

WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017 at Shire Hall in Warwick

Present:

Warwickshire County Council

Councillors: Jeff Clarke (Chair)
Jenny Fradgley
Dave Parsons
Andy Wright

Officers: Ruth Dixon – Waste Compliance Manager
Phil Evans – Head of Community Services
Glenn Fleet – Group Manager, Waste Management
Monica Fogarty – Joint Managing Director
Tamalyn Goodwin – Waste Strategy and Commissioning Officer
Ben Patel-Sadler – Democratic Services Officer

Observers: Councillor Keith Kondakor

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Councillor Les Smith
Richard Dobbs – Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Barry Longden
Glen McGradle

Rugby Borough Council

Councillor Lisa Parker
Shaun Barnes

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Councillor Mike Brain
Angela Lloyd
Craig Bourne
Tony Perks

Warwick District Council

Councillor Moira-Ann Grainger
Becky Davis

Ben Patel-Sadler opened the meeting and requested nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

Councillor Mike Brain proposed that Councillor Jeff Clarke be elected as Chair of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Andy Wright. Councillor Jeff Clarke was elected as Chair of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership.

Councillor Jeff Clarke proposed that Councillor Mike Brian be elected as Vice-Chair of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Andy Wright. Councillor Mike Brain was elected as Vice-Chair of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership.

1. Apologies

Councillor John Horner and Brent Davis (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council).

2. Disclosures of interests

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, including matters arising

Councillor Jeff Clarke requested that all persons present at the meeting stood for a minute's silence to remember Sean Lawson (Rugby Borough Council) who had recently passed away. Sean had been a prominent contributor to the work of the Waste Partnership and would be sadly missed.

Councillor Jeff Clarke welcomed the new members who had been appointed to the Waste Partnership.

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

This matter was completed at the outset of the meeting.

5. Role of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership

Phil Evans – Head of Community Services introduced the report and informed the Waste Partnership that the report sought to provide an introduction to the background and function of the Partnership for the benefit of members who had been recently appointed to serve on it.

Members noted that the Waste Partnership was successful due to the work undertaken by all partners.

The Waste Partnership noted that although the formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlined the responsibilities and obligations of all partners, there was scope for flexibility for individual partners to seek out efficiency savings and improved ways of working.

Phil Evans expressed a view that it would be important for the Waste Partnership to determine a clear direction of travel as partnership work continued into the future.

Resolved:

The Waste Partnership noted the role of the Warwickshire Waste Partnership.

6. Overview of Warwickshire Waste Partnership achievements and upcoming work streams

Phil Evans – Head of Community Services introduced the report and informed members that the Waste Partnership had undertaken good work over the preceding ten years.

The Waste Partnership noted that all of the targets set out in the 2005 Waste Strategy had been achieved- three new targets were added in 2013 which sought to decrease waste and increase recycling.

Phil Evans informed the Partnership that although each district and borough was signed up to achieve the set targets outlined in the Waste Strategy, the differing human and geographical factors from across Warwickshire had resulted in each organisation operating at different levels (each local authority also had differing budgets attributed to their waste and recycling functions).

Members noted that it was important to note that although district and boroughs were operating at different levels, Warwickshire as a partnership continued to achieve its waste and recycling targets.

The Waste Partnership noted that as efficiency savings were arriving at their maximum possible level, it would be important to encourage positive changes in residents' behaviour to minimise waste and increase recycling in the future. One example of this included encouraging residents to take up home composting.

Members noted that Warwickshire's re-use rate was above the national average – the introduction of the re-use shops at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in 2012-13 had improved these re-use figures.

Members noted that Warwickshire's Waste Growth figures were below the national average, which was an excellent achievement given the vast number housing developments being completed in the county over the preceding ten years.

The Waste Partnership noted that although the recycling rate was on target to be delivered, there were challenges around the increased demand on HWRCs. There

may need to be continued investment in the upgrade and refurbishment of these facilities so that demand could be met.

The Waste Partnership noted that over the next ten years, the aim would be for members of the Waste Partnership to work closer together to align waste management contracts to achieve further efficiency savings (to reduce the number of different contracts which were in place across the district and boroughs).

Members noted that waste collection and disposal was a significant budgetary expense for all partners – any reduction in the amount of waste being sent to landfill could result in significant financial savings being achieved.

Phil Evans informed the Waste Partnership that officers were currently in the process of drafting suggestions for each member of the partnership to sign up to (or not as the case may be). These suggestions would be seeking to align waste related contracts (wherever possible) and would also seek to put forward ideas for further efficiency savings to be realised.

Phil Evans set out that in terms of models to achieve the required savings there was a continuum moving from joint procurement, through harmonisation up to joint decision making (with the potential opt out for individual authorities) and that future meetings of the Partnership would need to consider the most appropriate way of moving forward.

Resolved

The Warwickshire Waste Partnership agreed to note the achievements provided in the presentation. Members would be provided with updates on any proposed efficiency savings and joint working enterprises when they became available.

7. Current Waste Services Overview

Phil Evans – Head of Community Services introduced the report whereby each partner authority provided an update on services in their respective areas.

Each partner authority provided a written update which was included in the report. Aside from the written responses, the following points were noted by the Waste Partnership

- North Warwickshire Borough Council were in the process of undertaking a procurement exercise where it was hoped that efficiency savings could be achieved after new contracts were agreed and signed.
- Stratford-on-Avon District Council were currently in the process of reviewing their contracts.
- Warwick District Council were currently preparing for a number of students to leave the area and the associated waste which may be produced because of this.

Members noted that a permit scheme was being considered by the County Council which would enable small businesses and individuals to dispose of small to medium amounts of waste for a set fee at HWRCs. There had been examples given by members of the Partnership whereby some individuals carrying out DIY were not able to dispose of the waste which had been created as a result of these works.

Resolved

The Warwickshire Waste Partnership noted the updates provided by partners and requested that details of the proposed permit scheme were brought back to a future meeting.

8. Waste Data Overview for Q4 2016/17

Glenn Fleet – Group Manager, Waste Management introduced the report and informed the Waste Partnership that although the dry recycling was down due to higher contamination at the Material Recycling Facilities, composting rates had increased giving the partnership a 0.2% increase overall. This was a minimal increase over the previous year.

Members noted that an increased amount of waste had been deposited in landfill in quarter 4 – this was to meet a clause stipulated in a contract with a waste disposal company. Glenn Fleet informed the Panel that this should not cause alarm – this was one element of a long term contract whereby as time progressed, the amount of waste going to landfill would decrease.

Resolved

The Warwickshire Waste Partnership noted the provisional data for the 4th quarter of 2016/7 – January to March 2017.

9. Dates of future meetings

The Waste Partnership noted the dates of future meetings:

- 20th September 2017, 14.00, CR2, Shire Hall, Warwick
- 6th December 2017, 14.00, CR2, Shire Hall, Warwick
- 21st March 2018, 12.00, CR2, Shire Hall, Warwick

10. Agenda item suggestions for next meeting

None

11. Any urgent items

None

The meeting closed at 15.40pm

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Chair