

King's Cliffe Local Liaison Group Meeting

24th June 2014

Present

Phil Watson (PW)
Chris Leuchars (CL)
Daphne Sharpe (DS)
Heather Smith (HS)
Fiona Cowan (FC)
Tony Slipper
Simon Moyle (SM)
Mathew York
Michael Day
Eleanor Nicholson (EN)
Gene Wilson (GW)
Roy Mantas
Antony Mould
Kevin Burton

Representing

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)
King's Cliffe Parish Council
Easton on the Hill Parish Council
Councillor (NCC – Prebendal)
Collyweston Parish Council
Tixover Parish Council
Augean
Grant Scape
King's Cliffe Parish Council
Jennings Nicholson Associates (for Augean)
Augean
Environment Agency
Environment Agency
Environment Agency

1 Apologies

Kay Musgrove Collyweston PC

2 Minutes from Previous Meeting

- 2.1 Para 6.2 RM – Clarified that Radon can exit in groundwater but it is at very small levels. Turbulence of water liberates it as a gas.

3 Operators Update

- 3.1 SM - Site entrance works will be undertaken to improve turning out left from the site. Advice from NCC Highways was that it needed a section 278 Highways Agreement and this will be done in this years budget.
- 3.2 There has been infrastructure improvement works on the discharge from the water lagoon to enable it to be used, including monitoring requirements for the environment Agency.
- 3.3 The Soil treatment plant has had improvement works, to the concrete pad and other works.
- 3.4 Dust fence (mesh) been erected within the site on the northern boundary of the soil treatment plan.

- 3.5** Landfill operation are now in cell 5b, with protection measures in place for the liner. Water from early year rainfall is being pumped out as this caused it to be above the levels prescribed in the Environmental Permit.
- 3.6** GW - Still working on the permit variations. The open day will be in October this year and this will be an opportunity to explain the permit variations which are required for the site extension area.
- 3.7** GW - The Thornough landfill, which was originally operated by another waste company, has been ongoing for a long time and the old landfill area has some liabilities for pollution control of groundwater. Therefore the decision has been taken by Augean to apply for planning permission to remove the waste currently in the site and place it in a proper engineered area. The Waste is a mix of industrial, commercial & quarry waste. This will be an application to Peterborough City Council.
- 3.8** KB – Confirmed he had been involved in this at Thornough and EA are agreeable to the objectives, which will also be under permit controls.
- 3.9** GW - Confirmed the quantity of work is about 300,000 tonnes of commercial and Industrial waste plus some mineral waste.
- 3.10** KL - Asked what the Surface Water Discharge at Kings Cliffe entailed.
- 3.11** SM - Confirmed that this is clean water from the capped landfill areas, and the water discharge will be subject to continual monitoring to ensure it is up to clean standards, including, devoid of solids. water will be pumped from the storage lagoons into the adjacent surface.
- 3.12** SM - The water in cell 5b is treated as leachate and dealt with accordingly and not discharged to surface water courses.
- 3.13** TF - Asked for the number of staff on site?
- 3.14** GW - reported that there are 20. 7 in the lab, 12 on site, 2/3 in the offices
- 3.15** RM - Confirmed that a joint monitoring exercise was undertaken in February relating to the LLW controls. The results show nothing is elevated. The report is funded under the RIFE Programme which deals with all radioactive sites in the UK. Funding for further monitoring programmes will be reduced from the Defra fund and therefore the EA will be looking at other ways of funding. The operator being charged is the favoured way.
- 3.16** GW - Confirmed Augean is willing to fund this.
- 3.17** RM - The management levels at Augean are very robust compared with some other operators. A few opportunities for improvements were identified

but nothing fundamental. RM went on to explain some of the details of the monitoring exercise:-

- Consignments were identified and Augean were challenged on how they dealt with these to ensure conformity.
- A further radioactive waste expert was also brought in and she was impressed and confirmed that the standards were higher than other LLW landfill sites.
- When consignments are in the "grey" area in relation to the permit limits. Some are accepted and some not.

3.18 CL - Have the rejected ones arrived at the site? RM No, these are not given clearance to come to the site.

3.19 CL - Does the assessment include matters such as "proximity" principal?

3.20 RM - This is part of the Best Available Technique (BAT) assessment by the producer of the waste.

3.21 RM - Confirmed the EA will attend the Augean open day to answer questions.

3.22 CL - asked for the figures on the volume of LLW brought this year?

3.23 GW - Not sure but will provide a figure for the minutes, last year was 3,000 tonnes. (N.B later in the meeting SM confirmed the figure was 2161 so far this year)

3.24 DS - Can KC PC have notice of application for the permit variations?

3.25 RM - Copies will be provided and GW confirmed he will make sure LLG members know.

4 Community Fund

4.1 HS - reported that the fund had £6844 last year and she explained where the monies went:-

CHAT were given £800 for counselling in schools. Since then HS had a meeting with Grant Scape and they will deal with schemes over £5K. HS feels that any smaller capital projects can be referred to her, plus revenue projects.

- 18K, has been received this year but not yet allocated. One form has been taken by the same organisation which had £3k last year. HS feels that KC Underground should contract her. CL will pursue this to ensure that this is pursued.

4.2 MY - Grant Scape is a charity (took over from SWEET) based in Milton Keynes. Being close helps with meeting application groups to assist with the application process.

4.3 Andrew Budd is the main contact on 01908 247638 - He works on the basis of giving advice on the acceptability of the principle of the proposal first and then asking for asking for supporting information after schemes agreed.

In this way the applicant isn't put off by having to provide information in detail before knowing if the scheme will be accepted.

Grant applications have been slow to begin with but now picked up.

4.5 The Thornough & Augean Fund have agreed a strategy to co-ordinate. It will be known as the "Augean Community Fund" which will involve both the KCA & Thornough decision bodies.

4.6 Applications have to be in by 2 dates in a year either by December or June.

4.7 Grant Scape can fund projects within 10 miles of the site.

5. EA Update

Hazardous Waste

5.1 KB - confirmed the EA are undertaking a review of all site permits to make sure they are consistent. This is work in progress. When Augean put in for the variation for the permit it may cover both existing permits.

5.2 KB - The landfill site is looking for a lagoon for the dredging waste brought on the site. Once the application comes in, the implications for the permit will be reviewed.

5.3 PW - Asked if dredging waste could cause odour?

5.4 KB - No. Low risk of odour.

5.5 KB - Storms over winter identified that dust control measures could be improved. Hence the new dust mesh. Minor improvements to soil processing also identified.

5.6 Landfill – high standards of operations observed and these standards are being monitored.

5.7 Monitoring data. Leachate levels were compliant but due to the winter storms some wells have tripped just over the levels. It is expected that this should be in compliance now. (KB will be checking the latest monitoring data to check this).

5.8 Testing of clay for impermeability in the extension area is taking place before the permit is submitted.

6 County Council Update

6.1 PW - reported that the examination into the Minerals and Waste Development Framework Partial Review had taken place in early April 2014.

6.2 There now is a policy on active radio waste disposal which was discussed at the examination and Augean were present. Some changes to the policy (Policy 21) were agreed. The proposal changes were out for comments until the end of June 2014. No issues have emerged as a result of this consultation. The Inspectors report is awaited but based on the examination there aren't expected to be any major issues to prevent the adoption of the new Minerals and Waste Local Plan later this year.

7 Any Other Business

7.1 SM - confirmed that for LLW a total of 2161 t has been imported so far this year.

7.2 CL - Raised the issue of any progress with NuLeAF and the NDA re community fund discussions

7.3 PW - said he would check the latest position with NuLeAF, and reported in the minutes. However, as had previously been said at other meetings, NuLeAF have this issue as one of their business objectives and will pursue with the NDA. Nevertheless, it is unrealistic to expect that the NDA will suddenly offer to give a large sum to the local communities near King's Cliffe. The community fund with Augean is in place and proportionally in relation to the level of radiation, it could be regarded as a fair fund.

7.4 Update on NuLeAF Discussions with NDA

NuLeAF has confirmed that it will be engaging with the NDA on the matter of community benefits hopefully later this year. They would like a representative from Northamptonshire to attend this meeting when it is arranged.

8 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 3rd December 2014 2.00pm