

A Dimmer Landfill Liaison Group Meeting took place on 15th March 2018 attended by four staff from Viridor, one from the Environment Agency and one from Somerset Waste Partnership, plus residents, and representatives of Somerset County Council, South Somerset District Council, Castle Cary Town Council, Ansford Parish Council, Carymoor Parish Council and Care4Cary.

In response to a question raised at the previous meeting we were told that a unilateral undertaking commits Viridor to no longer land-filling non-hazardous waste once the transfer station starts operating. However, it permits restoration soils to continue to be tipped. The planning permission requires Viridor to submit restoration proposals for the Landfill site within 2 years.

The Transfer station has no specific noise level limitations, though planning does require a noise attenuation plan to be agreed before starting operations.

There have been 33,100 tonnes of waste (including 4,639 tonnes of cover and 100 tonnes of Soil cover) representing 5,017 vehicle movements since the last meeting.

Leachate Treatment Plant enabling works finished at end of last year. The next stage is due to start imminently and planned for completion in 18 months time. The Liaison Group were offered a visit to the LTP once it's up and running. More gas wells will be drilled in May. The River Cary is being monitored monthly whilst no leachate is being discharged. Leachate continues to be tankered away. It was confirmed that lighting around the new LTP would be down-lighting for security and safety of operatives and will only be switched on when they are present.

Since the last meeting 443 tonnes of wood have been processed, shredded and sent out for energy recovery or turning into fibre board or chip board. 1749 tonnes of green waste have been processed for compost and 1028 tonnes of street sweepings received. These figures do not include Household Waste Recycling Centre inputs.

A complaint about the noise of the wood shredder was discussed and it was agreed that there would be more noise monitoring. A member of the local community has been in touch with Viridor and had not, at the time of the meeting, received a reply. We were promised that he would receive a reply within two weeks.

Discussion about the last major fire focussed on potential provision of smoke detectors and whether there was any sampling of the smoke plume. Viridor stressed that fighting a fire is more important than sampling, but agreed to find out if its practical to sample the plume during a future fire; we were told that the site potentially may be able to hold sampling equipment for deployment if there is a further fire.

Viridor are still looking into a solution from manufacturers of suitable smoke detectors to install on site and make them fit for purpose. All members of the Group were given a copy of the Fire Action Plan for Dimmer Landfill Site. Finally, discussion about traffic coming in and going out of the site was discussed, with concern that queues build up at the traffic lights before the weighbridge. We were told that, as part of the building of the new Transfer Station, the weighbridge is to be moved further into the site so queuing should be minimised.

Building of the Waste Transfer Station is due to start later this year and commissioning should be in early 2020. We were promised an update on progress of the WTS at the next meeting on 14th June.