

MINUTES
BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP
MEETING OF

24 March 2015

ATTENDEES: M Asnicar (Waste Services Branch - WSB)
R Oakley (WSB)
B Lee (WSB)
L Banks (Community Representative)
J A Lee (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 1pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Dalley, J Ooms (Community Representative)

L Boyd, L Miller, F Laughton, E Koch, N Martin, D Moore, G Williams, D Eldridge, P Cohen, M Lawton, H Priday, S Weber, L Blunt and S Baker (all Community Representatives) did not attend.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was not agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 16 December 2014 were an accurate record. L Banks requested that the following be noted in relation to section 3.1.1 of the minutes:

- It was stated in the minutes that there were 11 landfill odour complaints made during the three-month period of September to November 2014. She advised that she herself made 27 calls about odour during this period.
- It was stated in the minutes that there were no complaints made during September 2014. She advised that she herself made 8 calls about odour during the month.
- It was stated in the minutes that there were 10 complaints made during November 2014. She advised that she herself made 10 calls about odour during the month.

M Asnicar acknowledged the advice and noted that the number of unrecorded complaints seem extraordinarily high. He asked L Banks if she had kept any record of who she had spoken to when making the complaints but she advised that she had not. He suggested that it would be useful in future if the Council staff member's name be taken when placing the call so that follow up investigations could occur.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

3.1.1 Construction of Cell 2D

It was reported that the first deposit of domestic wheelie bin waste in the new cell (2D) was on 26 November 2014. It was not until mid-December 2014 that all potentially putrescible wastes (including wastes from commercial collection vehicles) were going into the new cell. There were a few occasions when putrescible waste had to be diverted from the new cell back to 2F during the period December 2014 to February 2015 and details are provided in section 3.1.2 below.

R Oakley added that the whole idea of the new cell 2D was to enlarge the buffer between the waste and residents. The dumping of putrescible wastes in the old cell 2F should become less and less frequent - but it may still have to be used from time to time if unusually heavy rain causes drainage issues in 2D.

L Banks asked if commercial waste was going into the new cell. R Oakley confirmed that it was.

R Oakley also made reference to L Banks' call to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) the previous Friday (20 March) and confirmed that they had called him about it. In response to the call he proceeded to the area around the corner of St James Circuit and Volstead Road but all he could detect was the odour control chemical.

M Asnicar asked J A Lee if she had been affected by odour since last November (when the new cell opened). She advised that it has not been as bad as prior to November but odours have definitely been noticed on a number of days since then.

L Banks advised that on 11 March she was Eastern Road Browns Plains and could smell odours from the landfill. M Asnicar expressed surprise saying no complaints had been received from that area on that day or from the hundreds of houses between the landfill and Eastern Road.

L Banks asked where the next landfill cell would be constructed. M Asnicar used the aerial photo to show where cell 2E would be constructed (to the immediate east of 2D).

3.1.2 Odour Complaints

There have been 25 odour complaints received so far during the 2014/15 year to date. This compares to 55 for the same period in 2013/14.

There were 11 complaints received during the three-month period of December 2014 to February 2015. This compared to 20 for the same three-month period in 2014/15. Details were as follows:

December 2014

There were no odour complaints received regarding the landfill during December 2014.

January 2015

There were three odour complaints received regarding the landfill during January 2015:

- 14/01/15 - 8.00am - St James Circuit - The resident explained that she experienced a bad odour the previous night and asked for the demisters to be turned on for the following night. Grounds staff confirmed that the demisters were turned off at 8pm the previous night. They were asked to continue operating mobile demisters throughout the night to minimise odour. The possible cause of the odour was that recently waste was being temporarily dumped back in the old cell neighbouring residents (2F) due to bad weather conditions. From 11:30am on 14/01/15, wastes were again being dumped in the new cell (2D) and it is expected that odour impacts will be minimised.
- 14/01/15 - 12.30pm - Volstead Road - A WSB officer drove around the area (not till a little later that afternoon). Conditions were very hot and humid and rain had only recently ceased. The wind was still with only the very occasional breeze from N/NE. The only smell detected (rated 1 to occasional 2) was a damp, musky earthy type vegetation smell that seemed to be more associated with local vegetation. No waste or offensive odours were detected. See above complaint regarding movement of tip face and activation of odour system. The resident also subsequently complained to the Department of Environment and Heritage (DEHP). They contacted the WS Branch on 15/01/15.
- Date unknown but thought to be 14/01/15 - St James Cct - Complaint was made to a WS officer on holiday who relayed it to staff on duty.

February 2015

There were 8 odour complaints received regarding the landfill during February 2015. Details were as follows:

- 17/02/14 - 9.05am - Berkley Drive - The resident was advised of the new landfill cell location and that a mobile demister system is in use to minimise the odours generated especially when the wind is blowing towards the residential area. A WS Branch officer inspected the area at around 11:15am and described the odour to be a level 1 (slight scent). The demister system was operated for the rest of the day. At the time of the complaint the wind was from the ESE at 9km/hr.
- 17/02/14 - 10:40am - Trebeck Street - See above complaint of 17/02/15 for detail.
- 24/02/14 - 10:00am - Kensington Street - Resident called in to complain about the landfill odour. A WS officer explained that some technical difficulties were being experienced with the site odour control system. 100 metres extra of the demister line were back in operation as of that same morning. The rest of the

system, however was due for maintenance and it was uncertain when it would be operational. At the time of the complaint wind was from ESE at 12 km/hr.

- 24/02/14 - 10:00am - Mayfair Drive - See above complaint of 24/02/15 for detail.
- 24/02/14 - 10:45am - Trebeck St - See above complaint of 24/02/15 for detail.
- 24/02/14 - 3:00pm - Curzon Street - See above complaint of 24/02/15 for detail. The resident also showed some interest in participating in the Community Consultative group. She was informed that she would receive an invitation to join the group. At the time of the complaint wind was from the east at 17km/hr.
- 24/02/14 - 3:40pm - Yancey Street - See above complaint of 24/02/15 for details.
- 27/02/14 - 3:00pm - Volstead Road - A WS Officer explained that a section of the odour control system demister line is not operational and it is uncertain when this will be up and running. At the time of the complaint the wind was from the ESE at 5km/hr.

3.2 Environmental Performance

The results of environmental monitoring conducted in November 2015 were received in December 2015. They contained an instance of particulates (dust) being in exceedance of the licence limit of 130 mg/m²/day. The reading in question was 168 mg/m²/day. The exceedance was reported to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

R Oakley advised that there are eight dust monitoring stations around the perimeter of the landfill site and the November exceedance was again at the station near the weighbridge, which is a high-traffic area for trucks including the truck servicing the transfer station. J A Lee asked if the road taken by the transfer station truck was sealed. R Oakley replied that it was not, but that it was in good condition for an unsealed road.

J A Lee asked if there was a dust monitoring station near her home because dust levels had been bad late last year. R Oakley then indicated the location of the station nearest to her home on the aerial photo and confirmed that there had been no exceedances at that station.

3.3 Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)

Following a significant rain event on 23 January 2015 site sediment ponds 2E and 2G reached capacity and began to overflow. DEHP were informed of the release. Environmental monitoring samples of the site sediment ponds had been taken prior to the release and were taken again after the release. Water quality analysis of the samples from the ponds identified that suspended solids limits may have potentially been exceeded however, consideration must also be given to the stormwater dilution effect that would have been present in the drainage pathway and channels during the rain event.

The site experienced a significant rainfall event between 20 and 22 February (Tropical Cyclone Marcia-related) with over 235 mm of rain received in less than 72 hours. This resulted in significant flooding within the new cell. Under extremely wet conditions site operators performed very well and ensured the site remained open for waste receipt. With the base of the new cell flooded out and a significant depth of standing water present waste tipping operations and vehicle movements were restricted to the upper platform only within the new cell.

Despite continued pumping to remove standing water the cell base remained flooded and even when the standing water had been removed ground conditions were still unsuitable for vehicle access. Consequently, burial of putrescible and odorous waste was diverted to cell 2F, this potentially resulted in odour complaints. Recovery from the rain event was satisfactorily completed by 5 March and tipping operations were back to normal.

3.4 Ibis Update

3.4.1 Ibis Numbers

Numbers of ibis recorded at the site have been as follows:

2014	Daily Count
June	1569
July <i>First month operation of new contractor. New method of conducting counts: 64,025 sightings over 31 days = 2,065/day</i>	2065
August <i>17,583 sightings over 29 days</i>	606
September <i>25,780 sightings over 21 days</i>	1228
October <i>27,140 sightings over 31 days</i>	875
November <i>21,515 sightings over 30 days</i>	717
December	356
2015	
January	379
February	266

The most recent report from the ibis control contractor is summarised below:

- An average of 266 White Ibis were present on site prior to harassment activities in February;
- The new cell is allowing for a spread in Ibis across the site;
- A quad bike has been intermittently utilised as a dispersal tactic to assess effectiveness.
- No nests were identified within the site extent;
- Highly active nesting continues at identified areas off Bayliss Road;

J A Lee advised she hadn't recently been hearing the activities of the ibis control contractor. R Oakley advised this was probably because the contractor only

operates where the birds are and recently this has been in cell 2D which is further away from residents.

R Oakley asked what numbers of ibis was J A Lee seeing near her home and she replied that there weren't many. She had noticed gathering on Browns Plains Road near the Berrinba Wetlands. M Asnicar advised that Council may be getting the ibis control contractor to do some work in this area in the near future.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

R Oakley advised that a new fire ant nest had recently been found near the Browns Plains Rugby Union clubhouse at the front of the site. It has been reported to Biosecurity Queensland who have advised they will be treating it in the near future.

3.6 Bayliss Road Entry to Landfill

M Asnicar advised that:

- He is in the process of developing documentation to call for tenders to construct the new entry; and
- The initiative has been somewhat delayed as a decision has been made to extend the Logan Recycling Market car park and it is now logical to both jobs at the same time.

3.7 Invitations to Odour Complainants

At the Group's September 2009 meeting it was recommended that Council direction be sought on the proposal to send landfill odour complainants an invitation to join the Group. The matter was considered by Council at its meeting of 27 October 2009 when it resolved that written invitations to join the Group be sent to residents who make odour complaints about the landfill.

Further, at the Group's meeting of 25 June 2013 it was agreed that Council should ensure that invitations to join the Group are reissued to complainants who had been previously invited over six months previously. (It had previously been Council's practice to not send multiple invitations to residents making multiple complaints.)

There were 11 complaints made during the December 2014 to February 2015 period and:

- Six invitations to join the Group were issued
- In one case an invitation to join the Group had been issued in the last six months
- In one case the same person complained twice during the period.
- The remainder were from members of the group

3.8 Log Cabin House

At the last meeting of the Group an action was placed on B Lee to make enquiries with Council's Property Section about the future of the "log cabin" house. He reported that he did so and was advised that it is to be demolished.

L Banks advised that the yard of the log cabin house is now very overgrown and requires mowing.

ACTION: ***B Lee to contact the relevant Council department and request that the yard be mowed.***

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was not general business.

5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.45pm. The next meeting will be held in June 2015. The date will be conveyed in due course.

L Banks and J A Lee requested that the meeting be held prior to 16 June 2015 if at all possible.

ACTION: *B Lee to schedule the June 2015 meeting prior to the 16th.*