DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND REGULATORY BOARD

18TH SEPTEMBER 2008

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIAISON COMMITTEE

2007/1987/02 – BIFFA WASTE SERVICES – PROPOSED NEWHURST INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY, CHARNWOOD QUARRIES, SHEPSHED (CHARNWOOD BOROUGH)

Background Information

1. A planning application for an integrated waste management facility at Newhurst Quarry was submitted by Biffa Waste Services on 25th June 2007. At its meeting on 13th March 2008 the Development Control and Regulatory Board resolved that the application be approved subject to conditions and the prior completion of a legal agreement.

2. Work has been ongoing on producing the legal agreement, and this is now at an advanced stage. One of the matters to be covered by the legal agreement is the formation of a site liaison committee, and although the issue of the planning permission is dependent on the completion of the legal agreement, there is support to set up the liaison committee in advance of works starting on site.

Proposals

3. The main purpose of the liaison committee shall be to act as a forum for the exchange of information, and discussion and consultation between the Company, the County Council and representatives of local communities with regard to the operations at the site.

4. The liaison committee will have a non-executive role and will elect a Chairperson, who should be an elected representative of the local community rather than an officer of the Council, statutory organisation or the operating company.

5. The composition of the liaison committee has been discussed with the local County Councillors, Shepshed Town Council, and Biffa Waste Services. Regard has also been taken of the previous liaison committee which met when the site was an active quarrying operation, and whose constitution was approved at the County Council’s Planning and Recreation Committee on 15th February 1996.

6. During discussions there has been support for the inclusion of local residents on the liaison committee. Local residents do not usually sit on other liaison committees within the County although there are some exceptions, for example, where there is not a local parish or town council. It is considered that it would be appropriate in this
case for Shepshed Town Council to be authorised to nominate 2 local residents who live near to the site, to be appointed to the liaison committee. The nominations would be in addition to the Town Council representatives, and could be nominated on an annual basis. At the end of that period, the same or other residents could be nominated.

7. In the light of the above, the following proposal has been drawn up for the composition of the liaison committee:

- Biffa Waste Services – Three representatives
- Leicestershire County Council (Members) – Two representatives
- Leicestershire County Council (Officers) – Two representatives
- Charnwood BC (Members) – Two representatives
- Charnwood BC (Officers 1 Planning & 1 EHO) – Two representatives
- Shepshed Town Council – Two representatives
- Local residents (Shepshed Town Council Nominated) – Two representatives
- Environment Agency – One representative

8. It will be for the liaison committee to decide on an agenda and frequency of its meetings. Quarterly meetings are the norm in the County, although additional dates could be arranged if a development proposal or action justifies a special meeting. Meetings can be preceded by a site inspection if the committee requires. The meeting will be hosted and administered by the applicant company which will be responsible for arranging the meetings, sending out invitations, and preparing and circulating the minutes.

**Recommendation**

(i) That the composition of the liaison committee for the Newhurst Integrated Waste Management Facility, as set out above, be approved;

(ii) That the Members representing the County Council divisions of Shepshed and Warran Hills (currently Mr. K. Parker CC and Mr. C. A. Stanley CC), should be appointed to represent the County Council on the liaison committee;

(iii) That the liaison committee be authorised to make minor amendments to its composition above, as required.

**Background Papers**


**Circulation Under Sensitive Issues Procedures**

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