

**Date:** Tuesday 29 September 2015, (16:30) **Location:** Coggeshall Village Hall

**Attendees:**

Frank Saunders	<b>Environment Agency</b>	Terry Dixon	<b>Kelvedon Parish Council</b>
Claire Tomalin	<b>Essex County Council</b>	Wendy Scattergood	<b>Braintree District Council</b>
Lady Patricia Newton	<b>Essex County Council</b>	Alan Stone	<b>Community Group</b>
James Abbott	<b>Essex County Council</b>	<b>Guests:</b>	
Tony Dunn	<b>Bradwell Parish Council</b>	Richard Greaves	<b>Essex County Council</b>
Katherine Evans	<b>Feering Parish Council</b>	David Whipps	<b>Holmes &amp; Hills</b>
Alan Waine	<b>Silver End Parish Council</b>	<b>Apologies:</b>	
Steven Smith	<b>Honace Limited</b>	Jamie Hooper	<b>Kelvedon Parish Council</b>
David Pye	<b>Coggeshall Parish Council</b>	Sheila Tames	<b>Coggeshall Parish Council</b>
Bob Wright	<b>Rivenhall Parish Council</b>		

**Outline Agenda:**

**No Item**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Cllr Lady Newton welcomed the attendees and guests as the Chair of the IWMF Site Liaison Committee.

**2. Planning Applications and Submission of Details**

2.1 It was confirmed that the Section 73 Hinterland Application – Removal of Conditions 28 and 30 had been approved. With reference to previous discussions relating to concerns over the types of waste that could be imported to the site, it was explained that the Environmental Permit would restrict imports to the waste code (i.e. the different types of waste) that could be received, recycled and treated at the IWMF. Frank Saunders confirmed that a copy of the Environmental Permit Application was on the Public Register and was also available to view at the Environment Agency's office in Kelvedon. The application provided details of the various waste codes and the proposed waste recovery, recycling and treatment operations.

2.2 It was confirmed that the Extension of Time – Appeal had been submitted and was ongoing. Steven Smith noted that the original application, clearly set out the reasons why a 2 year extension of time was required. However, in determining the application whilst Essex County Council recognised that "large scale development such as mineral extraction and development of waste management facilities do require a longer lead in period such that 5 years is seen as an acceptable period for implementation" a 1 year extension was granted.

It was explained that Gent Fairhead & Co Limited is fully committed to developing the IWMF at Rivenhall Airfield. The appeal, and extension to 2 years, will allow the authorities the time to fully assess and sign off the permits and conditions to allow the development to commence before March 2017.

2.3 It was confirmed that a Section 73 Application and Submission of Details had been submitted to Essex County Council.

Steven Smith explained that this latest application for the IWMF is simply to provide the Planning Authority with the final design details of the permitted proposals as required by the

conditions. At the Public Inquiry, the Inspector tested and confirmed the flexibility of the IWMF's design to meet future changes in the waste market.

It was noted that the current permission allows for the IWMF to treat, recover and recycle up to 853,000 tonnes of waste each year. Neither the capacity of the IWMF, nor the permitted number of vehicle movements, will be changed at all. There have been some modifications to individual process capacities, but the principles of the integrated facility have not altered, and the submission shows how the net environmental impact has been reduced. Only a proportion of reject material removed from the site will be landfilled, the majority going to specialist recycling and recovery plants elsewhere.

Whilst internal processes have been modified to meet the changing needs of the waste market, the main changes that have been made to the IWMF's design relate to changes in construction techniques within the footprint of the existing quarry, which have led to a reduction in the physical size of the facility. The thermal capacity of the combined heat and power plant has actually been reduced.

Cllr Abbott commented that given the changes proposed, he would have expected there to be a need to for an entirely new application rather than a variation to an existing planning permission.

Richard Greeves explained that Essex County Council had given careful consideration to this point, and explained that having taken advice on the matter, Essex County Council were satisfied that the application should be considered as a variation. However, it was noted that the level of information that was required to support the variation was equivalent to that needed to support a new application.

David Whipps reinforced the comments made by Richard Greaves and explained that Gent Fairhead & Co Limited had also considered its position, prior to submitting the variation.

Alan Stone and Terry Dixon commented that although it was being considered as a variation, it felt as though the original application was subject to planning creep.

Cllr Abbott noted that within the application reference was made within section S1 to the discharge of water from the IWMF into the River Blackwater, and requested clarification over this position.

Steven Smith explained that under this application, there was no intention for the IWMF to discharge water to the River Blackwater.

### **3. Environmental Permit**

Frank Saunders offered an update of the Environmental Permit Application and the Environment Agency's local engagement plan.

It was confirmed that an Environmental Permit Application had been made to the Environment Agency and the application was presently in a queue awaiting review and validation. It was explained that it would take Environment Agency's Permitting Team between 4 to 6 weeks to formally confirm that the application was 'Duly Made'.

Once 'Duly Made' (i.e. all information had been submitted to allow the Environment Agency's scientists to review the technical data), pre-application meetings would be arranged locally. The meetings are intended to inform members of the public as to how the Environment Agency will review the Environmental Permit application, i.e. the air quality information will be reviewed by the Environment Agency's AQMAU team of scientists based in Cardiff.

The consultation period for the Environmental Permit is 28 days following a 'Duly Made' submission; locally the engagement process will comprise: local newspaper advertisements; the preparation of information offering an explanation of how the application will be reviewed; and, an informative drop in event that will be held at a local

venue attended by Environment Agency scientists, representatives of the national and local permitting teams and representatives of Essex County Council.

It was explained that the Environment Agency were likely to issue a briefing note to local stakeholder groups within the next two weeks. Whilst it was noted that representatives of the IWMF Liaison Committee had request that two engagement events are held, Frank Saunders explained that the Environment Agency's stakeholder engagement team will give this suggestion consideration, however, he was not in a position to commit to any such arrangement.

Given timescales associated with the 'Duly Made' process, Frank Saunders noted that the Environment Agency were readying themselves for a stakeholder engagement event at Silver End Village Hall towards the end of November 2015.

Katherine Evans suggested that the Environment Agency could consider advertising the event within local Parish Magazines and/or newsletters to not only publicise the event but to clarify where the documents would be available to view either in person, or, on the internet.

**4. Date of Next Meeting**

12 May 2016 at Bradwell Village Hall