

## South Kirkby Community Liaison Group Meeting

**Date:** Monday 17 March 2014  
**Time:** 18.00  
**Location:** The Grove

**Chair:** Cllr Maureen Cummings  
**Minutes:** Sally Hurn Project Co-Ordinator, Shanks

### Attendees

Tom Allsopp (TA)	Town Councillor, South Kirkby & Moorthorpe Town Council
Dave Brown (DB)	Senior Project Manager, Kier Infrastructure and Overseas
Eric Burkes (EB)	Local Resident
Cllr Maureen Cummings (MC)	Cabinet Member for Environment and Communities
Colin Fletcher (CF)	Contract Director
Julie Greenwood (JG)	Strategic Waste Policy Manager, Wakefield Council
Glynn Humphries (GH)	Service Director (Cleaner and Greener), Wakefield Council
Sally Hurn (SH)	Project Co-Ordinator, Shanks
Dan Jacobs (DJ)	Strategic Waste Technical Manager, Wakefield Council
Lawrence Kirkpatrick (LK)	Local Councillor
Dominic Lally (DL)	Project Manager, Shanks
Mike Walter (MW)	Process Engineering Manager, Shanks
Greg Wilkinson (GW)	Environment Agency

### Apologies

John Kirk (JK)	Local Resident
Tony Ward (TW)	Local Resident
Sharon Paley (SP)	Environment Agency

### Non Attendance

Cllr Michelle Collins (MC)	District Councillor, South Kirkby and South Elmsall
Cllr Laurie Harrison (LH)	District Councillor South Kirkby and South Elmsall
Carole Harrison (CH)	Local Resident
Kim Macfarlane (KM)	Local resident
Nanette Swain (NS)	South Kirkby Residents Against Waste

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions – Chairperson

Cllr Cummings asked all attendees to introduce themselves to the rest of the group.

#### 2. Apologies – Chairperson

Apologies were received from those as listed above.

Councillor Cummings apologised for the postponement of the meeting planned for 19 February 201 due to lack of attendance.

#### 3. Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on 18 November 2013 – Chairperson

The minutes were reviewed on a page by page basis.

The action for JG to provide a photographic record of progress at South Kirkby would form part of the update in Section 4.

The path near the fishing lakes had previously been reported to be badly churned up and the question

was raised whether the drainage work currently being carried out on the site by the Council was having an impact. JG confirmed that an investigation had been held and the drainage system was not to blame; the high rainfall had saturated the land and was creating the problem. The Council were to carry out an excavation of the ponds and prevent unauthorised access to the land.

JG and SH confirmed that the protocol detailing visitor access to the South Kirkby site had not yet been fully developed.

MC gave huge thanks to Kier for their generous donation of funds towards the community group projects. DB confirmed that an action plan was in place for their continued support.

The Section 106 monies would be discussed later on in the meeting.

MC noted that the Environment Agency now had its own section in the agenda going forward.

**A: SH to send an electronic copy of the permit for the South Kirkby site to EB.**

#### **4. Project Overview – Julie Greenwood, Strategic Waste Policy Manager, Wakefield Council**

JG informed the Group that Shanks had celebrated their first year of operations on 25 February 2014. Over the last twelve months there had been steady improvement at both the HWRCs and the Bring Sites. Certain achievements had been made, most notably:

- The closure of the Welbeck site, its refurbishment and reopening.
- The temporary HWRC at Calder Vale Road had become operational. JG highlighted the fact that Shanks had inherited the building and had to accommodate its operations to the design of the shell, which had been successfully achieved.
- The closure and demolition of the Denby Dale Road site. JG provided photographs of the event to pass around the Group.
- The construction of the South Kirkby Waste Management Facility. Built on a former colliery site, Shanks had had to work around many obstructions, including old mineshafts, and had achieved excellent results.
- A successful Communications Strategy had kept the members of public informed of all changes. Positive feedback has been received of the new facilities.
- Shanks had successfully dealt with Wakefield Council's collection rounds.
- 122 educational events have been held around the District, of which 87 were in schools. These events have provided important messages regarding waste minimisation and recycling.
- The first Waste Composition Audit was carried out, with the second due to follow in the next few weeks.
- A User Satisfaction Survey had also provided feedback to improve the service.
- Shanks are supporting Wakefield Council in their Recycled Fashion Show, to be held in May. Clothing will be made out of either recycled or existing fabrics. MC also expressed her thanks to Shanks for its support of the Fashion Show. Not only did the Show highlight the creative talent throughout the District, it brought awareness to the importance of recycling.

JG then passed around pictures of the continuing construction of the South Kirkby Waste Management Facility. Included were also photographs of Welbeck, Calder Vale Road and Denby Dale Road, taken over a period of time from May 2013 to demonstrate the various stages of development.

TA pointed out that the construction of the South Kirkby site was not environmentally friendly. Views from Dale Lane and Langthwaite Road gave white buildings standing out against the landscape. JG told the Group that the colour scheme had been a part of the planning conditions. DL stated that the colour debate had had positive feedback; the building had been painted in two shades of green and, when viewed from the top of the valley, blended in a little easier with the surrounding landscape. TA insisted that the building was still intrusive but JG reminded everyone that the landscaping scheme was still in development.

#### **5. Service Delivery and Programme – Colin Fletcher, Contract Director, Shanks**

CF informed the Group that Shanks had had a successful Christmas period, with a few lessons learned for future festive periods following a review of operations. Communication to third party suppliers had also been improved. Despite the busy period, the Household Waste Recycling Centres and Transfer Stations were kept running with reasonable success.

Weather conditions had been difficult over the winter period. Service delays had been minimised by improving the roads and FCC had improved the site overall. Now that the weather has picked up, the level of service has increased.

Waste inputs had increased over the past two weeks at the HWRCs with the warmer, drier weather. Green waste being deposited had significantly increased.

CF confirmed his position of Contract Director at Wakefield for the previous two months so the Project was again advancing under his leadership.

The transport and Bring Site networks are currently under review to maximise potential.

JG added that performance had improved over the past few months and year end data would soon be available. This was the first full year of the PFI Project and JG would update the Group on that data in the next meeting. Shanks are continually learning and their service is being delivered in compliance with the Contract.

**A: JG to update on year end data at the next meeting.**

MC requested an update on the various facilities, along with timescales. DL said he had prepared an update, to be covered in the next Section of the agenda.

#### **6. Project Construction including Programme - Dave Brown Senior Project Manager, Kier Infrastructure and Overseas**

DB informed that construction at South Kirkby was going well. The autoclave was on schedule, with the brickwork and internal works completed; cladding would be finished by the end of the week.

The Reception Hall is currently two weeks ahead of schedule.

The composting facility is on schedule, along with work by sub-contractors Biowatt, who are now on site.

The erection of the MRF steelwork had begun on 17 March 2014.

Materials have been moved to a temporary stockpile, clearing the way for commencement of the building of the Administration Building and Visitor Centre.

The demolition of Denby Dale Road had gone ahead on the date planned.

Overall, the Project Construction was either on schedule or ahead of planning, despite the wet weather.

DL advised that contractors would be arriving on site in June to commence the internal fittings at South Kirkby.

He added that this next stage was more complex than the initial stage, which would involve the process companies for the equipment that would be used to treat the residual treatment, composting and mixed dry recyclates.

The Anaerobic Digestions facilities would be the last stage in the construction and would also be the most complex. Waste would have to be slowly fed into the plant, allowing the bugs to feed and grow. This waste would also require identification and preparation so the bugs would thrive in their habitat and produce methane.

Commissioning is scheduled to commence around March next year. Waste would begin to be brought to the site, with Full Service commencing on 01 September 2015.

## 7. Visitor Access at the South Kirkby Site

MC enquired if an invitation would be extended to Elected members and residents to visit the site. SH suggested that the next Community Liaison meeting could be held in June at the site, allowing members to see the facilities available. It was agreed that the evening would commence at 17:00 with a site tour, followed by the meeting itself at 18:00.

**A: SH to arrange necessary provisions for next CLG meeting at South Kirkby.**

CF informed that a Visitor Centre had been commissioned at the South Kirkby site for school and community visits. There would be presentations, videos, interactive CCTV etc. aimed at Key Stage 2-11 year olds. It was important that children were kept away from the operational plant due to Health and Safety concerns.

Once the Waste Management Facility was operational, escorted tours with the Operations team could be arranged for relevant groups. Again, the size of the groups would need keeping to a minimum for safety reasons and visits would have to be by special arrangement.

MC pointed out that, once the site was operational, interest would grow. She was keen to know how schools were to be selected for visits to the facilities.

SH replied that, through the Educational Programme, 75 educational events would be delivered each year. The Education Officer will talk about the facility and extend invitations during school visits. The current Education Officer had recently tendered his resignation but a replacement was commencing with Shanks in April.

**A: Invite Education Officer to speak at a meeting towards the end of the year.**

## 8. Community Projects – Glynn Humphries

GH informed that a meeting was to be held on 22 April, in which a list would be compiled of where the Section 106 monies would be directed. Debbie Joyner had now moved into another position within Wakefield Council; Mark Cramner would now be co-ordinating the list of community projects for Shanks.

**A: GH to ask Mark Cramner to contact SH, as Shanks' point of contact for community projects.**

MC proposed that any new ideas would be welcomed at the next meeting so that they could co-ordinated into Section 106's funding. Kier's previous meeting with Wakefield Council had been well-coordinated, making planning easier.

## 9. Environment Agency – Greg Wilkinson

A tour had been completed a month ago by everyone in the Wakefield Environment Agency team; the Environment Agency had also held a meeting with CF on 17 March.

Visits to the HWRCs were considered low risk with quarterly or half-yearly inspections made. Routine inspections were considered unnecessary.

Visits to the new sites have been more frequent. Kier have been asking questions as construction has moved along; the Environment Agency has supported them as necessary. South Kirkby has been the main focus for the Environment Agency but DL is keeping them up to date at various points in the construction.

EB asked if the Environment Agency was co-ordinating with Wakefield Council's Environmental department.

GW explained that the two had different remits so barely met. No formal arrangement was in place but information was being passed between departments.

DB also stated that Wakefield Council's Environmental department had made visits during the early days of construction.

GW confirmed that reports were forthcoming from Wakefield Council and that the Environment Agency worked alongside JG so communication was good.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

MC requested a Member's Seminar update from JG.

**A: A member's Seminar update to be prepared by JG/GW for MC.**

MC requested a brief update on proceedings for the Council Report.

**A: JG to prepare an update for the Council Report. To also be forwarded to EB for inclusion in his column in the Hemsworth & South Elmsall Express.**