

meeting minutes

Subject	Connon Bridge Liaison Group
Date	20/02/2020
Location	Connon Bridge Landfill
Recorder	Natalie Chard
Chair	Mel Colton-Dyer

Present

Name	Initials	Company	Title
Patrick Daws	PD	SUEZ	General Manager
Robert Williams	RW	SUEZ	Project Manager
Ian Mitchell	IM	SUEZ	Senior Site Manager
Natalie Chard	EE	SUEZ	Senior Community Liaison Manager
Katherine Alexander	KA	SUEZ	Assistant Site Manager
Niall Kelly	NK	SUEZ	Planning Manager
Janet Haley	JH	Local resident	
Henry Haley	HH	Local resident	
John Emerson	JE	Local resident	
Walter Gubbins	WG	Local Residents	
Mrs Gubbins	G	Local Resident	

Doug Mills	DM	Local resident and St Pinnock Parish Council	
Jenny Mills	JM	Local Resident	
Jackie Ward	JW	Cornwall Council	Head of Waste
Dale Unsworth	DU	Cornwall Council	Integrated Waste Management Contract Team Leader
Matthew Sleeman	MS	Cornwall Council	Planning Officer
Howard Knapman	HK	St Pinnock Parish Council	
Carol Spear	CS	St Pinnock Parish Council	
Paul Jordan	PJ	Chairman of Braddock Parish Council	
Graham Crabb	GC	St Pinnock Parish Council	
Richard Pugh	RP	CIlr for Trelawny Division.	

Ref	Note	Action
1.0	Welcome and apologies	
1.1	MCD welcomed everyone and asked that everyone switch off their mobile phones before the meeting started. She explained that the purpose of this meeting was to hear a presentation from Cornwall Council and SUEZ which would explain the changes proposed to the site in order to accommodate the new waste collection. She asked that during the presentations if anyone had	

	<p>a question please could they raise a hand and she will ensure that everyone takes their turn in asking questions.</p>	
1.1	<p>Apologies were received from Christine Butler.</p>	
2.0	<p>Cornwall Council and SUEZ presentation</p> <p>DU introduced himself to the group and explained that the presentation he was about to give would cover the new waste collection service, the new waste strategy and the alterations required to some of the facilities in order to accommodate the changes in the collection service.</p> <p>He explained that current recycle and compost rate was 38.1% of our household waste and that Cornwall was 234th out of 345 in the UK and therefore as a county we need to improve. He presented a slide which showed the percentage of residual, recycling and food waste currently in a black bin bag which supported the move for Cornwall Council to introduce food waste collection. Having recapped on the current weekly residual waste collection and fortnightly recycling collection DU then went on to present the new proposed collection regime with campaigns beginning in June 2021, the first bins and caddies delivered that Summer, and the new service beginning in Autumn/winter of 2021. He then explained that food waste would be collected weekly and taken to an anaerobic digestion facility.</p> <p>DM asked for assurance that the Connon Bridge site wouldn't be considered as a location to put an anaerobic digester on.</p> <p>JW stated that although it would be ideal to be able to manage all of Cornwall's waste within the county and be totally sustainable currently there were no plans or budget to be able to achieve this.</p> <p>WG asked why waste for example from down west was being transported to Devon when there were several anaerobic digestors within the county that they would drive past.</p> <p>PD explained to WG that although there are 3 in Cornwall they don't have the front end infrastructure to be able to accommodate the food waste. The companies were invited to tender but were not prepared to invest in the infrastructure and therefore a solution had to be found elsewhere.</p> <p>CS asked where in Devon would the food waste be sent.</p> <p>PD stated there were facilities at Holsworthy, Language in Plymouth and Somerset but that at the moment nothing was confirmed and that it depended on price.</p> <p>PJ asked for clarification that it was over 34% of food waste that was in black bags.</p> <p>DU confirmed that it was just over 35%.</p>	

	<p>PJ then asked if there was going to be a reduction of 35% of waste that was going to the CERC would there be enough waste to continue running efficiently.</p> <p>DU explained that of the 240,000 tonnes of waste processed every year at the CERC some comes from third party waste and therefore if there was less household waste the third party waste would increase.</p> <p>JH raised a concern that we are supposed to be reducing road miles and taking food waste to Devon would only increase it.</p> <p>WG asked whether Cornwall Council would get paid for the food waste they take to the anaerobic digester in Devon or whether Cornwall Council had to pay for it to be processed.</p> <p>DU explained it would be subject to the tendering exercise.</p> <p>PD added that the model would have to look at the cost associated with the food waste but also the benefit.</p> <p>DM asked what the increase in the number of lorries would be since food waste is being collected weekly.</p> <p>JW explained that currently over a two-week period residents have 3 trucks collecting residual waste and recyclables. Under the new proposed collection that would remain the same as the food waste one week will be collected by the same truck that is collecting the recyclables and would go to a materials recycling facility in Bodmin.</p> <p>JM stated that the truck shown on the presentation wouldn't get down some small lanes.</p> <p>JW clarified that there would be different size trucks and that the food collection truck was quite small.</p> <p>GC stated that there are quite a few people in his area that don't recycle.</p> <p>DU explained that residents would be issued wheelie bins or sea gull proof sacks for residual waste and only what is in these would be taken away, so it's hoped that this will encourage people to reduce waste and recycle more.</p>	
2.1	<p>SUEZ presentation</p> <p>RW and NK then presented the infrastructure changes required at Connon Bridge in order to support the proposed collection changes.</p> <p>He explained that a new transfer station, specially designed for food waste would be built next to the existing station and showed the group a plan of the site and highlighted where it would be located. He then identified where the fire water tank and clinical waste building would be located.</p>	

	<p>DM asked why it had to be located at Connon Bridge. It made more sense to have it located somewhere like Saltash if it was then going to go onto Devon.</p> <p>RW explained that it had to be on a site owned by Cornwall Council.</p> <p>PD added that food waste is already coming to Connon Bridge but that it would just be separated out.</p> <p>DM stated that separating it increased the chance of creating odour.</p> <p>PD disagreed stating that by separating the food waste it gave more control over what happens to it and it is easier to manage odour.</p> <p>RW added that the new food transfer station would have fast acting doors unlike the current transfer station shed which is left open.</p> <p>PJ asked, if there are to be 5 new food waste transfer stations in Cornwall, are they all going to be on existing sites and specifically why was Connon chosen.</p> <p>RW confirmed that the food waste bay would be introduced at Connon Bridge, Bodmin, St Erth, Launceston and Pool.</p> <p>DM referred to the visit the liaison group made to the transfer station and suggested that since the shredder operation was at the far end of the building there was more than enough room to have a food waste bay in the centre of the existing transfer station.</p> <p>PD confirmed that the transfer station was currently at full capacity as it is also used for the road sweepings, green waste and CERC waste which all have to be segregated.</p> <p>DM suggested that the Connon Bridge site was going to end up like an industrial estate.</p> <p>PD referred to the map and showed the landfill apron explaining that you cannot build on landfill and therefore there was limited space for any development other than digging into the bank area which would be very expensive and therefore not likely to be developed.</p> <p>JM asked how close to the road would the new building be.</p> <p>RW stated it would be more or less the same as the existing transfer station which was approximately 50 metres away.</p>	
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	<p>WG suggested if a third of black bin bag waste was made up of food waste then a reduction in the black bin bag waste should mean that there is more than enough room in the transfer station to cope with the food waste.</p> <p>PD explained that the way the food waste is treated and because artics have to be able to manoeuvre in and out, there just was not enough room to add this operation to the existing transfer station shed.</p> <p>JW added that Cornwall Council would not be planning to build a new transfer station unless they had to as it would save the council the cost of the build.</p> <p>WB asked if there was an anticipation that there would be an odour and that is why the proposal included fast acting doors.</p> <p>RW stated that there would be two food bays, he went on to explain the process of rotating the use of the bays, that once one bay was full that it would be quickly emptied therefore reducing the risk of odour.</p> <p>JH asked what size the building was.</p> <p>MCD suggested that sizes could be discussed at a later date if the exact sizes were not available today, could they be brought to the next scheduled meeting and also be shared at the planning consultations. She asked NK if that would be possible, and he agreed.</p> <p>DM noted that he felt the facilities were creeping towards the main road.</p> <p>PD highlighted that the facilities are well screened.</p> <p>PJ asked if consideration had been given to the effect the plans may have on the current restoration process.</p> <p>DM added that if bank was being dug out as part of proposed designs that would have an effect on the views from the footpath too.</p> <p>NK explained that only part of the bank was being taken away and that there would still be adequate screening.</p> <p>MCD suggested that the finer points of the proposals would be available during the public planning consultations and that members needed to remember that this extraordinary meeting is a very early sharing of information and therefore may not have all the details. She suggested that RW be allowed to carry on with the presentation and show some of the visuals he had on the proposals.</p>	<p>NK</p>
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	<p>RW continued with the presentation and showed images of proposed designs.</p> <p>DM asked if this would be a stand-alone planning application and would a change in working hours be included in this.</p> <p>NK confirmed that existing hours would continue.</p> <p>As RW explained the designs he stated that food waste on occasions may be held for up to 48 hours.</p> <p>DM raised concerns about odour and at the same time JM added concerns about rats.</p> <p>RW reiterated that currently that same food waste is already arriving at the Connon Bridge site but is mixed in with other residual waste. Separating the waste will allow for better control.</p> <p>JM asked what would happen about lorry numbers.</p> <p>RW stated that lorries may increase however as the modelling of the new collection contract hadn't been completed, he couldn't confirm either way. However, he realised it was an important part of the consultation and would share the information as soon as it was available.</p> <p>DM suggested that this was an ideal opportunity to install a second weighbridge to stop the queuing that sometimes happens on the main road.</p> <p>RW stated he didn't disagree but that was something for Cornwall Council to decide.</p> <p>JW added that Cornwall Council is right at the beginning of the planning application process and that lots of work still needs to be carried out. However, if there were to be an increase in trucks it wouldn't be hundreds it would more likely be around half a dozen.</p> <p>PJ reiterated that the group would like to see the number of proposed vehicle movements as they feel they are already suffering from the increase of lorries due to the shredding process.</p> <p>JW informed the group that there were plenty of opportunities now and in further meetings and planning consultation events for them to voice their concerns.</p>	<p>RW</p>
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CS wanted noted that she was concerned about the traffic through the village as there are already large trucks coming from East Cornwall and then down to St Dennis travelling through the village.

As the presentation came to an end DM asked how the food waste would be loaded onto the trucks.

RW explained that it would be a dedicated loading shovel kept inside the shed.

DM asked if it could puncture food waste bags.

RW stated yes it would be possible, but everything would be done inside the building with the doors shut.

JW added that residents might not use food liners and once in the collection truck they might get split then so it would make no difference.

PD added that SUEZ has a vast amount of experience in food waste management in residential areas and there have been no issues with odour there. The Environmental permit also requires SUEZ to demonstrate the controls we have in place.

WG asked if the food bays are cleaned.

RW stated they are cleared out regularly. They hold around 25 tonnes and are completely cleared out when the food waste leaves.

PJ asked if the trucks that take the food waste away have roll tops as it has been minuted in the past that not all contractors have fitted the roll top covers very well before leaving the site.

RW asked that if they have any evidence of this to please supply it so that it can be actioned.

PD then went on to explain that the criteria for food waste trucks is slightly different from the walking wall artics as they are not waterproof. The density of food waste is different so the new trucks would be waterproof and the waste would sit lower down in the truck therefore the issues of waste flying out are not the same.

JH added that actually with the weekly collection and the possibility of waste sitting in the transfer station for 48 hours, possibly 72 hours on bank holidays, food waste could end up being 9 days old and really smelly.

	<p>PD stated that it is no older than it is at the moment and there are no odour issues from the current transfer station.</p> <p>PJ asked if in the planning application that perhaps a section 106 could be introduced to ensure road safety and safe crossing places.</p> <p>NK informed the group that Cornwall Council will look at road safety as part of the application process.</p> <p>DM then added that if St Dennis and Nanpean received £100K per year for the inconvenience of living next to the CERC perhaps because of the increase in vehicles and potential for odour that there should be some benefit to the local community. He then went on to inform the group that whilst the community was grateful for the defibrillator which was paid for by SUEZ ,a request for a second one was turned down and the cost of printing the parish newsletter will stop once the landfill site is fully restored.</p> <p>RW then informed the group that there would be consultation events in May 2020 with a submission of the application on 26 May 2020.</p> <p>DM asked what the cost of the changes would be.</p> <p>RW declined to answer stating that tenders had not been submitted yet.</p> <p>RP referred to a briefing given on the food waste collection at Cornwall County Hall and stated they were told that food waste would be stored for up to 24 hours not 48 or possibly 72 hours he then asked how much solid waste like bones could be taken.</p> <p>PD explained that at the front end of the process was a macerator which turns the solid waste into pulp and state that facilities like these were designed to cope with contamination.</p> <p>RW added that any comments anyone would like to leave about the proposed plans could be left on the comment sheets set out at the back of the room.</p> <p>PD asked if NC could circulate them via email to the group so that they could be emailed or posted back.</p>	<p>NC</p>
	<p>Close of meeting</p> <p>MCD thanked everyone for attending the extraordinary meeting and reminded everyone that if they wanted anything adding to the next Community Liaison meeting agenda, that they should email her directly.</p>	



	DM stated he didn't have MCD's email address, NC stated it had been sent out previously but that she would send it out again with the comment forms.	NC
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