

WARWICKSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017 at Shire Hall in Warwick

Present:

Warwickshire County Council

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

Officers: Helen Barnsley – Democratic Services Officer
Ruth Dixon – Waste Compliance Manager
Phil Evans – Head of Community Services
Glenn Fleet – Group Manager, Waste Management
Tamalyn Goodwin – Waste Strategy and Commissioning Officer

Observers: Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Chris Saint – Leader of Stratford on Avon District Council

Others: James Benn - Frith Resource Management
Paul Frith – Frith Resource Management

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Richard Dobbs – Assistant Director (Streetscape)

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Barry Longden
Brent Davis

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
Gary Charlton

1. Apologies

Councillor Les Smith (North Warwickshire Borough Council)

2. Disclosures of interests

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting, including matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 4: EXEMPT FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE (PURPLE PAPERS)

Exclusion of Public and Press for Item 4 only.

The Waste Partnership passed the following resolution:

‘That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for item 4 only on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972’.

4. Joint Working Opportunities

Following a presentation and discussion Members of the Partnership were reminded that the report and contents of the presentation are exempt when taking the item to respective councils for further discussion.

Resolved:

- 1) That the Waste Partnership acknowledges the modelling work that has taken place since the opportunities were identified and considered the possible savings that could be achieved through these opportunities; and
- 2) That partner authorities be asked to consider whether to further progress the direction of travel or advise what parts of the programme they would be prepared to support/further investigate.

5. Waste Data Overview for Q1 2017-18

Ruth Dixon, Waste Compliance Manager, presented the report to the Partnership and highlighted the following points

- The information included in the report is provisional data relating to Quarter One of the Financial Year 2017/2018.
- The information relates to the collection authorities and Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).
- The report shows that the results for Warwickshire are ahead of the national trend.

- Quarter One 2017/18 is the first quarter to be reported on since Rugby Borough Council (RBC) introduced a charge for the collection of garden waste

It was confirmed that the new charge from RBC for garden waste will have had an impact; the composting rate dropped 1.2%. However, members were reminded that other factors such as an improvement in enforcement and the season (when the charge was introduced) would also have had an effect.

It was brought to the attention of the panel that the report suggested a significant change in the performance at Princess Drive HMRC. Officers confirmed that this site faced a high level of demand and that as the busiest HWRC in the county it was imperative that things continued to run smoothly. There was an acknowledgement from officers that staffing levels had dropped and it was agreed that customer service at the site would be reviewed.

With reference to the recycling of hard plastics – officers confirmed that there is no longer an outlet for this material in the sub-region. The current demand does not allow for the cost of disposal to be offset. Any hard plastic that is taken to a HWRC is segregated – the material would once again be recycled when an outlet could be found.

Ruth Dixon agreed to provide figures relating to the disposal of wood at biomass centres.

Resolved

That the Warwickshire Waste Partnership notes the provisional data for the 1st quarter of 2017-18: April-June 2017.

6. Waste Composition Analysis

Ruth Dixon stated that the analysis had taken place in June 2017 and that waste had been collected from streets and properties that represented all demographics across the county.

The main finding was that 50% of the kerbside residual waste could have been recycled; giving a clear indication that there was more to be done to encourage recycling. There needs to be more promotion of kerbside sorting as an alternative to taking waste to a HWRC.

Following a discussion about the waste that is taken to HWRC it was agreed that the subject of why residents take waste there, rather than recycling it at home, was worth investigating.

It was acknowledged that there are issues at HWRCs across the county that range from dealing with waste that could be recycled to customer satisfaction. The Chair agreed that a review should be carried out to address the concerns that had been raised.

With regards to recycling from flats, where residents do not have access to recycling at the property, the Partnership acknowledged that this was an issue in all

districts and boroughs. As an example it was noted that 85% of the waste from flats in RBC contain waste that could be recycled.

For clarification, it was confirmed that in the table on page four of the report – residual waste includes food waste.

Members questioned some of the data and other information in the report. Ruth Dixon agreed to check this and re-issue as appropriate.

Resolved

That the Warwickshire Waste Partnership notes the overview of the recent kerbside and HWRC waste composition analysis.

7. Waste Partners Report

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

Fly Tipping

Following a question relating to large scale fly tipping across the county, and in particular, cross-border fly tipping, it was confirmed that a multi-agency meeting will be held in the autumn that will consider all cross-border issues. It has been recognised that this is a significant issue for many authorities as well as landowners. Attendees will include representatives from the National Farmers Union, Police, the Environment Agency, Solihull MBC and Coventry City Council.

It was reported that Stratford on Avon District Council had recently successfully prosecuted a repeat fly tipping offender which resulted in a £9,000 fine.

Audit of NBBC Schools (page five of the report)

It was agreed that Glenn Fleet, Group Manager - Waste Management, will investigate the results of the audit of 5 schools in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC), which confirmed a high proportion of food waste in the residual waste; following the audit - why is the proposed project due to take place in Warwick District Council (rather than NBBC where the audit took place).

Resolved

That the Warwickshire Waste Partnership acknowledges the updates on the various waste initiatives taking place in each area since the last partnership meeting in June 2017.

8. Dates of future meetings

The Waste Partnership noted the dates of future meetings:

- 6 December 2017, 14.00, CR2, Shire Hall, Warwick
- 21 March 2018, 12.00, CR2, Shire Hall, Warwick

9. Agenda item suggestions for next meeting

None

10. Any urgent items

Councillor Andy Wright raised concerns about Lower House Farm recycling centre Baddesley Ensor and the working practices that result in odours across the area. Following a discussion, members acknowledged that the regulatory authority for the site was the Environment Agency (EA). Phil Evans was asked to contact the EA to establish how they monitor the site and the results of previous monitoring exercises.

The meeting closed at 3.55pm

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Chair