

Devonport Incinerator Liaison Committee Meeting

Date: 26th November 2015

Devonport EfW CHP Facility: 6:30 – 8 pm

Present:

Statutory bodies:

- George Wheeler – GW (PCC)
- Jane Ford - JF (MVV)
- David Mudge – DM (EA)
- Sarah Taylor – ST (EA)
- Gregg Portass – GP (PPS)
- Mark Turner – MT (SWDWP)
- Ashleigh Sherrell – AS (SWDWP)

Resident members:

- Alex Battershill – AB
- George Cooke – GC
- Carroll Cooke – CC
- David Angove – DA
- Denis Murphy – DMu
- Sue Murphy – SM
- Melv Chislett – MC
- David Marks – DMa
- Nick Glover – NG
- Pamela Husson – PH

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ken Ford (MoD)• Veronica Smerdon (resident)	
2.	Minutes from previous meeting	
	<p>JF offered to guide the group through the agenda as well as taking notes.</p> <p>Link to Air Quality Monitoring data and Environmental Permit has been sent around and JF is available to discuss these if anyone has difficulty accessing or interpreting the information. Community computer facilities are available at Tamar View in Barne Barton and the local libraries also provide internet access.</p> <p>Roof vents were shown on an aerial photograph and explained to the group.</p> <p>A site visit was held on 1st July 2015 with 18 residents in attendance – there are no minutes as this was not run as a formal meeting, although residents did have the opportunity to discuss concerns with the usual statutory bodies, all of whom were in attendance.</p>	
3.	EA update and residents' concerns	
	<p>This item was moved up the agenda as EA officers had another meeting to attend and wanted to be available to address residents' concerns.</p> <p>DM explained that the Facility has now achieved Service Commencement and as such is regulated by its Environmental Permit. He noted that commissioning had gone well and the abatement/gas cleaning system was working very well; as an example, particulates are at one tenth of the permitted limit.</p>	

Odour

Regarding odour complaints, DM noted that MVV had been open about issues and are making improvements to sealing of the waste bunker and cladding. Reports of odour have greatly reduced and the EA are happy with progress.

GC asked about the source of odours on a particular occasion. JF explained that this was due to a fire test which resulted in the roof vents being left open allowing odour to escape directly to the atmosphere. There was no indication of this in the Control Room but this has now been rectified. MC pointed out that we may need to wait for warmer weather in the summer months to know for sure how effective the mitigation measures have been.

Residents were reminded of the EA hotline number: 0800 807060

CC stated that there had been a significant increase in numbers of flies during warm weather, especially dull brown ones a bit bigger than fruit flies. This has been noted by residents in both Harbour and Hamoaze Avenues and was supported by both NG and DMu, who stated that an increase in flies has also been noted at Rowes Honda. DM explained that he and ST have been making regular visits to the site and had found no evidence of infestation. DM also pointed out that building seals and odour may contribute and a view will be taken next summer. MT suggested that the ILC meet around six months ahead of the summer to look for a trend (see 4: frequency and dates of future meetings).

GW asked whether odour from the Facility had reduced and both DM and JF agreed that it had significantly reduced. GW further enquired whether the odour report including residents' observations would be available on MVV's website – JF to confirm. GW also pointed out that it is one of the roles of the ILC to ensure that the public know what is being done. DM added that the process of investigating and mitigating for odour is a bit like onion peeling – you cure the obvious first and then look deeper.

JF

Air quality and emissions

PH asked whether there was air quality monitoring in the wider community. GP explained that there is a city-wide air quality programme which has been up-scaled in this area with two particulate monitors. PH asked what happens if limits are breached. GP explained that if a breach can be attributed to the Facility, eg a fault or under-performance, then there are enforcement sanctions which depend on the severity and longevity of any impacts. He also pointed out that background data had been collected prior to operations and there have been no issues.

GW asked about smaller particulates (PM_{2.5}) for which GP stated that there are no national limits. JF confirmed that the particulate monitors can measure these smaller particulates and that the PM₁₀ levels will include PM_{2.5} as well. GP elaborated that seasonal and annual variations are often seen, eg with Saharan dust giving a national increase. Any breach would be compared to city-wide and national data. DM added that the data collected at the chimney would ensure that the Facility would be offline well before anything could get out.

	<p><u>Chimney lights</u> MC raised a concern that the chimney lights couldn't be seen in foggy weather. GP deferred to the Civil Aviation Authority or Health and Safety Executive. DM suggested that (at a guess) there wouldn't be any flights if visibility was so bad.</p> <p>AB requested confirmation of city monitoring sites; GP responded: Royal Parade (centre of pedestrian area), Exeter Street, Mutley Plain, Crownhill Road and Outland Road. It was confirmed that there is no specific monitoring, apart from the NO₂ tubes, in the higher St. Budeaux area.</p> <p>DMA asked whether there was any monitoring equipment near the Goschen Centre and GP state that there is not and explained that particulate monitoring is based on traffic data and is available on PCC's website.</p> <p>PH expressed concern that the emissions could be dangerous during start-up. DM explained that the boiler is brought up to temperature using oil and that everything on the grate burns for at least 850°C for at least 2 seconds. No waste can be fed onto the grate until this temperature is reached.</p> <p><u>Other</u> GC asked about the report of a bag coming out of the chimney. This is not possible as anything that comes out of the chimney has passed through a rigorous cleaning and filtration process.</p>	
4.	Terms of Reference	
	<p>It was agreed that minutes should continue to be placed on MVV's website and that meetings should occur quarterly, on the last Thursday of the month (starting 25th February 2016), to assist scheduling.</p> <p>DMA noted that the current membership is enough for the purposes of decision-making. NG suggested that the group should be more open and GW offered advice based on experience with the Naval Base Committee where membership is open to local councils and agencies and meetings also include the public and press. It was agreed to trial a more open invitation for the next meeting.</p> <p>The proposal to have a second Councillor on this Committee was discussed and agreed by a vote. GW suggested that a second councillor should be from the local area which was agreed by members of the committee.</p>	<p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>
5.	Commissioning / Snagging	
	<p><u>Smoke</u> JF clarified that the plume from the chimney is water vapour and not smoke.</p> <p>All other matters have been covered and detailed in the minutes above.</p>	
6.	Any Other Business	

	<p>PH asked what was coming back from Holland but this is not anything to do with MVV's shipping arrangement and should be addressed to the shipping company. GW asked whether an IBA processing site has been found in the south west yet – not yet.</p> <p>PH asked about the destination of Teignbridge's waste and MT explained that half will come to Plymouth and half will go to the Exeter Facility.</p> <p>AB noted that a large waste lorry had passed through St Budeaux, MT confirmed that such incidents should be reported. NG noted that construction sign posting was still in place but no new signs had been installed. GC also expressed concerns over traffic but MT was able to report that there have been no issues from the Partnership's side. Post meeting note: the highways agency do not consider signs to the Facility are necessary but an HGV route plan is in place.</p> <p>AB noted that the lights are beautiful but NG expressed concern that they remain on too late. MVV can control the lights and could turn them off earlier if desired. JF to discuss.</p> <p>DMA suggested that the rib lighting scheme could be changed to green and white if Plymouth Argyle win promotion this season – this should be possible and JF will check.</p> <p>GW asked whether there had been any noise complaints. GP confirmed that none had been received recently and that the Noise Monitoring Steering Group continues to meet regularly.</p> <p>JF was thanked for acting as Chair and minute-taker. AB offered to Chair future meetings.</p>	<p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>
7.	Date of next meeting	
	<p>Thursday 25th February 2015 @ 6:30pm Devonport EfW CHP Facility</p>	