

MINUTES

Held on:	Monday 21 October 2013
Time:	2.00pm
Place:	CHG2, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), Tony Boto (TB), Roger Glithero (RG), Richard Lewis (RL), Steven North (SN), Derek Capp (DC), Jake Vowles (JV), Sylvia Hobbs (SH) and Clive Wood (CW).</p> <p>Officers: Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Charlotte Tompkins (CT) Waste Manager, Mike Bailey (MB) Waste Officer and Zena Ireland (ZI) Administration Officer.</p>

Action

1.0 Apologies for absence

- 1.1 MD opened the meeting as there was no appointed Chairperson at that time and confirmed Cllr Wendy Brackenbury (WB) sent her apologies for the meeting.

2.0 Election of a Chairperson

- 2.1 MD asked for nominations for a Chairperson for the Waste & Recycling Working Party. GH was nominated by RG and this was seconded. After a vote it was agreed that GH would be the Chairperson for the group.

3.0 Minutes of meeting held on 30 April 2013

- 3.1 ZI amended the minutes from the last meeting accordingly. There were spelling mistakes in items 3.3 and 3.5. Item 6.2 to be amended to say 'At the meeting it had been noted'.
- 3.2 CT prepared a report for P&R Committee to adopt the new Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP) guidance relating to Clinical and Offensive Waste; the report was approved.
- 3.3 The minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2013 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4.0 Waste contract performance update

- 4.1 MB provided the meeting with a report showing the waste contract performance figures from April to September 2013.
- 4.2 During this period 91% of the reported fly tipping cases were investigated by a Waste Officer within the target; of these evidence was found in 46 cases and resulted in 15 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) being issued. It was noted that there was an increase of 5% in tonnages of waste being sent to landfill. MB mentioned that recycling tonnages had dropped from 4,707 for this period compared to 4,969 for the same period in 2012.

- 4.3 MB mentioned that the April 2013 peak in the reported missed refuse collections coincides with the Easter collections where we did not miss a day as per usual arrangements for bank holidays and residents did not put their bins out on their usual day. MB stated that officers have raised their concerns regarding sweeper availability and are now carrying out extra monitoring of the work of the sweepers.
- 4.4 SN commented that with the temporary closure of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) this could increase fly tipping in the area. MD stated that he will be providing further details on this later in the meeting. He also mentioned that the figures showing the tonnages of waste going to landfill is disappointing.
- 4.5 DC asked for clarification on how fly tipping was reported to the Council; CT explained that this can be done over the phone or via our website. She also explained how the Waste Team carry out investigations and the issues involved when fly tipping is found on private land.
- 4.6 RG mentioned the recent tyres that were fly tipped in the north of the district. CT confirmed that ENC had worked with Wellingborough Council to try and trace the responsible party, but this had not resulted in any enforcement action being taken against anyone.
- 4.7 GH commented that it would be easier to put the missed collections etc into context if the figures also included the information from Kier showing non-presented wheeled bins. CT confirmed that this was possible and would be included in the performance figures for the next meeting.
- 4.8 GH mentioned the difficulties involved in catching residents letting their dogs foul. DC stated that dog fouling is becoming an issue in Thurning and the signs displaying the warning and possible fines involved have been strategically placed around the village. MD requested that if any Councillors know days or times when fouling is happening to let the Dog Warden know so that patrols can be carried out.
- 5.0 NWP updated (to include Residual waste project update)**
- 5.1 CT confirmed that she attended the last NWP meeting on 24 September 2013. Items discussed included reports on Slim Your Bin in Schools and Recycling for Northamptonshire; the County Joint Procurement document was approved. The action plan for 2013 / 14 for the Waste Focus Group for the County was also agreed and approved. The annual report on Recycling for Northamptonshire can be found on their website at www.recyclefornorthamptonshire.co.uk.
- 5.2 The main project for the Waste Focus Group is 'Improving Performance in Northamptonshire's Kerbside Recycling Schemes'. CT confirmed that two temporary staff were to be recruited to work across the County to help deliver this project.
- 5.3 MD mentioned that at a previous NWP meeting ENC were identified as having the best dry recycling rate and lowest amount of waste to landfill in the County.
- 6.0 Waste Management Officer Operations Report**
- 6.1 CT provided the meeting with a Waste Operations Report highlighting the areas the Waste Officers cover and any relevant issues.
- 6.2 GH stated that it was a useful report. CT confirmed that she is happy to include any other useful information for the W&RWP Members; any requests should be fed back to CT.

7.0 Update on the progress of the Commercial Recycling Project

- 7.1 CT confirmed she is working with Corby Borough Council to have a joint Commercial Recycling Scheme. Kier submitted their initial thoughts on how the service could be run. CT will meet with Ian Smith from Corby to prepare a joint counter proposal for Kier to consider, which will minimise the potential for exposure to financial risk for the Councils involved.

8.0 Garden Waste Service update

- 8.1 CT stated that there are currently 2,900 members of the Council's Garden Waste Service; the renewal rate of approximately 85%. It was noted that the missed collections for the Garden Waste Service is higher than for refuse and recycling collections.
- 8.2 MD mentioned that last week he and CT had a meeting with Northamptonshire County Council (NCC), amongst the issues discussed was the noted increase in garden waste at the Weldon site; this could be due to the closure of the Oundle Recycling Centre.
- 8.3 GH enquired about the plans to increase the Garden Waste Service that were mentioned at the start of the contract e.g. offering a second bin. CT confirmed that plans are in place to progress this and offering brown paper sacks for adhoc garden waste collections. Also there was a need to improve the marketing of the service.

9.0 Proposal for new initiative – 'How clean is my street?' or the Member Inspections Project

- 9.1 CT prepared a report for the meeting providing a brief outline of background to the proposal and how it could work.
- 9.2 TB stated that he thought it was a good idea and should initially be a pilot scheme with the W&RWP Members being trained to carry out street cleansing inspections. RL mentioned the kerbside detritus and weeds which fall under NCC's responsibility to deal with. CT mentioned she was going to speak to County to see if the weed spraying could be done by Kier. SN stated with the current Members of the W&RWP they covered a wide area of the district.
- 9.3 After a discussion it was agreed that CT would provide the Members of the group with further details and what would be expected of them. **CT**

10.0 Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), Northampton Road in Rushden

- 10.1 MD reported that NCC is scheduled to close the HWRC in Northampton Road, Rushden for approximately 5 months in January 2014 for a major £0.5m upgrade. NCC are keen to work with ENC to minimise the impact for residents and will consider a proposal for subsidising the household bulky waste collections for the duration of the closure of the site.
- 10.2 SN highlighted that not all garden waste can easily be placed into a garden waste container, especially from garden waste businesses. MD confirmed that was a valid consideration and he would feedback this comment to NCC.

11.0 Litter picking

- 11.1 DC made the suggestion that ENC should promote when roads or streets have been litter picked. MD commented that Kettering Borough Council do something similar confirming the date when it was done and what was collected. It was agreed that this was a good idea and is to be looked at in the future.

Waste & Recycling Working Party – agenda planning for 2014

Date of meeting	Thursday 23 January 2014 10am	Wednesday 21 May 2014 2pm	Monday 13 October 2013 2pm
Date for briefing with Chair / agreeing the agenda (4 weeks before)	19 December 2013	23 April 2014	8 September 2014
Report deadline (2 weeks before)	9 January 2014	7 May 2014	19 September 2014
MD sign off reports (1 week before)	16 January 2014	14 May 2014	26 September 2014
Post out to councillors (only post on Fridays)	17 January 2014	16 May 2014	3 October 2014