

# **Devonport Incinerator Liaison Committee Meeting**

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Devonport EfW CHP Facility: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

### Present

### Statutory bodies:

- Jane Ford JF (MVV, minutes)
- Paul Carey PC (MVV)

#### Guests:

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#### Resident members:

- Sue Murphy SM
- George Wheeler GW
- Tina Tuohy TT
- David Marks DMa (Chair)
- Ruth Crawford RC
- Denis Murphy DMu
- David Angove DA
- Jeanette Hipsey JH

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies	
	<ul> <li>Alex Battershill (resident)</li> <li>Pamela Huson (resident)</li> </ul> Two new Councillors have been nominated by PCC to the ILC, both were invited but did not attend or send apologies – JF to contact them in advance of the next meeting. DMa welcomed everyone to the meeting. GW and TT expressed a wish to remain on the committee as residents and this was unanimously agreed by the rest of the committee, valuing their	JF
	DMu confirmed that GC and CC have stepped down from the	
	committee for health reasons – JF to get a thank you card.	JF
	It was proposed and agreed that JH be welcomed as a member, now that spaces have become available.	
	These changes are reflected in the attendee list above.	
2.	Re-election of Chair for 2021	
	DMa was unanimously re-elected.	



3.	Actions from previous minutes	
	JF passed on congratulations to promoted staff.	
	No response received from any fast food shops on St Budeaux Square – it was suggested that putting customers' postcodes on their food might help to hold them accountable for their litter. This would be a matter for others to decide.	
	JF sent pictures of 'special' light combinations to JH.	
	Open day and litter pick were cancelled due to the pandemic, but a scaled down litter pick went ahead in June 2021.	
	The Big Bang event will be revisited once we are confident we can safely host larger events.	
4.	Annual Service Report and COVID-19 impacts	
	JF presented highlights from the ASR, which MVV provide to SWDWP every year, including electricity and steam exported as well as CO <sub>2</sub> savings compared to landfill.	
	DMu queried what a MWh (mega watt hour) actually means and PC explained that it is a measure of 'energy usage x time'; a typical home uses around 2.5-3 MW of electricity.	
	GW queried the impact of the pandemic on waste tonnages; JF confirmed they were relatively stable, with an increase in council- collected waste while people were working from home but a corresponding drop in C&I. The energy content of the waste has remained stable and the committee were reminded that the Environmental Permit limits the total amount of waste we can treat in a year.	
	DA asked whether we take any waste from Somerset and PC confirmed only as C&I, unless the council is looking for contingency; other EfWs in the region include Avonmouth (Bristol) and Javelin Park (Gloucester) and there is one under construction at Bridgewater.	
	DMa asked what impact COVID-19 has had on the business. PC explained that, like the rest of the world, we simply didn't know how to react initially but recognised the need to 'shield' our critical operational staff. MVV asked non-operational staff to work from home a week before the Government made their official announcement. Site tours and other activities were postponed and the operational teams were keep in 'bubbles', with the permit office relocated to the lecture theatre for physical separation. The	



	maintenance team attended site on a rota basis and the weighbridge/tipping hall teams adjusted their rota. No time lost or interruptions to the Service (receiving and treating waste) and, at this time, there have been no cases of COVID-19 on site (although MVV have had a couple of cases at other sites). GW noted there had been an impact on drivers in relation to collections, caused by infections and isolations. He queried what the impact of separate food waste collections might be; PC stated that the CV (JH queried term: energy content of the waste) would likely go up but that we can balance this by bringing in lower CV C&I (sewage sludge, yoghurt by-products etc). DMa asked whether this sort of waste caused more smells from the facility; JF confirmed that odour controls are robust, with the tipping hall being under negative pressure to draw air through the bunker and into the fire. Such loads are carefully managed on arrival and their load is moved straight out of the reception bunker into the main bunker. The vehicles are hosed down to ensure residues of smelly waste are not taken back out of the tipping hall.	
5.	Sponsorship update	
	In the spring 2020 round of sponsorship, MVV have sponsored three projects: <u>All Saints Academy</u> Green Power electric racing car project. <u>Snapdragons</u> Topsoil for community gardening project. <u>Tamar Folk</u> Community memorial garden. In the autumn 2020 round of sponsorship, MVV have sponsored two projects: <u>Clean Our Patch</u> Website and education resources. <u>Heartbeat</u> Exercise bike for stroke/heart attack recovery. In the spring 2021 round of sponsorship, MVV have sponsored four projects: Plymouth Girl Guides	



	Torbay primary school Aluminium can recycling project.Plymouth U11 football team New match kit with MVV logo.Plymouth Scouts Recycle Devon badges.	
6.	Outage update (2020)	
	JF provided an overview of the main works undertaken and advised the 2021 outage will take place in October.	
8.	Any other business	
	JH explained that she has been shielding throughout the lockdowns and would like to pass on her thanks to the PCC collection crews for their outstanding 'limited mobility' service. She is dependent on a friend and very pleased to be included in the ILC meetings.	
	JH also asked about maintenance of the pond area and JF explained that MVV now have a Business Support Apprentice in post who will chase this up with the landscaping company.	
	GW asked about the potential supply of steam for heating and availability of District Heating grants. PC confirmed that MVV remain committed to delivering steam if/when a DH system is developed; council support to drive this forward is essential as it needs to be written into planning conditions for new developments. PC stated that MVV are also exploring the possibilities of generating hydrogen as a fuel.	
	BEIS (the Government department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) have an active heat network programme but this requires council backing/sponsorship.	
	JH noted that it was a shame neither of the new councillors were in attendance.	
	DMa noted that his Nan had seen reports of inferior EfWs in the country and praised the lighting scheme in Plymouth (although there is currently a fault with some of the lights, which is being addressed by the maintenance engineers.	
	TT asked if a copy of the lighting calendar could be sent out with the minutes – JF will do so.	JF



	GW asked what happened to the low CV, smelly (eg sewage sludge) waste during a shutdown – JF/PC confirmed it is 'switched off' (sent elsewhere) during an outage. The meeting closed at 7:30pm.	
9.	Date of next meeting	
	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 from 6:00pm Devonport EfW CHP Facility	
	Bi-annual meetings will be held on the <b>third Thursday</b> of the months of January and July at 6:00pm	