



Minutes of Waste Hub Liaison Group

21st October 2021, 5.30pm, via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Paul Cassell, Local Representative	PC
Cllr Mike Hunter, Cheshire East Ward Councillor	MH
Kevin Melling, MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	KM
Simon McGrory, Local Representative	SM
Cllr Graham Orme, Middlewich Town Council	GO

Other Attendees:

Megan Bowyer PA to KM (Minutes)	MB
---------------------------------	----

Apologies Received:

Jane Thomason, Deputy MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	JT
---	----

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1.	<p>Welcome KM welcomed attendees declared the meeting open and chaired it throughout.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising 2.1 The Minutes from the meeting held on 19th August 2021 were approved as an accurate and correct record. 2.2 Matters Arising Air Quality – GO is still busy with vaccination centre work so has not yet met with KM. He will advise MB when he has time available, and she will arrange the meeting. Action GO National Waste Strategy – KM recapped that this legislation is to be passed through parliament soon and will provide challenging targets on reuse of waste. The Government is not on track to publish it in October as was the original timeline and it's likely that implementation will slip back accordingly. COP 26 bus visited the site recently to see the Hydrogen plant which was viewed with great interest. Fugitive emissions and air quality – GO advised that Middlewich TC are still pursuing Cheshire East Council for additional diffusion tubes to be installed at key locations on</p>	GO

	<p>the highway network around Middlewich. GO acknowledged this was part of the ongoing air quality monitoring programme conducted by Cheshire East Council.</p> <p>Warmingham Lane Closure – this hasn't been as expected – just intermittent closures. GO advised that CEC has updated their winter policy re gritting and the challenge from the Town Council is around Warmingham Lane where there is likely to be no gritting in the winter months. KM advised that he has lodged a complaint as Ansa's RCVs use that road. KM understood it was for 2022/23 not for 21/22. Action KM to request an update from Cheshire East Highways.</p> <p>Middlewich Community Pride – Ansa is on standby to help when we receive an approach from the group.</p> <p>Litter - pickers completed the work around Booth Lane and Cledford Lane</p>	KM
3	<p>Resignation of DL as Middlewich Town Councillor and ongoing composition of the Group</p> <p>DL wrote to advise that he had resigned from the Town Council and hence from this group as he was appointed to it in his role as a Middlewich town councillor. KM confirmed he had responded to DM to thank him for his contributions. The group also took the opportunity to recognise the contribution made by DL. KM confirmed that once Middlewich TC nominate DL's replacement, MB will send out invitations to future meetings together with a copy of the Terms of Reference (ToR) and any other useful information.</p> <p>KM advised that he had received an email with questions from a Middlewich resident associated with the appointment of local representatives He recapped how the group was formed back in 2017 when Ansa took possession of the site and the attempts made to appoint two local residents at the time, which included a leaflet drop to residents living near the site and an advertisement in the local paper. It was agreed by all that should a future vacancy develop for the local representative, similar steps will be taken to those originally used to recruit the original local representatives.</p>	
4	<p>Operational Update</p> <p>KM advised that Covid continues to play major part in Ansa's operations and employees continue to be affected. There was a sad case two weeks ago when one of our employees sadly passed away due to Covid. The combination of the ongoing pandemic and labour shortages being experienced nationally is causing some difficulties with our operations.</p> <p>The recent visit to the hub by the Cop 26 bus received good publicity. Also, Ansa has won the APSE National Waste Team of the Year in recognition of our efforts during the pandemic. This is a huge achievement on a national basis, and it is something that we are all very proud of.</p> <p>Odour control –the carbon in the filters was changed in the middle of May 2021. As mentioned previously, monthly monitoring of the carbon is conducted and from our</p>	

	<p>assessments and recent testing we have arranged for the carbon to be replaced within the large Transfer Station. This will take place in the next few weeks.</p> <p>GO asked whether the change was on a planned schedule or efficiency basis. KM advised that since the problem 2 years ago we have closely monitored the condition of the carbon and we are working to a preventative maintenance system. As the building has been fully utilised and waste volumes have increased during lockdown, we believe that 2 changes per year are needed. Every month we test the saturation levels and periodically check the stacks above for odours emissions. We have seen that the levels of saturation within the carbon filters vary across the three channels and base our actions on the channel with the highest saturation levels. Action KM to discuss in more detail with GO when they next meet.</p> <p>PC commented on posts he had seen on the Middlewich Community Facebook group, which turned out to be about a farmer spreading slurry. Also, on the 'We live near Booth Lane' Facebook site, where a resident had suggested that Ansa burned waste at the hub, which of course is not the case. He had posted the Ansa video showing the work that is carried out in the waste transfer station 'behind the scenes', and that had received a lot of interest. KM remarked that the video is on the Ansa website, but people forget or aren't aware that the link exists. We will look at how we can make that more obvious and accessible via the Ansa Comms Team Action MB</p>	<p>KM</p> <p>MB</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Middlewich Community Matters</p> <p>5.1 Odour Management Plan As part of the site planning approval Ansa needs to have an Odour Management plan and KM confirmed that was the case.</p> <p>GO referred to an incident in September where there had been strong odours on Booth Lane parallel to the office block and by the layby. When alerted he had visited the area and experienced the smells with the roof down on his car. MH confirmed that it was a sickly smell. KM believes that we now have the frequency for changing the filters at the right levels. He confirmed that Ansa is keen to make sure that we are not emitting these odours and recommended to everyone to let us know if they are aware of any issues so that we can investigate. Also, The Environment Agency will contact us if there are any issues and they also carry out unannounced inspections – they did so earlier in the year and found no problems. It was agreed to continue to monitor odours by all interested parties.</p> <p>5.2 Principles of Cleaning Viridor Vehicles and the mitigation of odours KM had no update except that we will be working with Viridor through our procurement team to ensure that cleaning of their vehicles is continued in line with arrangements</p> <p>GO remarked that he had experienced the smells from the vehicles in September when coming over the bridge on Cledford Lane and on three subsequent occasions on Lewin Street when he was waiting to turn to the Victoria Hall.</p>	

	<p>As previously updated, Viridor continues to provide 4 dedicated vehicles that, in addition to normal cleansing, are cleansed weekly at Lymm Truck stop with an anti-bacterial solution.</p> <p>Ansa's procurement team has been researching and working on obtaining an odour suppression solution. We are part way through the procurement process which will see the installation of a misting solution around the doors in the waste transfer station.</p> <p>5.3 Publishing of Group Minutes on Middlewich TC website Following a request from the Deputy Town Clerk, it was confirmed that we will arrange for the town council to publish the minutes on their website in addition to them being available on the Ansa site. Action MB to arrange</p>	MB
7	<p>Any Other Business PC asked if when hydrogen is being drawn and the hybrid RCVs are operational could he visit the site to have a look at the operation. GO was also keen to visit as were the other group members. KM responded to say that they would be very welcome and asked MB to arrange. He advised that the biggest challenge has been fitting the tanks and that will be interesting to see. Action MB</p>	MB

The meeting closed at 18.40. Next Meeting to be held on 27th January 2022 at 17.30