



Hills Community Liaison Committee – Barton Court

Minutes of a Liaison Committee meeting held at the Kintbury Coronation Village Hall on Friday 15th May 2009

PRESENT

West Berkshire Council

Councillor Andrew Rowles
David Mackins, Senior Minerals and Waste Planning Officer

Kintbury Parish Council

Stephen Cook

Benchmark Furniture

Sean Sutcliffe
Kathryn Webb

Hills Waste Solutions Ltd

Mike Webster, Divisional Managing Director
Brian Waymont, Depot Manager

The Hills Group Limited

Monique Hayes, Communications Officer

APOLOGIES

Mathew Meldrum, West Berkshire Council

	ACTION
MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport office portakabin and fuel tanks have been relocated to the transfer station• Trenches on the haul road are cleared regularly to ensure water drains away and additional aggregate brought in to fill potholes• Soak away has been relaid and sloped to ensure water runs off and is now fenced and gated with warning signs. Weir of sleepers and straw bales is used to catch silt which is disposed of.• Contaminated water on the site which comes off the sorting slab is collected in underground storage tanks and taken off site by tanker to be treated and disposed of safely.• Hills' H&S advisor undertakes regular site inspections and the EA undertook a major audit in March (results awaited)• Borehole testing was undertaken to establish potability of the water (and not ownership as stated in previous minutes). Hills appointed Aquastat to monitor the quality on a 6 month basis and reports show the water is of good quality. Bob Bailey has fitted UV treatment units onto his incoming water supply (due to the close proximity of his septic tank). Hills will keep the situation under review via Aquastat.• Ivy on the dry stone wall has been removed as well as the dying trees on the main Kintbury Road. Dry stone wall is beginning to crumble and	



<p>contractor has been appointed to undertake repairs. A traffic control system will need to be put in place during this repair period.</p>	<p>Hills</p>
<p>SITE ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>Operations remain largely unchanged on the site.</p> <p><u>Wear on concrete road</u> S Sutcliffe reported increased wear on the concrete road due to size of vehicles. M Webster commented that Hills could not justify spending large sum of money during the current economic climate and when there was no permanent planning in place. S Cook stated that Hills should repair the road as a sign of goodwill. M Webster replied that a number of improvements had been and were being undertaken at the site: moving the offices, grassing and fencing of field for sheep to graze; proposed change to the entrance in the form of an “S” bend to restrict visibility into the site.</p> <p><u>Recycling</u> M Webster reported that whilst a small amount of materials brought into the site are still picked and sorted by hand, the majority of the material is bulked up and sent to the Mechanical Skip Sorting Area (MSSA) at Chapel Farm, Blunsdon, for sorting. The Company is achieving a 90% recycling rate on all material brought into the site.</p> <p>Hardcore material received at Barton Court continues to be crushed on site and is sold as reclaimed material.</p> <p><u>Restoration</u> All agreed that the overall appearance of the site was much improved.</p> <p><u>Health and Safety</u> Additional signage to be put in on the haul road and warning signs to be placed at the crossroads warning traffic of heavy vehicle movements.</p>	<p>BW</p>
<p>PLANNING ISSUES</p>	
<p>M Webster confirmed that Hills has been granted a further temporary planning permission for Barton Court pending the outcome / publication of the Joint Minerals and Waste Development Framework (JMDWF).</p> <p>The following information has been provided by D Mackins of West Berkshire Council regarding the status of the JMDWF.</p> <p>The JMWDF is being prepared on behalf of the Berkshire Unitary Authorities by the Joint Strategic Planning Unit (JSPU).</p> <p>There are two key elements of the JMWDF, namely the ‘Core Strategy’ and ‘Detailed Minerals and Waste Development Control Policies and Preferred Areas’.</p> <p>The Core Strategy sets out the long-term spatial vision for Mineral and Waste development in Berkshire and the strategic policies and proposals required to deliver that vision. In February the Core Strategy was submitted to the Secretary of State who will appoint an Inspector to determine whether it is ‘sound’ and therefore whether it can be adopted in its present state for or if further amendments are required. In order to decide whether the Core Strategy is sound an ‘Examination in Public’ will be held during June. The JSPU anticipate</p>	

<p>that the Core Strategy should be adopted during the autumn. Further information and documentation relating to the Core Strategy can be found at www.berks-jspu.gov.uk/content/main.asp?pid=98</p> <p>While the Core Strategy DPD is emerging, a further part of the JMWDF is being prepared - the Detailed Minerals and Waste Development Control Policies and Preferred Areas which will deal with the detailed policies for mineral and waste planning in the Berkshire area. Site proposals will identify specific locations where it is proposed mineral or waste development will be most appropriate. This particular document will be of the greatest relevance to Barton Court. Consultation on the detailed document was due to take place during February 2009, however this has been put on hold (understanding is until late summer / autumn). By delaying the consultation on the detailed document the JSPU will be able to incorporate any issues identified during the examination of the Core Strategy. However, this means that at present there is not a firm date for either submission to the Secretary of State or adoption. Further information and documentation regarding the detailed document can be found at www.berks-jspu.gov.uk/content/main.asp?pid=99</p>	
ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
<p><u>Water readings / testing</u> S Sutcliffe asked if there were any abnormalities in the water readings / tests on site and B Waymont confirmed that there were not. S Sutcliffe questioned what the procedure is when and if abnormalities occur in the water. M Webster stated that Hills are obliged to submit all test results to the EA and that heavy fines / prosecution would be imposed for failing to comply.</p> <p><u>Litter on road</u> It was reported that there is a lot of litter on the A4 / Kintbury Road crossroads, but also agreed that Hills tend to get the blame for all litter in the area. B Waymont explained that netting had been put up around the site to assist with restricting windblown litter.</p>	
NEXT MEETING	
<p>Agreed that the next meeting will be held in November 2009 – date and time to be advised</p>	<p>Hills</p>