

RUFFORTH PARISH COUNCIL, YORWASTE LIAISON GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING AT YORWASTE, 14:00, Friday 07 JULY 2023

Present: Yorwaste: Kevin Smith (from 14:55)

Rufforth YLG: Peter Rollings, Nick Murray, Helen Butterworth, Frank Di Lorenzo, Terry Edmonds.

Apologies: none.

The meeting was held in two sessions, with a briefing session for new attendees followed by the regular meeting with Yorwaste.

PR gave a detailed history of the development, from landfill to the current waste transfer station, and the relationship between Yorwaste and Rufforth and the parish council. He detailed the record of liaison and the changes that had evolved over recent years whereby there has been a shift from non-cooperation to one of being 'good neighbours' and how that had been brought about.

KS Joined at 14:55 for the regular meeting.

Review of Operational Matters and Traffic Flow.

KS reported that traffic movements for 2023 are in line with previous volumes, including an annual 'blip' in July as Allerton Park shuts down for maintenance and some temporary stockpiling at Harewood Whin takes place. The drop-off in the amount of both general waste and recycling, resulting from the economic slowdown has continued although this doesn't impact greatly upon numbers of vehicles.

KS reiterated that any changes to types of recycling, such as waste food collections, deposit schemes for bottles/cans, etc., which are government led, are slow in development and are unlikely to impact upon waste volumes or vehicle movements for the foreseeable future.

Local government reorganisation will see waste from Selby, which has been absorbed within NYCC, now coming to Harewood Whin although the volumes are not foreseen to be significant.

Litter.

Litter on the B1224 continues to be an issue. KS agreed to pursue CYC on behalf of the PC and Yorwaste, and any requests from the PC would be directed through Yorwaste.

Action: KS

Solar Energy.

KS reported that Yorwaste hope to have their full planning application for a solar farm scheme lodged with CYC by mid-August and this was welcomed by the committee. Discussion followed around related topics such as issues with grid connection, capacity at local grid points and the ability to feed into the national grid, technical issues with installation on landfill, availability of funding capital outlay, etc., but the consensus was positive, and a plan was made to meet again as soon as the application goes in to go through plans together.

Matters arising from previous meeting.

- **Cycle Path.** The cracks in the tarmac in the section approaching the cattle grid/gun club, while the responsibility of CYC, have so far gone unattended. KS offered to inspect and pursue with CYC. **Action: KS**
- **Hedge Planting within Yorwaste land.** KS was concerned that over-planting of trees is affecting the diversity of wildlife and had met with Barry Otley of 'Treemendous'. He is now satisfied that there is a healthy balance.
- **Light Pollution Complaint.** PR/FDL raised this issue, relating to an unresolved complaint from a Rufforth resident about a floodlight visible from his home. KS felt confident that this is not from Yorwaste but more likely from the Water Treatment plant near the gun club but is happy to follow this up if it remains an issue.

AOB.

- HB once again thanked KS for the recent support with skips, etc.
- NM Asked about an approach from a third party to add a link to the Yorwaste website from PC website (operating agreement section). KS to establish the validity of this request. **Action: KS**
- FDL asked about the potential to supply a quantity of compost to the allotments and also about repeating a compost giveaway to local residents. KS responded positively to the first question and would see what plans were regarding the second. **Action: KS**
- In response to a question from FDL relating to any rodent issues at the site KS said there were none.
- NM passed on a question from a resident regarding sightings of large vehicles branded 'Baxter' that had been seen travelling through Rufforth. KS replied that he was not aware of these but would check to see if they have been recorded on site **Action: KS**

Planned Site visit.

Regrettably this could not take place owing to operational issues on the day. This will be rescheduled for a later date, possibly when reviewing solar plans.

Date of next meeting: Schedule for November 2023. PR to propose some dates in due course.