Devonport Incinerator Liaison Committee Meeting

Date: 16th April; 2014

Weston Mill Oak Villa social club: 7 - 9 pm

Present:

Statutory bodies:

- Paul Carey PC (MVV)
- Jane Ford JF (MVV)
- John Meaken JM (MoD)
- David Mudge DM (EA)

Resident members:

- Melv Chislett MC
- George & Caroll Cooke GC/CC
- Dennis & Sue Murphy DeM/SM
- Veronica Smerdon VS
- Pat Patel PP
- Margaret McKee MM
- Janis Uglow JU
- David Angove DA
- Steve Carder SC
- Pamela Husson PH

Guests:

- Sam Blackledge SB (Plymouth Herald)
- Sally Godber SG (WARM)
- Adam Duffield AD (resident)
- Elaine Hall EH (resident)
- Samantha Weaver SW (resident)
- Claire Waterhouse CW (resident)
- Alastair Sinclair AS (resident)

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies	
	 George Wheeler (PCC) Mark Turner (SWDWP) Nick & Sharon Glover (residents) Low carbon and green infrastructure teams (PCC) 	
2.	Welcome to new members	
	Introductions were made as a number of new residents were in attendance. Some discussion was held on the purpose and membership of this Liaison Committee so that ground rules could be established. It was recognised that meetings were not generally public, however it was agreed that guests were welcome to join in on this occasion.	
3.	Minutes from previous meeting	
	Those members who attended the last meeting were happy with the minutes and these will now be placed on MVV's website in the usual way.	JF

4. Matters concerning residents

Traffic

Concerns were voiced that there have been allegations that the operation of the Facility will result in a tenfold increase in traffic at the Weston Mill Drive/Wolseley Road junction. PC informed the meeting that the traffic analysis carried out at the planning stage showed an increase of less than 1% and that this was accepted by Plymouth City Council when planning permission was granted.

Residents would like reassurance from PCC about altered traffic patterns at Weston Mill junction.

It was confirmed that there will be 132 vehicles per day arriving at the Facility, with the majority of these being PCC's waste collection vehicles. Exact proportions of vehicles to be confirmed by SWDWP and included in next meeting minutes.

Vehicles will only deliver and collect from the Facility during daytime working hours:

 Monday – Friday
 08:00 – 19:00

 Saturdays
 08:00 – 18:00

 Sundays
 10:00 – 16:00

 Bank Holidays
 10:00 – 16:00

 Christmas day
 Closed

District Heating

Residents expressed disappointment that PCC were not able to be in attendance. PC reassured residents that MVV have not given up on the possibility of a District Heating system and are still looking at options to draw down European funding through Horizon 2020. PC further suggested that residents could contact Peter Ford (PCC planning) or Alistair MacPherson (PCC low carbon team) directly with their questions.

Emissions

DM explained that the Environment Agency enforce the Environmental Permit for the EfW CHP Facility. There is continuous monitoring of particulates, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, and carbon monoxide. Periodic monitoring is undertaken for heavy metals.

Equipment is built into the Facility to clean the flue gases and the Environment Agency can come on any day, at any time, to check the emissions for themselves. MVV must declare any breach of limits (there are half hourly limits as well as daily limits). PC added that the limits are set by Europe (Waste Incineration Directive) and the dust emissions, to take an example, are around 10% of the allowable limit. Average levels will always be well below the WID limits.

It was noted that the waste incineration industry is the most heavily regulated and suffers from a poor image, however two thirds of the Facility in Plymouth is dedicated to flue gas cleaning. Emissions are monitored and regulated at source.

Air Quality

PH asked whether air quality would also be monitored in the local area. This was confirmed to be the case. PCC already monitor air quality in a number of locations around the city and MVV are installing additional monitoring equipment, including a particulate monitor at the Weston Mill

ΜT

Drive/Wolseley Road junction and ten additional nitrogen dioxide diffusion tubes. PH was reassured by this and PC added that there are numerous back-up systems built into the Facility so that it can operate safely.

The proximity of housing was raised and the location in terms of energy efficiency was discussed. Examples of other Facilities close to housing were also discussed.

Benefits to residents

Residents expressed frustration at not being able to find out how to apply for energy efficient measures for their homes such as solar panels and insulation. Detailed discussion about the S106 low carbon payment deferred until next meeting. Specific issues to be discussed:

- Sanctuary Housing properties PC pointed out that discussions have been held but the properties are all electric so any District Heating system would also require infrastructure. MC stated that he is meeting with Sanctuary's housing officer and would be happy to ask questions on behalf of other residents.
- Green Deal a sense of disillusionment was expressed. SG explained that WARM specialise in engineering comfortable and efficient homes; Alison Cooke has already spoken with PCC and applied to the North Yard Community Trust; groups of residents need to work together at scale, speak with one voice and make improvements affordable; the first step is to look at what needs to be done and what is achievable. JU queried the timescale and whether existing problems such as damp would be tackled first. SG confirmed that this is exactly why a survey is critical to establish what will work.
- S106 low carbon infrastructure funding.

Operations

The types of waste that can be treated are listed in the Environmental Permit which is available on MVV's website.

A question was asked about possible financial penalties if the Facility is not running to full capacity. PC confirmed that the quantities of Local Authority (SWDWP) waste have been calculated based on increased recycling and increased population (therefore increased total waste). MVV will charge SWDWP based on this prediction and then make up the shortfall with Commercial and Industrial waste.

5. Forthcoming activities and other updates

North Yard Community Trust update

PP (treasurer) provided an update on behalf of the NYCT:

The trust have received approximately £0.5 million worth of bids and the next trustee meeting is 21st April 2014. So far, £95000 has been distributed to diverse groups and areas. The trust aim to fund projects that will deliver maximum impact and the decision not to fund some projects has been a difficult one.

Residents were interested to know whether the money was coming from MVV and PP confirmed that it is indirectly, via PCC.

JM voiced the suggestion that a group of residents could put in an application to the NYCT; the trustees have responsibilities and the guidance notes/application forms are available online. JF to provide these with the minutes. A brief discussion followed about the possibility of residents in Talbot Gardens applying.

JF

6.	Green Infrastructure Team (PCC) JF distributed copies of the Visual Impact Mitigation and Biodiversity updates (S106 spending so far). Any other business	
	MC offered to collect contact details and arrange a community meeting in Barne Barton if required. SG also happy to attend if a meeting with the Registered Social Landlords could be arranged. Informal discussions between groups of residents and statutory bodies present.	
7.	Date of next meeting	
	Wednesday 20 th August, 19:00 @ Weston Mill Oak Villa	