

MINUTES

BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING OF 1 JULY 2020

ATTENDEES: B Lee (Health Environment & Waste Branch - HEW)
R Oakley (HEW)
J Ooms (Community Representative)
W Cox (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from L Boyd (Community Representative), Cr Heremaia, Cr Raven and M Asnicar (Manager HEW).

B Chambers, A Priday, S Baker, G Burns, J A Lee, L Miller, D Moore, P Cohen, G Williams, H Priday, L Ross, L and M Blunt, S Gaunt and Mr Jonsen, (all Community Representatives) did not attend.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was agreed that the distributed minutes of the previous meeting (on 25 March 2020) were an accurate record.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

B Lee reported there have been 55 confirmed complaints in the last 12 months to May 2020 compared to 96 for the previous 12 month period.

There were eight odour complaints received during the three-month period of March to May 2020. This compared to seven for the same three-month period the previous year. Details of the eight recent complaints were as follows:

March 2020

There were two odour complaints:

- 11/03/20 – 2.47pm – Berkley Dr Browns Plains – An officer attended the tip face where activities were as normal with a slight intermittent breeze blowing from the SE/E direction. A waste odour was detected local to the tip face, with odours less but detectable at approximately 75 m away. The odour control system was not on and was not activated, as it would have offered little benefit given location and wind direction and strength of odour. The officer proceeded to the resident's address where no odour was detected at it or surrounding streets. The breeze was definitely coming from the direction of the landfill so the pathway for odour did exist.

- 25/03/20 – 2.40pm – Berkley Dr Browns Plains – The odour control system was activated upon receipt of the call. The officer was not able attend the resident's area until 4.30pm when he walked a public area between the landfill and the house in question. He was not able to detect an odour at that time. The officer then called the resident but was unable to contact her. He eventually spoke to the resident at 8.50am on 26/03/20 when he explained odour generation and management on the site. Direct contact details were also left for future reference.

April 2020:

There were two odour complaints:

- 27/04/20 – 4.13pm – Bottlebrush Drive Regents Park – There was a prevailing breeze towards the resident's premises. Odours were not detected during a walk along Waller Road between the landfill and the resident's house Nevertheless the odour control system was activated.
- 29/04/20 – 12.45pm – Bottlebrush Drive Regents Park – There was a prevailing breeze towards the resident's premises. Odours were not detected during a walk along Waller Road between the landfill and the resident's house Nevertheless the odour control system was activated.

May 2020:

There were four odour complaints:

- 07/05/20 – 4.48pm – St James Cct Heritage Park – The resident was called by an officer and advised that that the odour has been noticeable over the past few months and especially pungent today. The officer advised the location of current landfilling operations and the precautions taken to minimise odour. Following the conversation, the officer inspected the tip face and confirmed that the odour neutralising spray was active and also walked the pathway behind the residence property (5.10pm) but could not detect an odour. The residence is approximately 265 metres from the active tip face.
- 08/05/20 – 2.50pm - St James Cct Heritage Park – An officer called the resident back at 3.00pm and the following was discussed.
 - The customer advised that the odour especially pungent today.
 - The officer advised where the current landfilling operations are being completed and the precautions taken to minimise the likelihood of odour.
 - The officer confirmed that the landfilling operations will continue in this area till the construction of the Cell 2E and Council has elected to completed it in the winter months to minimise odour risk. When the construction of Cell 2E is complete, the kerbside waste will be diverted from Cell 2C.
 - The customer advised satisfaction with the information provided.

Following the conversation, the officer inspected the tip face and confirmed that the odour control system was active and also walked the pathway near the residence property (3.20pm) and could detect a faint odour. The residence is approximately 425 metres from the active tip face.

- 28/05/20 – 4.30pm – St James Cct Heritage Park – An officer called the complainant and the following was discussed.
 - The resident advised that she was aware of the controls that Council implements to control the odours.

- The officer advised the change in wind direction from west / north-westerly to northerly was likely the cause of the odour.
- The officer advised that he would turn on the odour control system and the resident was satisfied with the action.

When the odour control system was activated it was evident that the odour was being caused by the direction of the wind and the position of the tip face. The residence in question is approximately 200 metres from the active tip face.

- 28/05/20 – late afternoon – odour complaint received through the weighbridge but insufficient details provided to follow up.

J Ooms advised he had not experienced any odour recently.

W Cox advised she'd noticed a bad odour around 4.00pm on 29 (or 30) June 2020.

R Oakley referred to the site layout plan - see attachment 1. He advised that, as it's the cooler time of the year, some filling closer to residents is being conducted. Tipping is currently at the western end of the 2A/2B border. He also showed the location of the cell 2E that is currently under construction, and being developed in two stages so as to maintain vehicle access to cell 2D.

R Oakley then showed some photos taken that day of the landfill engineered liner currently being installed as part of the construction process in future cell 2E. Oakley described the landfill construction as being at the stage of installing a geosynthetic liner (comprising highly impermeable bentonite sandwiched between two woven materials) on top of a placed and worked layer of clay, that is also an impermeable barrier. A protective geofabric and stone drainage layer to collect leachate will be installed in the near future.

The scheduling of its construction should allow tipping operations to commence in an area of cell 2E that will be an increased buffer distance away from residents. Weather permitting the tipping of putrescible waste (domestic red bin waste) will commence in August 2020.

R Oakley then made an offer for Community Representatives to visit and inspect the construction in the near future.

Action: R Oakley to arrange a landfill construction visit for Community Representatives.

3.2 Environmental Performance

B Lee advised that the results of monitoring conducted at the Browns Plains Landfill in March 2020 were received in May 2020. The results did not indicate exceedances of any landfill licence conditions.

3.3 Department of Environment and Science (DES)

R Oakley advised that the only contact with DES during the March to May 2020 period was submission of future stormwater management arrangements for review. Acknowledgement of the proposal was received.

W Cox if the stormwater storage could "fail". R Oakley advised this wasn't really possible as it will be a ground level and will have a spill point.

W Cox asked if it would be there permanently and if so would be fenced. R Oakley confirmed that if constructed it would be permanent and would have all the necessary safety measures and precaution in place.

W Cox asked if the stormwater storage could cause a problem with ibis. R Oakley advised that it will be more of an artificial storage area than natural water storage so it may not be that attractive to ibis, however, he wasn't sure. It was reported that ibis don't appear to congregate around the existing dam on the site.

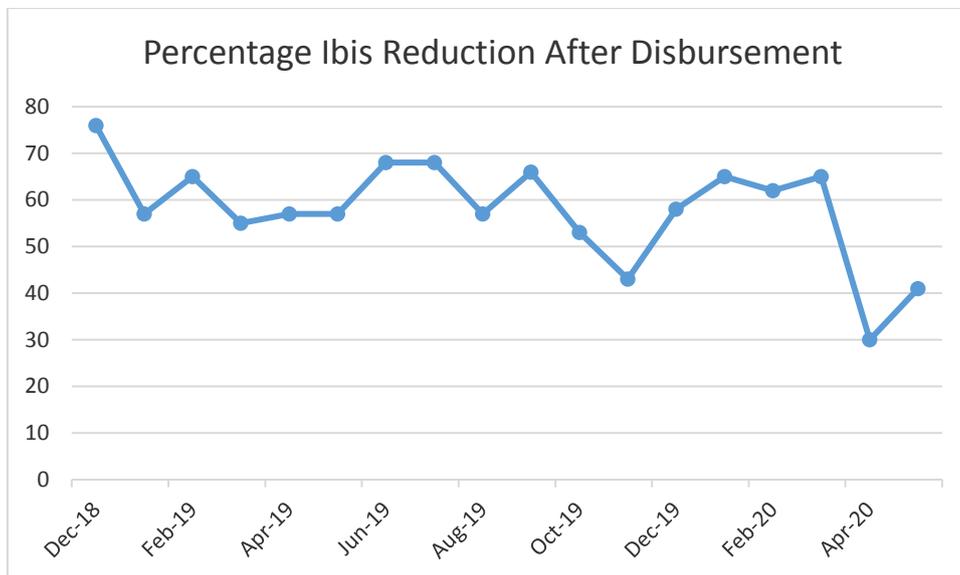
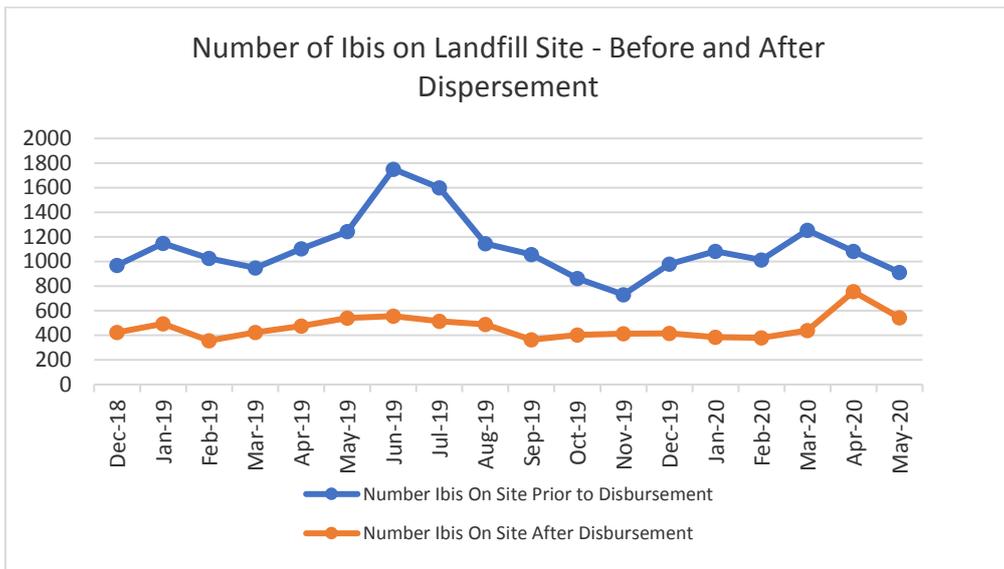
3.4 Ibis Update

The most recent (May 2020) report from the wildlife management contractor stated that:

- Average initial ibis counts in May 2020 prior to harassment activities were 912 compared to 1,083 in April.
- Average final counts of ibis were 542 after harassment activities.
- On average, ibis numbers were reduced by 41% per day during the harassment period. This compares to the average reductions of the previous three months which were 30%, 65% and 62%.
- The main dispersal methods used included quad bike and noodle.

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

	Number Ibis On Site Prior to Disbursement	Number Ibis On Site After Disbursement	Percentage Ibis Reduction After Disbursement
Jan-19	1149	494	57
Feb-19	1025	357	65
Mar-19	947	424	55
Apr-19	1103	477	57
May-19	1245	541	57
Jun-19	1751	557	68
Jul-19	1598	514	68
Aug-19	1146	489	57
Sep-19	1058	365	66
Oct-19	863	404	53
Nov-19	731	414	43
Dec-19	980	415	58
Jan-20	1083	385	65
Feb-20	1012	380	62
Mar-20	1255	440	65
Apr-20	1083	755	30
May-20	912	542	41



There were no ibis complaints received regarding ibis during the March to May 2020 period.

W Cox advised she had noticed ibis noise more than usual over the last few weeks. B Lee advised that ibis number were relatively steady. R Oakley advised that the ibis dispersal campaign by the wildlife management contractor has continued.

3.5 Fire Ant Update

No new fire ant nests were discovered at the site over the March to May 2020 period.

3.6 Invitations to Odour Complainants

It is Council's practice to invite any resident who makes a complaint about landfill odour to join the Community Consultative Group, and re-issue such invitations where a previous invitation has not been issued in the preceding six months.

Of the eight complaints made during the March to May 2020 period:

- No invitations were issued
- 4 were from residents who had been previously invited.
- 3 were from existing Group members
- In 1 case the resident's address was not recorded.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 6.45pm. Invitations and agendas for the next meeting in September 2020 will be issued in due course.

ATTACHMENT 1

