

5th Liaison Meeting between Milton Parish, FCC Environment and the Environment Agency
Tuesday 22nd November 2016, 4.00 pm, FCC Landfill Site

Minutes

Attendees: Richard Horwood (Site Manager), Roisin Bennett (FCC Environment); Darren Smith & Matt Gough (Infinis), Sarah Hartley Kent (Environment Agency), Emma Knight (SCDC); Hazel Smith, Jane Coston, Anna Bradnam, Kay White and Suzanne Webster (all Milton Air Quality Working Party).
Apologies: Keith Lamb (FCC) and Gordon Downie (MAQWP).

Welcome and safety briefing:

Richard Horwood introduced himself as the new site manager for FCC environment, Milton; Dave Denton has moved to another FCC site in Northamptonshire.

Actions from the last meeting (27-04-16):

1. LG to email AB any CAR reports that were eligible to release - on agenda (SHK)
2. AB agreed to contact the manager at Amey Cespa regarding litter control at the HWRC site. RH confirmed that Amey Cespa have acknowledged their responsibility for the litter on site and are now pretty good at clearing it up.
3. HS reported the damaged bollard but has not yet had confirmation that it was fixed.

Update May 2016 - November 2016

Environment Agency - SHK reported that the FCC site is currently Band D and is predicted to be Band E by the end of the year. This is a primarily a result of 6 monitoring scores + 2 predicted each quarter (eg. leachate levels, perimeter gas, elevated methane levels in external boreholes) - although RB reported that this is improving and there have been no breaches identifies in September / October 2016 - and 8 scores through site inspections (4 management system failures + 4 root causes).

EA visit (22-06-2016) - 4 management system failures were identified, including:

- Failure to follow operating procedures (steep flanks, no cover), since rectified
- Technical competence on site, since rectified with additional training undertaken
- Fugitive emissions from exposed waste

EA visit (03-10-2016) - The most recent score related to engineering work not approved in advance by the EA - however, a retrospective review of the work done revealed no further issues. In addition, the EA identified an issue with drainage blankets, which FCC Environment acknowledged and rectified quickly. RH reported that additional waste was being tipped at Milton (Cell 22) at the time, which would normally have gone to a different site.

EA visit (25-10-2016) - SHK reported that Cell 22 had been well covered and no significant odour or emissions were identified. There had been some issues with fugitive gas around a borehole near the A10 traffic lights. DS reported that this is one of the oldest areas of the site and there are limited records available from that time, but they will continue to monitor ongoing. JC offered to look for any relevant information in the records archive and forward it on.

SHK confirmed that the EA will be involved in the placement of any replacement wells.

SHK reported that the 2014 enforcement investigation has now been closed and all of the documents will be retained in case of future issues. This took as long as it did to conclude because the EA wanted to ensure that lessons had been learned. The EA summation report has been sent to Keith Lamb and the Company Secretary for FCC Environment. The key areas are as follows:

Problem

Exposed flanks - no covers
Capping of cells
Size of the tipping area

Mitigation

Improvements on site and transparency from
FCC Environment

Improvements have been made to previous systems under the new Management and RH reported that management changeover protocols are in place. Complaints, whether received via the EA or direct are seen by the site management team, Keith Lamb and other FCC personnel and are promptly investigated.

Reports from Milton residents of any recent odour incidents – The majority of incidents reported were in June 2016; there has been around 1 report per month thereafter but several of these look likely to be related to the sewage works across the A14. The EA attended the FCC site following one of the reports logged, but traced the source back to the Amey Cespa site. No complaints were made to the FCC landfill site direct. Generally speaking, the air quality was much improved and FCC / Infinis were thanked for the improvements they had made and SHK was thanked for the monitoring.

FCC – RH reported that the following is currently underway:

- Construction of Cell 22
- Permanent capping of Cell 19A
- Retro-drilling of leachate and gas wells
- Further improvements on insulation logs (re-training)
- Further improvements in tipping areas with soil being placed in non-operational areas
- Strengthening the boreholes to minimise fugitive emissions
- Repair work now being done in-house (quicker than a contractor)
- Introduction of a weekly site field check sheet
- Leachate wells now checked 3 times per day

JC requested that FCC inform AB of any interesting archaeological finds during the digs

FCC – RH reported that the following is planned:

- Introduction of bird control (bird of prey)
- Construction of a high level access road with a 1-way system to allow filling of cell 22 from above
- Construction of Cell 23 to enable filling to continue to mid-2018 - awaiting EA approval / comments. RH / SHK agreed to update AB once the construction of Cell 23 is approved
- Permanent capping of Cell 19A
- Next year: permanent capping of Cell 21A with pumps installed in recently drilled wells

FCC - RH confirmed that the site has capacity for a further 1 or 2 additional cells following the construction of Cell 23, working towards Butt Lane. The area currently covered with clay is outside this area, but RH reported that very little clay had been removed since the last meeting and they are not currently looking to utilise the space. The current licence expires in 2020 and RH confirmed that if FCC was to file an extension request post-2020 it would have to be submitted in the next 3 months. RH confirmed that this decision will be driven by the market conditions and an extension to the licence is not currently planned. RH agreed to let AB know as soon as he has had confirmation.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 28th March 2017 at 4.00 pm at FCC Landfill site

The meeting closed at 5.20 pm.