

**PRESENT:**

Councillor C L Strange	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor A H Turner MBE (Executive Support Councillor for Waste)	Lincolnshire County Council
Sean Kent	Lincolnshire County Council
Ian Taylor	Lincolnshire County Council
Steve Willis	Lincolnshire County Council
Mark Humphreys	East Lindsey District Council
Councillor T Bridges	East Lindsey District Council
Councillor M Brookes	Boston Borough Council
George Bernard	Boston Borough Council
Councillor F Smith	City of Lincoln Council
Steve Bird	City of Lincoln Council
Councillor G Hazelwood	North Kesteven District Council
Mark Taylor	North Kesteven and South Kesteven District Council
Councillor R Gambba-Jones	South Holland District Council
Dale Robinson	South Holland District Council
Councillor I Parrott	West Lindsey District Council
Ady Selby	West Lindsey District Council
Simon Mitchell	Environment Agency

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

## RESOLVED

That Councillor C L Strange be elected as Chairman of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership for the ensuing year.

COUNCILLOR C L STRANGE IN THE CHAIR

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

## RESOLVED

That Councillor G Hazelwood be elected as Vice Chairman of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership for the ensuing year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Smith (SKDC), Glen Chapman (SHDC) and Glyn Pilkington (WLDC)

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4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 MAY 2012

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership meeting held on 10 May 2012, be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5. PROVISION OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership received an update from the Head of Environmental Management in relation to opening times at Household Waste Recycling Centres. It was reported that the amount of queuing had reduced and that the amount of fly tipping outside of the HWRC's had also dropped off, indicating that people were adjusting to the new opening times.

There had been a lot of enforcement work taking place, particularly in East Lindsey and the County Council was working with colleagues in Louth and Skegness. In relation to Spalding, the risk had been taken into account, and hours had been extended which had now made a difference. As the winter progressed, officers would be able to collect more data enabling them to review how successful the new opening hours had been. It was noted that there had been a 20% reduction in waste taken to a HWRC, as people were throwing less away.

The Partnership was informed that the sites at Boston and Gainsborough were out of sync with the other sites around the county in terms of opening hours, and so it was reported that Boston would open 7 days per week, and Gainsborough would open 4 days per week, in line with other sites. These opening days would be Friday – Monday, from 9am to 4pm, in line with the County Council policy. The County Council would work with West Lindsey District Council to ensure that this message was communicated to all residents.

Councillor Gambba-Jones reminded the Partnership that this issue had been raised at the previous meeting as people working full-time were unable to visit the HWRC either prior to or after work as part of their journey. Concerns were raised that this would lead to an increased carbon footprint. It was queried whether it would be possible to accommodate those people who wished to visit outside of current opening hours. It was commented that this was a situation which was faced by people throughout the County, and people were adjusting, but the Partnership would keep this issue under consideration. Once a full year's data had been collected, then it could be examined to determine if any changes were necessary.

It was noted that legally the County Council was only required to have two household waste recycling centres in the County, but all 13 had remained open.

RESOLVED

That the update in relation to Household Waste Recycling Centre provision be noted.

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6. BUSINESS WASTE RECYCLING – PRESENTATION BY GIVINGWORLDONLINE.COM

The Partnership received a presentation from Sujata Bhalla, Resources Director of Givingworldonline.com which was a registered charity which offered free solutions companies, local authorities and the public sector to re-direct surplus stock and equipment into local communities and people in need through a network of bona fide charities and community groups. It was reported that over 2000 charities and community groups across the country had registered with givingworldonline.com to receive goods. The presentation provided detailed information in relation to how the charity worked and the types of companies they worked with as well as the goods which were received. It was noted that all stock was new and unused. The Partnership was informed that the organisation provided a free and easy to use solution for companies to use to enable them to divert stock from landfill. Two short videos were also shown to the Partnership which highlighted the experiences people had had of working with the charity, as well as the experiences of those that had benefitted from receiving some of the goods.

It was queried how the organisation was funded and whether it was sustainable, and the Partnership was informed that currently givingworldonline.com had received 3 years of funding through trusts and foundations, and they had just completed their first year of funding. There were strategies in place for more long term funding and sustainability which would be announced shortly.

It was agreed by the Partnership that this was a very good organisation which should be supported and the Partnership was keen to help in any way it could. The best way that the County Council and district councils could help was by spreading the word about the organisation to local businesses and also to local charities and community groups that could benefit from the service. It was also suggested that it could be helpful to put details on the recycling pages of the county and district council's websites. The biggest issue faced by givingworldonline.com was raising awareness of the service they provided and ensuring that businesses were aware that this was a free service.

It was suggested that this should be referred back to the Officer Working Group to establish how best the Partnership could help with this and to develop an action plan.

It was clarified that the 'nearly new' stock which had been referred to was office furniture and IT equipment which would be donated when businesses refreshed, it was noted that it was the businesses responsibility to ensure that hard drives of computers were wiped clean before being donated. Everything else which was received by the organisation was new and unused, they did not recycle used clothing or toys.

The Chairman thanked the Resources Director of Givingworldonline.com for coming to speak to the Partnership.

**RESOLVED**

That this be referred back to the Officer Working Group to develop an action plan regarding how the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership could raise awareness of the service provided by Givingworldonline.com.

**7. ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITY AND WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS AND HAULAGE UPDATE**

Consideration was given to an update from the Assistant Director – Environment, Planning and Customer Service regarding progress on the Energy from Waste facility, Waste Transfer Stations and an update on the haulage contract. It was noted that a newsletter, outlining the latest the latest developments had been circulated the previous day.

It was reported that the chimney of the EfW facility had now gone up, and the aim was still to start hot commissioning from 1 July 2013, on a phased approach. Officers were in the process of submitting a planning application to allow the EfW facility to treat commercial and industrial (C&I) waste and a determination on this was expected in spring 2013.

In terms of the Waste Transfer Stations, Grantham was almost complete, and it was on target to be completed by April 2012. The haulage contract would be going out to tender in October 2012, and the Waste Transfer Stations would be managed by the County Council, and some of the staff would be based at the EfW facility.

The Partnership was informed that Clugstons, a fairly local company, had been responsible for the first part of the build contract, and it would shortly be handed over to CNIM, a French company who would be responsible for the second part of the build. It was reported that progress was where it was expected to be and continue that way through winter, and delays which were possible due to bad weather had been built into the programme as a precaution. It was commented that Clugstons had done a fantastic job so far, and could not be commended highly enough for the work they had done.

It was hoped that the location of the EfW facility would attract companies to locate to Teal Park as it would be able to provide power 24 hours, 7 days per week. Economic development colleagues were looking into companies that could be interested in this location. It was noted that in other countries, housing estates were built around energy from waste plants, as the hot water produced was used to heat the houses.

**RESOLVED**

That the update be noted.

**8. COMPOSTING FRAMEWORK CONTRACT FROM APRIL 2013**

The Partnership received a report from the Waste Officers Group, which reminded members of a report that was presented to the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership in February 2012 which outlined an issue that had arisen concerning the transposition of the EU revised Waste Framework Directive (rWFD) into UK law and how the current position of garden waste counting towards recycling performance could be affected.

It was reported that Defra had suggested, at a meeting of the National Association of Waste Disposal Officers, that in order for compostable material to continue to count towards recycling targets, it would need to be processed by a facility operating to the

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PAS 100 standard. It was noted that this could have a major impact on Lincolnshire's recycling targets, as almost half of the recyclable material collected was green waste, and not all of the composting operators used by the districts to process this material had PAS 100 accreditation.

If it became necessary to only use PAS 100 operators, there was a risk that a garden service would not be viable in all areas of the county, unless additional resources in terms of vehicles and crews were provided. In light of the financial pressures faced by local authorities at this time, this was not considered to be a realistic solution.

The Partnership was informed that operating at PAS 100 standard was about an accredited process, so that the way the material had been processed was auditable, and records were kept of the process. It also meant that the end product was of suitable quality so that it could be sold. It was noted that most of the operators used by the districts did have PAS 100 accreditation, however, there was a small minority that did not, but it was thought they would consider changing their processes in order to meet PAS 100 standards. There was only thought to be one operator who would not agree to meet the PAS 100 standards.

It was considered important that the districts and county as a whole ensured that the amount of material recycled remained high. It was suggested that Defra should be made aware that allowing farmers to use less high quality compost (i.e. from non-PAS 100 operators), then this reduced the amount of fertilizer they had to use on the land.

Ian Taylor and his team were thanked for the work which had been carried out on this issue.

## RESOLVED

That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership:-

1. Request that LCC structures the next contract to include the acceptance to the framework of composting contractors operating both with and without a certified PAS 100 process;
2. Request that LCC indicate within the contract that preference would be given to the use of facilities operating to PAS 100 wherever this was operationally feasible;
3. Request that LCC let a short contract (one year plus a one year extension) to allow flexibility in the future and avoid being committed into any long term contract that may not be compatible with any guidance that may emerge from Defra or the EU.

## 9. END DESTINATIONS OF RECYCLING CHARTER

Consideration was given to a report by the Waste Officers Group which explained that the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC) had recently launched the End Destination of Recycling Charter and were encouraging all councils to become signatories. It was reported that research which had been carried out by YouGov for the Association had shown that there was real interest by the public in what happened to the recycling they put out for collection. However, the research

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had also shown that very few local authorities had this information publicly available on their websites.

It was thought that if people understood what happened to the recycling they put out for collection, they would be more likely to place waste in the correct bin.

Members commented that this was a good idea and would be very helpful, as a lot of the questions they received in relation to recycling were in relation to where it went and what happened to it after it was collected. However, it was suggested that there should be conformity amongst the authorities in order that a consistent message was delivered across the county.

It was suggested that by the date of the next meeting, that all districts should have signed up for the Charter, and the officers would work together to ensure that a consistent message was delivered across the county.

This initiative was supported by the Environment Agency, as nationally there was a vast amount of illegal export of recyclable material, and this could help to track the waste.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership support the End Destinations of Recycling Charter;
2. That the local authority members of the Partnership arrange for their individual authorities to become signatories to the Charter;

West Lindsey District Council was congratulated for becoming a 5 star authority for clean streets. It was reported that the authority had been looking for a way of benchmarking its street cleansing service, and they had been awarded a silver award, meaning that they had the second cleanest streets in a small district.

The meeting closed at 12.10pm.