

MINUTES

BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP

MEETING OF 23 JUNE 2009

ATTENDEES: J Armstrong (Community Representative)
G Sandilnikoff (Community Representative)
P Menon (Logan Waste Services)
A Reiser (Logan Waste Services)
R Fergusson (Logan Waste Services)

The meeting commenced at 2.30pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor L Clarke, Councill C Dalley, N Martin (Community Representative), M Sams (Community Representative)

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 17 March 2009 were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Odour Survey

The meeting reviewed odour survey data for the 3-month period of February to April 2009.

The average number of odour incidents recorded by survey participants was 1.6 incidents/participant/month compared to 0.1 during the same period last year.

The duration of odour incidents recorded by survey participants was 2.6% of the month compared to 0.1 for the same period last year.

Odour Complaints

B Lee reported that there were 12 complaints received during the 3-month period of February to April 2009 compared to 8 for the same period last year.

There were eight odour complaints received regarding the landfill during February 2009. Details were as follows:

- Tuesday 03/02/09 at 4.20pm - Kentish Court - The Waste Services Co-ordinator contacted the only supervisor on site at the time to request for someone to check that the demisters were turned on. No one was available at the time, however it was subsequently confirmed that the demisters were turned on around lunch time and continued to run after hours.
- Tuesday 04/02/09 at 8.05pm - Complaint was received by email and was a general complaint about odour rather than odour being experienced at the time - Saint James

Circuit - An email response explaining control measures being taken was sent to the resident on 04/02/09.

- Wednesday 04/2/09 at 10.40am - St James Circuit - Customer called to complaint about the odour. No staff were available to undertake a site inspection. The Environment and Risk Co-ordinator contacted landfill staff and requested that the demisters be turned on.
- Wednesday 05/02/09 - Saint James Circuit - Complaint was received by email and was a general complaint about odour rather than odour being experienced at the time - An email response explaining control measures being taken was sent to the resident on 05/02/09.
- Wednesday 11/02/09 - Letter received by the Mayor from John Mickel (State Member for Logan) on behalf of a resident of Saint James Circuit and was a general complaint about odour rather than odour being experienced at the time - A response explaining control measures was prepared and forwarded to the Mayor's office on 16/02/09.
- Thursday 19/2/09 at 3.15pm - St James Circuit Road - No officers were available to undertake a site inspection. The demisters were on at the time of the complaint
- Thursday 19/2/09 at 3.30pm - St James Circuit Road - No officers were available to undertake a site inspection. The demisters were on at the time of the complaint
- Monday 23/2/09 at 2.12pm - St James Circuit Road - Complaint reported to LWS Deputy Manager. The Environment and Risk Co-ordinator conducted a site inspection. Odour was detectable in St James Circuit despite the demisters being on at the time of the inspection.

There were three odour complaints received regarding the landfill during March 2009.

Details were as follows:

- Wednesday 04/03/09 at 6.05pm - Volstead Street - The LWS On-Call officer received the call. She called the landfill to see if staff were still on site but all had gone home. She phoned the resident back & explained that no staff were available after hours & that there must have been a problem with the sprayers. The pump on the odour control system malfunctioned earlier in the day and was repaired the next day.
- Saturday 14/03/09 at 9.00am - Curzon Street - The LWS On-Call officer received the call. He contacted the weighbridge & asked them to turn on the odour control system. Grounds staff proceeded to turn the system on.
- Tuesday 17/3/09 at 3.25pm - St James Circuit Road - The Environmental and Risk Co-ordinator (ERC) received a phone call. The resident commented that he noticed the odour when he went to pick up his children from school. The ERC informed Mr Cotter that the odour control system is operating each day, but she would check that it was currently operational. She then asked the resident if he would mind being put on hold during the check. She then confirmed that the system was operational. When she resumed the phone call with the resident, she confirmed that the current control measures in place. The resident commented that these measures were not suitable as they were still able to smell the odour. She then apologised to Mr Cotter and advised that she was unsure why they were unable to smell the system. Mr Cotter commented that it was not good enough and he subsequently contacted Councillor Dalley.

There was one odour complaint received regarding the landfill during April 2009. Details were as follows:

- Tuesday 28/04/09 at 4.30pm - Volstead Street - The resident commented that he had just arrived home and could smell odour from the landfill. Weighbridge staff were advised of the odour and they contacted the on-call officer. The on-call officer checked that the odour control system was operational. The Environmental Risk Officer subsequently checked the odour control operating hours - and noted that it was operational from 2:00pm on the day of the complaint.

B Lee commented that the reduction in complaints after February was expected as this was when a new landfill cell was completed, allowing wastes to be tipped further away from residents. G Sandilnikoff advised he had noted a reduction in odours in Kentish Court from that time.

J Armstrong commented that he felt that the proceedings of the Consultative Group meetings were not made sufficiently public. He asked whether the proceedings should be published in local newspapers.

B Lee advised that meeting minutes are referred to Council where they become publicly available. Journalists from local newspapers usually review the minutes of Council meetings, and often ask questions in relation to particular issues. He said if the minutes were made a media release, it's unlikely the newspapers would publish them - and to pay to publish them as an advertisement would be very expensive.

P Menon suggested putting an abridged version of the minutes on Council's website, and it was agreed this should be pursued.

Action: LWS officers to investigate the possibility of having abridged versions of Consultative Group meetings placed on Council's website.

3.2 Environmental Performance

B Lee reported that, apart from odour complaints, there were no other significant environmental incidents recorded at the Browns Plains Landfill during the period of February to April 2009.

Advice was received in March 2009 that environmental monitoring conducted in February 2009 revealed 1 exceedance of dust limits. Advice was received in May 2009 that environmental monitoring conducted in April 2009 revealed 1 exceedance of dust limits.

LWS continue to implement the following control measures to assist in suppressing dust and/or particulate matter:

- A water truck is based on-site and is utilised for the purpose of applying recycled water for dust suppression. These activities are carried out on site roadways, particularly those operational areas that have a high risk of generating excess particulate matter.
- Monitoring of employees, contractor and external visitors to ensure compliance with traffic management and plant operational requirements. This is carried out by controlling the use, speed, route and operation of vehicles and plant as required.
- Maintain site roads and tracks in a condition that minimises dust.

It should also be noted that no complaints about dust were received by LWS during this monitoring period.

G Sandilnikoff advised that he is still experiencing some dust at Kentish Court, but it was not as bad as it had previously been. P Menon reported that one of the dust exceedances was recorded in the north-east corner of the site - well away from earthworks and residents south of the site. He conceded that, due to the nature of works on site up to February 2009 there could have been dust emissions, however, that was unlikely to be the case now as those works were completed.

3.3 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DERM)

There was no significant contact with DERM officers from February to April 2009.

P Menon advised that LWS officers were due to meeting DERM officers on 24 June 2009 to discuss the management of clean stormwater trapped on the site.

3.4 Ibis Update

B Lee reported that there were no complaints received regarding ibis during the period of February to April 2009. Numbers have been averaging around 1,670 in recent months.

2009	Tip Face	Tip Face Surrounds	Trees	Dam and Other Places	Total
January	500	640	200		1340
	200	1000	150		1350
	600	300	300		1200
	350	1000	200		1550
February	800	850	430		2080
	850	180	400		1430
	700	200	550		1450
	930	750	200		1880
March	800	470	200		1470
	1100	300	350		1750
	980	330	180		1490
	1000	700	100		1800
April	1100	400	150		1650
	700	580	150		1430
	1000	800	20		1820
	800	800	50		1650

J Armstrong asked if the ibis were roosting at the site. P Menon replied that advice had been received that they were flying in and out of the site - rather than roosting.

J Armstrong asked if there had been any further contact from the eagle handler. A Reiser advised that there hadn't been.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

B Lee reported that three possible fire ant nests were noted near the Logan Recycling Market by Council Vector Control Officers on 17 April 2009. They were confirmed as fire ants by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) shortly thereafter. The nests were treated and follow-up treatment will be conducted in May 2009. Importantly, the DPI has also advised that the infestation will not affect LWS's Fire Ant Management Plan. This means there will be no disruption to the off-site movement of soil and greenwaste.

J Armstrong asked if the chemicals used to treat the fire ants kill them instantly. P Menon said he understood that, rather than instantly killing them, the ants are sterilised, but that the treatment has been very effective across the state. A Reiser advised that there have been follow-up treatments since then, and checks by sniffer dogs have failed to find any further nests.

Additionally, there was one change to the list of Logan suburbs wholly or partly in the Fire Ant Restricted Area since the last Group meeting with Bethania being added. This now means that, of Logan's 59 suburbs, 32 are wholly or partly in a restricted area. These suburbs include:

Berrinba	Jimboomba	Park Ridge South
Bethania	Kingston	Priestdale
Boronia Heights	Logan Central	Rochedale South
Browns Plains	Loganholme	Regents Park
Carbrook	Loganlea	Slacks Creek
Cornubia	Logan Reserve	Springwood
Crestmead	Marsden	Tanah Merah
Forestdale	Meadowbrook	Underwood
Greenbank	New Beith	Waterford
Heritage Park	North Maclean	Woodridge
Hillcrest	Park Ridge	

3.6 Site End Use Master Planning

At the last meeting B Lee was requested to provide G Sandilnikoff with a copy of the Master Development Plan for the site. G Sandilnikoff confirmed that he had received the plan.

3.7 Black Soot Issue

At the last meeting B Lee was requested to follow up with Cr Dally on the results of her meeting at the asphalt plant with respect to the black soot being experienced at some Heritage Park premises.

B Lee passed on Cr Dalley's advice that:

- She met plant operators in the week of 23 March 2009 and found that the plant was much better as they have new technology that basically means that the flame has no contact with burnable materials therefore does not create any 'blue smoke'.
- The technology is a double drum mixer. Only the aggregate is heated and then transferred to an outside drum and mixed with other materials depending on the type of finished product required.
- Plant operators also have a Development Application in to upgrade the plant even further which should result in even better outcomes

G Sandilnikoff advised that he hasn't noticed as much black soot as previously.

3.8 Community Representation

At the last meeting LWS were asked to consider the possibility of advertising for new Community Representatives for the Consultative Group in local newspapers or by letterbox drop.

B Lee advised that a draft newspaper ad and flyer have been prepared and are awaiting approval.

J Armstrong asked if odour complainants had been invited to join the Group. B Lee replied that they are often directly invited, but if not, they all would have received previous Landfill Information Newsletters which always include such invitations.

J Armstrong asked if LWS had written directly to odour complainants and invited them to join the Group. P Menon advised that they had not. He also advised that there would be a section about the landfill in the next round of Councillor Newsletters which are distributed city-wide.

Action: P Menon to approve draft advertisement and flyer regarding the invitation for new Community Representatives for the Group.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Waste Collection Contract

G Sandilnikoff asked if a two-bin waste service was being introduced, and if so, when. P Menon advised that a two-bin system was being introduced on 1 July 2011.

4.2 Recyclable Materials

G Sandilnikoff advised that he feels many residents aren't sure about what to put in the recycling section of their bins due to mixed messages in the media. B Lee said LWS have a Waste Educator and he will investigate what community education initiatives are forthcoming.