



Waste & Recycling Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	6 July 2011
Time:	11.00am
Place:	Members' Room, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), David Bateman (DB), Tony Boto (TB), Wendy Brackenbury (WB), Roger Glithero (RG), Sylvia Hobbs (SH), Richard Lewis (RL), Eloise Lucille (EL), Clive Wood (CW).</p> <p>Officers: Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Kirsty Squires (KS) Waste Contract Project Coordinator</p>

Action

1.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 Councillor Glenn Harwood was elected chairman of the working party.

2.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 The chairman welcomed those who were new to the working party to their first meeting. Councillor Steven North and the Waste Manager, Charlotte Tompkins sent their apologies.

2.2 GH suggested providing waste sessions to bring councillors up to speed with waste issues and the waste agenda. MD to elaborate under item 10. A waste glossary would be provided to members.

CT

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillors Roger Glithero, Glenn Harwood, Wendy Brackenbury and Tony Boto declared personal interests because they were members of the Green Waste Club.

4.0 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

4.1 Councillor Steven North was elected vice-chairman of the working party.

5.0 MINUTES

- 5.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2010 were approved as a true record.

6.0 WASTE PROJECT UPDATE

- 6.1 It was reported that NCC's Waste Education Team had been supporting the work of the waste team in rolling out bins and providing information to the public.
- 6.2 The working party thanked the officers of the waste team, communications team and customer services team. Thanks were also extended to members who were also acting as ambassadors for the new scheme. One member had also provided support at a recent event at Waitrose, which had been very much appreciated by officers.
- 6.3 An updated member briefing had been issued and there had been positive coverage in Nene Valley News, on BBC Radio Northampton, and through the local press. Bin deliveries were occurring across the district. There had been a little slippage on the timetable of deliveries due to limited availability of crews from the distribution company. It was anticipated that this would be ramped up next week.
- 6.4 The response had been largely positive. The majority of calls received had been to ask the location of the information pack (in the food caddy).
- 6.5 The issue of the depot was moving forward. In the first instance office staff would be operating from Chelveston Airfield with the fleet also parked there. Long term Chelveston Airfield would be the site for all operations, including the processing of food waste. In the interim food waste would be taken to Goosey Lodge in Wymington – an operation run by the same company who would provide the service at the Chelveston site. NCC had assured ENC that works would comply with the planning permission given for the site. Kier now had a temporary operating license to work from Carrs Transport Yard. No aspect of the build had yet begun.
- 6.6 GH commented that the waste team were flat out working hard and down one man. It was noted that it might take a few days for the team to respond to members' enquiries. KS explained the process for registering for assisted collection. A form will be issued to gather additional information. Comments received from residents with steps focussed on the view that smaller bins might help. Standard bins would be issued first and any problems monitored. Smaller bins might be an option. All issues around smaller/larger bins would be dealt with in the first few weeks of collection. GH gave the example of the system in Lincoln which had a positive turnaround of residents who did not originally want bins. If a sack collection had not been agreed with a householder, any black bags would not be collected beyond the end of the first month of service. Complaints were minimal. CT to sent information packs to members of the working party. Officers were discussing any issues with residents and if the new system could not be accommodated alternative arrangements would be put in place. The appeals process was detailed in the wheeled bin policy.

Action

- 6.7 The Green Waste Club was continuing as before with the current provider (Verdant) continuing until next April. Next years renewals would be taken up by Kier. The Green Waste Club subsidy would be considered at the next meeting - MD to bring a paper to the next meeting to discuss further in relation to issues in the north of the district.

MD

7.0 FUTURE OF THE WASTE CONTRACT BOARD

- 7.1 After consideration it was **agreed** that the board would continue with its remaining members and that the final project report would be brought to the working party.

MD

8.0 OUNDLE RECYCLING CENTRE UPDATE

- 8.1 MD gave a brief update explaining the situation to date. In September the Policy & Resources Committee would consider the options. WB concern that the people of Oundle are not clear on this and that there was a lot of mis-information. The main two elements of complaints on this particular issue were about use from traders and green waste.

- 8.2 Regarding trade waste, officers were looking to broker arrangements with collection companies and with Lowick and other Windrow sites, and reviewing ENC's own trade waste arrangements. With the new contract, recyclates, other than minors like textiles and batteries, residents would no longer need to go the Oundle Recycling Centre. Large recycling bins would be provided at the Oundle site anyway.

- 8.3 Householders had a number of options for the disposal of green waste including the Green Waste Club and subsidised home composting. For some villages in the north of the district the Weldon site would be more local. Officers were also investigating the introduction of a green waste collection similar to the current bulky waste collection service. Green waste will be monitored in residual bin collections. Discussions were ongoing.

- 8.4 The working party also discussed the closure of the Rushden recycling centre.

9.0 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP (NWP) UPDATE

- 9.1 An update was given by MD. It was noted that the Policy & Resources Committee had agreed to extend arrangements with the partnership for a further year and sign up to new memorandum of understanding. There would be significant work to be done this year through the partnership. Concerns were raised about ENC's financial contribution to the partnership. The Scrutiny Committee would be considering reviewing partnerships when putting together its work programme. MD would be asking that the NWP partnership forms part of the review. A review should lead to a report being brought to the working party to consider to then make a recommendation to the Policy & Resources Committee.

10.0 SITE VISITS (RECYCLING FACILITIES)

- 10.1 Members requested that arrangements be made to visit facilities and technologies associated with the industry. This had previously been agreed

Action

but had been put on hold during the procurement process as some sites were operated by bidders. There are two Windrow facilities in the district, an MRF at Warwick which we will use and one in Peterborough. EL would like to go to visit the MRF facility. If members wished to take up the visits this could be arranged once the roll out of the new contract was complete.