

29 November 2011 – At a meeting of the Committee held at County Hall, Chichester.

Present:

Mr Whittington (Chairman), Mr Blampied, Mr Coomber, Mrs Field, Mr Hellawell, Mrs Mills\*, Mrs Mockridge, Mr Quirk, Mr Rogers, Mr A R H Smith and Mr Waight.

- \*Mrs Mills attended the meeting as a substitute in accordance with notice given by the Conservative Group.

Apologies:

Mrs Mockridge.

### **Declarations of Interest**

39. There were no declarations of interest.

### **Minutes**

40. Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2011 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### **County Matter Application**

#### **Horsham District Council**

WSCC/060/11/WK

Additional use of an industrial unit to carry out the shredding of wood and bulky waste and the sorting and baling of shredded product at Firland Park Industrial Estate, Henfield Road, Albourne, West Sussex, BN6 9JJ

41. The Committee received a report from the Strategic Planning Manager (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Strategic Planning Manager introduced the report and advised the Committee of the circulation of an Amendment Report, prior to the meeting, concerning changes to the wording in Condition 9 (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Committee was informed of two further necessary revisions to the conditions; an amendment to Condition 5 to be completed following the meeting to clarify the nature of waste to be imported onto the site and a revision to Condition 8 to add the term processed as follows; *'No more than 25,000 tonnes of waste shall be managed and processed at the site in any year'*.

42. Michael Gratton, Albourne Parish Council, spoke in opposition to the application. The report commissioned by the applicant to assess the impact of the site on amenity had not been subject to independent scrutiny. Noise data in the report related to a smaller shredder and therefore it was impossible to conclude that the proposals would not have a significant impact on amenity.

43. Martin Smith, local resident, spoke in opposition to the application. The site would impact adversely upon the visual amenity of the area and distances involved in the transportation of waste across the County were disputed. The assertion that noise would not have a significant impact was not credible due to a lack of data relating to

the shredder and the impact of the site on local air quality had not been adequately assessed. The bund would be of a lower height than the building housing the shredder, limiting its effectiveness, and the site was not an allocated site in the draft waste plan.

44. Simon Brett, Planning Agent, spoke in support of the application. The process was considered to be an industrial process and planning consent for the site had been granted by HDC for industrial use. The application provided environmental benefits by reducing lorry movements involved in the transportation of the waste which was currently taken to Newhaven. An additional condition relating to noise monitoring on the site was suggested.

45. Derek Deedman, the local member, spoke on the application. The shredder involved in the application could handle up to 100,000 tonnes of waste per annum and there was a fear that the applicant would seek to expand the operation in due course, which would involve a considerable increase in heavy lorry traffic from the Site over the previous level. The draft waste plan required recycling waste sites be located where waste arose, however the majority of waste to be processed at the site would be generated from household waste sites on the coast and along the M23 corridor where there is a plentiful supply of industrial and business parks more suitable for recycling this waste than in the middle of the countryside. The application was therefore opposed but if permission was granted the limit of 25,000 tonnes per annum should be supported.

46. The Committee raised those points below in the discussion that followed:

- The approval of B1, B2 and B3 uses for the site by HDC limited the scope of the current application to the processing of waste material only. The concerns of local residents were understood and the decision of the committee would ensure that effective controls were applied to the operation.
- An additional condition relating to noise monitoring on the site was supported.
- It was recognised that the site would move waste up the waste hierarchy by diverting it from landfill.
- It was suggested that a local liaison group could be established to address the concerns of local residents. The assertion that the operation of a local liaison group for the site would be prevented due to insufficient resource was queried.
- The suitability of lorry routes to the site through Henfield and Sayers Common were queried.

47. The Strategic Planning Manager, provided clarification to the Committee which included those points set out below:

- Local liaison groups were usually established for larger sites and it was not felt that the current site would be appropriate for such a group. The County Council lack sufficient resource to administer a local liaison group for the site.
- Highways assessments of the roads providing access to the site were considered to be of a sufficient width for lorries transporting the waste.

48. The officer recommendation was proposed and seconded by the Committee, subject to the amendment to Condition 9 contained in the Amendment Report,

amendments to Conditions 5 and 8 set out in minute 41 above and an additional condition relating to noise monitoring and was approved unanimously.

49. Resolved – That planning permission be granted subject to:

- (a) the conditions and informatives set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (b) the amendment to Condition 9 set out in the Amendment Report;
- (c) amendments to Conditions 5 and 8 set out in minute 41; and
- (d) the addition of a condition relating to noise monitoring.

### **Update on Mineral, Waste and Regulation 3 Planning Applications**

50. The Committee received and noted a report by the County Planning Manager on applications awaiting determination (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). It was reported that the application concerning Slinfold Primary School had been determined.

### **Report of Delegated Action**

51. The Committee received and noted an amended report by the County Planning Manager, circulated at the meeting, (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes) advising of the uses of delegated powers to grant permission for development proposals under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 since the Planning Committee meeting on 1 November 2011.

### **Date of next meeting**

52. The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 17 January 2012 and the site visit would be held on Friday 13 January.

The meeting ended at 11.25 a.m.

Chairman