

Walleys Liaison Committee Meeting 30th September 2021 at 5.30pm

Attendance

Present

Michelle Purkiss – Note taker (MP)
Celia Jarrett – Silverdale Parish Council (CJ)
Mukhtar Shaikh – Environment Agency (MuS)
Jon Clewes – Walleys Quarry Ltd (JC)
Paul Lealman – Walleys Quarry Ltd(PL)
Angela Drakakis-Smith – Thistleberry RA (ADS)
Ian Barnett – Resident (IB)
Neil Goodwin – Staffs CC (NG)
Anna Willets – Chair (AW)
Nesta Barker – NULBC (NB)
Anna Turner – Environment Agency (AT)
Michael Salt – Technical Advisor Stop the Stink
/The Landfill Stinks Cap it Off (MS)
Henryk Adamczuk – Silverdale PC (HA)

Apologies

Carl Moss – Environment Agency
Jake Wu – Silverdale PC
Simon Tagg – NULBC
Amelia Rout – NULBC
Marion Reddish - NULBC
Jamie Hayes – Environment Agency
Nigel Bowen – Walleys Quarry Ltd
Colin Sully – Environment Agency

Nonattendance

Brian Johnson – NULBC
Tony Eagles – Knutton representative
Graham Eagles – Poolfields Residents Assoc
Dave Jones – NULBC
Steve Meakin – Poolfields RA
Elaine Moulton – NULBC

1. Welcome and introductions.

AW – Just looking round my screen to make sure we have got everybody. I think, I'm happy to make a start if everybody else is.

MS – Simon Tagg sent his apologies and also, I haven't had a response from Steve Meakin, I dropped him a text to see if he was joining us, but I haven't got a response.

AW – Thank you, I've actually had, Michelle sent me earlier apologies from Simon Tagg, Amelia Rout, Marion Reddish, Jamie Hayes, Colin Sully and Carl Moss. We have Nesta Barker attending on behalf of Darren Walters, Celia Jarrett attending on behalf of Jake Wu and Mukhtar Shaikh attending on behalf of the Environment Agency. So, I'm just letting you all know, that's what I know.

Sorry I think I have done item 2 so we will go back to the agenda and welcome and introductions. Welcome everybody to the meeting, as you probably know from previous meetings, I am Dr Anna Willets and I am an independent chair of the liaison meeting, I don't act for anybody in this party, I am a waste environmental lawyer and prior to that I was a waste consultant with a PhD in landfill engineering. That is my background, but I have been asked to, as you know from previous meeting, act as a chair today. Welcome to everybody today, thank you for your time this evening. Thank you to the hosts of this doing it all on Teams. I can't remember at the last meeting whether we all went round and introduced ourselves, but I think it will be a good idea because we do have different people today. I am

going to go round my screen in order if that's alright and just ask you to each introduce yourself, who you are and where you are from.

*Everyone introduces themselves.

2. Apologies

As above

3. Minutes of last meeting

AW – The minutes of the last meeting, in my usual fashion I don't propose to go through these as I am sure you will have all read them. If there are any comments this would be the opportunity so I would like to ask if anybody has any comments on the minutes or matters arising that they would like this time, to deal with. Angela?

4. Matters arising

ADS – I've got some matters arising, just in case they are not taken up later on. First of all, we asked the County Council to fill in the potholes outside the site entrance and that was 2 meetings ago so this will be the third meeting it is mentioned. They're still there and it has been suggested the matter is not helped because there has been a lot of road sweeping which has kind of improved the situation in terms of cleanliness but apparently it is also eroding this pothole. We are just wondering if this could be done, we don't want the road sweeping to decrease but we would like the potholes filled because a) they are dangerous to cyclists and I think it is quite difficult for big lorries getting in and out, especially if there are people at the gate protesting and doing whatever they are doing. For 6 months that request has been on the table, I am wondering if we can, the county council can clear that now and then you know, move on to something else. I've also asked for information from the Borough Council with regards to how they are spending the money they have allocated themselves to regulate the air quality, it is awaiting freedom of information so until that comes through there is not a lot we can learn. I believe there was a cabinet meeting at which it was revealed somewhere in all that paperwork that money has been spent on certain things, quite high amounts, I don't know if you want to hear them, but they are rather high. There is £1,070,000 allocated to whatever it is the NBC are going to do. The only thing that I could find that was evidence, if you like, or data was the amount that they say they have spent on specialist landfill and consultancy fees, legal and financial council, whatever that means, and equipment hire and purchase. That has come to £52,000 so there is another million to go plus. The only data I could find on the website to which I was referred by the chief executive was the health, so called, self-referral survey conducted by the MP, which is not a survey and also the self-referral complaints that were submitted to the Environment department of the NBC. Again, I would not call that data because it is not being verified, it is just people self-referring and just telling you what they think or whatever they think is going on. Re the rest, I want to know if the gas company representative is around this table or have been invited around this table, and whether the telemetry has been set up so that they can capture real time data, that is quite crucial I would have thought for the site so that we can further monitor the complaints that are being received. Also, I think Aspire should be around the table because they will be dealing with the

Travellers and Travellers' site which is stuck between a rock and a hard place, between Persimmon and the infill site and I think they are getting a pretty raw deal at the moment. If the 6's are verified, then this site should be evacuated. I also wanted to know if the Coal Authority has been invited because they have submitted something to a report which needs some explanation and that is a graph, they submitted on their pumping water activities. That's quite important as well because water coming North/South is being pumped into the sump, so we need a bit more information about the sump as well. That is all for me for matters arising.

AW – That's great Angela, so I have got 5 points from that. I think the last 3, working backwards, I think the last 3 were about parties that you want to be invited to the meeting, I think Paul and Jon, I don't know who is in charge of inviting but I think that's something, I think you said before that 2 of those parties have been invited but have chosen not to attend. I wonder if I could ask you to deal with those three points.

JC – Yeah, we popped our hand up Anna. If I can go through those, can you hear me, OK?

AW – Yes, good.

JC – Angela, thanks for those. Aspire have been invited and we have not received a response, we will follow up on that. Telemetry has been put in place at the gas compound by CEL/CLP and the data being produced by that telemetry is being provided to the Regulator so that is underway. Coal Authority, I have not heard any more from. What was the other point... CEL/CLP, yes, they will be with us at some future meetings.

AW – Thank you. I think your first 2 questions Angela were for the County Council about potholes. Can the County Council respond to that?

NG – Yup, in terms of the potholes, I've spoken to my colleagues in the highways teams as they as you know, it has been reported many times before, so I have asked them what's happening. What they have said is basically their inspectors go out, look at any defects that are identified on the highway and then they programme them into their plan for repair works around the network based on how they see it as a priority. What I can say is I don't know at the moment when they plan to do those works but I have confirmed that they have acknowledged that the repairs are needed on the highway, and it is put within the programme of highway maintenance works. Obviously, it will depend on their priorities to when that is. Also, since it was mentioned at the last meeting and I've had conversations with them since, I know the inspectors have been out to re-assess the situation as well, which will obviously help inform as the condition of the highway may change. So, I can't give a date as to when the works will be carried out, but I can say it is within the programme of highway maintenance at the County Council.

ADS – Thank you. Could I just add to that, as a resident's association we have put things to Amey about potholes and it has taken up to 2 years sometimes for any action to be taken, that is rather a long time so, surely the County Council can do something about the condition of roads, particularly in high profile places quicker than a 2-year turnaround.

NG – I think we'd certainly like to, but we also have thousands of miles of highway to look after at the moment and unfortunately, we don't have limitless budgets do we. I mean, they do have to prioritise obviously where they can, but I'll leave that to the highways officers to

decide. Yes, I agree we would like it to be much quicker, but it is unfortunate the restraints that we are under there.

AW – Thank you Neil. Paul I can see your hand up. Was that in response to this?

PL – Yeah, I was just going to add in for information to the group, I have seen some repairs going on this week to potholes, they were localised and limited to some on Cemetery Road adjacent to the cemetery, not directly outside of the site but I have seen some being filled currently Angela.

ADS – Yes, I saw that too. Not the pothole we're talking about though.

PL – I know it's not the pothole we're talking about and certainly localised repairs but whether that is indicative of repairs happening, perhaps Neil is one to find out.

AW – Thank you. Ah Nesta, you have got your hand up.

NB – Yeah, I was just going to respond in relation to the second point which Angela had raised, I think in relation to the Borough Council. I think in terms that you have made a freedom of information request or an Environmental information request so that is in and going through the process so obviously you will receive a response in relation to that. I would just say in terms of the finances that you've said, the figures that you've given have been reported to our cabinet and those are the spends that have been incurred and those updates will be provided through our cabinet moving forward.

AW – Thank you Nesta.

ADS – Sorry, could I just ask, can we put, Nesta Barker, to the council that these accounts could be a bit more explicit, they're just sort of global figures, and it could mean anything and everything. I would quite like to know what kind of equipment they have hired or what they have bought, you know what they are doing with regards to the specialist consultancy. What did the specialist consultant come up with given that more than £26,000 was spent on consultancy, and you know, the legal counsel, does it take £18,000 to work up to know whether or not there is a case pending for an abatement notice, that seems rather a lot to me, I don't know, maybe that's today's prices.

AW – Is that something you can deal with Nesta?

NB – I can certainly note those comments, in terms of spend that is how we have been updating them in cabinet, we have been doing regular updates to our cabinet in relation to our activities so, you know, those updates will be provided there but I know you have asked for some very specific details in relation to your FIO or EIR so that's like I say you will obviously get the response to that as we work through that process.

AW – Thank you, great. Thank you for raising those points Angela and the responses. Are there any more matters arising from anybody? I can't see any other hands up. In that case we will move on to the next item.

5. Walleys Quarry Site update

AW – Paul I believe this is your area.

PL – It is, thank you. Just a brief overview, a recent site photograph which we've touched on previously. We are updating these regularly and will change as we go on, especially with the addition of the Posi Shell media and completion of capping and drilling works we'll ensure aerial photographs are taken so we have a good image of site going forward. Current

operations, for those that aren't aware we are currently working in a central section of site in cell 3 we will be very visible to those on Galingale and particularly on the very top of site and I'll touch on this when talking about the drilling operations. I would anticipate that they're quite visible off site because we are at the high point of the current landform. Leachate we continue to treat on site our volumes of leachate and where necessary we do transfer off site for treatment and disposal. Posi-Shell, there is a section on this in the presentation but currently we are in the process of installing the temporary capping system, the Posi-Shell media which I'll touch on with the slide that is applicable to it. Additionally, we are in the process of installing up to 28 wells, these will be connected to the gas management infrastructure, working in conjunction with our contractors CLP Envirogas. We touched on this in the last meeting, which is the installation of pin wells that were due to be installed and that work went ahead at the end of July into August. It saw 10 additional wells installed on the southern flank of site. Those are performing well and still continue to perform well. In addition to those 10 that were installed on the southern flank, 8 pin wells were installed along the eastern boundary so that is adjacent to Cemetery Road and the main entrance into site. Additionally, there were some wells placed in the north-western corner of the facility as well as some on the eastern boundary of the permanent cap which was put in in April. Just for information so we know what we are referencing, a pin well is a shallow depth gas extraction well, they tend to be put in in areas where it is difficult to drill at depth and they take the landfill gas as it meets the pin well, typically at a high point within the waste mass and they are complimentary to the existing extraction infrastructure and are relatively flexible to install. We've touched on, I'm sure it's of interest to the group, currently we are in the process of installing landfill gas wells, some additional landfill gas wells on to site. There are up to 28 planned which are mainly on the central and eastern sections of the landfill site, at the moment we are drilling in the central section which is around the high point of the current landform, so I am sure the rig is very visible apart from on days like today when the weather is so grim. That is a picture to demonstrate where we are currently on a nice blue-sky day. Works commences in September, roughly one well per day gets drilled and the plans are to run into October, towards the end of October. Obviously, the work is weather dependant but that is our current program, and it is progressing well. This is quite interesting, I am sure is of interest to the group as well, this particular drilling rig was bought in, in part, because it has a bespoke gas collection infrastructure to capture the off gases should they be present at the well head. It comprises a blower which you can see in this photograph and a bespoke infrastructure around the head works that allows any off gases to be captured, those are then scrubbed through carbon to ensure they are emitted at a distance to the drilling rig and also scrubbed prior to release to atmosphere. Currently it is working really well, we are quite pleased with how it is progressing. As wells come into existence they are progressively installed into the existing infrastructure and balanced to ensure they start to come on stream. Posi-Shell, some recent pictures of Posi-Shell, again on a much better weather day than today. So, the works principally to install 20,000m² across the landfill surface. The installation is predominantly focussed to the western and eastern areas. The images there, if you can see them, are predominantly of those on the western

area which is the most extensive piece that we are capping. The material is a cementaceous bentonite slurry that is applied wet, being bentonite, it swells as the clay absorbs water and being cementaceous it hardens and forms a crust. Those works are progressing well and likely to complete in the next couple of days. Future plans, continuing as we are currently operating, so landfill operations will be in the central and eastern parts of the site, there will be moving relatively frequently depending on the drilling program which we have got to work around both in terms of current activities and once the wells are installed. We touched on the installation of the gas wells and that will progress up and to October. We are very optimistic that Posi-Shell will finish in the next couple of days, and we are currently reviewing the landfill gas management plan with submission expected early, there is obviously a key word missing there, early October is when I expect to submit that to the Agency. That is the end of the update, thank you all.

AW – Thank you very much Paul. I was going to say any questions, I can see one hand, Angela would you like to ask away.

PL – Angela, is that a hand up from a previous question?

ADS – No it's not.

AW – Ok would you like to ask your question?

ADS – Ok, I didn't know if somebody else was going first. I just wanted to know something more about the position with regards to the water going into the sump, I think we need to know a bit more about this sump because it is outside of the containment area and we want to know who is responsible for it, who empties it, who monitors what goes in, what comes out, it's just sort of practical things so that we can try and pin point, if you like, where any source of emissions are coming from. I mean that is not the only place, but the sump is something that we've not mentioned, and it was raised in the MJCA report. So, you know, I think we need to talk about that at some point, so we are clear what its purpose is and what it is doing quietly underneath the surface.

PL – If I answer that, or I'll try and answer that. So, the sump sits under the landform, it broadly is in the middle of the landfill site at a depth below the engineering as you rightly allude to Angela. In terms of how that operates is there is a pumping station on site that monitors the depth of groundwater and will trigger the down well pumps to activate but what happens is, that water is pumped to a groundwater lagoon which is pretty much at the top of the site. Topographically it sits somewhere adjacent to the CLP gas compound and flows under gravity to another holding lagoon, both of those are really designed to give residues time to drop any solids out prior to discharge to either Silverdale Brook or there is another discharge into what I believe is an unnamed brook that borders Galingale estate. In terms of what flows in, it's really the groundwater, that's what it's trying to control, so it is groundwater from principally off-site locations going into the sump to manage that upwards pressure heave on the base of the landfill site. I think, have I answered everything Angela or are there any other queries you've got?

ADS – Does the Coal Authority, does their pumping water, does that go into the sump?

PL – I think that is probably one for the Coal Authority, all I can say is that the sump and the pumps are designed to control the groundwater level below the landfill, principally to limit

heave onto the base of the landfill because the groundwater would have put an upwards pressure on the landfill prior to weight coming from waste being placed on it. I believe that the Coal Authority discharges further up in Silverdale, but it is probably one for them to answer where the water goes and how it discharges.

ADS – Ok, that’s why they should be around this table so we can ask these questions and they are resolved.

PL – Yeah, I don’t doubt, and I think we have made contact, or tried to make contact several times.

ADS – Ok and a resident has asked will the Posi-Shell remain white?

PL – Well it is cementaceous so yes it will remain white.

ADS – Ah, ok. Is there a colour, can you choose a colour, or does it just come in that colour?

PL – It comes in the colour of cement; I can speak to LSC who are the providers from America and see whether they have ever tried to dye it and what the implications are and feedback if that would help.

ADS – No, it was just a question.

ADS – It’s just looking very prominent at the moment, that is all.

AW – Right. I’ve got three more hands up so in order I’ve got Mick Salt.

MS – Yes, hello, you say there is going to be up to 28 wells, what would determine that it is not 28 wells exactly.

PL – The plan is to drill 28 wells, and typically Mick we may drill just under or just over, it depends on things like, how they install, whether we can install in the location as is planned on the schematic prior to drilling, whether we need to move them and therefore they overlap or underlap, whether we can get another well in once we’ve installed the ones that are planned in. I know on a previous drilling round we actually installed more wells than we anticipated so, it does flex, it is one of the reasons I say up to because if there is reason why a well can’t go in or equally, a reason why we can get another additional well in then that number may change. There are always reasons, but that number may change.

MS – Thank you. Second question, to accommodate the drilling operations, have you had to disconnect any of the gas management infrastructure?

PL – The gas management infrastructure, I don’t believe we have disconnected any at this moment in time for drilling. I’d have to double check, but I don’t think we have Mick. There is always a chance when we put new wells into areas that we may have to either disconnect or turn down, it just depends on how close they are to other infrastructure because obviously there is a chance that we impact something that is under a negative pressure and if we are going to open another well adjacent to it then we would do that cautiously. I don’t believe at this stage that we have yet.

MS – And finally, what’s the planned transition from Posi-Shell to a permanent cap, because at this moment in time we can’t use permanent cap because it’s too steep but how do we get beyond that situation?

PL – Ok, thank you Mick. That is not quite correct, so we can’t use permanent cap, the area of the landfill that we are installing the Posi-Shell on and indeed any temporary capping system is because it is not up to level rather than how steep it is. Yes, it would be a challenge

to install the liner on a steep flank but the areas where Posi-Shell is being installed are not up to level and require activity in that area at some point in time. The reason there is a temporary system in there, of which Posi-Shell has been put forward to because of the steepness is because we anticipate in a relatively medium timescale that we will be landfilling in those areas.

MS – Ah so it's like an exposed, it's kind of like a shelf at the moment and there is more to go in to make it more of a smooth transition.

PL – Correct.

MS – Right, thank you.

PL – And that's the same with the clay capped temporary areas, there is activity to go back into those areas. We only permanently cap when we are at pre-settlement levels where we can put the permanent cap on.

MS – Thank you.

AW – Thank you both. I've got Ian B next please with a question.

IB – Yes, hi, just a couple of things, really interesting what you've said there. Simple one, once you've finished can we have an updated graphic of the pin well locations, just in interest of how this has gone in, is that something you could put together once finished?

PL – Yeah, let me have a look at it Ian and I'll see what is appropriate and feedback.

IB – I appreciate that. When we were actually visiting on site, not so long ago now, it didn't appear that the mist net was working up to expected standards on, certainly the portion near, we don't mention this enough because this is obviously the closest to the landfill, Gadwell Croft and Barnacle Place. Was there any issue with that or just something that has been addressed already?

PL – I'll have to pick that one up and feedback, I don't know what the issues were on the day you visited Ian. The mist netting on that flank is working, it works in an intermittent nature so it kind of doses for a period of time and then shuts off, so I think there is a couple of minutes in between it switching on and off but I'll have a look at the date you were visiting site and see what the issues were reported and come back to you.

IB – Appreciate that. Now a couple more things and these ones are little bit more difficult and one you tend not to answer but I'll ask it again anyway, which is what is the projected end date to fill if you linearly projected it at current infill rates for the landfill. Could you tell us that date?

PL – I think that date we will probably have quoted before is the date of active landfilling the area which is 2026.

IB – I've heard that date obviously every time in answer to that question so I thought I would ask it again, you never know, you might actually tell me some dates. Another one which you can't answer which is why we need CEL here which is, it is fantastic putting these pin wells in and I was very interested in the off-gas collection capability of this equipment you have on site at the moment but are CEL up ticking their uptake of the gas as well because of course there's 2 parts to this, you create a nice collection system and they collect the gas. Are they, have they got figures getting to you how much more gas they are collecting from the new wells that you are taking down?

PL – So, CLP balance the field from several metrics Ian and I'm sure you are aware of this, they look at the amount of gas they are collecting, the bulk flow, they balance that against the CH₄ concentration and the balanced gas concentration, one that is of particular interest is the oxygen content. CLP are on site in a permanent capacity, and they undertake that balancing exercise every week, the bulk gas flow, the amount of gas they are collecting does vary, at the moment it is on an upwards trajectory, it is going in a positive direction. They feed, CLP feeds that information back to ourselves on a weekly basis and that is shared with the regulator on a weekly basis.

IB – Ok, appreciate it, thanks for that.

AW – Thank you Ian and Paul. Celia, I can see your hand up.

CJ – Could you tell me roughly what height the drones are flying at over the site to take the picture that we have just seen of the actual site. Why I am concerned is, at the last meeting there were 23 drones reported to be over the site during that one week and I'm extremely worried and concerned about helicopters flying to the hospital over that site and it could be potentially very, very dangerous. In fact, I got in touch with the Midland Air Ambulance and told them about the danger there and they have actually altered the flight path for the helicopters, but I wondered if Walleys had actually done anything about that potential danger.

JC – Celia, can I pick that one up because I've been quite involved in this one, it's Jon. You're quite right, there are many drone flights over there, there are two legal drone flyers that we are aware of that are appointed to the site and they follow the guidelines set down by the Civil Aviation Authority. They are the people that carry out the topographical surveys and sometimes when the Agency have completed drone flights over the site themselves and they are in full compliance with legislation. Then there are a number of other drone flyers that, and you will see their work on YouTube, we can't account for that, that's not to do with Walleys Quarry. Yes, obviously they should comply with the law but that is out of the scope of where we can implement Celia, they are not drones that are flown by Walleys Quarry.

CJ – Ok. As I say they have actually changed the flight path for helicopters going to the hospital now and they are approaching from a different direction.

JC – Well it is a shame they have had to do that, but we would completely agree with you that they should be following the legal requirements of the drone flights.

CJ – Ok, thanks very much.

AW – Thank you both. Angela is that hand up from before or ...

ADS – Sorry, no it's an old one.

AW – Ok, lovely. Right, I can't see anymore virtual hands, so thank you for the update on the quarry Paul and all the questions.

6. Environment Agency Update

AW – Can I hand over to the Environment Agency colleagues.

AT – Yeah, it's Anna Turner, just going to talk through. Actually, apologies to all because I haven't sent through the presentation as I've still got some things to finalise on our presentation, but I will send that, hopefully at the beginning of next week through for that to be circulated. I'm obviously not going to make any comments with regard to the Judicial

Review, so I won't be able to answer any questions with regards to that this evening. I will talk you through a draft of the presentation that I've got. So, in August we saw complaints, I'd say, steady, we did continue to pick complaints up, but we did have occasions where complaints were lower. In September we probably picked up more complaints, we had some days, I think on the 21st where we got to sort of 250 and that is one of the reasons that I haven't forwarded the data because I haven't got what our current backlog is and sometimes we have a backlog on updating emails inputted and I don't have what that current information is however we will report it in the slide. I will send that through shortly once I've got confirmation of that. Compliance activities, we've done, in 2021 now, we've done 35 site visits or audits, including remote audits, we have done 23 procedure and report reviews and we have recorded 15 breaches, there has been 70 amenity assessments done in the area. Just to talk you through some of our compliance summary work, beginning in August I'll work through how we issued CAR forms since then. We have reviewed the CQA reports, they are the construction, quality assurance reports for the installation of gas wells so that's 13 gas wells earlier, there was a site inspection in August on the 4th that picked up issues for odour and some leachate issues and dust noted and some pre-acceptance records were requested. Nothing more on those. We had some gas capture requests where we had an increase in complaints as well, that's been submitted to us, I still have to issue a review of that data. We sent some information reviewing the gas management plan and again questions were raised, and we have requested the updated plan which as Paul said, we continue to discuss the updated gas management plan. Towards the end of August we issued a review of the site's gas sim model, the gas sim model is the predication of what, of how much is going to be produced so we reviewed that document and that report and we've sent some comments and we had also asked for atmospheric dispersion modelling which is something we use as a standard tool and technique in the Environment Agency for looking at air quality, air quality levels and compliance. We have requested those two documents and the landfill gas risk assessment to be updated. Again, we have reviewed the sites, we have requested a review of the site fire management plan and requested some information on that, there is a further site inspection conducted at the end of August and again CQA reviews and procedures for the Posi-Shell installation. What we have required for that installation, a site inspection again at the end of August, a review of the CQA which was submitted again for the gas extraction wells. Further site inspection at the beginning of September, the CQA report for the installation of 28 wells and then also further comments in September on the landfill gas management plan. Coming on up through, further comments again on gas management, we are going to review the tier 3 gas dispersion modelling and further work coming on site inspections that have been conducted. I haven't got the most recent air quality monitoring, again I'll put that through, looks like we may have had that but normally we put a table summary in for the report, so I'll make sure that's updated when I submit the report. I think that's the end of my update.

AW – Thank you Anna, that's very helpful. I understand the slides will follow later.

AT – Yes.

AW – Thank you. Angela, is that a new question?

ADS – Yes, sorry, this is for the, a question for the EA if that's possible.

AW – Yes, please.

ADS – Just the way you report the data, it's a bit confusing because it's difficult to know whether these spikes that you're showing on graphs are serious or not, whether they are high, too high, too low, whether they sort of align with what's permissible, what's not permissible via WHO and the health authority or whoever is dealing with the health aspect. I'm just wondering if it can be done in a more user friendly way so that people understand what's going on and I think also it might be worthwhile if the complaints are somehow juxtaposed with other things that are going on in order for you to get a fuller picture and the context of some of the complaints, for example, I have noticed some of the spikes correspond to information put out by the EA or by Stop the Stink or by the local MP and suddenly these complaints just rise and when I've asked people on the housing estate did they smell odour today they say no. I passed the site on many occasions during the day and for the past 2 weeks I can't say I have experienced any odours so we need to know, are these complaints verified, how do you deal with the complaints because the complaint itself is not data, it is just somebody telling you what they have smelt that day and they don't know what they have smelt I don't think. Most of what seems to be reported or the data I have analysed from the NBC, everyone was reporting a 6, now even if they lived several miles away, now a 6 is top of the scale, do people realise when they ring up the EA that, what this 6 actually means, it means evacuation almost, do they know that? Does the person at the end of the line say, 'is this what you mean, is this a 6'?

AT – Angela, the odour complaints are, people are entitled to report those complaints to us and interpret them as they see fit, that is a person reporting to us so that, in its own right we just have to respect that complaint and every complaint we do respect in that nature. Our officers can conduct these odour amenity assessments so that is something we put in with our own officers and then obviously we also have the air quality monitoring units. I take on board your comments with regards to that data being complex but I think there is very limited ways to be able to present that data in an un-complex manner and we are reviewing the information we are getting from the telemetry on site and those monitors to bring those things together first so I note your comments with regards to the reporting of this, some of this data but we are trying to be as open and transparent as we can with that data so providing detail as I think unfortunately the way we have to present that.

AW – Thank you Anna, Mukhtar I can see your hand up as well. Is that do deal with Angela's question?

MuS – Yes, it is just about Angela's point and following up on Anna's response really. Just for awareness the monitoring data, we do actually put it on our citizen space website page so the last set of monitoring data was for August so that is on the site. Going back to Angela's point about whether a spike is above a certain threshold, in that monthly report that we do put on the website, it does actually say the amount of time, if at all, that we have exceeded WHO guidance limits so, there are 2 limits that we normally correspond our data, one is in terms of health exceedances and the other one is annoyance limits so we haven't exceed so, the monitors haven't shown any data whereas the H2S levels have been exceeded for health

impacts but in terms of annoyance, yes they do exceed those on occasions and we do put a percentage as to what percentage of the time we are monitoring the data for, has it exceeded the annoyance threshold.

ADS – Ok, can I just respond to that with regards to the percentages that you use, I mean they can cover quite a lot of sins. I would prefer to know how many hours or how many minutes in any given day is this exceeding whatever it is you're exceeding. It just needs to be more understandable for the general public that this information you're giving out is meaningful and viable.

MuS – We'll get back to the EA monitoring team with those comments.

ADS – Ok, thanks.

AW – Thank you for that Angela. I can see, sorry my screen has just gone, I'm not sure what it is doing so apologies if it is the wrong order but, on my screen, the next order I have got is a question from Mick Salt.

MS – Yes, for the Environment Agency. I'm not sure if you can answer this, the enforcement notice with the deadline of 30th April, now last time I checked that was still not signed off, there were still some comments to be addressed. Is that fully signed off now?

AT – Yes, we have issued a notice of withdrawal for the capping works to be completed.

MS – Thank you very much. And my second, other questions, is actually a comment, latest changes to the reporting tool are much better, I've been working with Phil Taylor on this quite a lot and the latest changes I had a result within less than 24 hours, and it echoes all the data back to me so that, that's just spot on, thank you very much indeed.

AT – That's really useful feedback, thank you Mick.

AW – Thank you. I've got Henryk next, sorry my screen has gone slightly strange, but I think I've got a question from Henryk.

HA – Yes, thank you chair. I was going to ask a question about the appeal against the high court decision but obviously there is no point, but I can say that I have written to Aaron Bell MP to ask him for more information about the basis of the appeal against the decision of Justice Fordham so it could well be that we get more information about the status of that appeal. As I understand it, it is a direct appeal to the Court of Appeal, and it needs their approval before it can go ahead and that's the current situation, but I have written today to Aaron Bell to ask for more information about the appeal and when that is available I will certainly circulate it. Thank you, and just one, I would concur, just one addition, I would concur with Angela's comment about percentages as against days or hours to help people understand how long a period of excess occurs for, you know, 10 percent of a week is 16 hours so I think the hours and minutes is vital to give a true understanding of what it means to have high levels of gas which is being emanated. Thank you.

AW – Thank you Henryk. So, I have got two more questions, Ian would you like to go next?

IB – Sure, it's really just to develop on a point that Angela made regards the reporting and such. I see it more of a procedural thing and I, when I was talking direct to the EA, she said that this would be looked into. It's really just a procedural confirmation back to the person that is making the complaint that your number means this, is this what you are saying and if they say yes that's what I'm saying then of course that ties it up. It's really because the

average person may not know what 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 actually mean and having a very short description of what they are actually saying and really it is procedural to feedback to the person so you're saying this, is that correct. She said this would be looked into, I don't know whether that is still in the works or whether that is happening because I have had no reason to complain because of the improved situation at all so I don't know whether they are actually doing that procedure now when somebody phones up to complain.

AT – Mukhtar, I don't know if you know more about the new reporting system?

MuS – No, in terms of that procedure I'll be honest with you, I don't believe that's changed, I mean we, as Mick has said we do have extra reporting tool that people are using, and it is good to hear from Mick that it's actually working. In terms of when someone phones up and whether the person on the other end asks them, you know says that it's a 5 or a 6 do they then query is it really a 5 and what a 5 actually means...

IB – That's not what I mean, I don't mean query the person, the person reporting it is reporting it and they have perfectly valid reasons to say that number however, this procedural change basically additional they say, you are reporting this number, this number means this, is that what you are saying.

MuS – You just want confirmation.

IB – Yes, confirmation. I think that has to be baked into the way that the EA receive phone complaints and not talking about the reporting tool, phone complaints to confirm, its just an extra procedural matter that would give it a great deal more validity, to my mind at least.

MuS – Ian, I don't believe that is actually happening at the moment, but I will take it away with me and I'll follow that up with the incident reporting system.

IB – Ok, thank you.

AW – Thank you all, that is very helpful.

AT – I was just going to add there Ian, I think that would be a really nice thing to do but I can't imagine we would have the resource currently to be able to do that, you know there is limited resource in all of our organisations and anything where it is seen as an extra step just so that you have got a sort of awareness, any additional officer work is going to be unlikely to put that back in but there would always be that common sense check against our amenity assessments and the MMF's as well.

ADS – Sorry, could I just respond to that. There was a time I think initially when these complaints to the EA were regarded as data i.e., you were getting a complaint from a certain area and certain conditions, and you were recording that so that you could verify to work out where things were coming from now that seems to have gone by the board. These complaints or these telephone interfaces with the EA are no longer reports, they are complaints and there is a decided difference between a complaint and a report of what is happening now and that's you know, over the last couple of years that seems, maybe you can't deal with it when you have you know, a thousand complaints and you don't know where they are coming from and everybody is saying it is a 6. So, you know, if that is no longer data you can no longer use that I would imagine in a court of law for example as evidence, it is hearsay, and you need to distinguish if you are trying to work out what is

going on you have to distinguish what is hearsay and reality and what's actually happening on the ground. That where we seem to be deviating here.

AW – Thanks Angela. Ok, we'll move on to item 7, I think we have had a detailed update from the Environment Agency so thank you Anna and Mukhtar.

7. Newcastle-under-Lyme EHO update

AW – Newcastle-under-Lyme update.

NB – Yeah, thank you Anna, I hope I haven't got connection problems here. I haven't prepared you a presentation tonight, but I've got a short update in terms of EH activities.

The Borough Council has continued... can you still hear me?

AW – yeah, sorry, can I just interrupt please, just for my, if you have asked a question would you mind putting your hand down, it just confuses me a bit, so Henryk would you mind, because otherwise I've got yellow blobs and I'm trying to keep an eye on who asks questions when, if you can take your hand down then I know I've dealt with it, thank you. Nesta, sorry to interrupt you, please...

NB – No that's fine, so the Borough Council has continued with its investigations in relation to odour complaints received and despite the further work that has been taking place at Walleys Quarry Landfill site, we still have a significant level of complaints continued to be received from the residents of the Borough and the air quality data continues to show odour levels in exceedance of the annoyance levels. In terms of complaints, we've received the following, so in June we received 1,880, in July it was 1,648, in August 833 and in September that did go down to 592. I will say that September figure, obviously we are at the end of the month, it does need some final validation so that may well change very slightly. So, officers have served an abatement notice on Walleys Quarry Limited in relation to the statutory nuisance caused by the site, it requires Walleys Quarry Limited to abate the nuisance within 5 months of the service of the notice or if an appeal is made, the date which the Magistrates Court determines any such appeal. You may be aware that an appeal has been lodged against that abatement notice in the Magistrates Court and both parties are awaiting confirmation of dates from the court. The Council has also procured 2 Jerome which are handheld monitoring devices to assess hydrogen sulphide levels, and these will be deployed in selected residents' homes or local businesses for extended periods of time, typically a week at a time and will assist in officers' complaints and or investigating these complaints also. The data will allow the Council and its partners to assess any ongoing incidents of high gas levels or in the absence of such spikes, provide assurance to the community. It is our intention that we will publish this data and I think given the conversations that just hadn't had in terms of reporting, I'll take on board those comments received tonight about reporting and how we structure that so we can try and take some of those on board for you. That concludes my update at this moment in time.

AW – Thank you Nesta, that was great. Do we have any questions with fresh hands?

ADS – Yes, could I just ask Nesta, I'm glad that the Environmental Health officer is here around the table, that has been missing for the last few meetings. I wanted to ask when are we going to get this data, you're spending all this money, but we don't have anything to kind of show for that yet. I also want to know, do you visit the site, how often do officers from

the Borough Council visit the site to do whatever it is they are supposed to be doing with regard to air quality regulation. I think at one cabinet meeting you were asked how often you go to the site and you said only once a long time ago, which I was quite surprised about because you know, you are an air quality regulator or a monitor or whatever it is that you say that you do. The other thing is we have been reporting as a residents association since 2005, problems with odour from site and a slide was shown at the cabinet meeting which you might have seen, I couldn't quite see the date but it looked as if it was 2019, 2018 and it looked as if it was using a game theory model and the assessment you had come to by applying this model was to tolerate, now from 2005 to 2019 is a long toleration period and there have been sort of incidents of high odour during that time and also a lot of rubbish has gone into that site since then so any sort of remedial action is actually quite difficult to deal with once this goes on, if you like, when you have to be there at the time to sort things out otherwise things just compound. As I say, I don't know on who's advice you're being told to use this game theory model because it is not up to much but also toleration levels, at what point do you actually go in and do something. The Borough Council seems to have been very slow in actually doing anything, so, you know, lots of concerning things if you like and I also find it quite difficult, the fact that this issue is being used like a political football by the Borough Council as well as the MP, this is not a political issue, this is a social issue that needs to be resolved, not batted around like a football so can we feed that in to the people who are making decisions about this site and about what's going on within the community. I think a lot of the breaking of the law that we're seeing with regards to the stop the stink is because this group, and there are now a few of them have been held up as examples of community minded, community spirited, right thinking individuals so they might have a purpose but I think a line is being crossed here and I think that needs to be sorted and brought back into some kind of, you know, regulated behaviour, which it hasn't been. I noticed that Environmental Health have also constructed a zone of influence around the site, now I don't know what the measurement is between the boundary of the site and the boundary that you've drawn around it and what is the purpose of that, what happens if that boundary is breached. Who is there to say it is being breached or how it is being breached, what is the purpose, where already the EA regulations state distance from an infill site is 250 metres, that has been well exceeded by Persimmon Homes which is 100 metres and now you're having another development going on which is, I think around 50 metres, so I don't understand what these perimeters are and what these zoning things are that you are doing when they've already been breached anyway. It is kind of like shutting the stable door when the horse has bolted in a way. These are some of the things that the Borough Council needs to think about I think if we are ever going to come to a resolution. The other thing that bothers me, is that the guidelines for compliance by the site is going to be January/February and that is the beginning of the political things that are going on with regards to local elections, second band I think of local elections going on and this is how all this began in 2019, it began with politics and local elections and trying to win a local election based on the back of this issue. I'm not saying there wasn't an issue, there was but I think it was almost unscrupulously used as a political football and I think that has got to stop because this is

something that has got to be resolved, it is not political, it has to be resolved and everybody has to be involved in resolving this. It is not, it's your fault, it's my fault whatever, you know, I think people need to start thinking about what they are doing and what they are saying, particularly those who make decisions. I think it is really bad, sorry for going on here, I think it is really bad that councillors are not present around or at this table, they are paid to represent their community and Simon Tagg is saying he will not come unless we are all being photographed and it's all going out on YouTube, well I am watching YouTube meetings of the Council, Borough Council and County and believe me you would not want to be emulating what they are doing to be honest.

AW – Thanks Angela. So, there is quite a lot there Nesta, I don't know if you want to respond to that?

NB – Yeah, I'm happy to respond to the elements that I can do so obviously I am an officer not a politician in relation to that so I can't answer those political queries. However, I will obviously pass those on. In terms of data and when that is available, I am happy to update the group and say that we have published that, we do want to try and get that onto our website and share that at the earliest opportunity so I will do that. I obviously want to take into account the comments you have made tonight and try and make that as useable for everybody as we possibly can. I think you'd also how often we had visited, I mean, our interest is in relation to the odour impacts outside of the site, not on the site so the visit to the site isn't necessarily the primary route to our investigations, it is outside of the site, so we haven't made significant numbers of visits to the site. What we are interested in is looking at those odours and the off-site impact of those, so our visits are concentrated in the community around the areas where the complaints are made, not actually on the site. That is why those numbers are relatively low and continue to remain low. I note your comments in terms of the 2005, obviously the situation, I think we are all aware is, that there have been an increased number of complaints in relation to December onwards from last year and that's obviously where the focus of our current investigations remains. I think in relation to the zone, I can't say too much about that because that is obviously part of the abatement notice that is currently under appeal but I think the other zones that you relate to Angela are in other pieces of legislation, principally, planning legislation and guidance whereas statutory nuisance is a totally different regime and there isn't necessarily the interaction between those so I think that is all that I can say in relation to that matter at this particular moment in time.

AW – Thank you Nesta. I can see there is a question from Mick flashing, you have been patiently waiting, Mick if you would like to go.

MS – Oh, yes, thank you. I was just asking have you actually bought or hired the Jerome J605's?

NB – Right, initially when the complaints came in, we hired those, we have now purchased 2 of those pieces of kit and we have had those for a couple of weeks. Those are the ones we are installing in local businesses and homes and that's the data I am hoping to be able to report to you, but yes, we have purchased 2 of those.

MS – Well there's nearly 40 grand of your money anyway. Thank you, cheers.

AW – Thank you Mick and Nesta. I can't see anymore hands up on that I do, a chair need to keep an eye on time, so I think we'll move onto item...

ADS – Sorry could I just say one more thing, and if Nesta could report this back to planning because I don't think anyone from planning is here either. I visited the building site next door and spoke to the site manager, and he said already 17 houses have been purchased and some of these are bought by out of the area people who are buying to let, a whole row has been bought. I asked them what they were doing with regards to gas mitigation and they are saying that they took a reading on their own site, and the emissions were low, but they say they will put in gas impermeable membranes to floors and walls of the houses, but we don't know that that will happen. Also, they are building a bund along the boundary with site and Cemetery Road, I don't know what form that is going to take, if it looks horrendous but this is what they are doing, and this is for houses that are within a very close relationship to the site and it's just beggars' belief that permission has been given for this site to go ahead. Thank you.

AW – Thank you Angela, I think Nesta has got that point, hopefully.

NB – Yes, I have I'll pass that on to my colleagues.

ADS – Thanks

AW – Thank you

8. Staffordshire planning update

AW – Neil, could we move to you for an update please?

NG – Yeah, absolutely I can keep mine fairly brief. From the County Councils point of view, obviously we still monitor the planning permissions on the site, we are due to make a visit at some point soon. We are obviously making arrangements for that. In terms of the complaints we have, the numbers are miniscule in comparison to the Agency and the Environmental Health, we have a couple that we have had, not so much complaints as queries usually, mostly in relation to mud on the road or vehicle numbers. We are obviously aware of concerns within the community about vehicles on the highway and issues around that, but it is obviously things we are looking into, it is not usually restrictions within the planning permission that sort of prevent things. So that is the sort of thing we are keeping an eye on but otherwise there is not really much to add from our point of view.

AW – Thanks Neil. Angela, you have got a question.

ADS – Oh sorry, that's an old hand.

AW – Ok. That's alright, does anybody have a question for Neil or is he allowed to get off Scot free? Henryk?

HA – Thank you, just a quick one and you might want to go away and think about it.

Typically, the lorries that deliver to landfill are, not all of them but quite a high proportion of them are quite old in terms of the sorts of vehicle emissions that you would get from them.

Does the County monitor the kind of lorries and the emissions that you might get from landfill delivery vehicles because I see them every day outside my house because I live on Silverdale Road and there are some quite old lorries there and I would think that they produce some of the higher emissions levels? Does the County have a view on lorries approaching landfills or do you have any data about that that you can tell us about?

NG – I don't believe we have any data specifically on that point. It may well be a fair point that within the industry generally that they are not necessarily all using the newest vehicles, I mean its going to vary between operators isn't it and there are a lot of different operators that visit the site and some of them will have relatively modern fleets, and some won't. I think that's something that is outside our control really. Obviously if there are concerns about the quality of the vehicles that's something that DVSA and VOSA can pick up and we can pass on your concerns to them, I believe some of the local residents have already done so. At the County Council it is not something that we're particularly monitoring.

AW – Thank you. I can see Nesta had a hand up and then Jon, so Nesta do you want to, I think you were going to say something there.

NB – I'm happy if Jon wants to go first and then maybe I can update from the Borough Council.

AW – Jon, do you want to say something.

JC – Yeah, I can, first of all Henryk within the waste industry it will be a mixed bag, I imagine your comments might deeply offend many of the transport operators I know who are incredibly proud of their fleet and quite rightly so. What we see as a useful driver of change, as we would see in any industry is as clients win and contractors win contracts to service particular areas, they will naturally trade their vehicles due to age, but they will trade them as well on the basis that they are going into various cities and areas where there are clean air zones and need particular Euro Cat bench markings to enter. The more that is driven up and down the country the newer the fleet tends to get across the haulage industry, not just in waste management but as a generality.

AW – Thank you Jon. Nesta, do you want to respond.

NB – Yeah, I was going to respond just to update really, rather than the County Council it is most likely the Borough Councils function in terms of monitoring of ambient air quality in the area and particularly Nitrogen Dioxide or Dioxides and Nitrogen which is the principal pollutant created by vehicles exhausts, so we do that, we do that routinely, we have been undertaking that for quite a long time. There is a lot of information on our website in relation to that. We have actually declared 4 air quality management areas in relation to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide which tend to be the main source of those is vehicles. Walleys Quarry isn't within one of those areas in relation to vehicle led pollution that is causing an exceedance of, its called an air quality objective and the legal limit is 40mg/m³ on an annual average so let that give you some reassurance in relation to that Henryk.

AW -Thank you Nesta. Angela?

ADS – Sorry, I forgotten what it is I was going to say but I will raise something under local representatives.

AW – We have got AOB coming anyway so if it comes back to you, make a note for later. Thank you, Neil, I think that's all our hands gone for Neil.

9. Newcastle-under-Lyme planning update

AW – The next item is the Newcastle under Lyme planning update from Elaine. I don't think, unless I've missed Elaine, I don't think we have a planning update tonight.

NB – Elaine isn't here but maybe I can assist; I did ask for an update from my planning colleagues today so if I can do that. They have updated to say there's currently one application still under consideration within the area and it is for a revised site layout to the Persimmons site next to the roundabout. It is application 21/00616 if you are aware, which is the former Hamptons metal merchants at Keele Road and the application is actually for a variation of condition 2 of the planning application. It is to reflect a required amendment of the proposed scheme including the relocation of a pump station, equipped play area, a footway through the site, revision of architectural details on an approved house type and variation of proposed finished floor level. I understand that a decision is likely in November. I am not able to answer any other questions, but I am happy to take any queries back to my colleagues and feedback.

NB – Thanks Nesta, that's helpful. Angela, has it come back to you?

ADS – Yes, again this might come under planning and that is in regard to the traveller site which is within 49 metres of the landfill site and is right next door to the building site. The TRA suggested that Aspire start thinking about perhaps relocating them to somewhere safer and that the 9-hole golf course was mooted, we got a very negative response from the County Council. I noticed that there is nothing in the draft local plan at the moment which suggests that the planning of accommodation for travellers is not going to be anywhere considered. I think they suggested one pitch per year over the next 5 years compared with 5,000 houses per year for the housed population. I think something needs to be done here with regards to some kind of parity or equity and equality for this group of people who above all others, seem to be having a really rough time.

AW – Thanks Angela.

NB – Thank you. I'm happy to take those comments back to my colleagues.

ADS – Thank you.

AW – Thank you. Lovely, thanks for filling in on that one Nesta.

10. Local councillor and residents' representatives' comments

AW – I know we have discussed various points throughout the meeting but if there is anything else anybody would like to add here. Celia, Henryk? Angela, yup.

ADS – Sorry, I'll let the others go first if they want to.

AW – Ian, Mick, Celia, Henryk? Anything you would like to add at this point? Ian, yup you've got your hand up, do you want to go Ian?

IB – Yes, I would just like to say that normally people only say something when they're complaining so I would like to say that I am very happy, in the local area and other people I have talked to in and around the area of the much-improved situation around here. Quite a difference from the dark days so keep it up, we're very happy.

AW – Thanks Ian, that's good to have as a comment. I've got Mick next with a hand up.

MS – Just 2 questions from me, probably one for Jon actually, being one of the named directors. Why did the Walleys Quarry Limited registered address move to The Glades on Festival Park on Tuesday and then back again to Borough House on Wednesday?

JC – That's easy for me to answer Mick, I don't know. I'm still the technical director not the finance director, they won't let me at the accounts.

MS – Okie dokie. The second one, I tried to contact Nicky about this actually, I have been blocked from the Red Industries Facebook Group and as far as I can tell, the only crime I have committed was promoting people to go to the Sneyd Hill scrutiny meeting, can you find out why I've been blocked?

JC – Well I hope you haven't been blocked Mick.

MS – I have, I can see it, but I can't like or comment

JC – I'll gladly ask the question for you.

MS – Thank you

JC – Thank you for the promotion you did do with the aerosol plant, we had some really good, strong conversations there, it was really interesting, and it was really interesting on a wider note to get some fresh perspectives of what people thought of the future of the Environment and recycling was. The staff and everybody at Port Vale laid on an excellent event, it was really good so appreciate the promotion you did do for that Mick.

MS – Thank you.

AW – Thank you Jon and Mick. Celia?

CJ – Yeah, just a quick one. Could anybody give me any explanation why the smell and the quality of the air on Friday night, Saturday and Sunday are distinctly far stronger than during the week. Particularly when it rains or if it is a cold day the smell here is absolutely awful. I go passed there again, virtually every day, and I have never been passed the site where I have been able to breathe without a mask on. If somebody could give me an answer, I'd appreciate it.

AW – Thank you Celia. Is that one, Jon you're flashing, Jon and Paul is that one for you?

JC – For me please. Celia, that one about the days of the week and Mick has picked that up before, that is really, really interesting that is and actually that is the reason the Environment Agency served the section 61 notice for telemetry on the gas management contractor on site, to CEL/CLP. We are kind of at the beginning I think it would be fair to say, Anna Turner, with picking that up and seeing how that unpicks. We'll keep you posted on that Celia, but I really appreciate you raising that.

CJ – I'm sorry, I'm new to this so obviously I haven't got the data of the history.

JC – No, no it's fine Celia because we're really interested in that, and that telemetry is absolutely key to that. Now I don't think we have had many weeks of it yet have we Anna Turner?

AT – No we haven't, and we've also had, Mukhtar, we can send something I think looking back at the MMF data as well with regards to that query. It has been raised before Celia and I'm not sure what the final response was, but I can find that for you and make sure that has been put on.

CJ – It has actually got to the stage where I can't invite people here at weekends because of the smell. I am embarrassed by it. I in fact try to go away at weekends because I can't breathe properly, my eyesight is defective, I have got a cough and I physically try to be away at weekends just to avoid the smell.

AW – Thanks you.

MS – Can I just jump in there to say it was Ian that raised about weekends being higher levels than in the week, it was me that incorrectly said it wasn't and then I had to issue a grovelling apology.

JC – Ian, apologies, but thank you for raising it, Ian, I appreciate it.

AW – Mukhtar I can see you hand up; I think that might be in response to this.

MuS – Yes, just confirmation, in terms of the weekend, is it all the weekend or is it specific times, late evenings, early hours of the morning? Just so that we can go back and do a bit of research in terms of comparing when it is worse to what the MMF data is showing.

CJ – It is late evenings and then virtually all-day Saturday, all day Sunday and Monday morning it seems, 9 o'clock, 10 o'clock in the morning it is a lot better. It really is just awful and on saying that I still love Silverdale.

MuS – Has it been like this for a few weeks, or has it always been like this?

CJ – Oh it has been like that for months and months and months. I have been here 9 years and I would say probably in the last what, 2 to 3 years it has been bad.

MuS – Ok, thank you.

AW – Paul, is that your hand in relation to this?

PL – It is, just to close the loop, Celia, where is, and I think you have just said Silverdale, I was just going to ask where exactly you are based.

CJ – Yes, I am in Park Road, the top road in Silverdale. Which is what, literally, probably, 500 yards no probably half a mile from the site.

PL – Appreciate it, just so we can put the location in context as well, thank you.

AW – Thank you all, I think we've got one more and we'll make this the final one if that's alright. Angela.

ADS – Sorry, I should have asked this of the EA earlier and I didn't. Do you know the measurable difference between the different types of odours that can be generated, for example the difference between coal gas, between landfill, H2S odours, I mean do you discriminate or discern to break it down because at the moment everybody is saying it is H2S that they can smell but I mean, do they know that's what they are smelling? Is there any way, again it's a kind of an education thing here saying, you know, not all the odours that you smell are H2S. There are other sources coming either from the site or from elsewhere that need to be included in whatever data is being collected so you know, odours are different and there's no distinction at the moment between what people might be smelling or not smelling and what is safe and what is not safe. So I think that is something else that needs to be looked at, examined and maybe, you know some kind of data generated or whatever it is that you do.

AW – Anna yup, do you want to respond, I can see your hand.

AT – Yeah, I was just going to say that the MMF's also record methane which is a component of landfill gas so we use that as a trace and they also have the weather stations with them so we can plot where the direction is coming from and use that intelligence and information as well so there is some mapping done against those, that data that is collated.

ADS – And do you measure up or you know, compare that with complaints made, you know, are you correlating all of this information.

AT – Yeah.

AW – Thank you both.

11. Any other business

AW – Moving on to any other business if that is OK. We are slightly a minute over. I think it has been a useful chat tonight. So, I will go round my screen for any other business. Paul?

PL – Nothing from me Anna.

AW – Ok, Thank you, Celia?

CJ – No, thank you.

AW – Mick?

MS – Nothing from me thank you.

AW - Henryk?

HA – Nothing from me thank you.

AW – Neil?

NG – Nothing from me thank you.

AW – Angela?

ADS – Sorry, I just wanted to say I saw the video of the demonstration at the gates with the guard with the dog and one or two others where people were sort of putting themselves in front of lorries and claiming they were being run over. Can we avoid that kind of scenario? I mean, the police should be there.

JC – Angela, the police do tend to be there, and they are working very hard around the situation, I think there is a, I think largely the protests are peaceful but there is a very active group that seem to think that racism, transphobia and illegal activities are acceptable. Hopefully that group will be able to have their mind changed by others in the group and perhaps local political leaders. You are right, safety is absolutely paramount and also protecting everybody involved from things like racism and transphobia.

PL – And I would just add to Jon's comments, when the protesters are there and active in the bell mouth, as well as the police being present, we do try and pass the messages on because there have been some very close calls with the vehicles accessing site. We have flagged with the protesters; it is one of the big areas of concern and so I would encourage anyone who can help pass that message on to people that are protesting to avoid those vehicles. 44 tonnes, they don't stop very easily and also the turning circle is of such that we have had some close calls with people, it is a concern of ours.

MS – I put out a video last weekend actually discouraging people from doing this on the grounds that if it prevents access to the site for the continuation of Posi Shell works and the drilling of these gas wells then it is going to prolong the issue. Whether folk listen to me is another matter but I have raised that.

PL – I appreciate that Mick. I think the message also needs to be that it's not just a case of blocking the entrance way, people have been very close to these big vehicles and there have been some times where it has been quite frightening on their behalf.

AW – Jon, do you want to add something there?

JC – As I always do, very boringly I'm afraid, date of next meeting?

AW – Oh hang on, I haven't finished the AOB yet Jon, hang on. I'm still going round the table. I've got Ian next.

IB – Nothing thanks.

AW – Nesta?

NB – Nothing from me, thank you very much.

AW – Anna?

AT - Nothing from me thank you.

AW – Mukhtar?

MuS – Nothing from me thank you.

AW – Sorry Jon, I just wanted to make sure. I didn't want to be accused of cutting people off and not allowing people to ...

JC – Absolutely Anna, absolutely.

12. Date of next meeting

AW – So yes, date of next meeting.

JC – We are very comfortable that we continue with these more regular versions, I think it is useful, if everybody else is comfortable with that?

AW – Good

MS – Are we comfortable to remain in Teams or do we want to make it face to face?

JC – I think my preference because of my feelings still about meetings is, I would prefer Teams, I think it is a very individual choice Mick. Certainly, that would be my feeling. I welcome other people's feedback on that as well.

NB – This is easier for myself as well.

AW – I think one in terms of safety as we're going into the winter with Covid I'm not sure we're quite, but secondly for travel I suppose it does actually save 12 people driving or public transport to a meeting doesn't it at the moment. That's my thoughts but I am happy with, if you want me to drive somewhere, I'll go somewhere.

PL – Agreed

MS – Ok well it sounds like we'll stick to this. I just thought I'd put it out there because I like face to face.

AW – Yeah, there's pros and cons aren't there.

JC – So, again, 6 weeks, that takes us to mid-November doesn't it, I would think. So I guess that takes us to somewhere around the 4th November. I don't know how that fits for everybody?

ADS – What day is that?

JC – That is a Thursday again Angela and again I would suggest if everybody is in agreement we stick with it at the slightly later time which I sense is easier for people to attend.

ADS – Which is what, 5.30?

JC – Yeah, does that still sit Ok with everybody?

MS – Sits well with me thank you.

NB - Yeah preferred, thank you.

JC – We'll go for that then so Michelle can send those invitations out.

AW – Brilliant, just picking up on a point from earlier, I think there is three, I know who have been invited before, there are three parties who will be invited as Angela mentioned earlier.

ADS – Yes Ok.

JC – Yeah, we'll push on with that Anna.

AW – Obviously them attending is a different issue but inviting is good.

JC – Yeah absolutely.

AW – Nesta you've got a hand up.

NB – Yeah, I was just going to say Jon can that invite come to me regularly please from the Borough Council?

JC – Yeah sure Nesta, I think you might have already requested that from Michelle because she was amending the invitation list earlier today.

NB – Ok, fantastic, thank you very much.

JC – Thank you very much for that guys. Anna thank you for chairing again we appreciate that, and I wish everybody a good evening.

Date of next meeting confirmed: 4th November 2021 at 5.30pm