

The **WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP**
met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on **16 March 2010**

Present:

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Councillor Tilly May

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Nick Grant

Officer Sarah Elliott

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 Dave Shilton

Officer Becky Davies

Warwickshire County Council

Councillor Penny Bould

Councillor John Whitehouse

Officers

Kitran Eastman

Glenn Fleet

Tamalyn Goodwin

Jean Hardwick

Ian Marriott

Andy Smith

Martin Stott

Lucy Rumble (Project Transform)

The Chair welcomed Dr. Wusu Sannoh, (Mayor (Leader)) Bo City Council, Sierra Leone, who was visiting Warwickshire at the invitation of the County Council's in connection with the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme/UNDP funded waste management, sanitation and health project.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alan Cockburn, Richard Dobbs (North Warwickshire Borough Council) and Rob Hoof (Warwick District Council).

2. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Members declared personal interests as follows -

- (1) Councillor Penny Bould declared personal interests as a Member of Friends of the Earth and Warwick District Tree Warden Network
- (2) Councillor John Whitehouse declared a personal interest in agenda item 5, Summary of Progress made by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership, having made a charitable donation to Friends of the Earth.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2009

(a) Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 8 December 2009 be approved and be signed by the Chair subject to an apology for absence being recorded from Councillor Dave Shillton.

(b) Matters Arising

None

Warwickshire Waste Partnership – Member representation

Members commented that the revised page 2 of the agenda, circulated at the meeting, showing current membership of the Partnership, was not up to date.

It was agreed that a copy of the list of members be circulated by email after the meeting for up date.

4. Summary of the Progress Made by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership towards reaching the targets agreed in Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

The Partnership received a report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy on behalf of the Officers' Group which summarised the progress made by the Warwickshire Waste Partnership towards reaching the targets agreed in Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Tamalyn Goodwin presented the Strategy and highlighted –

- (1) The seven key target areas identified in the Strategy;
- (2) That the review of the Strategy was on hold pending the outcome of the forthcoming policy consultation by central Government;
- (3) The next steps – working towards the delivery of targets.

In reply to questions the officers -

- (1) Explained that funding and additional support was being given to the two borough councils to help them meet their targets. A progress report could be reported to a future meeting;
- (2) Acknowledged that recycling of plastics continued to be a complex and controversial issue. The Chair suggested that WRAP should be invited to attend the Partnership's Annual meeting to provide an update on the use of plastics and plastic recycling;
- (3) Reported that a Workshop was being arranged for September to look at best practice and the experiences gained by all the district/borough councils;
- (4) Reported that WRAP had produced a report for both North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Councils giving options for implementing food waste collections that would divert biodegradable waste from landfill. The Chair suggested that the two districts should be asked to share their reports with the Partnership;
- (5) Undertook to establish whether recycling collection for schools also included collections from Colleges.

During discussion –

- (1) The need for clarification of the indicator relating to the “number of vehicles operating on alternative fuel sources” was requested (last target page A5 of 16). It was noted that Rugby Borough Council currently used vehicles fuelled by bio diesel but that this would cease if fuel prices continued to rise;
- (2) Members were informed of the pilot scheme starting on 1st April which would pay extra recycling credits over the next two years..

In reply to a question about the aims and purpose of the Partnership, the Chair asked Ian Marriott to update the Partnership, under agenda item 6, any other business, on the proposals for the setting up a Joint Waste Committee.

The Partnership agreed that –

- (1) Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy Draft Annual Progress report be approved subject to clarification of the reference to “investigation and implement where practical cleaner fuels”.
- (2) The report is made available on the Warwickshire Waste Partnership web pages;

- (3) The Communications Unit is asked to prepare a press release raising awareness of the success of the Partnership over the last two years;
- (4) WRAP is invited to attend the Partnership's Annual Conference to give an update on the latest initiatives with regard to the use of plastics and recycling;
- (5) North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Councils are asked to share with the Partnership the report that has been prepared by WRAP on bio waste.
- (6) Emily Martin is asked to establish whether recycling collection for schools also included Colleges.

5. Waste Management Performance Figures Q1 and 2 of 2009/2010.

The Partnership received a report from the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy on behalf of the Officers' Group which detailed the quantities of waste arising across Warwickshire during the first two quarter of 2009/10.

Kitram Eastman circulated a revised copy of Appendix B of the report which included pages B1 and B2 of 2 and highlighted –

- (1) That the actual figure for the amount of waste going into landfill had been sent to the Environment Agency for validation;
- (2) That all areas of waste management performance were heading in the right direction;
- (3) Overall recycling rates and waste composting continued to increase consistently;
- (4) The Waste minimisation activities carried out by all partners to encourage residents to reduce the amount of food thrown away;
- (5) The increase in waste disposed of through energy recovery to support Warwickshire's Landfill Allowance Targets (LATs).

Councillor John Whitehouse enquired about the discrepancy in the forecast and actual figure for waste going into landfill reported to Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Martin Stott explained that this related to the timing of the County Council performance reports and the availability of actual data. Kitran Eastman explained that the figure reported to the O&S Committee was a forecast based on the best information available at that time and she was pleased to say that the actual figures, as of 1st March 2010, showed improved performance.

In reply to a further question Glenn Fleet added that, last year 21,000 tonnes of waste had been diverted to the Coventry Energy from Waste Plant from landfill to support Warwickshire's Landfill Allowance Targets, up to 30,000 tonnes this year and next year 50,000 tonnes was anticipated.

The Partnership noted the waste management performance figures for Quarter 1 and 2 of 2009/10

6. Any Other Business

(a) Warwickshire Joint Waste Committee

Ian Marriot explained that the Partnership had been moving towards the setting up of a Joint Waste Committee for 2 years. The proposal for a Joint Committee had been agreed by all partners' Executive Committees and had delegated power to develop a Joint Municipal Waste Strategy.

The draft Heads of Terms for setting up a joint committee had been circulated to officers of the partner organisations for the second time for comment and although the revisions proposed were minor some responses were still outstanding. The Joint Committee would have a business plan and programme of works and a budget of £7000 made up of contributions of £740 from each of the partners. He had hoped to meet with officers after the meeting to discuss the outstanding issues.

The Chair asked Ian Marriott to circulate to Members a copy of the draft Heads of Terms for setting up the Joint Committee and an anticipated timescale for implementation.

(b) Support for the City of Bo, Sierra Leone.

Glenn Fleet explained that in 2005 he had been involved in training staff to co-ordinate a waste audit of the City of Bo which had a population of 220,000 and 13,000 properties. He said that the waste audit revealed that Bo was producing only 22,000 and year, outstripping Warwickshire. Bo residents were much more skilled in material re-use, including plastics. He said it had been a pleasure working with Bo City Council and Makeni City Council on this project since 2008. The UN had funded the capital equipment for rolling out a pilot waste management project in both these authorities. The Commonwealth Local Government Forum had paid the officers' expenses from the County Council to provide technical support to develop the project. A few issues had arisen about the timing in connection with the availability of capital funding and procure of the equipment. It was hoped that the pilots would be finished early 2011.

Dr.Wusu referred to the good relationship that existed between Bo City Council and Warwickshire. He said that the first and most important task for Bo City was to remove the rubbish and to target the waste collection system. Bo was also creating a small police force to help keep the City clean with help from the National Police. Although these Police were not in uniform they had done some work helping to keep the streets clean and organising the street traders. He said that he had learned a lot from the officers from Warwickshire over the last 5 years.

The Chair thanked Dr Wusu for addressing the Partnership.

(c) Project Transform

Ivy Rumble reported that a Seminar had been arranged for Wednesday 24 March for officers across all partner organisations and Project Transform, where the opportunity would be provided for officers to ask questions and to hold frank discussions. She anticipated that approximately 65 people would be attending the Seminar.

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

Future meeting dates were noted as follows-

15 June 2010
21 September 2010
7 December 2010
8 March 2011

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Chair of Partnership

The meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.