

**PRESENT:**

Councillor C L Strange representing Lincolnshire County Council (Chairman)

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 R Wright	North Kesteven District Council
Councillor B Adams	South Kesteven District Council
Mark Taylor	North Kesteven and South Kesteven District Council
Glen Chapman	South Holland District Council
Councillor I Parrott	West Lindsey District Council
Glyn Pilkington	West Lindsey District Council
Simon Mitchell	Environment Agency

The Chairman informed the Partnership that unfortunately Councillor Geoff Hazelwood would no longer be representing North Kesteven District Council on the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership due to a change in Portfolios. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Councillor Hazelwood on behalf of the Partnership, thanking him for his contributions as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of this Partnership.

10. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

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

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Gambba-Jones (SHDC), J Smith (SKDC) and A H Turner MBE (LCC).

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12. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2012

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership meeting held on 27 September 2012, be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

It was reported that the composting contract had now gone out to tender, and the process was rolling forward as per the recommendation of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

13. ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITY AND WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS UPDATE

The Partnership received an update from the Assistant Director Environment, Planning and Customer in relation to the current progress of the Energy from Waste Facility and the Waste Transfer Stations.

It was reported that work was ongoing, and there were a couple of issues which were coming up. The boiler test was planned for the Tuesday following this meeting, and this would be a key milestone for the project.

The Waste Transfer Stations at Sleaford and Grantham had been completed, and the remaining two would be completed by March/April 2013. The recruitment adverts for the Waste Transfer Stations would be published after Christmas. The tenders for the haulage contract were due to be submitted by 4 January 2012. The IT issues in relation to the waste data management system had been resolved so real time information could be received.

It was also reported that the C & I application had been submitted, and it was expected that a planning determination would be made in spring 2013. It was commented that due to the high recycling rates, there would be a drop off in material which was going to the plant and so the C & I application would be a sensible way of making up the difference. This would also lower the amount of waste that businesses sent to landfill.

Unfortunately there were not yet any plans for factories to move into the adjoining sites to make use of the additional power which would be generated by the plant. However, officers in Economic Development for Lincolnshire County Council, South Kesteven and North Kesteven would continue to work to generate interest in this site.

It was suggested that a press release should be produced which highlighted the benefits for businesses of the Teal Park site and the proximity of the EfW plant

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

14. BUSINESS WASTE RECYCLING – GIVING WORLD

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Head of Environmental Management which updated the Partnership on the suggestions of the Officer Working Group, following their discussion of the work of the charity Giving World online, which worked with businesses to recycle surplus production and end of line items through charities and community groups, and had given a presentation to the previous meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

Following consideration by the Officer Working Group, a number of suggestions on how the Partnership could most effectively assist in the promotion of the work of this charity were put forward and included council website, council newspaper, community forums, economic development contact with local businesses, letter to local chamber of commerce, press release, housing association, community groups and local charities.

It was noted that all partners were very supportive of this initiative, and the reduction of business waste being sent to landfill was a key issue for the Partnership. It was requested that each partner be willing to put in the work to launch this initiative in their own district, and that there would also be a county wide campaign.

It was noted that this initiative was already advertised on the City of Lincoln's website, and it was an initiative that was worth supporting. It was felt that to have the most impact, it was important to have a collective approach

RESOLVED

That Lincolnshire Waste Partnership support the introduction and promotion of Giving World across Lincolnshire, with each partner agreeing to undertake the necessary work to launch this within their own district.

15. MY WASTE MOBILE PHONE APP

The Partnership received a report from the Officer Working Group which outlined a proposal which had been received from a company which specialised in the use of mobile phone technology to assist local authorities in passing information to residents concerning waste and recycling services. It was thought that this would be a useful tool for engaging with the younger generations.

The 'My Waste' app was available from the iTunes App Store and the Android Marketplace, and was free for residents to download. There would be a need for districts to provide information to populate the App with, which could include information such as collection days and what could be put into recycling bins. The County Council was happy to pay the set up costs and the on-going fees for maintenance of the App. There would be an opportunity for a yearly update, and it was suggested that it came back to the Partnership and was reviewed on a yearly basis.

It was noted that the costs of making any amendments or changes to the information would be met by the County Council.

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There was agreement by the Partnership that this was an excellent idea, and would be a good way to reach young people and young families.

RESOLVED

That the use of this technology and its application in Lincolnshire be explored further with the company involved, and if it was a practical proposition then the scheme be introduced across all authorities and run for a trial period of one year.

16. CONTAMINATION IN RECYCLING MATERIAL

The Partnership received a report from the Officer Working Group which outlined the problem that a number of Lincolnshire authorities had been having regarding the level of contamination being found in the collections of recyclable material within their districts. It was thought this was due to the awarding of new contracts and the increasing pressure from re-processors for higher quality recyclable material.

A number of separate authorities had realised that there was a problem and started work to undertake publicity campaigns to highlight this issue to residents. This issue was also considered by the Officer Working Group, who felt that this was an opportunity not to be missed, as there was some very good publicity being produced by the districts which could be of benefit to the Partnership if it was shared amongst partners. It was emphasised that it was not the suggestion to start a new project, but to simply share what was already being done. It was suggested that there could be some key messages which could be shared throughout the county, and then adapted to suit each district.

RESOLVED

That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership agreed to a meeting or meetings involving appropriate officers to consider the possibilities of shared publicity material and messages, and report back to a future meeting of the Partnership.

17. RE-USE INITIATIVE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Environmental Services Team Leader (Waste Services) which provided the Partnership with information regarding an approach which had been received from a fledgling company in Wrangle to Boston Borough Council, which carried out repairs to household goods prior to re-sale, and only sent items for scrap if they could not be brought back into use.

This company handled returned white goods from a retailer at Downtown and had been in discussions with Defra regarding support to set up a formal regional re-use facility in order to minimise the volume of white goods which was sent to landfill. Defra had indicated interest in this proposal and the company was now looking for possible local authority partners to work with to supply the goods which were needed to develop the business.

It was thought that people now tended to upgrade products a lot more regularly than in the past, for example when a newer model came out, rather than because the

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appliance was worn out. Any white goods which were collected by district councils were disposed of through the County Council contract with Repic who would send them for scrap. There would not be any attempt to re-use anything. The proposal for this new scheme would not be in conflict with the current Repic contract.

The Partnership was provided with the opportunity to discuss the information presented in the report, and some of the points raised during discussion including the following:

- It was important to try and co-operate with this company as it was much better to re-use items, than to just send them for scrap;
- There was a market for items which could be re-used;
- People should be encouraged to use re-use schemes for items they no longer wanted but still had a useful life;
- There was an element of selection with this company, as they would only take the items which they thought could be repaired successfully. Anything which could be repaired would go back into the waste stream
- The use of this company as an alternative route for white goods to be diverted to would not impact on the Repic contract. The only issue would be if the company wanted to remove items from a household waste recycling centre, which would be in breach of the contract;
- The company offered a six month guarantee on any item which was repaired and resold;
- It was thought that this proposal would not have a huge impact on charities, as the items would be selected by the company from items which were part of the bulky waste collections;
- South Holland reported that when people rang up to request a bulky waste collection, they were asked if they had considered other methods of disposal, such as donating to charity;

RESOLVED

1. That the authority who had been approached to undertake a trial scheme with the company to divert suitable white goods for re-use as opposed to scrap or recovery be permitted to undertake that trial;
2. That further information be obtained as to the feasibility of a wider scheme, ideally covering all of Lincolnshire;

18. REVISED CONTROLLED WASTE REGULATIONS

Consideration was given to a report by the Officer Working Group which updated the Partnership on the likely impact of the changes to the Revised Controlled Waste Regulations which were released in April 2012.

The Partnership was advised that the main changes to these Regulations sought to address the results of the "Schedule 2" consultation relating to the expansion of the opportunities to introduce charges for disposal. Each Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) would need to decide whether or not to start recovering disposal costs on "Schedule 2" wastes, where this opportunity existed.

It was noted that the revised regulations made no distinction between residual waste and recyclable waste, and so there was further work which needed to be done on this.

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It was requested that the officers should meet to work out the details of these revised regulations, and report back to a future meeting of the Partnership as there was a need to standardise the way this waste was collected across Lincolnshire, and the easier it could be made for residents the better.

RESOLVED

That the Officer Working Group consider the details of the Revised Regulations in more detail and report back to a future meeting with their conclusions.

The Chairman proposed that a new standing item be added to future agendas, which would provide an opportunity for each district to provide the rest of the Partnership with an update of any developments within their area which may affect or be of interest to the Partnership as a whole. The partnership was in agreement with this suggestion.

The meeting closed at 11.55 a.m.