

The **WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP**
met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on **27 November**
2007

Present:

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Councillor Peter Fowler

Officers

Richard Dobbs

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Geoff Ashford

Officers

Peter Benham

Rugby Borough Council

Councillor Heather Timms

Officers

Sean Lawson

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Simon Jackson

Officer

Robert Weeks

Warwick District Council

Councillor Michael Kinson

Officer

Jackie Webb

Warwickshire County Council

Councillor John Appleton

Councillor Ken Browne

Councillor John Haynes

Councillor Martin Heatley (Chair)

Officers

Roy Burton

Glenn Fleet

Tamalyn Goodwin

Jean Hardwick
Olivia Knight-Adams
Tony Maione

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jose Compton, Eithne Goode and Ray Sweet.

2. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

3. Public Minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2007

(a) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the public minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 25 September 2007, copies having been circulated, be approved and be signed by the Chair.

(b) Matters Arising

None

4. Waste Management Statistics 06-07 and the first quarter 07-08.

Roy Burton presented the Officers' Group report, which gave details of the quantities of waste arising in each District area and handled by each Council during 2006/07 together with trend information and an indication of some of the major differences between Councils.

In reply to a question Roy Burton confirmed that the Coventry Energy from Waste Plant closed down for two months to allow routine maintenance to take place but was now fully operational.

The Partnership noted the report.

5. Report back from the Waste Options Appraisal Working Group meeting of 31st October 2007 and minutes of the meeting.

Glenn Fleet reported that the Working Group had met on the 31st October 2007 and had agreed the draft Heads of Terms for the Partnership, as amended following discussion of the document.

The Chair said that the draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated and asked Members to approve them as a correct record. He also asked Members to update the Partnership on the progress in achieving their Councils' approval to enable the joint committee to become operational by April 2008. Member authorities' representatives commented as follows –

Rugby and North Warwickshire Borough Councils - in principle agreement had already been achieved.

Warwick District Council – to be considered on 10 December 2007.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council – to be considered by its Executive Committee on 17 December 2007.

Nuneaton and Bedworth BC – in principle agreement had been achieved and to be considered by Cabinet in December 2007.

Warwickshire County Council – to be considered by Cabinet on 6 December 2007.

The Partnership –

- (1) Approved the minutes of the Options Appraisal Working group meeting of 31st October 2007 and these were signed by the Chair.
- (2) Noted the progress of the Joint Committee arrangements and the position of each partner organisation.

6. Waste Partnership 2nd Annual Conference – Wednesday 7 November 2007

Glenn Fleet reported on the success of the 2nd Annual Conference and circulated a summary of the Conference evaluation responses.

Councillor Heather Timms, who Chaired the Conferences, commended the officers on the programme content and for re-arranging the order of the programme to overcome last minute cancellations by some speakers.

Members commented on the need to programme the date of the next Conference early in the year and make sure that it was advertised more widely. In reply to a question Glenn Fleet said that this year, 63 people attended the Conference as compared to 83 the previous year but the major incident at Atherstone-on-Stour prevented some delegates from attending.

The Partnership noted the –

- (1) Conference evaluation feed back and commended the officers on its success.
- (2) Asked that next year's Conference date is advertised early and publicised as wide as possible.

7. The Future of Biowaste Treatment in Warwickshire

Roy Burton presented the report of the Officers' Group on the outcome of the tender process for biowaste treatment and the proposed timescales for the implementation of the service. It was anticipated that the service for Warwick District Council would be operational by Autumn 2008. He added that a key officer involved in this scheme was leaving the County Council at the end of January 2008 and this would delay the start of investigating the situation in the north of the county until the Summer of 2008 with a view to expanding the service to the rest of the County by Spring 1010. He also added his concerns about the quality of the waste in the north of the County.

Councillor Ashford expressed concern about the proposed timescale and referred to a recent meeting he had attended with other district councils where he had been told that in-vessel composting would begin now and not in two and half years time which he considered to be unacceptable. In addition he said that there had been no quality issues with Nuneaton and Bedworth waste collection. Other Members supported this view and said that in-vessel composting had been accepted by residents and, therefore, should be progressed as quickly as possible. It was considered unacceptable that the loss of one officer for two months would delay progress to this extent.

The Chair suggested that an officer meeting should be arranged to try to resolve this issue and offered his assistance if it was required.

In reply to questions Roy Burton –

- (1) explained that it was anticipated that, subject to planning permission being given in February 2008, it would take 7 months for the Ufton site to become operational.
- (2) said that the contract had been let to Biffa subject to planning permission being given. Tony Maione confirmed that there would be no abortive costs penalty should planning permission not be obtained.

The Partnership –

- (1) noted the report.
- (2) asked Roy Burton to arrange an officer meeting to discuss the process for treating biowaste in the north of the county with a view to reducing the timescale set out in the report.

8. Future Meeting dates (2:00 p.m. Shire Hall) –

The Partnership noted the future meeting dates and asked that the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 26 February 2008 be re-arranged because of a clash of other meetings on that day (suggested date to be circulated Tuesday 4 March 2008). The meeting scheduled for 10 June 2008 was confirmed.

9. Any Other Business

(1) Recycling in Germany

Councillor John Haynes reported on his recent visit to Germany where he had seen many good practices of recycling and said that these should be introduced in this country.

(2) Warwickshire County Council Waste Development Forum (WCCWDF)

Councillor Michael Kinson enquired whether any other Partnership Members had been invited to the WCCWDF to be held at The Barn Conference Centre, Brandon Marsh Nature Centre on 13 December 2007. Members said that they had not been informed of the event and asked for details to be forwarded to them.

10. Reports containing exempt information.

Resolved to exclude the members of the public from the meeting for the item below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972.

11. Exempt minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2007

Resolved: -

That the exempt minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 25 September 2007, copies having been circulated, be approved and be signed by the Chair.

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Chair of Partnership

The meeting closed at 2:55 p.m.