

The **WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP**
met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on **9th December 2008**

Present:

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Councillor Peter Fowler
Officer Bernard Woodall

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Des O'Brien
Officer Peter Benham

Rugby Borough Council

Councillor Heather Timms (Vice Chair – in the Chair)
Officer Sean Lawson

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Councillor Simon Jackson
Officer Chris Dobson

Warwick District Council

Councillor Michael Kinson
Officer Graham Folkskinner

Warwickshire County Council

Councillor Ken Browne
Councillor Jose Compton
Councillor Eithne Goode
Councillor Ray Sweet

Officers

Roy Burton
Glenn Fleet
Stephen Lewington
Ian Marriott
Emily Martin
Chris Moreton
Martin Stott
Kalen Wood
John Wright

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Martin Heatley and Jackie Webb

2. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Councillors Jose Compton and Ray Sweet declared personal interests in agenda item 4 "Recycling of Trade Waste" as members of the Regulatory Committee which would be considering an application for Judkins Quarry in the near future.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2008

(a) Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 30th September 2008 be approved and be signed by the Chair subject to the following amendment

Minute 6 Update on Home Composting Second paragraph fifth line delete "residents" and insert "respondents".

(b) Matters Arising

Minute 6 Update on Home Composting

Wrap had confirmed that composting on allotment sites would not be included in household composting figures.

4. Recycling of Trade Waste

The Strategic Director for Environment and Economy submitted a report on progress being made to support business across the county to recycle.

In May 2008 funding of £160,000 was secured from Business Resource Efficiency and Waste to be spent by the County and Districts on facilitating the recycling of Business Waste. Recycling by businesses had commenced at two Household Waste Recycling Centres and limited card/paper recycling is being undertaken by Rugby Borough. Recyclate collection by North Warwickshire Borough was scheduled to start in the near future. In addition, through use of a contractor, a recycling scheme had recently been launched in Warwick District and a second contractor planned to launch glass recycling for businesses in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

During the discussion the following points were noted

- Around 12 tonnes of glass were collected each week from Warwick and Stratford.
- Businesses could take card and paper to the Hunters lane and Princes Drive sites at a preferential rate. In Nuneaton card and paper could be taken to the Smurfits site
- A planning application would shortly be considered by the Regulatory Committee for the change of use of a building on the Judkins site

- The Government should be encouraged to support the recycling of trade waste with as much effort as had been put in to encouraging domestic recycling.
- Locally incentives for encouraging trade waste recycling were being developed
- Recycling of trade waste was not a statutory duty
- Recycling of both trade and domestic waste from military sites was problematic due to the time taken for refuse crews to access and exit sites
- The trade waste recycling schemes that were being established were intended to be self financing

Resolved that

- (1) The action taken to date to promote recycling of trade waste be endorsed; and
- (2) A progress report be submitted to the Partnership in six months time

5 School Recycling

The Strategic Director for Environment and Economy submitted a report on the progress made regarding enhancing school recycling across the County. Over the past few years all Member authorities had been very keen for schools to participate fully in recycling. Both the Districts and Boroughs had managed to introduce some form of scheme for the schools within their boundaries and the County Council had managed to support this agenda. A number of schemes including In Vessel Composters, Green Cones and compost bins were being rolled out are help promote waste reduction within schools. The work supported the LAT's targets, the present PSA target and enabled the collection authorities to receive recycling credits. The report detailed the initiatives being undertaken by each of the District/Borough Councils. Approximately 82% of schools were participating in recycling. Funding for the project had been committed for the forthcoming year.

Resolved that the report be noted.

6. Residual Waste Treatment

The Strategic Director for Environment and Economy submitted a report on an update on the development of long-term residual waste treatment facilities to serve Warwickshire. At the June meeting of the Partnership considered a report on an update on the two key projects to divert residual waste away from landfill. The report provided an update on progress with the two projects; Project W2R (waste to resources) and Project Transform.

Members were informed that Staffordshire County Council had been successful in applying for PFI Credits for Project W2R and were awarded £124 million of Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Credits in July. The other participating councils including Warwickshire had all agreed and signed Heads of Terms to progress the project. The procurement process for the treatment facility started in August, with Staffordshire expressing a preference for Energy from Waste as a treatment technology. Following a pre-qualification exercise, four potential bidders have been selected to take through into the competitive dialogue phase of the procurement. Staffordshire had also obtained planning permission for an Energy from Waste facility at their site at Four Ashes.

The Outline Business Case for PFI Credits for Project Transform was submitted on the 31st October. The report detailed the key aspects of the outline business case. The decision of Defra on the outline business case was expected in March 2009.

Members were reminded that involvement and development of the long-term residual waste treatment projects would not have a detrimental effect on the ambitions of the Partnership and individual authorities to increase recycling and composting and also to reduce the amount of waste produced in Warwickshire. The County Council had been tasked by its Members to reach 55 – 60% recycling and composting levels in 2020 which exceeded government targets. The input of the district and borough councils was seen as pivotal to the attainment of higher levels of recycling and composting and this was actively recognised by Defra and therefore as part of the process for securing PFI credits. Defra required the districts and county council to enter into a formal agreement regarding the delivery of waste to the residual waste treatment facility and recycling. To facilitate this a standard template had been developed for authorities to use as a basis for developing agreement. Consequently a Memorandum of Understanding had been drafted using the standard template, which set out certain requirements for the delivery of waste to the new residual treatment facilities. A copy of the draft Memorandum of Understanding was attached to the report. The District/Borough Councils would be asked to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding before May 2009.

Resolved that

- (1) The report be noted; and
- (2) A report be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership on the outcome of the consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding

7. Warwickshire Waste Partnership – Heads of Terms

Members considered a report on the Heads of Terms for the Waste Joint Committee.

The detailed terms of a Waste Joint Committee had been under development for a year. The comments of legal officers representing the partner authorities were incorporated into the draft Heads of Terms but it has been necessary to make other changes in light of recent developments. Some developments were a consequence of the worsening financial climate. Funding was not presently available to employ a Partnership Manager and it was not possible to make any specific commitment as to the availability of waste minimisation project funding for the next financial year. Consequently, the budget for next financial year comprised only a Core Budget of £7000. Consequently the Joint Committee in its first year of operation would concentrate on developing its own procedures and working arrangements and agreeing or being consulted upon waste management policies and projects. The main priority for the Joint Committee would be to review the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which would be a significant role and that would provide a platform for the development of closer joint working.

Members also noted that the proposed, would sit alongside the Partnership Agreement and Constitution. A range of cross-references had been introduced to the Heads of Terms to make the Joint Committee the vehicle for discussing, monitoring, implementing and reviewing the Memorandum.

Members considered whether meetings of the Joint Committee should be held in either one consistent venue or should move around the County. It was the view of most members that meetings should continue to be held at Shire Hall.

Resolved that the constituent authorities be recommended to adopt the revised Heads of Terms with effect from 1st April 2009.

8. Update on the Warwickshire Waste Partnership Conference 3rd November 2008

It was noted that 84 people had attended the conference and positive feed back had been received from all attendees responding to the questionnaire. The presentations had all been rated as excellent or good. Members considered that the event should be held again next year in the same venue

9. Any Other Business

There were no items of other business.

10. Future Meeting Dates (2:00 p.m. Shire Hall) –

Future meeting dates were noted as follows-

31 March 2009

29 September 2009

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Chair of Partnership

The meeting closed at 3.35 p.m.