

## Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2

17<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 18.30 – 20.15

Attended and Apologies – See attached

1. Introductions – A number of new members attended the meeting: Sara Watt who is the new representative of Houghton Conquest PC, Michelle White representing Brogborough PC, John Ludford representing Lidlington PC, Tim Hill Elstow and Stewartby Bedford Borough Councillor, Ruth Ivory for Stewartby Water Sports Club, Nick Webb Chief Executive of the Forest of Marston Vale.

Attending from Covanta – Tom Koltis Executive Director, Judith Harper UK Project Manager, Neil Grimstone Head of Operations Europe

Attending from Veolia – Nick Hollands Planning Director, David Cowan Head of Construction

2. Actions from Meeting 1 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016:

- Covanta - Veolia to provide details of key contacts for community concerns during the development stage of the project *Complete: Veolia Head office: 020 7812 5038 or 020 7812 5034 OR Veolia Communications Department: Nick Burchett [nick.burchett@veolia.com](mailto:nick.burchett@veolia.com) Tel. 01403 224727 mobile 07770 994212*
- Covanta and Veolia to consider a public exhibition and communication approaches to keep the local community informed and updated on the project *Complete: Covanta-Veolia has considered communication approaches and intend to provide a newsletter to residents rather than hold an exhibition*

**Question: Sue Clark asked for Covanta-Veolia to confirm when this would go out, which areas they propose to cover, and how residents can ask any questions they might have?**

*The newsletter is planned for circulation in December 2016 when the project team will have a number of developments to report. It will cover the parishes of Cranfield, Wootton, Stewartby, Marston Moretaine, Houghton Conquest, Lidlington, Millbrook, Ampthill and Maulden as defined in the S106 agreement (selected because they are within a 4km radius of the site). The newsletter will have contact details for the project so that residents can ask any questions. Covanta-Veolia noted the issues raised by the CLP about delivery companies failing to deliver to houses on the outskirts of parishes and ensure they use the best mailing list to ensure every household is included*

- KF to contact Brogborough PC to see if they wish to be represented *Complete: Michelle White attended the meeting*

3. Agreement of the revised Community Liaison Panel Terms of Reference *Agreed, attached*

4. Pre-Commencement conditions presentation: See presentation attached

Judith Harper introduced Pre-Commencement condition; a full list of these with the current status of each was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached for CLP members to ask for further information on any of them.

Covanta-Veolia has submitted documents to discharge the DCO Schedule 1 Requirements, and is carrying out activities to address the S106 obligations that are pre-commencement conditions.

5. S106 commitments and Community Trust Fund (CTF): See presentation attached

Tom Koltis outlined the Financial Commitments in Schedule 1. He clarified that the slides about the set-up of the Community Trust Fund (CTF) quote directly from the DCO document, and specify Covanta: However the development of the CTF will be delivered by Covanta and Veolia.

He reiterated that the project will be fully delivered by Covanta and Veolia as a strong partnership with a depth of experience in construction and operation of ERFs.

## **Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes**

Nick Hollands presented on the Community Trust Fund (CTF) obligations and how it may run.

The Memorandum of Understanding for the CTF is still being worked on and the issue of whether it should be a charitable trust, and the number and status of trustees will be contained within the Memorandum of Understanding.

Veolia has experience of managing and administering an Environmental Trust supporting a wide range of community and environmental projects across the country and CLP members can review how this operates at [Veolia Env. Trust @veoliaenvtrust](#)

**Action: Covanta-Veolia will consult the CLP later in the process over details of the Memorandum of Understanding and the nature of the organisation (which may well be a charitable trust registered with the Charities Commission)**

### **Questions**

#### **Who will get the 10% Electricity Subsidy?**

Eligible households are those in the parishes of Stewartby, Marston Moretaine, Wootton, Cranfield, Houghton Conquest, Lidlington and Millbrook where the resident was living in the property when the S106 agreement was signed in March 2011.

#### **Maulden, Ampthill and Brogborough are not included in the scheme; can they be brought into it now?**

This will be reviewed as the details are developed.

#### **How will residents claim the subsidy?**

The average bill has to be worked out for each household in order to agree the value of the subsidy to be paid. This is complex but needs to be fair. Covanta-Veolia are looking at similar schemes for a workable way to run this, and will present the proposals to a future CLP meeting

#### **Are tenants eligible?**

It is understood that the eligibility covers householders, but details are to be ironed out. The issue of tenant eligibility will be addressed when the details of the scheme are presented to a future CLP meeting.

#### **What happens if someone has moved within the parishes since 2011?**

This also needs to be considered, as do the potential to cover all the new housing that has been built since 2011. The detailed scheme will be developed over the next 12 months.

#### **Are there forecasts of how many houses will benefit?**

No – Sue Marsh from Central Beds Council confirmed that there is a plan in the S106 agreement defining the area covered by the scheme.

#### **Action: Covanta-Veolia to present the final scheme proposal to the CLP**

**The Community Trust Fund at £150,000 before commercial operations start and £50,000 per annum over the operational life of the facility (planned as at least 35 years) doesn't seem very much when divided between nine parishes**

The Community Trust Fund is one part of an overall package of financial commitments that add up to £10 million for the local area, which is a substantial investment in the local community.

## **Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes**

**The nine parishes selected for CTF support excludes Brogborough which will be affected by the facility in terms of traffic, can Brogborough be included in the benefits?**

**Covanta-Veolia will review the parishes included in the Community Trust Fund and Electricity subsidy and respond on this issue**

**How will the Community Trust Fund be allocated to ensure every parish benefits?**

The Trustees will be appointed to set the criteria for allocation of the Community Trust Fund in terms of how projects can apply for funding, minimum and maximum project value and how projects will be approved. It will also address the solvency of the CTF so that project funding allocated does not exceed the overall funds held in any year. There will be opportunities for projects to bid for funding from this and other Trusts in the area (Landfill Trusts etc.) The overall focus of the CTF is on supporting sustainable waste management and/or energy generation projects and related educational initiatives and other projects which are considered to promote the well-being of the community within the CTF Area of Benefit.

**What energy generation schemes would the CTF support?**

Sustainable energy projects such as micro-turbines for a community, solar panels. The CTF could also consider projects for better waste collection. The Local Authorities may also have ideas for projects that could be supported.

**The creation of Rights of Way refers to footpaths and cycle ways – the CLP did specifically ask for horse riders to be also catered for by suitable surfacing and access to use cycle way routes.**

**Action: Covanta-Veolia to review designation of cycle ways to bridleways**

6. Plans for traffic management, lorry routes and enforcement of routes/ driver behaviour presentation – see presentation attached. NB The descriptions next to the maps are from the DCO document and were produced before the new A421 was completed, Covanta-Veolia have annotated the original maps with the new road layout.

David Cowan presented the HGV Access and Routing Strategy which was part of the DCO Schedule. It specifies Green Lane and the C94 (former A421) only as the HGV routes that will be enforced by signage and CCTV at the site access. Covanta-Veolia vehicles will be fitted with GPS enabling the business to monitor their own vehicles movements. Contractors' drivers will be subject to specific contractual obligations regarding use of the prescribed routes. Drivers of HGVs seen accessing via Stewartby will be reprimanded and subject to disciplinary action.

The local contractor's Rubbish Collection Vehicles collecting domestic waste will still collect from Stewartby on current routes.

### **Questions**

**There have been problems with failure to enforce HGV routes at other local developments recently, how will the routes be policed by Covanta-Veolia?**

Covanta-Veolia has GPS trackers on all HGVs and traffic controllers at the Veolia depots will monitor driver movements, also Covanta-Veolia will have access to local CCTV to check on HGV movements, but the local community will also have local Covanta-Veolia contact details to report vehicles using the wrong routes or behaving inconsiderately.

Veolia's experience at other sites is that there may be some issues at the start but the HGV drivers keep to the designated routes very quickly. He emphasised that Covanta-Veolia intend to be responsible members of the community.

## **Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes**

**Covanta-Veolia could put Key Performance Indicators in place with contractors so that any infringements of the prescribed routes result in contractors having to pay fines into the Community Trust Fund**

David felt this was a good idea and will follow up.

**There have been recent problems with a building development leaving mud on roads, how will this project prevent that?**

There is the requirement for a wheel wash to be provided for all exiting vehicles under the pre-commencement conditions, and a road sweeper will be contracted to keep the road clean. During the restoration works vehicles will not be leaving the site, other than operators' cars, so they won't transfer mud to the road.

**The Stewartby Water Sports Club access is just before the site entrance and members come and go with large trailers, concerned about a car towing a boat turning right and getting across the traffic safely.**

David agreed that there will need to be a clear instruction to contractors to be aware of long vehicles crossing at this point. There may be an opportunity to put up signs as well.

**Are there business continuity plans in case of the road being blocked?**

There are plans in place to meet the closure of the road when the rail upgrade is underway (See Meeting Notes 1)

**The main issue that will affect the local community is the volume of traffic, the level of queuing at the rail crossing and how traffic will be increased at rush hour and start/end of the school day, how will Covanta-Veolia keep vehicle movements as low as possible?**

Covanta-Veolia has already reduced the proposed number of vehicle movements from 200 in and out in a 12 hour period to 108 by proposing to use larger vehicles to transport from bulk transfer stations direct to the ERF. There may be some local contractors bringing waste in smaller vehicles (and in other locations the existence of a local ERF attracts local waste management businesses to use the facility) but these will be in booked slots. Veolia have similar levels of truck movement at other plants and manage without major traffic disruption.

The planning permission for the College at the former Hanson HQ included a traffic assessment (2013) which concluded that the school traffic could be absorbed into the area, taking into account the existing committed developments of the ERF and the Broadmead Road residential development.

**Action Veolia to offer a visit for CLP members to an ERF to see how traffic is managed**

**Who will be responsible for the upkeep of the Green Lane road surface to cope with all this additional traffic?**

Covanta-Veolia is progressing a highways condition survey as part of the pre-commencement conditions and although the road surface from the A421 to the Veolia Office on Green Lane is suitable for HGVs the rest of Green Lane may not be.

**Action Covanta-Veolia to investigate the road surface of Green Lane**

7. Any other business

**Where is the waste coming from and what sort of waste is it?**

## Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes

Waste will come in from a large area around the ERF, perhaps as far as Birmingham. Apart from Veolia's existing contracts other waste contractors will seek to use the facility. From a business perspective it makes most economic sense to put as much waste as possible on fewer trucks and take the shortest distance, so from major collection points direct to the ERF. The waste will be non-hazardous commercial and domestic waste, already sorted so recyclables are taken out.

**Covanta included radiation detectors in their proposal (as reported by Rachel Ness to the CLP Meeting 14, 10th December 2010), is this still a commitment?**

*NB At that meeting Environment Agency made this statement:*

*"The answer to why we do not require monitoring of radioactivity as a matter of course in the UK is that the constituents of waste streams are tightly controlled in the UK and the risk of wastes containing significant levels of radioactive material being incinerated in a plant that is not authorised to do so is minimal. The Environment Agency is responsible in England and Wales for regulating the keeping and use of radioactive materials, the keeping and use of mobile radioactive apparatus, and the accumulation and disposal of radioactive waste. All manufacturers, users and disposers of regulated radioactive sources are permitted by the Environment Agency.*

*As a result we regulate both radioactive sources and waste, therefore monitoring radioactive sources in waste feed is not considered to be necessary.*

*The disposal of non-regulated (mainly low risk domestic) sources, such as those contained in some household smoke detectors (Americium 241), are considered a low environmental risk. The throughputs, and dispersion, of non-regulated radioactive sources within an incinerator are likely to be of negligible environmental risk."*

Covanta-Veolia said that they would come back on this issue: Covanta have radiation detectors on the ERF in Italy, and this is because there is less oversight of radioactive waste in Italy than in the UK. Veolia has multiple levels of control to ensure radioactive waste (most commonly in medical waste) is not included in waste streams.

Tom pointed out that Covanta-Veolia and local community interests were aligned on this issue, it is not in the business's interests for radioactive material to be introduced into the ERF waste stream.

### **Action Covanta-Veolia to review issue of radiation detectors**

#### **What happens to the Bottom Ash after going through the ERF?**

The Bottom Ash is recycled, metals recovered and aggregate produced which is used in road construction - 97% of the Bottom Ash is recycled.

#### **What happens to heavy metals?**

David Cowan responded to this point at the meeting and has provided a more detailed response: Ferrous and non-ferrous metals (e.g. aluminium) are removed from the bottom ash by magnets and electro-magnets respectively. These are not 'heavy metals'. The plant is designed to be in full compliance with the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) which has strict limits on the control of emissions including heavy metals. To control air emissions a highly efficient flue gas treatment plant is installed which includes the use of fabric filters and the injection of both lime and activated carbon. Heavy metals are removed by this filtration process and become part of the flue gas treatment ash (sometimes referred to as Fly ash) from the plant, which is sent for hazardous waste disposal. The facility is regulated by the Environment Agency through the Environmental permit and heavy metals are monitored by measurement to ensure compliance. The results of the monitoring are required to be reported to the Agency under the regime of the permit controls.

## Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes

### Is there surplus aggregate, where is this stored?

Covanta-Veolia will sell aggregate to customers on a 6 or 12 month contracts so that all the aggregate produced is transported away quickly, there is adequate on site storage to hold stocks before they are ready for collection. It is used widely in the construction industry as a type one (road aggregate) replacement.

### Is there a risk of water contamination from the facility?

No, there is no discharge of water from the facility, and all surface water is contained within the operational site. Ross McIntyre from EA clarified: Any discharge would be subject to EA Permit, but there is zero discharge from the facility so this does not apply.

### 8. Date of next meeting and items to cover

The next meeting is planned for **20<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 18.30** at the Forest Centre. This will be after the newsletter has been distributed and Covanta-Veolia have progressed all the pre-commencement issues , so there will be substantial development actions to report and to present to the CLP.

### Items for future CLP Meetings:

- Network Rail to be invited to a future CLP meeting
- Covanta/Veolia and EA to present the detailed plans for water discharge pollution controls covered in the Draft Permit when the project reaches this stage
- Covanta/Veolia to present the public Rights of Way improvement plans when the project reaches this stage
- Development of the Community Trust Fund Memorandum of Understanding
- Detail of the final proposals for Electricity Subsidy Scheme

## Rookery South ERF Community Liaison Panel Meeting 2 Notes

### CLP Membership

Sarah Watt	Houghton Conquest Parish Council attended
Peter Neale	Marston Morteyne Parish Council attended
Jennie Thomas	Millbrook Parish Meeting attended
David Cooper	Stewartby Parish Council attended
Michelle White	Brogborough Parish Council attended
John Ludford	Lidlington Parish Council attended
Tim Hill	Elstow and Stewartby Bedford Borough Councillor attended
Sue Clark	Cranfield and Marston Central Bedfordshire Councillor apologies
Rod Calvert	Beds Chamber of Commerce attended
Ruth Ivory	Stewartby Water Sports Club attended
Nick Webb	Forest of Marston Vale attended
Hugh Roberts	MMAG attended
Robina Chatham	Lidlington Resident attended
Richard Franceys	Maulden resident apologies
Ed Hiam	Stewartby resident apologies
Sean Tyrell	Amphill Resident attended
Independent Observers	
Ross McIntyre	PPC Compliance Officer, Environment Agency attended
Sue Marsh	Principal Minerals and Waste Planning Officer, Central Bedfordshire Council attended
Covanta-Veolia representatives	Covanta – Tom Koltis Executive Director, Judith Harper UK Project Manager, Neil Grimstone Head of Operations Europe Veolia – Nick Hollands Construction Director, David Cowan Head of Construction
Kate Fairweather	Independent Chair