

The **WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP**  
met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on **7 December 2010**

Present:

**North Warwickshire Borough Council**

Officer Bernard Woodhall

**Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council**

Councillor Bill Sheppard

Officer Brent Davis

**Rugby Borough Council**

Councillor Dr Mark Williams

Officer Sean Lawson

**Stratford-on-Avon District Council**

Councillor Simon Jackson

Officer Olly Scholefield

**Warwick District Council**

Councillor Norman J Vincent

Officer Graham Folkes-Skinner

**Warwickshire County Council**

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Chair)

Councillor John Whitehouse

**Officers**

Ruth Dixon

Kitran Eastman

Glenn Fleet

Jean Hardwick

Ian Marriott

Martin Stott

Laura Vesty

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Penny Bould, Tilly May and Dave Shilton.

## **2. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

Councillor John Whitehouse declared a personal interest having made a charitable donation to Friends of the Earth.

## **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2010**

### **(a) Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 21 September 2010 be approved and be signed by the Chair.

### **(b) Matters Arising**

#### Waste Collection Summary – Warwickshire College

The Partnership noted the current situation with regard to the collection of waste by Warwickshire College and future and current issues, as requested at the last meeting.

## **4. Advantages and Disadvantages of Proceeding with Establishing a Waste Joint Committee in Warwickshire**

Glenn Fleet presented the report which evaluated the advantages of becoming a Joint Waste Committee or staying with the current Partnership arrangements.

Ian Marriott advised of other ways that joint working could be achieved without having a Joint Committee e.g. joint purchasing, joint waste disposal, etc. He highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of a Joint Committee, as set out on page 3 of the report, and referred to the discussion at the previous meeting where, whilst keeping an open mind, a prevailing feeling of scepticism had been expressed by Members.

During discussion the following views were noted:

- Councillor John Whitehouse said that he still had an open mind about a Joint Committee but referred to paragraph 3.5 of the report which suggested an incremental approach and one which would enable sub-regional working to be achieved;
- Dr. Mark Williams acknowledged that he expressed scepticism at the last meeting but understood why the Joint Committee proposal had evolved. His view now was that it would be hard to justify progressing to a Joint Committee and the preferred way forward for him would be to keep evolving the Partnership arrangements;
- Councillor Jackson congratulated Ian Marriott on the amount of work he had undertaken on this project and his reports setting out the proposals which had always been very clear. His view was that a Joint Committee was too big a step and that the future was through sub-regional working and the Business Plan. His support would be

for recommendation 2 (ii) “Improving the current structure and working of the Partnership”;

The Chair summarised by stating that the overall view appeared to be that the Partnership should remain as it was currently, as each authority had different ways of doing things, but that the future commitment and vision should be through the Business Plan. He suggested that this issue should be kept under review but said that there was no advantage in progressing to establish a Joint Committee at the current time.

Glenn Fleet highlighted the need to finalise the Business Plan and urged each authority representative to feed back their views/ comments on the Plan so that it could be finalised by 20 December 2010.

## **5. Update of Sub-Regional Working Project**

Sean Lawson presented his report which updated the Partnership on the work being undertaken across the sub-region through the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Chief Executives’ group on waste matters. He added that the work programme would complement that of the Waste Partnership and might be a delivery mechanism for some of the work streams in the Partnership’s Business Plan.

During discussion questions were asked about whether –

- (1) discussions should be held with Solihull and Coventry to increase their involvement on waste matters;
- (2) the work streams identified for sub-regional working would be cross-referenced in the Partnership’s Business Plan.

In response –

- (1) Sean Lawson said that he would ensure that the work streams listed in the report were included in the Partnership’s Business Plan;
- (2) The Chair agreed that there should be a greater involvement of Solihull and Coventry with the Partnership but suggested that this be delayed until the negotiations with Coventry over their withdrawal from Project Transform had been concluded. He undertook to raise this issue with Councillor Alan Farnell (Leader of the Council).

The Chair thanked Sean Lawson for his report and noted the proposal to bring further updates as output and outcomes develop.

## **6. Summary of the September Warwickshire Waste Seminar and Way Forward to 60% Recycling**

Kitran Eastman presented the report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy which summarised the outcomes of the September Warwickshire Waste Seminar on the future for Warwickshire’s

Waste together with the input that was received at the Waste Partnership Conference in November.

The Partnership –

- (1) Noted the information in the report and agree to include it in the 2010/11 business plan;
- (2) Endorsed the 60% recycling rate by 2015;
- (3) Endorsed the creation of a Waste Minimisation target set in kg per head.

## **7. Report back on the Annual Waste Conference – 11 November 2010**

Glenn Fleet reported on the success of the Annual Conference held on 11 November 2010 and invited views as to where the Conference should be held next year.

The Chair commented that the Conference was well attended and worth continuing and suggested that it might be held in the north of the county next year. It noted that the Seminar in September was held in Nuneaton and was also well attended.

## **8. Project to Increase the Number of Households Participating in Recycling in the Boroughs of North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth - Update**

Ruth Dixon presented the report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy which summarised the progress made on a project to increase the number of households participating in recycling in the Boroughs of North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth.

In reply to a question about the reason for the low recycling rates in some areas Ruth Dixon said that this correlated to areas of deprivation and the lack of storage space for recycling containers. Brent Davis said that the amount of tonnage collected was also reducing and he needed to investigate the reason for this. He commented that some people felt that recycling was too complex.

The Partnership noted the work taking place between the partners and receives further updates throughout the life of the project.

## **9. Waste Management Statistics for 2009/10**

Laura Vesty presented the report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy detailing the quantities of waste arising in each waste collection area and handled by each Council during 2009/10. She highlighted that Warwickshire was the most improved shire council in 2009/10 in terms of recycling and composting with overall performance increasing by 4.85% points (see Appendix A).

The Chair welcomed the news about Warwickshire's good performance.

#### **10. Provisional 2010/11 Data Rolling Data**

The Partnership noted:

- (1) The provisional waste management data for Quarter 2;
- (2) That recycling figures and composting figures had dropped this quarter and overall municipal waste was down by 4%.

#### **11. Fly tipping in Warwickshire – The Issues**

Graham Folkes-Skinner presented his report which summarised what local authorities were required to do with regard to fly-tipping, together with information supplied by each district and borough councils to Fly-Capture and highlighting the best practice available to reduce the problem.

In reply to a question he said that the cost of clearing up after fly-tipping was not recorded by Stratford District Council but routine collections were carried out. Sean Lawson reported that Rugby District Council regularly went out looking for "fly-tips" rather than wait for incidents to be reported. A prosecution was currently taking place for an incident of fly-tipping in Rugby. He believed that there should be a more joined-up approach to fly-tipping across the County. Brent Davis said he was not sure what was happening in Nuneaton but would investigate. He believed that fly-tipping debris was picked up by the estate cleansing team.

The Partnership noted the report.

#### **12. Household Waste Recycling Centre Provision in Warwickshire from December 2011**

Kitran Eastman reported that the contract for management of the 6 sites was coming to an end in 2011 and that 2 of the sites would remain and run in house with reduced operating times. These two sites would open weekdays and at weekends. The proposed reduced opening times were based on site usage data.

In reply to questions Kitran confirmed that consultation with Stockton Parish Council would continue before implementation and the revised opening times would be advertised.

#### **13. Love Food Hate Waste Regional Campaign**

Glenn Fleet reported that following an application to extend funding WRAP has agreed to allocated £200k to extend the Campaign across the region. Each partner was being asked to contribute match fund whatever was spent in each area (c£5k).

**14. Any Other Business**

(a) Project Transform

The Chair reported that the Memorandum of Understanding was still in place and included reference to Project Transform which would now be taken out .He would provide an update on the position to the next meeting.

(b) Defra – Controlling Waste Regulations

Kitran Eastman reported that Defra was carrying out a consultation exercise on Waste Regulations and that the County Council’s response had been prepared, which she would circulate to Members of the Partnership. Defra was also updating its guidance on Waste Strategies but this was still awaited.

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

The Partnership noted the future meeting dates as follows-

- 8 March 2011
- 14 June 2100
- 27 September 2011
- 6 December 2011
- 6 March 2012

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Chair of Partnership

The meeting closed at 3:45 p.m.