

Pendock Environmental Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting

held on Thursday 9th July 2015, at 5.30 pm
at Eldersfield Lawn School

Present:	Bronwen Behan (Chairman)	Eldersfield Parish Council
	Tony Davies	Eldersfield Parish Council
	Edward Philipson-Stow	Pendock Estates
	John Humphreys	Pendock Parish Council
	Sally Rush	Representative of Public
	Barbara Weavers	Representative of Public
	Mark Bishop	Worcestershire County Council
	Mark Lane	Worcestershire County Council

District Councillor Bronwen Behan took the chair at 5.30 p.m. and declared the meeting open.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Tom Wells (Worcestershire County Councillor).

The Environment Agency had informed the Secretary that it was no longer their intention to attend meetings of the Group.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Chairman asked if there were any comments on the draft minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th March and circulated before the meeting. There were three.

Mrs Weavers advised the meeting that her name was spelt with an 's' and requested that the minutes be appropriately corrected. There were no objections.

Mrs Weavers then expressed concern over the phrasing of the second sentence of para 4.2 'Health'. After a short discussion it was agreed that the first sentence be re-stated as 'Mrs Weavers thought that bio-aerosols are a contributory factor in causing ill-health'. She also asked that an amendment be made to para 4 of that section 4.2 – to delete the words 'consider performing' and replace with 'perform'.

Subject to these changes, the minutes were adopted as a true record of that meeting, *nem con*.

3. Matters Arising

Mr Humphreys introduced himself as the new representative of Pendock Parish Council, subsequent to the elections in May. The Chairman welcomed him. She asked that if ever he were unable to attend a meeting he send a substitute.

Mrs Weavers then clarified remarks she had sought to make earlier. In her view, testing was used 'prophylactically' in order to ensure that dangerous levels of *Aspergillus Fumigatus* were not achieved.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the EA had indicated the circumstances when it would be a requirement that testing be undertaken. If the local community were uncertain of what those circumstances were, or believed that those circumstances currently existed, then it would be possible to bring the matter to the attention of the EA. If there were doubt on the part of the local community, then it might well be wise and reasonable to request the EA to attend a meeting of the Liaison Group to re-iterate their position.

Mr Bishop concurred; he said that it was the role of the EA to protect human health and he supported the idea of inviting the EA to attend.

4. Report from Neighbouring Residents

4.1 General

Mrs Rush said that although no bad smell had been reported to her for a couple of years, there had nevertheless only that day been an incident of malodour at Frogsmarsh.

Mr Philipson-Stow said that the matter had already been brought to his attention. Shredding had been taking place and this was perhaps the factor most likely to cause issues. The wind had been towards Gadsbury Bank.

Mrs Rush said that there was concern that the unit was taking silt. Mr Philipson-Stow responded that the silt being received emanated from dredged canals or rivers; it was analysed and found to be within the accepted tolerances. Had the material exceeded the tolerance for heavy metals it would have been consigned to landfill. The material was taken on to site, screened (and supermarket trolleys and stones extracted) and then mixed with 2/3rds compost. This treatment complied with their recorded operating procedure; he said that it was unlikely to be the source of any obnoxious smell.

Mr Lane confirmed that the site was in possession of the appropriate permits.

Mr Philipson-Stow then said that it was classed as waste and being so classed it was required to be put to land, i.e. it could not be sold as fertiliser for home use.

Mrs Weavers expressed her satisfaction that it did not occasion bad smells.

5. Pendock Environmental Report

5.1 Throughput

Mr Philipson-Stow gave the throughput as follows:

	2014	2015
	MT	MT
Q1	326	2,906.7
Q2	509	3,326.7
Q3	649	
Q4	716	
	2,200	6,233.4

He said that shredding this year had taken place four times.

Mrs Rush asked whether he had achieved PAS100 status. Mr Philipson-Stow replied that final results of tests were awaited within the next day or so. He emphasised, however, that even though he had not hitherto been in possession of the PAS100 formal accreditation, he had nevertheless been operating the plant in accordance with the those standards

6. Regulatory Authorities' Update

6.a Worcestershire County Council

Mr Lane confirmed that he had visited the site and had held discussions with Mr Philipson-Stow. He had asked the EA for an update but their response had not been received.

He said that his next control visit would take place during the planting season.

6.b Environment Agency

It was noted that the EA had decided to take no further part in these meetings but had undertaken to send a representative if there were a need.

7. Parish Councils' Report

7.a Pendock Parish Council

Mr Humphreys noted that his Council had received no complaints about the operation of the site. It had, however been noted that there had been mud and stones on the road but it was unknown whether this was related to the operations of the site or not. Mr Philipson-Stow said that it was his practice to have the road swept three or four time per day.

Mr Philipson-Stow also asked it to be understood that, no matter how efficient the plant, it would not be possible to contain any smells produced within the site perimeter.

7.b Eldersfield Parish Council

Mr Davies said that no reports or complaints had been received by his Council.

In response to a general enquiry from the Chairman, Mr Philipson-Stow said that silt was a denser material than his usual input and therefore required less space; and that lorries coming to the site were, given that the A438 was closed, tending to use the motorway.

8. Date of Next Meeting

After discussion it was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 21st October 2015 at 5.30 p.m. [Venue will be advised by the Secretary].

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.12 p.m.

JLG
14.7.15

Previous Meetings

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
1	31 st May 2012	10.00 a.m.	
2	10 th July 2012	5.00 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
3	20 th September 2012	5.00 p.m.	Berrow & Pendock Hall
4	8 th November 2012	5.00 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
5	7 th March 2013	5.00 p.m.	Berrow & Pendock Hall
6	19 th June 2013	5.00 p.m.	Berrow & Pendock Hall
7	12 th September 2013	6.30 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
8	4 th November 2013	6.30 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
9	17 th March 2014	7.00 p.m.	Berrow & Pendock Hall
10	10 th July 2014	6.00 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
11	13 th November 2014	6.00 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School
12	5 th March 2015	5.30 p.m.	Eldersfield Lawn School