



Subject: United Mines Liaison Group

Date: 06/12/07
Location: United Mines

Author: Katharine Alexander

Present:	Name	Representing
	Sue Wolstenholme (Chair)	Ashley PR/SITA
	Louis de Poncheville	SITA – General Manager Cornwall
	Stuart Higgins	SITA – Treatment and Project Manager
	Katharine Alexander	SITA – Deputy Landfill Site Manager
	Mark Hitchens	Carrick District Council – Environmental Health Department
	Lynn Carter	Carrick District Council – Environmental Health Department
	Cllr Lisa Dolley	Redruth Town Council
	Cllr Graeme Hicks	Cornwall County Council
	Cllr Mark Kaczmarek	Cornwall County Council
	Des Teale	Cornwall County Council - WDA
	John Wharton	Gwennap Parish Council
	Richard Carter	Carharrack Parish Council
	Carl Martin	Carharrack Parish Council
	Lesley Row	Environment Agency
	Chris James	Environment Agency

Next Meeting: United Mines Landfill Site 07.02.08 6.30pm

Topic	Item
<p>Introduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Louis de Poncheville suggested that Sue Wolstenholme be the Chair for the meeting. ▪ Sue suggested we try to establish a routine for Liaison Meetings, try to understand what the interests are from the local residents and establish a relationship with the local Parishes. SITA feel that it is important that the liaison group is taken seriously and that the attendees feel that SITA are open to all questions. ▪ Minutes/record of meeting to be taken by Katharine Alexander and distributed through Sue Wolstenholme. ▪ Cllr Kaczmarek said that they had three monthly meetings with CES but apart from the initial meeting before SITA took over United Mines Landfill Site they had had no further communication since then. ▪ Carl Martin raised concerns that they were not informed of the extension to the Planning back in 1998 and requested that they be told the truth.
<p>The PFI Contract</p>	<p>Louis de Poncheville outlined the challenges of the PFI Contract in Cornwall:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the amount of waste recycled in Cornwall from 30% by refurbishing the recycling centres and open new sites. £15M will be invested into the MRFs (Materials Recycling Facility) at Bodmin and Pool and the recycling centre. • Currently 400,000T of waste in Cornwall is sent to landfill. Residual waste sent to landfill needs to be reduced with recycling and an alternative such as an EfW (Energy from Waste) Plant sought for the future. • United Mines Landfill Site's Planning Permission for landfilling runs out on 31st October 2010. Louis confirmed that SITA has no plan to change this. • Connon Bridge Landfill Site (Liskeard) has permission for landfilling until 2014. • To use the void space we have at United Mines Landfill Site, a Transfer Station has been built at Connon Bridge and all waste currently being tipped at Connon will be brought to United Mines. Similarly when United Mines closes, all waste will be taken via a new Transfer Station in this area to Connon Bridge Landfill Site until an alternative solution is found. <p>Richard Carter asked what is the long term view ie after 2014, what will happen to the waste?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louis responded that the long term plan is to increase recycling and reduce the waste in Cornwall and to progress the EfW Plant so that by 2011/2012 we deal with the majority of our waste through recycling and the EfW plant for what is left over, with the residual waste from the EfW Plant going to Connon Bridge Landfill Site. • Des Teale said that the Government were committed to reducing Global Warming through the reduction in landfilling of waste, leading to initiatives such as Landfill Tax chages and Landfill Allowance Trading/fines

	<p>being introduced. In Cornwall County Council's 1995 Waste Plan their objectives were to dispose of waste via an EfW Plant and by increasing recycling. Therefore they have let the 30 year Contract to SITA with the two main targets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richard Carter wanted to make the point on the behalf of the residents that they were concerned that CRAG had estimated that £10,000 will be taken off the value of their properties due to the landfill site. <p>Sue Wolstenholme stated that this was the beginning of the resident's relationship with SITA and we need to move forward from the past events with Cornwall County Council.</p>
<p>25 Year Management Plan</p>	<p>Stuart Higgins explained the 25 Year Management Plan that had been queried by members of the Parish Councils previously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landfill is progressively capped and restoration materials placed over the cap, we have capped 6,000m² this year, with a further 12,000 m² programmed to be capped next year. There is a requirement to manage the landfill site post closure including the management of leachate, gas and the restoration ie grass, hedges. In response to Carl Martin's question if there was still going to be a picnic site. Des Teale answered that in the restoration plan there was included a car park and picnic tables. Mark Kaczmarek asked about heathland. Stuart confirmed that there is a seed mix specified in the restoration plan that is a heathland mix. More information on the restoration of the site would be available at the Open Day and the views and ideas from the local residents would be welcome.
<p>Odour</p>	<p>Mark Kaczmarek stated that on a cold day you can smell the site and from as far away as Lanner. With the rapid filling of United there will be more waste in a short space of time and it will smell more. It's no good covering the smell with cherry and apple.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stuart Higgins said that the odour suppression system was the last form of defence. Progressive capping and extraction of the gas was the answer. We have recently had a further 40 gas extraction wells installed that are currently being connected to the extraction system. We are also replacing a number of the existing carrier mains on site. All of which have been agreed with the Environment Agency. <p>Mark asked that with the waste rotting for 50 – 100 years could SITA not provide free heating for Carharrack and Crofthandy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stuart said that we produce around 4.5MW/Hour of electricity which is sold to the National Grid, but with the size of the plant and proximity of the village to the landfill we have here we would not create enough heat to be



	<p>used in this way. Chris James also confirmed that while there were schemes in other countries the houses surrounding any facility had all been 'purpose built'.</p> <p>Questions were asked of the Environmental Health Representatives and the Environment Agency (EA) what happened to the complaints they receive. Comments made about staff on site becoming immune to odours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesley Row stated that the EA inspect the site once a month and if they receive reports of odours they attend site more often. • Richard Carter stated that they have received dozens of complaints from parishioners and that they have published local and Head Office telephone numbers in their local magazine. • Chris James said that whenever possible they will investigate the same day on receipt of a complaint. Complaints made via alternative sources can arrive days after the event. If residents contact the local EA telephone number as soon as possible they can respond and investigate the same day. Chris stated that all inspections carried out on site are unannounced. • Stuart Higgins agreed that SITA need to know the same day to be able to investigate. • Chris went on to inform the group that the EA log all reports/incidents on a formal system which they are measured against. • Stuart confirmed that similarly all complaints received at the Helpdesk number are logged and escalated if not responded to. • The SITA Cornwall website will be available very soon where residents will also be able to log complaints. SITA re-iterated that if the complaints come in straight away the site staff can investigate them immediately. However in order to investigate fully we do need precise details such as when and where etc. • Richard Carter said that there was a feeling of mistrust with SITA from the local residents as they had not been invited to meetings to date.
<p>Fly Tipping</p>	<p>Mark Kaczmarek – In high winds when people can't use the HWRC site because it's closed they use the local laybys to dump their rubbish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Des Teale said that it then becomes the local District Council's responsibility. • Louis de Poncheville confirmed that SITA has responsibility for any fly tipped waste with 5m of the boundary of all of sites. • Graeme Hicks commented that a large amount of litter comes from people going to the HWRC Site without strapping their waste down properly. • Lyn Carter said that their Department cannot be held responsible for all the fly tipping but was happy that any complaints received are acted upon in a timely manner. • John Wharton said that he contacts the District Council regarding any fly tipping and also calls Team Clean

	<p>who respond well to any reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Dolley commented that people are often not sure who to complain to. • Sue Wolstenholme suggested that the issue of fly tipping should be raised at the Waste Officers Meeting, with the profile being raised of how and who to contact regarding fly tipping.
Speed of Vehicles/Road Conditions	<p>John Wharton raised concerns over health and safety from the increased traffic through Scorrier/Croftthandy with waste coming from Connon Bridge, in particular the speed of the vehicles using the local roads. Gwennap Parish Council are requesting the police to patrol more regularly. Weight of the vehicles (artics) being another worry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Des Teale said that he would contact the Local District Council's regarding the speed of their Contractor's dustcarts. • John said that work was carried out on the roads recently with the white lines being repainted, but not the SLOW sign opposite the Hall. Des said he would contact the surveyor regarding the re-painting of the sign. • Des explained that with the plan to divert the waste from Connon Bridge there have been improvements made to the local roads, visibility being improved at Telegraph Hill for instance. • Louis de Poncheville explained that we had been contacted by, and supplied to, the police the addresses of our customers so that they could contact them to advise them of the speed limits in the area and advise them of future action that may be taken. • Sue Wolstenholme added that if the vehicle registration numbers can be reported to the Helpdesk then the Company/driver involved can be contacted. <p>Lisa Dolley raised concerns regarding the proposed Waste Transfer Station in Scorrier – Vehicles going west will go through Treleigh to get to the A30. Parents have already raised concerns over the school crossing and the speed limit in the area. Similarly what impact will the extra vehicles have on the Avers roundabout?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Des Teale responded that the vehicles from the St Erth area already use the route and therefore there should be no increase in lorry movements. • Louis de Poncheville said that this meeting was not the appropriate place to discuss the application for Scorrier Transfer Station but would be happy to hold Liaison Group Meetings for the Transfer Station in the future. • Comment made by Graeme Hicks that road traffic could be alleviated if the waste was taken to the Scorrier Transfer Station by rail.
Education	<p>Lisa Dolley commented on the lethargy of some people regarding waste recycling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Des Teale responded that the County Council have appointed a team of five people - a 'Waste Awareness Team' who will be starting a number of initiatives in the local Districts. • Richard Carter commented that Cornwall needs a 'Culture Change', that Cornwall has been slow in



	<p>implementing common sense systems and education regarding waste.</p> <p>Closure of United Mines CA Site - John Wharton asked if there will be publicity regarding the closure of the site and will this publicity extend outside the local area as many people come some distance to use the facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Des Teale responded that depending on Planning approval the HWRC Site will be moved to Scorrier and might be open before the site at United Mines closes. • Louis de Poncheville confirmed that when the temporary site at St Erth opened and the site at St Ives closed information was readily available. Visits were undertaken to the closed site to remove any waste that had been left by members of public who chose not to go to the St Erth site – ie fly tipped waste. <p>Open Day at United Mines Landfill Site – Stuart Higgins announced that we plan to hold an Open Day at the site so that people can see what we actually do at a landfill site and gain information regarding the site.</p> <p>Louis de Poncheville advised that SITA will be opening an Education Centre at Bodmin for schools/other parties to visit and find out more about waste and recycling.</p>
<p>Recycled Goods For Sale at HWRCs</p>	<p>Lisa Dolley asked why SITA stopped selling the recycled goods at the HWRCs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louis de Poncheville answered that the main reason was for Health & Safety of the staff on the sites. We had a large number of accidents on the sites due to manual handling. Housekeeping was also a problem on many of the sites. In addition the focus of the staff had been to take out items for selling rather than just for recycling– Now that the focus of the staff has changed, the recycling rate has increased from November 2006 to November 2007 from 25% to 57%. We now have contractors that recover the bric-a-brac and resaleable items and have centres in Mount Hawke and Liskeard where the public can go and purchase recycled materials – 344T have been taken to the recycling centres in the year since they were set up. More centres will hopefully follow.
<p>Variation to PPC Permit</p>	<p>Chris James advised that SITA had submitted to the EA an application for ‘Variation to Permit’ at United Mines Landfill Site. All the documentation is available through the Public Register. While they are not legally bound to have a Public Consultation on such an application, it was felt that the representatives from the Parish Councils may want to ask questions regarding the variation. Would the residents benefit from a Surgery with the EA? Chris James gave his contact details to those present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stuart Higgins outlined the changes SITA are requesting. Currently there is an annual limit to the waste that can be accepted of 250,000T. To accept the waste being diverted from Connon Bridge and enable UM to be filled to restoration levels as agreed in the Planning Permission, the limit needs to be extended to



	<p>330,000T/year. Therefore an application has been submitted to raise the annual permitted tonnage. Included in the application was a Consultant's assessment on the impact extra vehicle movements would have on the potential for an increase in dust created, given that the soils on site are high in arsenic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is expected that there will be an extra 10 – 15 vehicle movements each way, with waste from Connon Bridge to the site each day. <p>Chris advised that the EA have two months to determine the application. Advised that the variation will only be granted if it is proven that any changes will not cause harm to health or environment and that the EA cannot impose any conditions to the variation that SITA cannot meet.</p>
SITA Environmental Trust	<p>Mark Kaczmarek asked about SITA's Environmental Trust and how do they apply for money.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Wolstenholme to arrange information about the Trust for the next meeting.
Next Meeting	<p>Date for next meeting was agreed as Thursday 7th February 2008 at the earlier time of 6.30pm. While all comments during the meeting have been welcome and useful, Stuart Higgins said that he would like more focus more on events relating to the landfill site at the next meeting. Agenda to be drafted and forwarded prior to the next meeting.</p>