



Minutes of Waste Hub Liaison Group

Thursday, 29th November 2018, 5.30pm,
Environmental Hub, Cledford Lane, Middlewich CW10 0JR

Present:

Cllr Mike Hunter, Middlewich Town Council	MH
Cllr David Latham, Middlewich Town Council	DL
Cllr Simon McGrory, Cheshire East Ward Councillor	SM
Kevin Melling, MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	KM
Jane Thomason, Deputy MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	JT
Jonathan Williams, Town Clerk, Middlewich Town Council	JW

Other Attendees:

Megan Bowyer, PA to Kevin Melling, (Minutes)	MB
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Apologies Received:

None

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1.	<p>Welcome KM welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising 2.1 The Minutes from the meeting on 27th September 2018 were approved as accurate and correct. 2.2 Matters Arising (i) MB confirmed she had sent out invitations for the next two meetings; (ii) The Terms of Reference had been amended in line with discussions at the last meeting and were presented for approval which was given; (iii) The leaflet of invitation to join the group had been issued to near neighbours (approx. 200) as agreed, but no volunteers had come forward. This was discussed more fully in agenda item 3 below; (iv) MB will arrange a tour of the site once the community members are appointed in the New Year. Operationally it will be most convenient to hold it on a Thursday afternoon. Action MB (v) JW confirmed he has details of the defibrillator; (vi) KM gave an update on the actions taken since the September meeting re addressing</p>	<p>MB</p>

	<p>the complaints about Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs):</p> <p>(a) Workforce Engagement – KM had conducted a series of employee briefings on 9/10/18 which he estimated 80/90% of the workforce had attended. He took the opportunity to speak about being good neighbours; recruiting locally, respecting Ansa’s direct neighbours and driving considerately giving a number of examples of the latter.</p> <p>(b) KM and JT had been out on an early morning to stand at the Cross Lane traffic lights to conduct spot checks and other supervisors have continued to do this.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that changes will be gradual over a period of time. SM commented that it would be necessary to keep giving out the information and it needs to funnel through. MH reiterated that Cross Lane was not a speed problem it was RCVs forcing their way through and mounting pavements. KM stressed that Ansa is taking this very seriously and will continue with the actions. He urged attendees to keep reporting any incidents and although he takes on board that it is sometimes difficult to take down a registration number, this is key information together with the time and date of any incident. Any reports are followed up and it helps to have as much information as possible in order to resolve.</p> <p>c) Re-routing of vehicles – JT has started to look at alternatives.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Appointment of Local Representative</p> <p>MH advised that a local resident has come forward. KM acknowledged the request and confirmed that the group needs to agree on an appropriate approach to extend the nominee offer to the wider community. Nevertheless, it was great to have a volunteer and if appointed he would be happy to meet with the resident before the next meeting.</p> <p>SM also commented that in the interests of fairness, before any appointments can be made the opportunity would need to be promoted amongst the wider community to ensure that anyone interested, had the opportunity to volunteer.</p> <p>KM remarked that Ansa will be guided by the group on the best way to proceed. After discussion the following was agreed in order to target the biggest audience possible through a variety of media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An advert will be published on the Middlewich Town Website; • Hard copy application forms will be available at the Town Council offices and Middlewich library; • Adverts will be published on the Facebook sites which MH and DL manage; • An advert will be published in the local paper, the Middlewich Guardian. <p>Providing the advert can be published for 5th December in the local paper, the closing date for applications will be 21 December 2018. After the closing date and dependent upon the number of applications, MB and JW will collate, prioritise and short-list. Redacted details will then be circulated to group members so that a decision can be taken early in the new year and the successful volunteers invited to the January meeting. Action MB to co-ordinate</p> <p>MH has provided contact details for the local resident who has expressed an interest, MB will contact and arrange for an application to be sent and returned. Action MB</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>MB</p>

<p>4</p>	<p>Middlewich Community Issues</p> <p>Prior to discussing the issues which had been raised for the agenda by MH and DL, KM advised attendees of a matter of particular importance, namely the Cheshire East Consultation which has recently commenced in connection with re-routing waste vehicles and amending times of waste collections. He distributed printed copies of the consultation and advised that there is a website address which all CE residents can access to give their views on the proposals. He realised that this could be controversial for the local community and encouraged their participation.</p> <p>KM explained that the background to this initiative is the construction of the Environmental Hub and the building of the CE Composting site at Leighton, which is expected to go live in October 2019. Once this is in operation green waste and food waste will be collected together with no winter break as at present with that waste being taken to the Leighton site. The council is taking the opportunity to make waste collections more efficient and this could mean different work patterns and a longer operating day.</p> <p>JW advised that Middlewich Town Council had recently been advised of the consultation and will be seeking a collective view from council members for a response. They will also encourage everyone to participate.</p> <p>KM advised that once the CEC consultation is complete and views captured, Ansa will be tasked with completing work on re-routing and amended shift patterns. These will be constrained by the site planning permission already in place, together with the results of the consultation. There followed a discussion about interpretation of the site planning permission re vehicle hours. MB was asked to re-circulate Minutes from the previous group when a legal opinion had been sought. Action MB</p> <p>MH expressed a concern that if collections were to start at 6.30am, vehicles could be leaving the site at 5.30am which would be unacceptable for local residents. SM agreed that this could be the perception and it was an opportunity for the group to raise the issue and express its concerns. On that basis a statement was passed as follows: The Ansa Community Liaison Group wishes it to be noted that they do not want there to be any impact/change to the current start time of RCVs leaving the depot.</p> <p>SM left the meeting</p> <p>A further discussion took place about the timing of the first bin collections as it would be unwelcome if these started at say 6.05am in Middlewich. JT explained that there would be a need to model the routes and the aim would be to travel away from Middlewich and then come back in, so it was more likely that collections would be scheduled for later in the day. KM promised to share the details of routes and rotas once that stage in the project is reached.</p> <p>4.1 Speeding Trucks/Dangerous Driving of Vehicles/Use of Estate roads as cut-throughs.</p> <p>DL reported that the issues haven't gone away since the last meeting. He has had reports of clipped vehicles and trucks going over the bridge at Cledford Lane jumping the lights. KM said that he had noticed the ALL RED period on the traffic lights is not long enough and he would take this up with the traffic team in CE.</p>	<p>MB</p>
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<p>DL advised that he had also been contacted by a cyclist who advised that the sensors do not react to his bicycle. He thinks it's the same for motorbikes. KM will also mention this to the traffic team for investigation and will report back on findings. Action KM.</p> <p>JT asked if there were particular hotspots and was told these are mainly: Warmingham Lane, Dragon Lane, Forgemill Lane and two complaints from Wimboldsley School. MH added that it is not always speeding, it can also be vehicles 'bullying' and pushing their way through down the narrow country lanes. He also mentioned that RCVs appear to be taking short-cuts through Brynlow Drive, George VI Avenue and Moss Drive. JT said she would investigate.</p> <p>JT advised that she has already been investigating alternative routes and is looking at the routing of vehicles in key areas. This will take a number of weeks; she asked attendees to bear with her and hoped there would be tangible progress by early February.</p> <p>4.2 Site Smells</p> <p>DL advised that he has had reports of smells nearer to the site rather than on the Estate as mentioned last time. He has recorded dates and times of events.</p> <p>KM remarked the site filtration system utilises carbon pellets to neutralise odour and is very effective. However, due to the site being in its first year of operation the exact frequency for replacement of the carbon pellets is still to be determined. He confirmed that from within the site, odours don't seem to be a problem with only the occasional waste odour being recorded. However, as a result of the complaints reported he will ask the suppliers, Camphil, to investigate and if necessary renew the carbon pellets. He will advise the outcome.</p> <p>MH asked if the RCVs are washed inside and JT confirmed that this takes place regularly in line with the Environmental permit. The water used is drained into special tanks which were built for this purpose.</p> <p>4.3 Social Media</p> <p>A conversation was held on how social media could be used better to publicise the work of this group. MH and DL wish to set up a Facebook group with them and an Ansa team member as admin officers. In this way any complaints will be visible in a timelier manner and residents who use Facebook will be made aware of the measures being taken. KM committed to considering how best this would work. Action KM</p> <p>4.4 Sheeting on Haulage Vehicles</p> <p>MH advised that a resident of Booth Lane had complained that a vehicle had shed glass and debris over the road. He had reported the incident by phone twice but had no response. JT asked if MH could forward the resident's phone number and she would contact him immediately; it could be that he had rung the Cheshire East customer service number rather than Ansa. She also advised that coincidentally a meeting had been held that afternoon with a supplier and it had come to light that it was one of their drivers who had not sheeted their vehicle properly. The message has been reinforced.</p> <p>4.5 Service Area Doors on Fleet Workshop</p> <p>DL advised that a local resident has photos and videos showing that doors on the fleet</p>	<p>KM</p> <p>KM</p>
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	<p>workshop have been left open whereas the Traffic Commissioner ruled that they should be closed at all available times. JT accepted that doors have been open too long and she has issued Instructions to all employees. KM remarked that Ansa is taking this seriously and values comments such as these.</p> <p>4.6 Articulated Lorries parked up on Cledford Lane</p> <p>DL had been told that artics had been parked up on Cledford Lane early in the morning waiting for the site to open and that it was difficult to drive/cycle past them. JT said categorically that they should not be there. An incident with a Jenkinson’s vehicle had been observed at the beginning of November and since then all hauliers have received a letter from Ansa and she has evidence from the hauliers that they have communicated this message to their drivers.</p> <p>4.7 Tree Pruning</p> <p>This has been completed as communicated previously. Due to the lack of treatment previously and some being dangerous, they have been pruned back hard and gaps have appeared where they were decayed or rotten. In future they will be re-pollarded every 3 to 5 years and the situation should not recur. By March onwards they will start to grow again.</p> <p>In the meantime, residents opposite the site are not happy. They have also noticed cars parked in the area behind the trees over the last few weeks. KM confirmed this was the case and that he wanted to accommodate all vehicles within the site rather than over onto adjacent streets. As an interim measure it was suggested that the erection of green fencing and/or bushes in tubs until the trees may prove to be a suitable solution until the trees regrow. Action JT</p> <p>4.8 Use of Site for servicing other Councils’ vehicles</p> <p>DL said that he had heard a rumour that Cheshire West waste contract was going out to tender and may be coming to the Cledford site. JT and KM both said that they knew nothing about this. Contracts of this nature need to be operated from existing facilities within the local authority area.</p> <p>4.9 Vehicle reversing sirens at 5.30am Chadwick Lane</p> <p>This had been reported via the Facebook page. JT said that it definitely wasn’t an Ansa vehicle.</p> <p>4.10 Air Quality Checks</p> <p>DL and MH asked if Ansa kept a daily log. JT advised that Ansa keeps daily Odour Records onsite, but that Air Quality is performed by CEC and not Ansa.</p>	JT
5	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>JW thanked Ansa for their part in the Remembrance day commemorations. The ceremony at the depot had been well-received and was a memorable one.</p> <p>JT advised that upcoming work at the site includes installation of solar panels, a booster being fitted on the door on the right-hand side of the depot for radio signals and new doors being installed in January because there had been previous problems with ripping.</p>	

The meeting closed at 7.25pm. Next Meeting to be held on 31st January 2019

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