

Waste & Recycling Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	12 October 2011
Time:	10.00am
Place:	CHG2, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), David Bateman (DB), Roger Glithero (RG), Steven North (SN), Clive Wood (CW), Tony Boto (TB), Wendy Brackenbury (WB), Sylvia Hobbs (SH), Richard Lewis (RL).</p> <p>Officers: Mike Bailey (MB) Waste Management (Education), Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Charlotte Tompkins (Waste Manager), Zena Ireland (ZI) Administration Officer</p>

Action

1.0 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2011

- 1.1 Councillor Glenn Harwood opened the meeting.
- 1.2 Amendment to apologies for the meeting held on 6 July 2011: DB was absent from the meeting. Spelling mistake in 6.6, should read 'CT to send information packs to members of the working party'. Subject to these changes, the minutes of the meeting 2011 were approved as a true record by the working party.
- 1.3 GH confirmed that Kier Street Services had now obtained their full operating licence for the Chelveston Airfield site and had begun work on the purpose built storage facility for the site.
- 1.4 GH stated that the proposed final meeting for the Waste Contract Project Board was scheduled for Thursday 10 November 2011.
- 1.5 MD was requested by GH to provide the working party with an update on the Oundle Recycling Centre. It was confirmed that the un-manned element of the site ceased on 30 September 2011; a variety of 'recycling bring banks' would remain on site for residents to use. Oundle Town Council would be carrying out market testing and a feasibility study with regards to a possible permit system to allow the site to operate as a garden waste site; these results would be available to the Council. A valuation of the full site had been requested by the Finance Working Party.

MD

Councillor Sylvia Hobbs arrived for the meeting.

2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Councillor Eloise Lucille sent her apologies.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillors Roger Glithero, Glenn Harwood, Wendy Brackenbury and Tony Boto declared personal interests in minute 6 (Green Waste Club) because they were members of the club. SN confirmed that as the working party was only an advisor group it was acceptable for them to remain in the room whilst related items were discussed.

KO

4.0 WASTE PROJECT UPDATE

4.1 CT directed the group to the Members Briefings and provided a verbal update on the integration of the new waste contract. After a discussion it was felt by the group that the new system was working well and the IT systems were being used effectively e.g. Lagan and the tablets in the Kier vehicles. Larger and smaller wheeled bins were being rolled out where required, and communal properties had received the larger containers. Issues where approximately 40 properties with additional wheeled bins had been identified and were being investigated.

4.2 GH highlighted how useful he found the visit to the Chelveston Airfield site and the explanation of the various IT systems. It was agreed that a presentation would be done for the working party at a later date.

CT

4.3 Stricter control of the new waste system had started to be enforced through the use of tags on the wheeled bins and the non-collection of unofficial side waste (black sacks). CT confirmed that ENC and Kier were working closely to resolve any issues that arise. RL mentioned the issue of the wheeled bins blowing over in the wind; CT confirmed that she was aware of the issue and options were being looked into with the supplier.

4.4 MD stated that the rolling out of such a huge contract, which involved delivering bins to over 37,000 properties, was not without issues. Key lessons have been learnt from the exercise. He wished to extend the thanks for the success to the Waste team, Customer Services, Communications and Members.

4.5 MB presented statistics on tonnages collected during the first 10 weeks of the new contract compared to the same period under the old system (see below for details). The group felt that the initial figures were very impressive and there was a significant fall for diversion from landfill of approximately 62%. East Northamptonshire was on target to become on of the top 25 districts in the country as regards recycling.

<i>1st 10 weeks on new waste contract</i>	<i>10 weeks under old waste contract</i>
<i>Refuse = 1519 tonnes</i>	<i>Refuse = 3271 tonnes</i>
<i>Recycling = 1840 tonnes</i>	<i>Recycling = 1287 tonnes</i>
<i>Food = 683 tonnes</i>	<i>Food = 0</i>

- 4.6 The group discussed the initial issues with regards to food waste incentivising participation and various options of types of liners were discussed. CT stated that if ENC provided liners to all residents a significant investment would be required and this would need to be looked into.
- 4.7 Members agreed that the new system was more straight forward for residents to follow and with the increase in the number of items that could be recycled, they were receiving many positive comments on the new waste collection system.

5.0 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP (NWP)

- 5.1 MD explained that the NWP were going through some changes at present with the resignation of the Executive Officer. An interim appointment was to be made and the strategy and future direction of the partnership would be looked at. Policy & Resources Committee would be assessing the level of subscription that ENC currently pays. The next meeting of NWP would be held on 17 November 2011.

MD had to leave the meeting at this point.

6.0 GREEN WASTE CLUB

- 6.1 CT explained that from 1 April 2012 Kier Street Services would be taking over the running of the Green Waste Club; she pointed out that the name will change as Green Waste Club is a trade mark of current contractor Verdant.
- 6.2 The group discussed the report and points highlighted, including the cost of the scheme, subsidy by ENC and membership by residents. GH raised a possible option of additional collections in the summer and less in the winter according to the gardening calendar. Item 1.6 from the Green Waste report was highlighted to the meeting concerning recycling credits.
- 6.3 After careful consideration of the principle of ENC contributing a subsidy to the scheme it was:

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the provision of a subsidy of up to 5% of the subscription costs for membership of the Green Waste Club be agreed.

7.0 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 7.1 On Wednesday 9 November the group would be visiting the Pure Recycling plant near Warwick. Anyone unable to attend should speak to CT to arrange another date if they wish to see the plant. **CT**
- 7.2 The next meeting of the Waste & Recycling Working Party would be held on Wednesday 11 January 2012 at 10am. **ZI**