

MINUTES

BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING OF

13 December 2011

ATTENDEES:

C Dalley (LCC Councillor)
M Asnicar (Manager Logan Waste Services)
K Venkatraman (Waste Services Branch)
E Singh (Waste Services Branch)
L Boyd (Community Representative)
P Cohan (Community Representative)
J A Lee (Community Representative)
S Willmet (Community Representative)
L Miller (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 2.30pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor L Bradley and Lynda Banks (Community Representative).

N Martin (Community Representative), D Moore (Community Representative), S weber (Community Representative) and K McDonald (Community Representative) did not attend.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 27 September 2011 were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

3.1.1 Odour Survey

The meeting reviewed odour survey data for the three-month period of August to October 2011.

The average number of odour incidents recorded by survey participants was 2.97 incidents/participant/month compared to 0.47 during the same period last year.

The duration of odour incidents recorded by survey participants was 1.60% of the month compared to 1.78% for the same period last year.

3.1.2 Odour Complaints

M Asnicar advised that there were eight complaints received during the three-month period of August to October 2011. This compared to zero for the same period last year. Details were as follows:

- 17/08/11 - 2.01pm - address not supplied - Landfill odour at night - The resident interviewed and explained she'd been experiencing odour for the last two days. A Waste Services officer explained that the likely reason was stripping of cover (to ensure that waste is tipped on waste). The resident was also invited to call directly if the problem persisted.
- 20/09/11 at 10.30am - Tarrango PI - Landfill odour - The odour problem arose as a result of cover stripping. The odour control system was activated. Follow-up with the resident later in the day revealed the odour had eased.
- 23/09/11 at 4.30pm - Address not recorded - Landfill odour - The odour control system was activated at 4.45pm that day. An attempt to contact the resident was made at 9.45am on 26/09/11 (the next working day) and a message with contact details was left.
- 28/09/11 at 10.30am - Volstead Rd - Landfill odour - The odour problem possibly arose as a result of cover stripping. The odour control system was activated and the resident was contacted and asked to advise if the problem persisted.
- 29/09/11 at 6.00pm - Junee Ct - Landfill odour - The odour control system was not able to be activated due to the time. The resident was contacted on 30/09/11 and asked to advise if the problem persisted.
- 24/10/11 at 3.30pm - Junee Court - Landfill odour - The odour problem arose as a result of the tip face (where waste is deposited) being as close as it can get to the site boundary. As it was going to be a week before the tip face moved to another part of the cell, operations staff were asked to take care and the odour control system was used to the greatest extent possible.
- 25/10/11 at 1.00pm - Ross - Tarrango Place - Landfill odour - The odour problem arose as a result of the tip face (where waste is deposited) being as close as it can get to the site boundary. As it was going to be a week before the tip face moved to another part of the cell, operations staff were asked to take care and the odour control system was used to the greatest extent possible.
- 25/10/11 at 1.00pm - Laughton - Junee Court - Landfill odour - The odour problem arose as a result of the tip face (where waste is deposited) being as close as it can get to the site boundary. As it was going to be a week before the tip face moved to another part of the cell, operations staff were asked to take care and the odour control system was used to the greatest extent possible.

Community group members reported that there were foul smells periodically coming from the landfill (prior to the relocation of the tip face) during the evening period. K Venkatraman advised that in recent weeks the tip face was relocated from cell 2F to cell 2H (further away from the boundary), and that residents should have very

minimal odour if any. Members noted that since the relocation of the tip face the odour has improved to a bearable limit.

The Waste Services Branch advised that the tip face is covered on a daily basis and that the odour is possibly caused by a change in weather conditions from wet to dry. The recent heavy rainfalls is possibly stripping away the daily cover and exposing older decomposed material which would give off the foul smell once weather conditions became dry. The Waste Services Branch reinforced that they are looking into extending operation of the odour control system during the night and that residents should continue to contact the after-hours number if they have any odour issues.

3.1.3 Extended Operation of Odour Control System

K Venkatraman reported that he has consulted with electricians about the possibility of modifying the odour control system to allow for extended operation. The electrician has advised that a 24 hour system with an on-off switch is possible. The system will be connected to a solar panel which will trigger the diesel pump.

3.1.4 Reverse Alarms on Tip Face Plant

K Venkatraman reported that Council's Plant Fleet Services Branch were consulted and subsequently advised that that the volume of the reverse alarms cannot be adjusted for Workplace Health and Safety reasons.

3.1.5 Advertisement for Residents to Join Group

The advertisement was prepared and it appeared in the Albert and Logan News on 23/11/11.

3.1.6 Group Request for Landfill to be Closed or Moved

At the last meeting of the Group in September 2011 the Community Representatives advised that they wished to make a formal request of Council to either:

- Close the landfill and move it to a less densely populated area in the former Beaudesert Shire Council; or
- Review the order in which landfill cells are being constructed, to reduce the odour impacts on residents.

The minutes of the September 2011 meeting were reported to Council on 25 October 2011. The above matters were highlighted as requested, but Council made no specific resolution on the matter.

A review of landfill cell sequencing has, however, been undertaken.

3.1.7 No Answer at Weighbridge on a Weekend

Group members reported that on several occasions that they contacted the weighbridge to make an odour complaint on the weekends, but had difficulty getting through because telephones were not being answered. Some member reported that they did not know which number to call for after hours odour complaints and would like some consistency in this information.

The Waste Services Branch advised that they will look into getting a streamlined number for residents to contact, however in the mean time residents should continue to contact the Environmental Officer during business hours on 3412 4573 and Council's after-hours call centre on 3412 3412.

Action: The Waste Services Branch to establish a stream-line afterhours contact point for odour complaints.

3.2 Environmental Performance

Apart from odour and ibis complaints (reported elsewhere in these minutes), there were no other significant environmental complaints or incidents recorded at the Browns Plains Landfill during the period of August to October 2011.

3.3 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DERM)

The only contact with DERM officers during the period of August to October 2011 was in relation to an odour complaint about the landfill received by them.

3.4 Ibis Update

There were no complaints received regarding ibis during the period of August to October 2011.

Numbers of ibis recorded at the site were as follows:

| 2011 | Tip Face | Tip Face Surrounds | Trees | Dam and Other Places | Total |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| May - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 125 |
| June - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 145 |
| July - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 401 |
| August - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 208 |
| September - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 253 |
| October - average of daily count recorded by contractor (Nature Call) after dispersal | | | | | 322 |

The ibis control program commenced on the site in early-July 2010.

Community representatives advised that there seemed to be less firing of the air cannon, however it still "gave a fright" when it did go off.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

A new fire ant nest was discovered at the Logan Recycling Market on 15 April 2011. The matter was reported to Biosecurity Queensland who have investigated. As at the end of October 2011 no further advice had been received from BQ, and possible implications for the ongoing off-site movement of greenwaste are unknown.

3.6 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.

There were eight complaints made during the August to October 2011 period. No invitations were issued because:

- Three residents had been invited previously.
- Four residents were already members of the Group.
- In one case the address of the resident was not recorded.

3.7 Councillor Attendance

At the last meeting the Group expressed disappointment at Councillors missing recent meetings. The matter was brought to the attention of Councillors when the minutes of the Group's meeting were referred to Council on 25 October 2011.

The Group noted that there was again that there was insufficient Councillor representation at the meeting and again requested that their disappointment be reported.

Action: The Waste Services Branch to again advise Councillors of the disappointment of the Group on attendance at meetings.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business

5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 2.45pm. The next meeting of the Group will be in March 2012. A date and time will be advised in due course.