

Thornhaugh Liaison Committee Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 25 April 2017

East Northants Resource Management Facility

Present

Alan Jones (AJ)	Peterborough City Council
David Johnson	Wansford Parish Council
Richard Clarke	Wansford Parish council
Hally Hardie(HH)	Home Farm
Martin Witherington	Home Farm
Darren Griffiths	Mick George Ltd
Gene Wilson (GW)	Augean
Simon Moyle (SM)	Augean
Eleanor Nicholson (EN)	Jennings Nicholson for Augean

- **Matters arising**

- It was agreed that any matters arising would be dealt with under the other points on the agenda.

- **Site Update**

SM reported that:

- Engineering in Phase 7 was coming to an end. If was any further engineering **SM** would be happy to show anyone interested around.
- A remotely operated high temperature gas flare was being installed.
- Phase 5 was being shaped and tidied in preparation for capping off and being grassed over winter 2017.

HH commented that some of the newly planted trees seemed to be struggling. **SM** said that the landscape contractors would replace any whips that died.

MW had new neighbours who would be interested in having a walk around the site.

- **Thornhaugh Planning Update**

- **GW** reminded the committee of the planning background that has given rise for the current application: under previous ownership of the site, Phases 1 and 2 were largely not engineered and had been filled with non-hazardous waste using old methods of landfill management which no longer complied with the Landfill

Directive and has been superseded by the principle of engineered landfill containment.

- The site investigations had taken place in late 2013 in consultation with the Environment Agency. These investigations in the form of digging a number of trial pits and boreholes had allowed the company to fully understand the emplaced wastes, which were principally non-hazardous wastes which had been backfilled with mineral waste some of which was clean mineral and some contaminated. There was very little odour and any litter was compacted.
- The best solution was to remove the old waste deposited in Phases 1 and 2 and to place it in properly engineered landfill cells elsewhere in Thornhaugh Landfill. Planning permission for this activity was granted in July 2015.
- The intention had been to commence the re-engineering works by removing waste from Phase 1 and placing it in Phase 7A, which was constructed for that purpose in 2015. Unfortunately, the Environmental Permit to allow that was not issued until mid-2016, by which time part of Phase 7A had been used to maintain operational capacity.
- Therefore, the agreed phasing of the landfill cells needs amending and so Augean has applied for planning permission to allow construction of Phase 4B as soon as possible this year and to excavate and relocate the waste from Phase 1 to the newly constructed Phase 4B. It is further proposed that the capacity of the new phase will be extended slightly to accommodate both the relocated waste and to maintain operational landfill capacity.
- A further minor amendment to the planning permission is being sought to provide additional fixed lighting in order to maintain a safe working environment for employees and visitors, primarily during winter months. The additional lighting will be located at the weighbridge and welfare facilities and will be in addition to that already approved in the last planning application. This amendment to the permission will comprise an extra four lights fitted to the weighbridge and two fitted to the welfare building. The lighting scheme will include measures to minimise light spill and glare. Lighting is only used at the site when necessary and only during approved operational hours. There are no proposals to amend the lighting scheme in relation to the use of the mobile light towers around the site.
- The changes to the order of the phasing will affect the timing of the diversion of the access road to Cook's Hole Quarry, which will be temporarily diverted during the excavation, engineering, infilling and restoration of Phase 1. Once complete the access road will be re-instated along its original route. The timing for relocating the welfare facilities currently located in Phase 1 West will also be affected.
- The proposals are very limited changes which should not have any significant effect.

- **HH** felt that it was important to maintain the frontage to the A47 so the site is screened off from Home Farm.
- **MW** was concerned about the lighting but was reassured that it would not be constantly in use.
- **Monitoring**
 - **GW** presented a summary of the most recent monitoring results reminding those present that monitoring is conducted to demonstrate that the containment of wastes is sound and there is no impact on the surrounding area from the site.
 - **Groundwater** : Boreholes were tested on a monthly basis and samples analysed for a range of parameters including salts, organic compounds and metals. Typical indicators of problems at landfill sites are ammoniacal nitrogen and chloride. Ammoniacal nitrogen is an indicator of materials with a high organic content that is breaking down. Chloride levels are commonly low in summer and raised in winter; usually due to road salt run off leaking into the boreholes. The combination of high levels of both ammoniacal nitrogen and chloride would be a typical indicator of leachate escaping from the site. The groundwater monitoring results show there is no such problem at Thornhaugh. There was no trace of lead.
 - **Air Quality:**
 - **Gas:** Methane levels have not been exceeded. Carbon dioxide is commonly present in limestone but the levels are low.
 - **Asbestos:** no fibres have been detected since 2013.
 - **PM 10 dust levels:** the monitoring results show no values of these breathable particles.
 - **Deposited dust:** There are peaks in the data but probably due to operations at Cooks Hole. There had been a peak in April 2016.

Mick George update

- **DG** reported that Phase C was nearly exhausted. They were exploring and finding some pockets of mineral, but it had to be viable to quarry.
- More waste material had been generated than originally anticipated.
- Mick George may have to submit an application to vary the restoration profile in take account of additional onsite material.
- **RC** said it was important to discuss the overall restoration scheme for the different sites in the area. Several people locally felt very strongly about the matter and it would help if there was a coherent end objective for all the nearby sites. AJ agreed that this would be the preferable outcome but it was difficult to resolve with the various landowners.
- **GW** said that any scheme would have Augean's support.

- **Peterborough City Council Update**
 - **AJ** reported that PCC had received the planning application three weeks ago and it was most likely that it would be determined in August. The application to change the phasing was relatively straightforward. It was very positive that there would be proper engineering throughout the site.
 - **AJ** said that he undertook regular visits to both Thornhaugh and Cook's Hole

- **Any other business**
 - **MW** reported a build-up of debris on culverts on the A47 and stressed the importance of ensuring that gulley and culverts were free of debris as large puddles were created especially after heavy rainfall. **AJ** said it was important to monitor the use of the wheelwash to ensure that it was being used properly. **DG** would liaise with **MW** and check that lorry drivers were inspecting their vehicles before going onto the highway.
 - **RC** reported on-going problems with motorbikes using some of the other nearby quarries
 - **DJ** asked if it would be possible to be notified when material was being moved at Thornhaugh. **SM** agreed to do so.

- **Date of next meeting**
 - Not determined