

Minutes of Allstone Liaison Group meeting

Date: Thursday 11th April 2024

Venue: Allstone House, Myers Road, Gloucester.

Attendees:

Rowan Elliott (RE): Managing Director, Allstone.

David Ambrose (DA): Operations Director, Allstone.

Paul Duncliffe (PD): Agent for Allstone (Chair).

Sarah Pearse (SP): Gloucestershire County Council.

Nick Bainton (NB): Gloucestershire County Council.

Valerie Gannon (VG): Local Community Representative.

Theresa Leather (TL): Local Community Representative.

Item 1: Introductions.

PD: Welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Item 2: Apologies.

PD: Advised that he had received apologies from Linda Townsend and Julie Turner. He also advised that he had received e-mail confirmation that Temitayo Olatunji no longer worked for Gloucester City Council.

Item 3: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th November 2023.

PD: The Minutes were approved and included the amendments that Linda Townsend had circulated.

Item 4: Update to be provided on all improvements/repairs/new equipment purchased since the last meeting.

DA: Provided a summary as follows:

- A new dust suppression system had been installed in the Waste Transfer Station (WTS) building. The system was called Mist Air and the capital cost of its installation was circa £60,000. The system essentially creates fog and 3 different types of additives can be added to deal with any odours that might be present in the waste streams (although DA noted that odours rarely occur in the types of waste that Allstone handle in the WTS building.

RE: Advised that the system can be operated on cycles and it also has a built in remote control facility which provides optimum flexibility for the users.

VG: Enquired how does the Company educate its customers in terms of the various waste streams and how is this brought to the Company's customers attention.

DA: Explained the procedure. He noted that customers often buried things in the bottom of skips and that can sometimes cause problems depending on the type of waste that is discovered at point of entry into the WTS. An information leaflet had been produced and is being sent to all of the Company's customers.

RE: Displayed the information leaflet on the projector and advised that it would be circulated to customers in both hard copy and electronic format.

- Re-cladding of the front elevation of the WTS building is currently in hand and also involves replacing 2 of the WTS (central) roller shutter doors.

SP: Advised that permitted development rights had been removed on the WTS planning permission and that a non material minor amendment should be sought for the changes to the front elevation of the WTS. **Action Point.**

- A Review of the white noise reversing beepers has been undertaken and the loading shovel has also been replaced.
- A review has also been undertaken of some of the other machines that work within the WTS building.
- Internal road repairs continue to be undertaken. This is an important on-going element of the Company's repair programme with the focus being on reducing chain rattle.
- On-going improvements to the internal drainage of the site.
- Pedestrian safety barriers have been installed.
- Various works have been undertaken to the wash plant all of which have focussed on noise mitigation measures including rubber chutes and rubber lining. This work is part of the continuing commissioning of the wash plant and the work is being undertaken in conjunction with Parnaby's who manufactured the wash plant.

RE: Advised that an upgraded fire detection system is programmed for installation in the WTS. The current system works on heat detection. The new system works on an analysis of particle sizes via lasers and provides enhanced, early stage fire detection.

DA: Advised that the Company have regular visits from the Fire Service. Lithium Ionide batteries present one of the most consistent fire threats.

Item 5: Update on Action Points.

RE: Provided a summary presentation on the projector of the various Action Points from the last Liaison group meeting.

PD: Asked RE to provide a copy of the presentation summary so that they could be included in the next Minutes.

VG: Advised that the notice in the adjoining car park is having no effect at all. Employees are still causing noise – honking their horns and playing loud music. How is the message being relayed to employees because it is not currently working.

RE: Advised that he would speak to all line Managers to reinforce the message. **Action Point.**

TL: Highlighted the number of skips stored in the area at the front of the site.

RE: Advised that this is reliant on the ordering rate of skips by customers.

TL: Enquired why no one from the City Council attended the Liaison Group meetings. This had been a consistent failure by the City Council.

VG: Also raised the same point that TL had raised. She felt that the City Council should be able to spare an hour or two every quarter to attend the Liaison Group meetings.

PD: Confirmed that he would let VG have details of the Highway Officer's contact details at Gloucestershire County Council. **Action Point.**

Item 6: Update on any complaints received since the last meeting.

PD: Advised that Julie Turner had e-mailed and advised that the City Council had received no complaints since the last meeting. No complaints had been received by the EA or GCC.

RE: Advised that he had put a log together and he went through this.

DA: Advised that Beth Robertson of the EA does regular waste audits and full (unannounced) site inspections for compliance purposes (for both the WTS and the aggregates recycling site).

Item 7: Update on 23/0040/GLMAJW

PD: Provided an update on the various statutory consultation responses that had been submitted.

SP: Advised that she would be taking over the planning application from Linda Townsend.

Item 8: Quarterly Waste Returns.

PD: Advised that the latest quarterly waste return was 5104.68 tonnes.

SP: Requested that this information be submitted to GCC Planning. **Action Point.**

Item 9: Feedback from Local Community Representatives.

VG: Noted the following:

- there had been an improvement to the white noise reversing beepers.
- sweeper issue on Saturday mornings often as early as 6am.
- felt that the attendance of the City Council EHO was important.
- often a loud, sudden banging can be heard.

RE: Advised that he will follow up with Breedon about the early morning Saturday sweeper.

Action Point.

VG: Asked about mud on local roads.

RE: Advised that the Company utilise their own dedicated road sweeper.

TL: Raised the matter of dust.

NB: Explained that GCC Planning have to take in to account the expert advice they receive from the various statutory consultees. Individual Planning Officer's do not have the qualifications to advise on matters such as dust, noise and highways. They rely on the professional advice and responses of the various statutory consultees.

SP: GCC Planning have a number of independent Consultants who they use.

Item 10: Any other business

No other business was raised.

Item 11: Date of next meeting.

PD: Advised that the date of the next meeting was Thursday 25th July 2024. The remaining meetings in 2024 are on 24th October and 12th December.