number 07789 690735.</p> <p>Cllr Compton reported hearing 'shot / bang' noises from the site. Ed Dodd confirmed that we use a falconer and birds of prey to control the birds on site and that the noise was probably from the shoot situated next door to the landfill.</p> <p>Stuart Knight reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hills are currently tipping into Cell 19 and will go into Cell 20 during May / June</li> <li>• 222,000 tonnes of waste have been received at the site (year to date) – average of 15,000 tonnes per month</li> <li>• Work over the past few months has included sealing of the leachate towers and reviewing the gas management system</li> <li>• Novera Energy have installed a fourth engine on site to capture gas to convert into energy - currently generating 4 megawatts of power</li> <li>• Gas management has been successful with no complaints received this year</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Boyd reported that residents had complained about the speed of the refuse vehicles on the roads. Ed Dodd stated that whilst we cannot enforce traffic regulations he would speak to the Depot Manager and also arrange for the H&amp;S representative to monitor speeds and report back.</p>	
<b>RECYCLING</b>	
<p>Ed Dodd reported that the mechanical skip sorting area was achieving an overall recycling rate of 73%.</p>	
<b>REPAIRS TO INTERNAL ROAD</b>	
<p>These had been completed.</p>	
<b>RESTORATION PROGRAMME</b>	
<p>Ed Dodd confirmed that capping takes place as soon as possible to manage both gas and leachate systems.</p> <p>Novera Energy is looking to install a fifth engine for gas to energy conversion – Chapel Farm is one of Novera's top performing sites.</p>	



<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
<p><u>Planning application to extend site opening hours</u></p> <p>The initial application had not been supported by the Parish Council. Ed Dodd apologised that the procedure followed when making the initial application had not been managed correctly as the purpose of the Liaison Committee meetings was to discuss these issues before applications were made to ensure that members (and ultimately residents) understood the facts and reasons for Hills actions. This had not been done. Ed Dodd invited committee members to attend a meeting when Hills would give the relevant background information relating to the planning application which is to be resubmitted. Suggested dates were tabled as Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April; Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Monique Hayes to co-ordinate dates / times. <i>(Subsequent to the meeting, the Parish Council have invited Hills to address their meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm)</i></p>	MH / SB / MC
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	
<p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm in the Blunsdon Village Hall</p>	