



SUBJECT	United Downs
DATE	19.04.11
LOCATION	United Downs
RECORDER	Lorena Clavijo

PRESENT	Stuart Higgins	(SH)	SITA UK
	Gareth Phillips	(GP)	SITA UK
	Mike Greslow	(MG)	SITA UK
	Alan Blamey	(AB)	Gwennap Parish Council
	Ray Humble	(RH)	Gwennap Parish Council
	Ian Mitchell	(IM)	SITA UK
	Paul Williams	(PW)	Local resident
	Brenda Williams	(BW)	Carharrack Parish Council
	Des Teale	(DT)	CC
	Andy Stott	(AS)	CC
	Simon Harry	(SHa)	Environment Agency
	Carl Martin	(CM)	Carharrack Parish Council
	Les Moulson	(LM)	Local resident
APOLOGIES	John Newcombe		

Ref	Note	Action
1.0	SITA CAPPING UPDATE	
1.1	SH gave a quick update informing that the site has been closed since the 30 th October. Since then there has been a lot of work done, and there is still a lot of activity in terms of deliveries and capping. We have been working really hard to make sure that the site was closed down in the right manner after tipping ceased so it could be ready for the winter. SH circulated a drawing that showed the capping area and according to the contractor the pink area represents the extent of capping area for 2011, and the dark blue dashed area represents the remaining area where there are no plastics. The contractor is hopeful to start lining this area by the end of May. After this phase of capping there will be around 60,000m ² left for capping. SITA wanted to	



Ref	Note	Action
	prioritize areas with fresh waste.	
1.2	<p>PW asked if the capping operations will affect the local residents during the summer. SH response was that the capping is still a big operation and SITA is hoping not to have many issues in terms of dust. With capping works there is always a risk as when you are capping you are joining to an existing cap. We also have to raise gas extraction pumps which means that they have to be disconnected at times, but we are working hard with the contractor to make sure that the disconnections won't take long.</p> <p>SH also addressed that we are on site early and there is no desperate need to work late hours.</p>	
2.0 RESTORATION SCHEME		
2.1	<p>GP explained why SITA is coming forward with a planning application for an extension. When the site closed back in November we did not reach the capacity of the site, therefore we need to submit a planning application to Cornwall Council to revise the restoration, because the size has changed.</p>	
2.2	<p>MG passed on some drawing packs with proposed landscape and explained the ideas and plans for restoration, explainingd also the plans for the bridleway. MG reflected that SITA is trying to provide that bridleway in an appropriate manner, there will be no point if it can't be used by horses. SITA will try to restrict access to the site as much as possible, we don't want people to be walking around and accidentally break a pipe. The drawings are a suggestion, SITA will be submitting a formal application, therefore if anyone has any objections we would like them to be addressed now, because if we received one rejection it will go to public enquiry, this is why we are looking for public consent.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding the type of surface, time-scales and fencing of the bridleway and access roads.</p>	
2.3	<p>GP explained that we will try to put in place what is agreed in terms of restoration plans, and we will have to manage the site for 5 more years after restoration, thereafter it will go back to Cornwall Council.</p> <p>LM asked if the overall restoration involves any ponds. SH explained that we have a capped landfill, which means we need to control any liquid on the surface of the landfill.</p>	
2.4	<p>GP Explained the drainage planning. On the plan it's been split into three sections, an eastern section, the central catchment and the far lane catchment which is water that historically was flowing through that valley until the landfill was put in place. SH explained that we have to catch that water to attenuate the flow to reduce the impact on the structures downstream, the tricky bit with that water is to get it from the attenuation pond to the eastern edge. Various options have been discussed with the EA on the best way to do it, at the moment</p>	

Ref	Note	Action
	<p>we are proposing a pumping station which is literally mirroring what we have in place at the moment. We still need to have that approved by the EA. CM mentioned that there is a ditch on the left hand side of Sparry Ln which makes the water flow carry on down to the bridleway and then about half way down between there and what is going to be bridleway it all accumulates in a big muddy patch. SH mentioned that it's something we will look at.</p>	
2.5	<p>CM asked how long this site will continue to manufacture leachate and produce methane, SH replied that probably at least sixty years. CM also asked if the landfill will sink due to waste rotting down, SH replied that it will and that is why we use LDPE lining, which allow that settlement, some areas might need to be repaired in the future, it will be constant maintenance in any landfill until it proves to be environmentally safe.</p>	
<p>3.0 EA UPDATE</p>		
3.1	<p>SHa informed that the EA is very pleased to see all the capping activities carried out last year throughout the summer and the autumn, the early capping work helped minimize the odour release. Work was suspended in the winter as expected, but capping has now recommenced, and if the weather stays fine I'm sure capping will be finished very shortly. In the 1st quarter of the year we have received only one odour complaint, which is what we were expecting when disposal operations ceased. Completing the cap should bring odour level right down. There is still some capping to be done in other areas, which we talked about tonight. Since the disposal operation ceased I had some initial discussions with SITA's regional compliance manager about moving the site towards its after care management face and essentially it's going to involve a pretty comprehensive review of the pollution control management measures on the site and the environmental monitoring arrangements at the site. The environmental permit will remain in course indefinitely until there is no longer a pollution risk present, which is going to be a very long time. Top of the list of our regulation priorities at the moment remains the optimization of the landfill gas management of the site, the provision of extraction measures in the newer extension of the site is good whereas in the older part of the site there are many different ages and types of infrastructures and there is likely to be a need to possibly replace some of it. Gas behaviour on the other part of the site needs to be improved to enable optimisation of the extraction, and minimize the risk of migration to the mining works beneath the site. Through our conversations with SITA we have tried to develop their conceptual understanding of the gas behaviour. Other compliance aspects: SITA are currently looking at our request into reporting noise impact from gas engines to local properties, there is an investigation going on at the moment and the result from that may indicate a need to design more effective noise control measures at the gas utilization plant but we have to see the results of that investigation first. In terms of the restoration scheme that we have seen today, the EA priority or main priority is stability for land form</p>	



Ref	Note	Action
	now to what was originally proposed and also the management of water in a controlled way, and we are already in discussion with the company on both of those issues.	
4.0	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
4.1	RH commented that when the planning application is submitted the parish council will have a chance to comment on it then, is SITA intending to spread any wider than that or is that going to be it. GP said the intention is not to extend it any wider than that, the reason being that the change on the restoration scheme is due to a change in the land form, if we were to include a recreational area or something of that aspect then yes we will probably extend the public consultation.	
4.2	SHa made a query regarding Pool MRF planning application. GP informed that SITA submitted that planning application back in May last year, that went to the planning committee of Cornwall Council who deferred planning application pending various aspects on transport and road access, that went back to planning committee in March and with a very close vote of 12 for and 8 against the committee conceded approval for that planning application. That permission was granted on the basis that the flow of vehicles into and out of the site is reversed. At the moment we are looking how we are going to do that, we are expecting the planning permission notice next week.	
4.3	There was a discussion regarding any plans to open a new Household Waste Recycling Centre in the area and the new site in Falmouth.	
4.4	<p>CM mentioned that someone in the village claimed that they have seen waste vehicles with Torquay district council on the side coming into the site and they say they have seen them tipping, to what he said was rubbish, but was wondering if SITA haven't had any waste since October 2010. SH advised certainly not, although I think we've had vehicles before tipping ceased. I think it was Enterprise that had a contract somewhere else as well, and they might have had a vehicle that is not working on the local contract brought down.</p> <p>CM also had a query regarding the Efw plant. GP explained that the public enquiry has now closed, it started in April last year, all the evidence is being heard, it all sits now with the Planning inspector who heard the enquiry. That planning inspector will report to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State will make the decision by 2nd June. SHa mentioned that a permit has been issued by the EA. SH mentioned that we have submitted planning application to produce refuse derived fuel, which is diverting waste that would be going to Connon Bridge landfill and removing the metal, some organics and other materials to produce a fuel, similar to what we are proposing with the Efw plant. However, we don't have an Efw in Cornwall yet so we are looking at exporting that to Sweden and they have a big energy demand during the winter and they need this sort of fuel to fulfil the needs. GP mentioned that we are also looking into expanding capacity and life of Connon Bridge landfill, due to the delay on the</p>	



Ref	Note	Action
	planning permission for the Efw, it won't be built by the time Connon Bridge runs out of time in 2014.	
4.5	DT informed that the Council is looking to build an HWRC in the Pool area and a planning application for the Truro park and ride will be submitted soon.	
	NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2011 17:30	