



## Suffolk EfW Community Liaison Group Minutes

Great Blakenham Village Hall  
 Monday 22 November 2010  
 6.30pm-8.30pm

### Attendance:

Cllr John Field (JF), Suffolk County Council  
 Shirley Fairburn (SF), Great Blakenham Parish Council  
 Mr Earthy, Mid Suffolk District Council  
 Mrs Desme Girling (DG), local resident  
 Mrs Pearson (MP), local resident  
 Sophie Meudec (SM), local resident

### Observers:

Cllr Lisa Chambers (LC), Suffolk County Council  
 Cllr Roy Barker (RB), Mid Suffolk District Council  
 Bryn Griffiths (BG), Suffolk County Council  
 Emma Smyth, (ES), SITA UK  
 Anthony Durston (AD) SITA UK  
 Rebecca Eatwell (RE), PPS Group (temporary chair)

### Presenter:

Dan Smythe, (DS) RPS Group (Air quality)

### Apologies:

Mr Lockwood, local resident  
 Cllr Michael Blakenham (MB), Mid-Suffolk District Council  
 James Dowell (JD), SITA UK  
 Cllr Sandy Martin (SD), Suffolk County Council  
 Munaver Wagstaff (MW), local resident

Discussion	Actions
1. Welcome & introductions	
<p>Emma Smyth was introduced as the new Planning Manager at SITA UK, who will be responsible for the Suffolk energy-from-waste planning application.</p> <p>Daniel Smyth was introduced as an air quality expert, working for RPS – SITA UK’s planning consultancy.</p>	None
2. Election of a Chair for the Group	
<p>Will Gibson was suggested as a possible chair for the group. Mr Gibson is currently Chair of Suffolk ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) Project. The group agreed for PPS to contact Mr Gibson to find out if he is interested in Chairing the Group.</p>	PPS to speak to Mr Gibson.



3. Minutes and actions from the last meeting	
Minutes from the last meeting were accepted by the group.	Completed
4. Project update	
AD reported that the project is on course to submit a planning application in December. However, the submission was subsequently changed to January 2011 to avoid the Christmas period.	
5. Visit to an energy-from-waste facility	
<p>The group provisionally agreed the 12 January as the date to visit one of SITA UK's energy-from-waste facilities. Following a discussion, it was agreed that a visit to SITA UK's energy-from-waste facility in Kirklees (West Yorkshire) would be the most appropriate facility to visit. Although Kirklees bears no relation to how the Suffolk EfW facility would look – it was decided that the visit would provide the chance to see the technology working.</p>	SITA UK to finalise date and arrange transport from Great Blakenham to Kirklees.
6. Presentation from Dan Smyth on Air Quality, RPS Group.	
<p>DS explained that all the air quality assessments have now been completed.</p> <p>DG asked how frequently emissions from energy-from-waste facilities are checked.</p> <p>DS explained that it is in the interests of energy-from-waste operators to remain compliant, otherwise they face being closed down. He added that operators who have the best environmental record receive fewer spot checks than those where non-compliances are reported.</p> <p>SM asked what would happen if there was a surge in emissions.</p> <p>DS explained that operators would see this information very quickly and would take action within 30 minutes to ensure the facility remained compliant, or the facility would close down.</p> <p>DS also said that emissions data would be available in the visitor centre and on-line.</p> <p>DS presented information on the emissions from traffic – highlighting NO2 and particulate matter.</p>	



SF commented that cement dust from a nearby site (which is no longer there) used to fall at Henley – hence questioning whether or not emissions would be carried in a similar way. It was explained that there is no similarity between emissions from an energy-from-waste facility and a cement plant.

DS explained that emissions would not react in the same way and said that modelling showed how emissions would be dispersed - plus at an energy-from-waste facility, continuous emissions monitoring would take place on the stack.

The group asked for further clarification on when emission levels were assessed.

Samples were taken at a number of locations and DS confirmed that meteorological data was used from the past five years.

DS explained that weather conditions can affect the dispersion of the plume from the stack.

Members of the group suggested that the past five years had been mild. However, DS said that the meteorological data included a robust range of different weather conditions.

RB asked what would happen if the 40 limit for nitrogen dioxide was reached?

DS said that this would be regulated by a local air quality management system. One way that reductions can be achieved is via traffic management.

DS said that Air Quality Management Areas exist in London and in some of the UK's larger cities.

SM asked how we can be sure about what's in a municipal waste bin – ie what is treated at the energy-from-waste facility. Items such as gas canisters, for example, can be thrown away even though they should be disposed of another way.

DS said that it would be SITA UK's job to receive the waste and meet the emissions limits. Some waste, such as gas canisters, can be removed at the waste transfer station, or removed from the bunker. DS said that facility is designed to cope with waste such as this, so it would not cause a problem even if the canister was not removed.

The group asked how quickly concentrations fell below the 40

Action – include in briefing note.



level, when you move away from the A14. DS to provide information.

JF asked if small particulate matter (PM10 and below) could affect health.

DS said that PM10s and below are of more concern than nitrogen dioxide so PM10s and below are strictly monitored.

AP asked what would happen if the worst case scenario happened, ie someone discarded a war time bomb that ended up at the facility.

DS said that all operators have procedures to manage non conforming waste so that it can be diverted to an appropriate waste management facility. The waste is isolated from the rest of the waste stream. This can take place at the waste transfer station and, if the waste gets into the bunker, then it can be safely removed. Waste management consignment notes are completed , which describe the type of waste coming into the facility. This is checked at the weighbridge.

RB asked about the risk of DDT entering the waste stream. If drums were found in the bunker, they would be removed and managed appropriately. No drums would be accepted by the energy-from-waste facility.

JF asked about aerosols but DS confirmed that these would not pose a risk. These are mainly empty, however, even if there is some pressure left inside, the facility can cope with them.

SF asked if any lighting is proposed on the stack (chimney).

DS confirmed there had been feedback from RAF Wattisham suggesting lights on the stack. This is still tbc.

JF said that wind turbines can use infra-red lights and asked whether this would be a possibility for the stack.

DS said that the aviation spec. had indicated that intermitting lights are required.

DS



7. Date / time of next meeting	
Time and date of next meeting to be agreed via email / phone call, depending on the availability of consultants.	PPS
8. Any other business	
Dan Smyth's presentation to be distributed via email. Next presentation to focus on visual impact of the facility. Reserve list of interested residents to be looked at.	