



Lower Compton Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Liaison Committee meeting held at the MRF on 5th March 2009.

PRESENT

Wiltshire County Council

Mari Webster (Planning)

Compton Bassett Parish Council

Councillor Serena Henly
Councillor Peter Barnett

Calne Town Council

Councillor Carol Robinson

North Wilts District Council

Councillor Shauna Bodman

Cherhill Parish Council

Councillor Dave Grafton

Friends of Compton and Surrounds (FOCAS)

Michael Ransom

Hills Waste Solutions Limited

Steve Burns, Contracts Manager

Hills Quarry Products Limited

Andrew Liddle, Production Manager

The Hills Group Limited

Monique Hayes, Communications Officer

	Action
1. Apologies received	
Cllr Nancy Bryant, Cllr David Evans, Anne Henshaw	
2. Previous minutes update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lorries which had previously been reported for using Anchor Road were not from HillsSignage at Hilmarton Road had been moved but was still not visible to driversAll company literature had been amended to reflect the location as Lower ComptonWe have written to all our major customers and advise them not to use road through Compton Bassett Hills are still pursuing the placement of 30mph signs on road from A4	SB

through Lower Compton.	
3. Compost odours / Dust from woodchip	
<p><u>Compost Odours</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odours from the compost are not as bad at this time of year • Trials which we have run on mobile odour reducing systems have come to an end and Hills will now look to purchase the equipment • Councillor Henly reported gas smells on 19th, 20th and 24th February. Steve requested that residents use the contact number provided as soon as they notice any odours as it is difficult to deal with these issues retrospectively. Steve to check if these odours were as a result of the gas engines being out of order for a period. • Hills had not received any reports of odours at the time and the EA have not made any comments on routine visits to the site • Hills has spent in the region of £400,000 on various odour reducing methods and technology <p><u>Dust from woodchip</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporadic chipping is taking place at the moment, due to weather conditions the sprayer system cannot be used as the water in pipes freezes in cold weather 	SB
4. Restoration Works	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering works on Cells 15 and 16 were completed mid-winter • Preparation of Cell 17 was completed mid-December and tipping into the Cell has commenced • Cell 18 will be prepared this summer and the capping of Cell 17 will also be done • Restoration of Cells 13, 15 and 16 will be completed by mid summer / autumn and sheep will be placed on the land to grasskeep • Stockpiled compost is being blended with soils on site to use as cover to ensure good grass growth on restored areas 	
5. Landfill operations	
<p><u>Low Lane footpath</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fence posts have been delivered and will be installed from 6th March • Hills are about to go to tender on the earthworks and expect to start works in 6/7 weeks' time • Works will be phased and begin in the North East part of the site • The area being uncovered is producing clay which is being used for works on Cell 18 and restoration on other cells to avoid the use of black liner material • Protection measures (pegs) for trees and badgers are being put in place • Trenching around the edge of the site is for electrical cabling and some of these trenches are still open. They will be backfilled by 	

<p>hand so as not to disturb badger setts which have expanded into the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecologist from Mike Wood Associates has been on site to identify which areas are related to the actual badger sett and also survey trees in the area • Cllr Henly reported that hedge maple in the area appears to have died • In response to a query from Michael Ransom, Steve confirmed that the hedging against the road will remain in place <p><u>Landfill opening hours</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve gave background information regarding a previous planning application to extend the opening hours of the landfill to accommodate the needs of district councils in Wiltshire which had failed • New application will be submitted following the completion of a noise survey, which is being conducted over the Easter weekend. This application is being made to meet the need for increased tipping facilities required by the District Councils. Salisbury and West Wiltshire delay collections by one day after a Bank Holiday and require facilities on a Saturday and Kennet and North Wilts collect on the Bank Holiday. The aspect in the previous application which was to allow additional Saturday afternoon opening to accommodate busy weekends at the HRCs will not be included in the new application. 	
<p>6. Composting</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-farm composting facilities are still being sought to deal with green waste collected in the West Wilts area and thereby avoid haulage over long distances • The fortnightly collection of green waste is contributing to odour problems and it is also for this reason that alternative composting facilities are being sought. (Green waste arriving on site has been sitting in green bins for two weeks waiting for collection) • The market for compost is poor at the moment and as a result Hills has activated an existing planning permission for a soil processing plant to create a product using excess compost that can be used on site in the restoration • Michael Ransom queried why the price for compost had not been dropped and Steve explained that as it was expensive to produce Hills would rather use it on site 	
<p>7. Concrete and Aggregates update</p>	
<p><u>Concrete</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations have been significantly affected by economic situation <p><u>Aggregates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sand processing is taking place at the moment – there is an agreement in place with Aggregate Industries for the supply of materials • Small amount of product is being sold for animal bedding 	

<p><u>Low Lane</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to be operational by September / October but depending on economic situation this could extend to next year • Aggregate Industries is still to submit a planning application for a conveyor belt system – this could also impact on the start date for Low Lane • Mari Webster confirmed that product will be transported out over Oxford Road • Andrew confirmed that there will be a ‘pre-start’ alarm on the conveyor which will sound before the system starts in the morning 	
<p>8. Recycling</p>	
<p><u>Current situation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonnes had increased to 114,000 for this contract year compared to 109,000 tonnes for 2008 and 104,000 tonnes for 2007 • There had been a 3% fall in total waste tonnages in the past 2 years • Due to meeting targets there was now less pressure on the County Council to deliver new facilities, however if new facilities were provided, excess capacity could be traded and thereby create extra revenue • Planning permission for an MBT (mechanical biological treatment) plant in Westbury is being submitted by Hills on 18 March • Closure of the Lafarge Cement works in Westbury has not affected the viability of the MBT plant <p><u>Fall in recycling prices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve commented on the extensive press coverage regarding the fall in recycling prices and confirmed that Hills had managed to continue to sell material and had not needed to increase storage levels • Materials most affected are cardboard, steel cans and aluminium cans • Anticipate that by summer this year prices will rally back to the same as those achieved in 2006 <p><u>Use of the gym building</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Henly asked what was happening with the gym – was it being used for storage as large bales of product had been placed there • Steve explained that WRAP were on site conducting a survey on behalf of the EA who had queried the contamination / recycling figures submitted by the Council and were using that area to analyse waste bales. This was a one week survey and was now complete • A contamination rate of between 1% and 1.5% had been recorded by the Council and as this figure is quite low, it was being investigated. We are waiting for the results <p><u>Household Recycling Centres</u></p>	



<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycling rate of 78.44% has been recorded for 9 months of the contract year• 46.5% of total municipal waste is being non-landfilled• These figures are well above the national average <p><u>Lakeside Energy from Waste Limited</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Starting in May this year 50,000 tonnes of Wiltshire’s municipal waste will be transported by bulk artic to an incineration plant at Colnbrook, Slough. The waste will be burnt to create energy• Only implication for Lower Compton is that the site will receive 50,000 tonnes less per year• Cllr Henly queried why Lower Compton does not only accept waste from Wiltshire. Steve explained that Hills is a commercial enterprise and takes in commercial waste from customers to make it commercially viable <p><u>Kerbside Recycling</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Bodman reported that some residents had been told they can only have a maximum of 2 black boxes• Steve explained that any recycling items which could not fit into the box could be placed next to the box in a loosely tied carrier bag for collection• Cllr Bodman stated that when trying this the items had been left behind• Steve undertook to investigate but also suggested that residents use the helpdesk number which is printed on the collection calendar to resolve issues such as these <p><u>Woodchip</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steve advised that since mid-December Hills had been sending chipped wood (low quality MDF) to Germany by sea via Avonmouth to be burnt in a bio-mass plant which generates electricity• This increases recycling figures in Wiltshire by 8,500 tonnes per year• Steve reported that we are constantly investigating new and alternative technologies for dealing with waste in order to keep up to date with changes in this area. To date Hills found that the volumes of wood required to fuel the biomass plant were restrictive i.e. wood would need to be imported to make it viable	
9. Other community issues	
<p><u>Layby usage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steve reported that all users of the Lower Compton site have been asked to be considerate when using the layby• Meeting had been held with Alison Buchnall and a letter was being sent to external customers to encourage vehicles to use nominated routes <p><u>Verges</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Henly and Cllr Barnett reported that empty trucks leaving the site were dropping bits of litter onto the road and verges• Steve requested that these vehicles be reported to us so that we	



<p>can advise the EA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steve confirmed that Hills' lorries are netted even when empty to avoid this happening• Steve agreed to increase the frequency of litter picking on the verges in an effort to resolve this issue• Steve also requested that residents use the issued contact number to report litter	SB
10. Any other business	
None	
11. Date of next meeting	
The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11 th June 2009 in the meeting room at the MRF Building	