

**Notes of Clayton Hall Landfill Site Local Liaison Group – Chorley Town Hall**  
**Wednesday 31 October 2018 – 6:00pm**

Present: Cllr Mark Clifford (MC) Chairman – Chairman of Clayton le Woods Parish Council  
Cllr Matt Lynch (ML) – L Hoyle PM Representative  
Cllr Eric Bell (EB) – Whittle le Woods Parish Council  
David Clough (DC) – Residents' Committee  
John Neville (JN) – Environment Agency  
Neville Whittham (NW) – Chorley Borough Council Representative  
Chris Turner (CT) – General Manager - Quercia  
Steve Grieve (SG) – Quercia  
Matthew Barlow (MB) – Landfill Manager – Quercia  
Amanda George – Note taker - Quercia

Apologies: Angela Barron, Councillor Green

MC thanked everyone for attending.

1 **Minutes of last meeting**

MC asked if all were happy with the notes of the last meeting and all agreed.

2 **Matters Arising**

None were raised. MB stated that Quercia had been vigilant with regard to trucks being sheeted and templates were being drafted for the entrance and exit to reinforce the message. **Action: Ongoing - MB**

3 **Current Situation on Site**

3.1 **Odour Control and Complaints**

Quercia had issued an update report prior to the meeting which stated 9 complaints had been received (via the EA also) and since the issue of the report a further 2 had been received. The 9 were investigated and found to be tarmac and which were verified by the EA and the two received after the report were investigated and no odour was found for the areas in question. MC said that he had been on site the day of the liaison meeting had hadn't experienced any odour other than the usual background smell. EB asked what type of smell was reported. MB confirmed that the complaints had been received via the EA, as rotten eggs from a regular postcode.

3.2 **Engineering Works**

MB referred to the report that had been issued. Cell 3A had now been seeded. The green area hatched on the plan was the area to be immediately capped and everything was in place ready to go. It was estimated the work would take ten weeks to allow for delays in weather. Phase one of the side wall was complete and tipping was now below the skyline.

JN questioned the picture and two thirds being referred to as tipped, the last third being at the bottom of the image, MB agreed. JN stated that would leave one quarter uncapped and MB agreed.

ML asked about weather conditions and how winter weather would affect odour and operations. MB stated that where tipping had finished on the east a metre of soil had been put on as a temporary cover to help suppress windblown litter, odours, dust etc and acted as a regulating layer. MB stated that there were procedures for doing the lining works and it was the same company that would be undertaking this work so they were well versed with what needed to happen in cold weather. CT explained that when there was high pressure, the air mass increased and pushed on the landfill and had the potential to cause more gas to be released. CT went on to explain that the more of the site that was capped the greater the extraction system which lessened the chance of atmospheric pressure forcing gas out.

MB stated that as part of the capping works 6-8 deep gas wells were going into the capped area.

ML asked about the water. MB said that this had already been taken care of with surface water discharge on both side of the site.

ML asked if there was a heavy frost would anything start to tear or crack and MB replied no and confirmed that the plastic used was tested to very high levels with samples taken from each roll and involved a CQA plan, confirmed by the EA. The air tightness of the wells was also tested. Everything was then submitted to the EA for approval. ML asked again if any issues were anticipated and MB confirmed no.

### 3.3 Waste Inputs

MB stated that between 800-900 tonnes per week were being received of non-putrescible waste, there was no food/black bag waste. ML asked how this compared to pre-odour and MB confirmed that it was roughly the same.

MC queried the yellow bags that he had seen earlier that day. MB stated it was clinical non-hazardous waste. CT stated that it was known as healthcare waste and wasn't anatomical waste from hospitals which needed to be incinerated but low level risk waste such as stoma bags and reconfirmed that Quercia was only taking what it was allowed to under the permit.

### 3.4 Communications

MB confirmed that the site update issued for this meeting would be issued prior to every meeting. MB stated the Dave and Sue Clough had also attended site and stated that anyone was welcome to attend to see what was happening. DC stated that it was good to see the seed down on the cap when he visited. MB said he was speaking with Quercia's marketing company to get more updates and SG stated that the last update had been on 22 October but suggested that if those present at the meeting could get to site to see what was happening then that was a good way to communicate as to what was happening.

ML asked about Christmas and whether anything was being done in advance to those residents that were affected last year as he clearly remembered what happened last Christmas when he had volunteered a couple of hours during the Christmas period but had ended up spending a lot longer given the issues; ML stressed that he did not want to go through the same this Christmas. ML suggested that there should be something issued along the lines of “should you encounter any issue over the Christmas period, these are the numbers to contact” and to perhaps say what was happening on the site to give assurances to the residents. ML also suggested perhaps as a measure of goodwill that Quercia look to donate a hamper to a worthy cause. MB stated that YELM, the gas contractor, was operational 24/7/365 and as soon as a “blip” is registered it is acted up.

MC said that residents would be worried that something would go wrong and that there would be no one available to act. MB assured the meeting that this would not be the case.

SG suggested that the draft could be put forward at the meeting at the end of November. MC said that he had spoken with ML and wasn't sure if there would be a meeting at the end of November but that this would be covered later in the agenda.

#### 4 **Environment Agency Update**

##### 4.1 Multi Agency Group

JN reported that it had been relatively quiet and that the EA had been updating LCC and CBC on anything received.

##### 4.2 Inspections/Data

Data as at the end of the last week showed that there did not appear to be any peaks in H2S over 2ppb and that it was generally around 1ppb. CT asked what it had been up to and JN replied 300ppb. JN reminded the room that a nose could detect at about 4ppb. JN stated that in May the peaks were 1-2 a week at around 7-10ppb.

##### 4.3 Complaints

JN confirmed that the EA had had the same number of complaints as Quercia as these were all passed through. The EA had notified MB the previous week of changes to weather and to have plans in place and MB confirmed there was. JN said that the EA would continue to remind Quercia when they were on site to be vigilant with the colder weather.

MC asked if the gas monitoring equipment was now fully operational. JN confirmed it was and the VOC data was being received and that nothing significant was being picked up.

JN went on to say the total number of complaints had been 14 with two being related to noise and this coincided with the seeding.

##### 4.4 Communications

A monthly update was ongoing however JM expected a change over with regard to the type of communication given that Quercia were going to issue a site update.

MC asked for the EA view on the update that had been issued. JN didn't disagree with anything that was said although if he was being picky there were a couple of things that perhaps were not correctly termed.

JN confirmed that communication would continue and that he was looking to review that in December as that would be when the monitoring equipment would be removed. JN stated that there would be an appraisal of all the data which PHE would review and analyse. JN went on to say that over the last four months the data showed only what would be expected.

MC asked given the sensitivity of Christmas would it be better to leave the equipment in situ until after. JN said he understood the concern but the equipment was already three months over what was normally expected and that the equipment was in demand where there were significant issues. JN said the area that caused the problem last time had now been capped so keeping the equipment there could not be really justified but stressed that regulatory visits were being maintained weekly. JN said that the EA seen an improved management system and the engineering due to happen would only increase the improvement.

MC asked JN whether the questions submitted by residents had been answered on operating to best practise and infrastructure. JN referred back to some of what he had just said and that there was still some infrastructure go be put in place.

## 5 Local Community Groups

DC said that it had been very quiet with only one Facebook posting concerning noise from machines which were working within their permitted hours but asked if that was to happen again if MB could let people know in advance. DC said that he and his wife had been to site for an hour and could see the improvement. However, there was a disappointment as they left and followed a wagon from Lincolnshire which turned the wrong way where there were weight restrictions and noted that some of the wagons were still heading towards the A6. MB stated that the weight restriction on Dawson Lane allowed vehicle access to the site and that the wagon could have been heading towards Manchester. ML asked if the restriction was for both ways and MB confirmed it was. EB confirmed that wagons still continued to do above 40mph. ML suggested the speed was painted on the road. SG suggested that it could go on the sign that MB was already producing with regard to sheeting, EB said that may help.  
**Action: MB**

MC asked ML if anything had come via LH's office in terms of complaints and ML said that what there had been had been answered.

MC asked NW if he had received anything and NW replied that he had received nothing at all and everything was going in the right direction and stated that he should arrange a site visit. MB asked the NW email him to arrange.

MC asked DC if he had anything else to add and DC said that he thought the site update was a good idea and asked if it could be shared on the FB site and it was agreed it could be.

## 6 Any other business

6.1 ML asked regarding security issues and whether with the cold weather had had any affect. MB replied that there was a manned guard over weekends who was actively looking/checking and that they had upped the range of cover. Security on the evenings had been reduced due to the dark nights but there was always an option to put it back in place if needed. ML asked if there had been any instances of vulnerable individuals on site and MB said no.

MC asked for clarification on graffiti. MB stated that was some time ago at a weekend and the youths has been escorted off site after having used a spray can on the liner. ML referred to instances of graffiti on Buckshaw Village and asked that any instances be reported with a photo because individuals could be identified by what was written.

## 7 Date of Next Meeting

MC asked about the next meeting and whether there should, given the sensitivity of Christmas, be one before then. MB suggested that Quercia put an update out along with what was to happen over the festive season instead of the meeting. JN suggested that before the update for this meeting was issued that this included what was to happen with regard to Christmas and the next meeting as in there will not be a meeting in December but this what will be in place. This was agreed as a good idea and the next meeting set as 6.00pm, Wednesday 16 January 2019, Town Hall, Chorley.

ML then asked if the agenda and notes could be sent at the same time going forward. MC pointed out that the only thing on the agenda that did change was the date but that in future they would be.