

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF NORTH HORSHAM PARISH
COUNCIL'S PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH APRIL 2018 AT 7.30pm
AT ROFFEY MILLENNIUM HALL, CRAWLEY ROAD, HORSHAM**

Present: Committee Members

Holbrook East:- Cllr. Mrs R. Ginn*, Cllr. Mrs F. Haigh (Vice Chairman), Cllr T. Rickett BEM.

Holbrook West:- Cllr. R. Knight, Cllr. R. Millington, Cllr. I. Wassell.

Roffey North:- Cllr. M. Loates (*arrived late and extended apologies*), Cllr D. Searle, Cllr J. Smithurst.

Roffey South:-Cllr. J. Day*, Cllr. R Turner (Chairman), Cllr. Mrs S. Wilton.

*denotes absence

In attendance: Pauline Whitehead BA(Hons) FSLCC

PET/421/18 Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

PET/422/18 Apologies for absence

The Committee received apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr Mrs R. Ginn and Cllr J. Day.

PET/423/18 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest given.

PET/424/18 (WSSC/015/18/NH) Proposed Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Plant and Ancillary Infrastructure at the Former Wealden Brickworks, Langhurstwood Road.

(Cllr Loates arrived during the discussion)

A working party brought together with the aim of discussing ways that the Parish Council could gather community opinion to formulate a response to the above application met on 4th April 2018 (notes attached). Several recommendations came from the meeting.

The Clerk had approached West Sussex County Council (WSSC) to explore if an extension could be given to the time frame in which the Parish Council had to submit its response to the above application. Whilst the working party had hoped that the final date would be 31st May 2018, an extension granted by WSSC was to 3rd May 2018 only.

The Committee RESOLVED to note the revised submission date of 3rd May 2018 for comments. There was further AGREEMENT as follows:-

- **To liaise with Liberty Property Trust to benefit from their research into the more technical areas of the application.**

- **To hold a Public Meeting on Friday 20th April 2018 at Holbrook**

Tythe Barn, doors opening at 7.30pm, with the aim of seeking the views of the local community to the above application to inform the Parish Council response to WSCC.

- To seek to publicise the meeting through the Parish Council website, noticeboards, social media, local radio and through leafletting.
- To invite neighbouring Parish Council and Neighbourhood Councils to the meeting.

In light of the short time frame, a small number of leaflets would be printed 'in-house' and distributed by volunteer councillors.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr D. Searle would distribute 100 leaflets at the Fitzalan Road parade of shops, Cllr M. Loates would distribute 100 leaflets at Lambs Farm Road shops and Cllr R. Millington would distribute 100 leaflets at Coltsfoot Drive shops. Cllr Mrs R. Ginn offered to distribute leaflets and 50 would be made available to her.

The Committee AGREED a press statement to be released through the West Sussex County Times and other publications advertising the meeting and inviting residents to give their views.

PET/425/18 Date of next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 26th April 2018 at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

.....Chairman

.....Dated

Notes from a working party meeting held on Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 10am at Roffey Millennium Hall, Crawley Road, Horsham, to discuss Planning Application WSCC/015/18/NH Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility, Langhurstwood Road, Horsham.

The aim of the meeting was to discuss ways that the Parish Council could gather community opinion to formulate a response to the above application.

In attendance:-

North Horsham Parish Councillors:- Cllr David Searle and Cllr Ray Turner.

West Sussex County Councillor Peter Catchpole

Resident – Brian Johnson.

Pauline Whitehead - Clerk.

It was noted that the Parish Council objected to planning application WSCC/062/16/NH when it was previously submitted to WSCC before being withdrawn. The new plans show a reduced height in the buildings (but not the stack) and the use of colours matched to a rural palette however, other areas where the Parish Council previously had concerns have not been addressed ie. the design, height and mass of the proposed buildings, greenhouse gasses and the carbon footprint, land allocation and its consequences and a more collaborative approach to the design process. The proposed development is still an industrial type of facility in a rural area.

When the previous response was written, a report was due out from Public Health England on emissions from the incineration of waste. It was not clear whether the publication was yet in the public domain, but academic evidence to enable an informed debate would be welcomed. Concern was expressed about the cumulative effect of the industrial activities on the sites in the area and the Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements, as whilst these weren't increasing, it was considered that increased traffic due to significant development had and would slow traffic down in the surrounding area and therefore emissions would increase. There was concern for the future residents in the development north of the A264 as HGV would access the incineration plant through the new development and relatively close to the houses. Employment opportunities are being promoted at Broadlands Park , Greylands and other industrial units off Langhurstwood Road and this will increase traffic.

There was regret that there would be no railway siding built. It was suggested that a recent report had identified that there were sufficient incineration plants available and that no more were needed.

Questions were raised about what contingency plans were in place should there be a problem getting waste to the incinerator due to road blockages as the plant needs to run continuously. Waste would be locally sourced, but there was concern that waste would be brought from further afield and that incineration may reduce the amount of materials that were being recycled.

Whilst it was accepted that the stack needed to be a certain height to disperse emissions, the surrounding topography does not lend itself to particles dispersing as the land undulates and differs in height.

Concern was raised as to whether the plant fits into the designated category R1 as this requires 65% of the waste heat to be used. On this site only 25% of waste heat appears to be being reused, which suggests that the category for the plant should be D10, which carries its own criteria for compliance and raises questions about the compliance of this application. It was felt that this would be picked up by those with technical expert support, such as Liberty Property Trust.

Parish Councillors expressed their desire to represent the views of their electorate appropriately and the need to garner the views of more local people. It was felt that it was likely that many residents were not aware of the application and that one role they could play would be to raise awareness of the proposals.

The working party recommended that the following actions were taken to the Planning Committee for consideration:-

- 1. To make a request to WSCC to extend the response time from the Parish Council until 31st May 2018.**
- 2. To liaise with Liberty Property Trust and benefit from their research into the more technical areas of the application.**
- 3. To hold a public meeting with the aim of seeking the views of the local community.**
- 4. To seek to publicise the meeting through the Parish Council website, notice boards and through leafletting.**
- 5. To invite neighbouring Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Councils to the meeting.**
- 6. To agree a maximum expenditure of £100 for the printing of leaflets.**
- 7. To appoint volunteers to distribute leaflets.**
- 8. To agree a press statement to be released through the West Sussex County Times and other publications advertising the meeting and inviting residents to give their views.**