



## Minutes of Waste Hub Liaison Group

28<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 5.30pm,  
Environmental Hub, Cleford Lane, Middlewich CW10 0JR

### Present:

Paul Cassell, Local Representative	PC
Kevin Melling, MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	KM
Jane Thomason, Deputy MD, Ansa Environmental Services Ltd	JT
Simon McGrory, Local Representative	SM
Megan Bowyer, PA to Kevin Melling, (Minutes)	MB

### Apologies Received:

Cllr Helen Watkinson, Middlewich Town Council	HW
Cllr David Latham, Middlewich Town Council	DL
Cllr Mike Hunter, Cheshire East Ward Councillor	MH

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>KM declared the meeting open and chaired it throughout. He noted the passing of Jonathan Williams and all agreed that his death was a sad loss to both the town and this group.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>2.1</b> The Minutes from the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July 19 were approved as accurate and correct.</p> <p><b>2.2</b> KM explained that the meeting due to take place on 26<sup>th</sup> September 10 was cancelled due to apologies having been received from all external attendees except Simon McGrory,(although subsequently Cllr Hunter had arrived). It was agreed that in future all scheduled meetings would go ahead regardless of numbers.</p> <p><b>2.3 Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Vehicles Parking on Cleford Lane prior to site opening at 7am</b> – KM updated attendees that the solution described at last time’s meeting has resolved this issue and that opening of the gates to allow them to park alongside the waste transfer station until 7am has been successful. Ansa is continuing to stress to hauliers that the site opening time is 7am and that they should not arrive until after that time.</p>	

	<p><b>Parking on Site</b> – following the change in waste employees’ shift patterns at the beginning of November there has been reduction in the number of employee vehicles parking on site which has eased matters. The proposal to CEC for use of their land near Faulkner Road for car parking is still being pursued and a response is awaited.</p> <p><b>Boundary Planting</b> – As advised at the last meeting, shrub/hedge planting is now starting and it is hoped that by spring it will create a better screen between the site and the Booths Lane boundary. SM commented on the importance of the area being managed and maintained properly and it was agreed that Ansa has skills within its Parks and Grounds team to do so. It was agreed to review the situation in spring.</p> <p><b>Speeding Trucks</b> – we have not been made aware of any new incidences and it is hoped that implementation of the new routes has helped alleviate concerns.</p> <p><b>Parking on the pavement on Cledford Lane</b> – KM confirmed that this is beyond Ansa’s control. He has reported the issue to the council and as the senior officer responsible has recently changed he will refer the matter again.</p>	
3	<p><b>Update on Waste Collection re-routing and reorganisation</b></p> <p>JT advised that new routes and working patterns came into effect on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November. This involved a total re-planning of all the old routes which had been in effect since Ansa operated from the two sites at Crewe and Macclesfield. It affects every house in the borough – 180,000 properties and 13 million collections. Alongside the routes, a new working pattern has been introduced whereby waste crews work longer hours over a four day shift pattern from Monday to Friday.</p> <p>The change has gone well but inevitably there have been some teething problems. KM advised that this was a huge task and to put it into context he explained how missed bin collections are monitored.</p> <p>KM confirmed that this is the biggest change the authority has experienced and it will be followed on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 by roll out of caddys for food waste collection. This will enhance green waste collection which will operate throughout the year without a winter break in future. The food waste will go to the new composting site at Leighton Grange and it is hoped it will enable an increase in the annual recycling rate.</p> <p>Landfill this year in Cheshire East should fall below 5% and the changes will mean a reduction in annual mileage for the waste vehicles. Additionally employees will be making 4 not 5 journeys to work per week. Refuse vehicle fleet replacement is starting next week and the new vehicles are more environmentally friendly meeting Euro 6.2 emissions standards. Ansa is also taking delivery of a CNG vehicle in January for use in its grounds department. All of these efforts will complement Ansa’s existing environmental measures.</p>	
4	<p><b>Middlewich Community Issues</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Middlewich Civic Pride</b> – KM stressed Ansa’s willingness to get involved and give back to the community in which it’s based. We are aware that a group has been</p>	

	<p>established and plans for next year are underway and we are happy to contribute when details are brought to the group.</p> <p><b>4.2 Site Smells</b> – SM mentioned that he had been asked what was burning at the Environmental Hub recently and had pointed out that nothing is burned and the smell seemed to be from a nearby farm located on the border of CEC and CWAC. He has also noticed unpleasant smells from farmer’s fields which drift on the wind. KM said that Ansa continues to be vigilant in monitoring smells and has measures in place to maintain its on-site filtration system.</p> <p><b>4.3 Speeding Vehicles</b> – We have not had any specific details of these and since the change of routes complaints appear minimal. Ansa wants to be a good neighbour and the senior management team regularly reinforces the message to the workforce, both at face-to-face meetings and also via messages on screens throughout the building. As reiterated previously, any specific complaints should be reported with a date, time and vehicle registration number and they will be fully investigated.</p> <p><b>4.4 Facebook Site</b> – MB and PC both reported a resident complaint regarding crews replacing his empty bin where it blocked his drive thus causing difficulty for him having to stop on a busy road to move it and holding up traffic. We have asked that crews are reminded to leave bins so they don’t cause an obstruction and MB will monitor that this particular issue is resolved. There had been a delay in responding to the Facebook message which was received on Tuesday evening and responded to on Thursday lunchtime. The response was issued within acceptable timescales. MB will consider an appropriate message to be added to the site to manage expectations.</p>	<b>MB</b>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>5.1 Town Council representation</b> A new Middlewich Town Clerk has not yet been appointed but may be in place in time for the next meeting at which time it was agreed that points of view will be sought re future town council representation.</p> <p><b>5.2 Recent Site Inspections</b> JT advised that Cheshire Fire &amp; Rescue service has recently conducted a successful Site Specific Risk Assessment of the Environmental Hub and that the site noise tests had also been undertaken. These will be published in due course via the Council’s Planning portal.</p> <p><b>5.3 Meetings with British Salt</b> Regular meetings with British Salt take place and at the latest one it was agreed to increase litter picking activities along Faulkner Drive.</p>	

**The meeting closed at 6,25pm. Next Meeting to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020**