

**Suffolk EfW Community Liaison Group
Minutes**



Great Blakenham Village Hall
Tuesday 20 July 2011
6.30pm-8.30pm

Attendance:

Cllr Roy Barker (RB), Mid Suffolk District Council
Shirley Fairburn, Great Blakenham Parish Council
Cllr John Field, (JF) - Chair
Desma Girling (DG), resident
Simon Harding (SH), Bury St Edmunds resident
Derek Lockwood, (DL) resident
Sophie Meudec (SM), resident
Penny Pearson, resident
Pamela Robinson (PR), Great Blakenham Parish Council
Munaveer Wafgstaff (MW), resident

Observers:

Bryn Griffiths, (BG) Suffolk County Council
Manda Henry, (MH), Suffolk County Council
Cliff Matthews (CM), SITA UK
Emma Smyth, (ES), SITA UK
Anthony Durston (AD), SITA UK (minutes)

Presenters:

Daniel Smyth, (DS), RPS Group (Planning consultant to SITA UK)

Apologies:

Cllr Michael Blakenham (MB), Mid_Suffolk District Council
Cllr Lisa Chambers (LC), Suffolk County Council
Trevor Messenger (TM), resident

| Discussion | Actions |
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| <p>1. Minutes and actions from the last meeting</p> <p>Minutes from the last CLG meeting were approved by the group with one spelling amend on page four.</p> <p>Action – hard copies of the planning recommendation were forwarded by PPS to every member of the group.</p> <p>Emma Smyth talked through some of the conditions that had been imposed by the planning document. JF stated that the group should discuss additional potential conditions for the planning application.</p> <p>Traffic</p> <p>A discussion followed about traffic levels in the area.</p> <p>SF mentioned the daily issue of army vehicles along the B1113 plus industry in Great Blakenham. Also the increase in size of Lion Barn in Needham Market.</p> <p>SF said that perception is that car traffic has quadrupled since Tesco roundabout was put in – everyone is now cutting through Great Blakenham. SF said that twice a week, she calls the police about the Bramford Road, due to it being gridlocked.</p> <p>CM said that only vehicles collecting waste from Gt Blakenham will travel through Great Blakenham.</p> <p>BG provided an update on conversations that Suffolk County Council is having with Mid Suffolk District Council regarding the issue of the accumulation of traffic. Andrew Gutteridge, Assistant Director of Highways and Transport will represent the County Council in discussions with Mid Suffolk DC about transport issues in Great Blakenham.</p> <p>BG explained that traffic predictions were based on a worst case scenario model where there were only two waste transfer stations in the county. BG was able to confirm that there will be a minimum of three and possibly more waste transfer stations. The result of this is that it is extremely likely that there will be even less vehicles travelling to the Energy from Waste plant than indicated in the planning application.</p> | <p>COMPLETED</p> |

Waste collection vehicles drop off waste at waste transfer stations and this is bulked onto larger vehicles – reducing the number of vehicles that take waste to the final disposal point (in this case the energy-from-waste facility).

RB said there was no mention of the number of transfer stations in the conditions with the planning recommendations and would like this to be imposed.

CM said that this would not be possible as the number of transfer stations could not be controlled by SITA UK.

BG reiterated that the positive news for the community is that all traffic predictions were based on there only being two waste transfer stations, therefore the situation will be better than studies have predicted for residents.

Locations for the waste transfer stations are likely to be as follows:

- 1) Bury St Edmunds
- 2) Lowestoft
- 3) Suffolk Coastal
- 4) Possibly further site if the proposal makes good business sense.

SF said that larger lorries are actually a problem for the community so regardless whether or not there is a decrease in the number of lorries, the size is a concern because she felt that larger lorries find it more difficult to access Lodge Lane.

SH said that lorries that go to and from the Greene King factory where he lives are the biggest possible, yet they manoeuvre along small roads very easily and they reduce emissions by at least half.

Recycling

SM asked what SCC's policy is on recycling.

BG said that Suffolk County Council has already achieved a 50 per cent recycling rate and that Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Waste Partnership is committed to achieving 60 per cent. He also said funding was provided to Suffolk County Council for the PFI

project with SITA UK on the condition that the solution respects the waste hierarchy, where reducing, reusing and recycling waste are priorities, with energy-from-waste handling the waste that is left over.

Other complementary technologies are also being considered alongside energy-from-waste include anaerobic digestion..

Catchment area of waste

RB commented on the catchment area for waste.

The planning officer's recommendation stipulates that London's waste cannot be treated at the Suffolk energy-from-waste facility. The catchment has been defined as the East of England. Counsel advice was taken on what restrictions to put in place. The advice from Counsel was that London's waste could be restricted from coming into the facility. Further restrictions, however, would have made it more likely that ministers could have overturned the decision.

BG said that it is helpful to have reciprocal agreements with another authority for waste to be handled during emergency shut down periods for example.

Environment Agency

JF reported on the consultation meeting held by the Environment Agency and explained that ongoing pollution measurements are taking place to verify the modelling that has taken place. The data is in the Environmental Statement.

JF asked if any LG monitoring is taking place.

DS confirmed that LG monitoring had taken place in the local area and in Ipswich.

JF asked if there was any intention to verify models.

DS said that monitoring had taken place for 12 months to establish the air quality baseline position.

DS said that the EA will require further monitoring for Environmental

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| <p>Permit purposes.</p> <p>DS said that SITA UK must supply any data that is requested back to the EA – depending on the conditions of the Permit. Any breaches are reported immediately.</p> <p>MW asked if the methodology for air quality monitoring is scrutinised by the EA.</p> <p>DS said that the scoping report is submitted, which sets out what we propose to do and how we will do it. Both the local authority and planning authority were consulted on this.</p> <p>DS said that some locations had been selected by SCC before SITA UK began monitoring. This data set was retained and monitoring continued. The information was also used as part of the analysis.</p> <p>DS said that all the air quality information is available in Chapter 12 – the Environment Statement. A copy had been forwarded to the Parish Council .</p> <p>Process for the EA to make their decision on the Environment Permit.</p> <p>The EA will invite further comments on their draft recommendation for the Permit until 15 August 2011. The EA will then make its decision. At this stage the EA is minded to approve the permit application.</p> <p>MW asked who would be carrying out demolishing work on site. CM said the tender list has not yet been finalised.</p> <p>Community benefits</p> <p>A discussion followed about community benefits of the facility.</p> <p>BG said that the project will save Suffolk’s council tax payers at least £350 million over the life of the contract.</p> <p>AD to source copies of the SITA Trust annual review for the group.</p> <p>SH highlighted the spin-off benefits that industry brings to a local area.</p> | <p>AD</p> |
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The group requested a representative from SITA Trust attends the next CLG meeting.

AD

Any other business

SF asked for the groups thanks to be recorded for the visit to the Isle of Man. The group was pleased with the open way in which they were treated. SF is keen to ensure that if the development goes ahead and any issues do occur, they can speak to someone directly on the phone so issues can be resolved quickly.

CM

BG said that lawyers advice regarding whether Parish Councillors should declare their interest could be attached to the minutes.

MH

A further discussion followed about where electricity would feed into the National Grid. RB raised concerns about electricity being fed to Stowmarket when there is a sub station at the cement works.

Next meeting

Next meeting 6.30pm on Tuesday 6 September.

Clarification on how parish councillors should declare the energy-from-waste facility visit to the Isle of Man:

Parish councillors should declare the visit as 'hospitality received over the value of £25' as part of their register of interests. Some parish councils have separate forms to fill in. A value does not need to be put on the visit, but details of the visit and the date need to be completed.