

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 10

meeting date: THURSDAY, 26 MAY 2016
title: GENERAL REPORT
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT – CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: HEATHER COAR – HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of relevant issues which have arisen since the last meeting.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – The following reports generally relate to the Council's ambitions to make people's lives healthier and safer.

2 PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES RISK ASSESSMENT PROGRESS

2.1 As a local authority we are responsible for regulating private water supplies within a district. As part of our regulation duties, we will:

- carry out a risk assessment at least every 5 years (risk assessment guidance can be found through the Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009);
- investigate the cause of failure to meet standards;
- enforce regulations and/or improvements where a supply constitutes a potential danger to human health.

2.2 We will also set:

- how often we want to take a sample of water from private water supplies (based on a categorisation of supplies for analysis);
- how much we can charge for risk assessment, taking a sample and testing the water.

2.3 Since the last report in June 2015, progress has continued to be made with supplies in relation to risk assessments. In June 2015, we were well over half way with 46 remaining to complete. As of the beginning of May, we currently have outstanding one large commercial and 6 small supplies, therefore creating a total of 7 risk assessments to be carried out. We also currently have 6 refusals of undertaking the sampling. The project lead officer, Matthew Riding, has made every effort to complete the assessment as quickly as possible and we are looking at an imminent completion date.

2.4 In addition to the Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009 where Ribble Valley Borough Council had 310 private water supplies to sample, there has been the introduction of a rolling programme which was dated from 2015 to 2019. This requires a phased plan work to be commenced from January 2017 which will include private rented accommodation.

2.5 There are a number of private water supply samples that have failed which are required notices to be served under Regulation 18, which is the service of a boiled water notice. This has taken a large amount of time for compliance.

2.6 In moving forward with the department, the outstanding backlog is to be addressed and a deadline to completion set in the forthcoming months.

3 HANSON CEMENT LIAISON MEETING

- 3.1 A liaison meeting was held on Thursday, 24 September 2015. A copy of the minutes are attached for your information as Appendix A to this report. There has also been a second meeting on Thursday, 24 March 2016. A copy of the minutes are attached for your information as Appendix B to this report.

4 TARMAC LIAISON COMMITTEE

- 4.1 A liaison committee meeting was held on 19 August 2015. A copy of the minutes are attached for your information as Appendix C to this report.

5 AIR QUALITY – TRIENNIAL UPDATE & ASSESSMENT REPORT 2016

- 5.1 The mandatory air quality annual status report has is currently being undertaken and will be submitted to DEFRA for consideration and validation by the end of June this year. At this time the report recommendations from the author include the recommendation for the air quality management area to be revoked within the next 12 months. Furthermore, the development of the AQMA action plan is to be put on hold and the development of an Air quality strategy will progressed over the next year, however full confirmation of this will be in the next meeting of this Committee.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STAFF

- 6.1 Julie Whitwell, Environmental Health Officer (Health and Safety) has returned from maternity leave and taken up part-time job share with Ken Robinson, who was temporarily undertaking Julie's role in her absence whilst on maternity leave.
- 6.2 The role of part-time Environmental Health Officer (Pollution and Commercial) has now become vacant due to a change in staffing and we are looking to appoint a replacement.

7 FOOD SAFETY / HEALTH INSPECTION UPDATE

- 7.1 The Food Safety inspection figures for 2015-16 below were set against the following challenges:
- Unusually high number of inspections (503, usually 260) in the 2015-16 programme due to changes in the Code of Practice in 2014 which moved many inspections from the 2014-15 programme to the 2015-16 programme.
 - An EHO (maternity cover) post was not filled for a proportion of the year.
 - Senior EHO investigated a fatality at a Moto Cross event.
 - Event safety work at the Royal Lancashire show involved involvement by three Enforcement Officers.
 - There was a lengthy and complexed Health and Safety investigation at a local hotel complex involving alleged electrocutions, exposure to asbestos and unsafe working procedures.
 - An extended period (6 months) of absenteeism by the Environmental Health Manager.

Year Summary 2015/16:

- 202 service requests were recorded of which 195 (96.5%) were actioned within the target response time of 2 working days.
- 112 confirmed cases of infectious diseases were investigated in relation to food-born organisms.

- 131 food samples were submitted for microbiological examination. (This Authority had the third highest use of credits for sampling in the County.)
- 100% of the highest risk category of food businesses (A-C) including approved manufacturers were inspected. 95% of category D premises were inspected and 66% of the lowest risk premises were inspected. Out of a programme of 503 inspections, 439 were carried out. (87.3%)
- Premises which were found to be 'broadly compliant' remained roughly the same at 94%.
- The number of premises inspected, and the high level of compliance make it highly unlikely that this Authority will be selected for audit by the Food Standards Agency.

7.2 Health and safety inspections will focus on Event Safety, due to the increasing demand within the borough for events such as Beat-Herder, Summer Days Festival and Food Festivals. There will be also the reactive service provision made to deal with accident investigations, as and when required.

8 PEST CONTROL UPDATE

8.1 The service continues to be provided by one part-time officer on a 3 day per week basis. A number of options are being pursued with regard to meeting an increase in demand and to deal with wasp nest services demand in the summer months. However Direct Services staff have been trained to provide extra support in sewer baiting and dealing with wasps nests should the requirement be needed.

8.2 Feedback from residents is currently positive. A few residents are electing to receive advice and undertaken their own treatments initially in avoidance to incur the related charges.

8.3 We are currently looking at reviewing the service that is provided by pest control to produce a more effective and efficient service for all parties.

9 DOG WARDEN UPDATE

9.1 The past 12 months has seen a considerable ongoing effort and dedication by our Dog Warden Officers. A significant number of high profile and out of hours weekend patrols have been undertaken within the Longridge area due to increased fouling.

9.2 Arrangements have been made with the Dog Wardens to look at and replace as and when required, the five dog waste bins under the agreed annual rolling programme. Damaged/heavily corroded existing bins are to be replaced and there is currently a review of the location and frequency in emptying of dog bins due to heavy demand by dog owners.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION UPDATE

10.1 Considerable effort has been undertaken in the last 12 months with regards to permitting. The team have also been very proactive in issuing in the last 6 weeks, fixed penalty notices within the Longridge and Clitheroe area with additional resources and the return of a part-time member of staff. It is hoped that this will again increase. The permits that have been have created a large amount of income to the borough which has been an ongoing success. This has taken 12 – 18 months of working with local businesses to ensure that they are compliant within the correct legislation.

10.2 The Environmental Protection team have also been undertaking a considerable amount of planning applications of which they have become heavily involved in proactively seeking noise and odour assessments for proposed developments.

11 COMMERCIAL WASTE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

11.1 The considerable and ongoing success of Environmental Health assisting the refuse collection service with resolving trade waste issues and related enforcement.

11.2 Income generation for 2014/2015 was at a service high, however has declined in 2015/2016 due to the return of a member of staff from long term sick. From March 2015, 72 new accounts in total, 67 for wheeled bins have been opened with this Council and 5 new accounts for trade waste bags.

12 CLITHEROE MARKET UPDATE

12.1 I am pleased to report that there is considerable interest by Ribble Valley residents in attending the market particularly with the changing season. There is considerable work going into liaison with other departments regarding the regeneration of this area and I am in liaison with Bob Watson, the Market Officer, as to suggested ways of increasing visitor numbers to the existing market until the time of redevelopment comes.

13. EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE

13.1 On Wednesday, 11 May 2016, a multi-agency COMAH training day was organised by Johnson Matthey. This was a multi-agency familiarisation session which aimed to raise the awareness at a local level of the multi-agency response for incidents occurring at upper tier COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazard) Establishment. A presentation was provided with a generic overview of the plans in place and provides specific pre-identified information including the major accidents that can occur at different establishments.

13.2 The training included the Police, Fire and Rescue, Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council Highways, MET Office, OFCOM and Electricity North West. This was a beneficial day for all parties involved.

14. CLITHEROE CEMETERY EXTENSION UPDATE

14.1 The construction of Clitheroe Cemetery extension scheme is now complete. The willow planting at the entrance has worked extremely well in keeping the flooding to a minimum especially over the wet winter months.

14.2 Five beams in the new burial plot have been installed; these provide a stable base for improved memorial fixing and stability together with easier access for grounds maintenance. We have also created a much needed hardstanding area for topsoil and bark mulch which has been planted with a screen of yew trees.

14.3 The new area has been well received and will continue to improve as the planting scheme matures.

HEATHER COAR
HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Heather Coar on 01200 414466.

**HANSON CEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE – THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2015**

PRESENT:	Terry Reynolds	-	Hanson Cement
	Simon Moorhouse	-	Hanson Cement
	Sam Wrathall	-	Hanson Cement
	Linda England	-	Bellman Committee
	Mary Gysbers	-	Bellman Committee
	Stephen Booth	-	Chatburn PC
	David Sharp	-	West Bradford PC
	Marilyn Wood	-	West Bradford PC
	Cty Cllr Albert Atkinson	-	LCC
	Jonathan Haine	-	LCC
	Phil Goodwin	-	Environment Agency
	Phil Dykes	-	Lancashire Wildlife Trust
	Cllr R Hargreaves	-	RVBC
	Cllr I Brown	-	RVBC
	Heather Coar	-	RVBC
	Olwen Heap	-	RVBC

1. Terry Reynolds welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself as the newly appointed site manager for Ribblesdale Works. All parties introduced themselves and it became apparent that it was a first meeting for several members.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from RV Councillors Allan Knox, Richard Sherras and Ian Sayers.

3 MINUTES

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2015 were circulated and approved as a correct record.

4. OVERVIEW

4.1 Terry suggested that Simon give the presentation that had been prepared and presented to Heidelberg (the parent company) earlier in the week. This gave an overview of the company and more specifically the operations at Ribblesdale.

4.2 Specific reference was made to each of the quarries in relation to plant and production. Reserves remaining allowed for in excess of 40 years in Lanehead and 90 in Bellman.

4.3 Details relating to Kiln 7 were outlined as well as the packing facilities and transportation operation which included both rail and road.

4.4 The Health & Safety record was excellent with more than 500 days since the last employee accident and only 3 notifiable ones since 2009. The key tools used around Health & Safety were outlined.

4.5 With regards to the Environment the reports to the Environment Agency showed a downward trend with only 1 breach this year. This was backed up by Phil Goodwin. Proposed improvements to the plant were explained. Outflow readings for both the Bellman outflow and the settlement pond outflow also showed a downward trend.

- 4.6 Resident complaints had decreased over several years and the level was now steady with dust being the most common complaint.
- 4.7 A series of graphs were shown relating to the actual production on site that showed it was continuing in the right direction. The only exception was for alternative fuels which had never really achieved targets set.
- 4.8 Terry suggested a visit to the control room at the next meeting.

5. LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

- 5.1 Phil Dykes informed the meeting that both Salthill and Crosshill quarries were managed by LWT and that over the last 10 years they had worked very closely with Hanson. He suggested that help could be given with the Biodiversity Action Plan in bringing Lanehead Quarry nature reserve back into a good state which would also be of benefit to the community. This could be done by managing the limestone grassland and the species it supports which requires work to cutting back encroaching tress, repairing the pond and managing the woodland area. There is currently a problem with 'ash dieback'.LWT procedures would be followed. Details would be discussed directly with personnel at Hanson.

6. AOB

- 6.1 A question was asked as to whether the damaged stack had been reduced in height during repair. It was confirmed that 30 metres had been taken out and replaced by 30 metres and therefore the stack remained at the same height.
- 6.2 Lynda asked that the 'dog fouling' signs be replaced in the nature reserve at Lanehead.
- 6.3 A tour of the quarry at Coplow was given to those who wanted to go. Tenders had been received to restore this site and works would commence in 3 weeks time. The Environment Agency would have personnel on site. There was the potential that this site could be opened up to the public in the future. Please note that the main contractors have been selected and work is expected to commence at the end of October.

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 7.1 The next meeting of the Hanson Cement Liaison Committee will be held on Thursday 24 March 2016.

**HANSON CEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE – THURSDAY, 24 MARCH 2016**

PRESENT:	Simon Moorhouse	-	Hanson Cement
	Sam Wrathall	-	Hanson Cement
	Linda England	-	Bellman Committee
	Marilyn Wood	-	West Bradford PC
	Jonathan Haine	-	LCC
	Cllr I Sayers	-	RVBC
	Cllr R Sherras	-	RVBC
	Heather Coar	-	RVBC
	Olwen Heap	-	RVBC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from RV Councillors Allan Knox, Ian Brown and Ruth Hargreaves; Cty Cllr Albert Atkinson; Terry Reynolds – Hanson Cement; Mary Gysbers – Bellman committee; Phil Goodwin – Environment Agency and Stephen Booth – Chatburn Parish Council

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2015 were circulated and approved as a correct record.

3. OVERVIEW

- 3.1 Simon gave an overview of the company's performance and the operations at Ribblesdale during 2015. The data had recently been sent to Heidleberg.
- 3.2 Health & Safety performance – no notifications for 686 days (9 May 2014) which was an injury to a foot when lifting. This was still being investigated.
- 3.3 Environment – 6 Part A reports to EA (notifiable). Beaches of ELV
- 3.4 Resident complaints had slightly increased – dust was the most frequent with a couple of noise ones recently. None had been received by RVBC.
- 3.5 Both Bellman outflow and settlement pond are stable.
- 3.6 Chatburn Wildlife garden has been formed by Phil Dykes with the help of Lynda England and other volunteers. This has been well received by local residents. However there are still some problems with ash dieback.
- 3.7 Work had started at Coplow but stopped because of weather. The contractors would be back on site 11 April 2016. A site visit would be arranged for the September meeting.
- 3.8 Plant clinker/cement production had continued to increase in 2015.
- 3.9 2016 has been good been production so far. 26 days without stop.
- 3.10 The use of alternative fuels is slightly down but improvement should be made soon. The use of SRF and the implications of LCC shutting Thornton was discussed.

- 3.11 The cost of electricity is approximately £8m a year. An energy consumption bonus for staff is under consideration.
4. CHALLENGES FOR SITE
- 4.1 From April 2017 there would be tougher particulate emission limits.
- 4.2 Replacement of electrostatic precipitators with bag filters on 7 & 8 cement mills.
- 4.3 Fugitive emissions from buildings, conveyors and transfer points.
- 4.4 Refurbishment of wet gas scrubber.
5. ENGINEERING SHUTDOWN 2016
- 5.1 The site was shut down for 33 days in January/ February for extensive repairs/refurbishments/replacements to take place on the following
- Crusher
 - Reclaimer
 - Raw Mill
 - CF silo / Kiln feed
 - Pre-heater tower
 - Kiln
 - Greco Burner
 - Cooler
 - Exhaust Gas
 - Scrubber
 - Clinker Transport
6. AOB
- 6.1 Simon showed a short film taken by a drone over the site.
- 6.2 Lynda asked an alternative site access to the dog walking area at the top of Old Road since the builders had diverted the footpath during their housebuilding. Sam would investigate.
- 6.3 Marilyn asked about the sight line of trees on West Bradford bridge. Sam reported that one had been removed but until the leaves came out it was difficult to tell if that was adequate.
- 6.4 An open day for the public would be held on Saturday 6 August 2016.
7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
- 7.1 The next meeting of the Hanson Cement Liaison Committee will be held on Thursday 22 September 2016.

Meeting closed at 3.10pm

**NOTES OF TARMAC LIAISON COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2015**

PRESENT	Martin Dobson	Tarmac
	Cllr Ian Sayers	Ribble Valley Borough Council
	Cllr Ian Brown	Ribble Valley Borough Council
	Cllr Paul Elms	Ribble Valley Borough Council
	Heather Coar	Ribble Valley Borough Council

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from James Russell (RVBC) and Jonathan Haine (LCC).

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17 November 2014 were approved as a correct record.

UPDATE ON TARMAC OPERATION

Martin reported that Tim Cowling had moved on with the company and he was now the site manager for Clitheroe as well as Skipton. The company name had changed back to Tarmac – CRH were the new owners. The structure is remaining the same for now with a review after Christmas.

A line for natural gas has recently been installed to use as fuel instead of PFO (light oil). This will be both cheaper and cleaner for the environment. A new burner and dryer will also be required. These are due to be delivered at the end of August.

They are also looking at a RAP system – recycled asphalt planings which will be a money saver and use less bitumen. This will need planning permission and a new permit will be required.

Heather is waiting for the application to vary the permit for the change of company name and fuel type.

COMPLAINTS REVIEW

Heather had not received any complaints, nor had either Tarmac or LCC. However, Martin did make reference to a previous one received about the noise of the siren during a safety practice and informed the committee in advance that they intend to have a drill on 14 October 2015.

AOB

- Members requested a site visit – this was arranged with Martin for Wednesday 18 November 2015 at 10am.

NEXT MEETING

This would be arranged for January 2016 (and June 2016 – half yearly)

Meeting finished 10am