



Devonport Incinerator Liaison Committee Meeting

Date: 27th July 2017

Devonport EfW CHP Facility: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Present:

Statutory bodies:

- George Wheeler – GW (PCC)
- Jane Ford – JF (MVV, minutes)
- Paul Carey – PC (MVV)
- Mark Turner – MT (SWDWP)
- Ashleigh Sherrell – AS (SWDWP)

Resident members:

- Alex Battershill – AB (Chair)
- George Cooke – GC
- Sue Murphy – SM
- Denis Murphy – DM
- Ruth Crawford – RC
- Veronica Smerdon - VS
- David Angove – DA
- Pamela Huson – PH

Guests:

- Colin Varcoe (resident)
- Roger Palfrey (resident)
- Jeanette Hipsey (resident)
- Harriet (resident)
- Gareth Harrison-Poole (PCC street services)

| ITEM | | ACTION |
|------|---|--------|
| 1. | Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tina Tuohy (PCC)• David Marks (resident)• Caroll Cooke (resident) <p>As there were guests present, everyone introduced themselves at the start of the meeting and all guests were welcomed.</p> | |
| 2. | Minutes from previous meeting <p>The January minutes were amended as requested by GW.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gareth Harrison-Poole was in attendance as requested• The updated Terms of Reference have been added to MVV's website• The ILC meeting was advertised in the community events section of the Herald and this resulted in four guests attending this meeting | |



| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to the post-meeting note regarding the dates of this year's maintenance outage, MVV's Facility Manager stated that the shutdown had also been pushed forward to avoid the hottest summer months but ensure readiness for full CHP supply. | |
| 3. | PCC waste minimisation strategy | |
| | <p>MT introduced GH-P and explained that the ILC members had visited Chelson Meadow Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in order to understand recycling better.</p> <p>RP expressed an interest in a visit which MT stated could come through JF and GH-P confirmed he would be happy to arrange, adding that Plymouth is lucky to have two world class facilities.</p> <p><i>GH-P gave an overview of the recycling and waste collection services in Plymouth:</i></p> <p>Plymouth currently has a recycling rate of 32-33% and is one of the last councils in the country to move to fortnightly residual waste (brown bin) collections; there are improvement targets in the Plymouth Plan which has a waste minimisation strand running throughout. There is an aspiration to do more and the alternate weekly collections is one step along this path, following advice from consultants; the aim is to increase recycling by 4-8% and the first quarter (May-July) is in line with predictions.</p> <p>GC asked whether the council had informed people and GH-P confirmed that leaflets had been sent to all householders with information about their new collection days and what should go into each bin.</p> <p>GC asked about the recyclability of black plastic food trays and GH-P explained that the market is moving quickly so it is hoped that these will soon be accepted in green bins.</p> <p>MT asked whether such items should be put in green or brown bins for the time being and GH-P confirmed that if residents are in doubt they should put them in their green bins.</p> <p>JF added that rigid coloured plastic trays can go in the green bin (for example trays holding mushrooms) but microwave meal trays should go in the brown bin for now.</p> <p>GW pointed out that this complicates the message and it may be safer to say, if in doubt, put it in the green bin.</p> <p>CV queried the MRF reject rate and GH-P stated that 87% of Plymouth's recyclables are of the highest quality but he will have</p> | |



to check the exact figures for rejects (TBC). He was able to pass on that Viridor (who operate the MRF) are very pleased with Plymouth residents' efforts, stating that the quality is high and contamination is low.

PH asked whether uncleaned items get rejected and GH-P reassured the meeting that Viridor say Plymouth residents are behaving well with respect to presenting their recycling in a suitably clean state.

RP asked whether these successes could be celebrated in the Herald and GH-P explained that PCC can do this through their own channels but can't dictate what gets printed in the press.

Suggestions from the group as to how the successes could be celebrated were discussed:

GW – press release from the ILC

GC – in the local paper

GH-P – on the sides of bin lorries

GW – in the Shopper

GH-P went on to explain that high rise flats are still a challenge and the five new recycling officers are targeting difficult areas of the city; PCC are also investing in kitchen caddies for houses of multiple occupancy but some areas are still not increasing their recycling rates.

GC pointed out that alternate weeks should be easier to remember and GH-P agreed that the new system is bedding in but there are still too many properties not putting their green bins out.

JH stated that she produces so little residual waste that she uses old carrier bags rather than bin bags but sometimes her brown bin doesn't get emptied.

GH-P continued to explain further initiatives such as clothes and shoes recycling banks (at various locations around the city).

JH asked for advice about lightbulbs and it was acknowledged that people are unlikely to make a trip to a household waste site (Weston Mill/Chelson Meadow) for one lightbulb; GH-P responded that they could be brought to this meeting if residents find it difficult to get to other locations such as supermarkets and household waste sites; PC added that lightbulbs would not cause a problem in the EfW process so they can go into the brown bin. PH asked about low energy bulbs (which contain mercury) and GH-P stated that these should go to a household waste site. AB questioned what these ladies, and many others like them should



| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| | <p>do as they do not drive and it is a long way to Weston Mill/Chelson Meadow for one lightbulb; PC reiterated that these lightbulbs would not cause problems in the EfW process and went on to explain the flue gas cleaning and filtration processes; sending them here is better than putting them into landfill. GH-P confirmed that it is better to put lightbulbs in the brown bin than the green bin.</p> <p>AB asked about arrangements for the new flats and students coming to the city; GH-P explained that facilities for recycling are being incorporated into the new flats, leaflets are being placed in every property and the recycling officers are targeting Freshers Fair.</p> <p>GW pointed out that Barne Barton has specific issues and perhaps it would be better to target the Housing Associations; GH-P confirmed that the recycling officers aim to address this type of issue which is not unique to Barne Barton and stated that people are starting to buy smarter which results in less waste.</p> <p>PC stated that at the start of this project he had pointed out in presentations that we all buy our waste and we all have the right to refuse!</p> <p>AB thanked GH-P on behalf of the committee for taking the time to attend this meeting and GH-P thanked the ILC for the invitation.</p> | |
| 4. | Spring sponsorship awards | |
| | <p>In the latest round of sponsorship, MVV have supported a youth volunteering trip to Ghana (Ambassadors 2 Ghana) and a new Anti-Litter Alliance which aims to clean up areas of Kinterbury Creek, Wolseley Road and St Budeaux Square.</p> | |
| 5. | Any other business | |
| | <p>JF informed the group that MVV are supporting the Council's 'Our Stars' awards this year and invited ILC members to join them at the event – interested members to contact JF.</p> <p>MVV will be holding an open day on Friday 3rd November, which is an opportunity for local people and schools to come and see what happens to their non-recyclable waste as well as take part in activities on the day.</p> <p>JH asked whether anyone had claimed the gold ring found in the waste and JF confirmed that they had not; JH asked whether she could purchase it or buy litter bins for Blackie Woods in exchange for it as she collects curiosities. MVV do not have a policy to cover</p> | |



| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| | <p>this sort of thing and JF/PC will discuss it further; there is also some debate as to whether bins should be provided since they are not responsibly used in areas where they are currently placed. JH also asked whether there had been any frogspawn in the pond this year and JF confirmed that there had, both this year and last.</p> <p>DA asked about the loud explosions heard recently and it was confirmed that this was a gun salute during Princess Anne's recent visit to the Dockyard.</p> <p>MT informed the group that he would soon be leaving PCC and moving on but that he would like to remain in touch.</p> <p>For the benefit of guests present, AB explained the history of issues experienced in the early days and stated that MVV have done everything possible to remedy these – there was general agreement with this sentiment.</p> | |
| 8. | Date of next meeting | |
| | <p>26th October 2017 from 6:00pm Devonport EfW CHP Facility</p> <p>Quarterly meetings will remain on the last Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October at 6:00pm</p> | |