

MINUTES

BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING OF 13/12/16

ATTENDEES: B Lee (Waste Services Branch - WSB)
JA Lee (Community Representative)
J Ooms (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 1:00pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from M Asnicar (Manager WSB), R Oakley (WSB), L Boyd (Community Representative) and Councillor Dalley

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

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

JA Lee confirmed that the distributed minutes of the previous meeting (on 13 September 2016) were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

There have been 17 confirmed (from a total of 18) complaints in the last 12 months compared to 27 for the previous 12 month period.

There were 10 odour complaints received during the three-month period of September to November 2016. This compared to five for the same three-month period the previous year. Details of the 10 recent complaints were as follows:

September 2016:

- 02/09/16 - 3.45pm - Hass Place - A WS officer went to the property and noted a landfill odour. Odour demisters were already on.
- 08/09/2016 - 1:15pm - St James Circuit - A WS officer confirmed the landfill odour after driving to the property. The demister system had been on since 11:30 am as a proactive measure by ground staff. The resident advised that the smell had in recent days been strong around 3-7 pm in general. The WS officer arranged for the demisters to be left on during that.

October 2016:

- 19/10/16 - 4.35pm - Berkley Drive - A WS officer attended the property and noted a strong odour. Odour control demisters had already been activated. The resident was requested to make further contact if the odour persisted beyond that day.
- 28/10/16 - 2.20pm - Tarrango Place - A WS officer went to the tipface and detected a strong odour. He then proceeded to the resident's property and didn't detect any odour. He then called the resident who agreed that the odours had ceased. The demisters were activated as a preventative measure.
- 28/10/16 - 2.41pm - Lamberth Road East - A WS officer returned the call and asked the resident if the odour could still be sensed as staff were in the nearby area 10 minutes previously to investigate another odour complaint and no smell had been detected. (Although a significant odour had been identified at the tipface whilst wind blowing towards residential area). The resident confirmed the odour was still present. The resident was assured that demisters (both static and mobile) had been activated and would continue to run rest of the day till late evening.
- 28/10/16 - 3.26pm - Saint James Circuit - As above.

November 2016:

- 07/11/16 - 2.58pm - Lamberth Road East - A check was immediately made with staff at the tip face who advised there were no significant odours. An officer then visited the resident's address. No odour was immediately detectable but a light odour was noted prior to leaving. An explanation of odour control measures in place at the site was given along with an invitation to advise WS of persistent odours.
- 09/11/16 - 10.55am - Trebeck Street - Soon after receipt of complaint a WS officer attended the tip face and stood between it and the relevant property. No significant odour was noted, and the wind was noted as blowing away from the property. The officer then attended the property and did not detect odour while stationed there for ten minutes. The officer then phoned the resident (suffering from flu) who agreed the odour was not present - but had mostly been present since 6am. An explanation of odour control measures in place at the site was given along with an invitation to advise WS of persistent odours.
- 10/11/16 - 4.05pm - Lamberth Road East - A WS officer visited the area of the resident's home and no odour could be detected. This was reported back to Waste Operations Program Leader (WOPL) who had been informed by a tip face operator that a very odourous load was tipped around the same time that may have caused an odour issue. WOPL rang the resident at 4:53pm but was only able to leave a message. Another call was made following day and the resident was advised that the complaint has been logged.
- 29/11/16 - 4.30pm - Lamberth Road East - The complaint was received by email so a WS officer called the resident who said the odour commenced around 2.30pm. The officer then visited the area of the resident and no odour was detected. The officer reported findings back to WOPL.

B Lee reported that, as previously advised by R Oakley, tipping operations in stage 2D were as far away from residences to the south as they could be, and would remain so over the hotter summer months.

JA Lee advised that odour had been detected in Tarrango Place a few times in the last month, but not at a level bad enough to call Council.

J Ooms advised he was only recently home from being overseas and had not noted any landfill odour.

3.2 Environmental Performance

B Lee advised that the results of environmental monitoring of the landfill site that was conducted in August 2016 were received in October 2016. There were no exceedances of landfill licence limits.

3.3 Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)

B Lee reported that there was no contact with DEHP officers relating to landfill operation during the period of September to November 2016.

3.4 Ibis Update

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

Average number recorded by contractor before dispersal	Total
2016	
February	947
March	1643
April	1100
May	1339
June	1172
July	1158
August	855
September	767
October	791
November	788

There were no ibis complaints received regarding ibis during the September to November 2016 period.

The ibis control contractor's report for November is summarised below:

- Average initial counts were 788 prior to harassment activities, slightly less than the previous month.
- Average final counts of Ibis were 337 after harassment activities, a significant reduction from the previous month;
- On average, Ibis numbers were reduced by 451 during the harassment period (compared to the average of 323 in October);
- The site was generally muddied from rain, which limited Nature call (service provider) access to certain areas.
- Off-site egg and nest removal to continue as the breeding season continues.

B Lee commented that declining ibis numbers could be a result of the ongoing egg and nest removal.

J Ooms commented that ibis numbers have also been low in the trees on the corner of Browns Plains and Bayliss Roads.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

B Lee reported that on 15 November 2016 suspicious ants at the Recycling Market loading bay identified by WS staff were confirmed by Biosecurity Queensland (BQ) as being fire ants. BQ subsequently attended the site and treated the nest.

3.6 Bayliss Road Entry to Landfill

The roadworks are substantially complete. There has been a delay, however, with the installation of the overhead gantry directional signage. Given the potential for traffic confusion, and the lack of an imperative to open earlier, it has been decided to delay opening the road until February 2017 when the signage will be installed.

3.7 Invitations to Odour Complainants

At the Group's September 2009 meeting it was recommended that Council direction be sought on a 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.)

B Lee reported that of the 10 complaints made during the September to November 2016 period:

- Invitations to join the Group were extended to three complainants
- Five were from existing Group members
- One was from a resident who had been previously invited
- One was from a resident who was notifying us of an odour and did not want to leave contact details

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Greenwaste Management

J Ooms asked if Council's greenwaste was still going to FPC30's co-generation plant at Woongoolba. B Lee confirmed that it was.

4.2 Waste Fair

B Lee advised that the annual Waste Fair held at the landfill site on Saturday 12 November 2016 was one of the most successful in recent years. Visitor numbers were up, and site tours were very popular.

4.3 Health Environment and Waste Branch

B Lee advised the Community Representatives that Council was undergoing a restructure that involved the Waste Services Branch. From 19 December 2016 the Waste Services will be combining with the Environment & Sustainability Branch to become the Health Environment & Waste (HEW) Branch

5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.30pm. Invitations and agendas for the next meeting in March 2017 will be issued in due course.