

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: THURSDAY, 30 MAY 2013
title: GENERAL REPORT
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: JAMES RUSSELL, 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 HANSON CEMENT LIAISON MEETING

2.1 A liaison meeting was held on 21 March 2013. A copy of the minutes is attached as the Appendix to this report.

3 AIR QUALITY – ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

3.1 The mandatory annual air quality report has recently been completed and submitted to DEFRA for consideration and validation.

3.2 Unfortunately, the report identifies an increase in average Nitrogen Dioxide monitored in the Whalley Road Air Quality Management area at 2 sampling points in excess of the national air quality objective of 40 ug/m³.

3.3 This will now require careful evaluation and consideration with regard to potential impact upon the planning process and is likely to now require the development of an action plan to be devised with all relevant agencies/bodies.

4 CLITHEROE CEMETERY EXTENSION UPDATE

4.1 I can report the ongoing progress with the proposed Clitheroe Cemetery extension scheme. Since the last meeting of this committee, the scheme has been out to tender which resulted in 6 tenders being received which varied in value from £117,540 and £161,520, including standard provisional sum for unforeseen works and 10% contingencies.

4.2 Due to the original capital scheme not being increased since 2010, in order to award a contract within the tender price period, it was necessary to refer the matter to an Emergency Committee. This committee met on 22 April 2013 to consider and approve the additional funding requirement to enable the scheme to proceed without further delay.

4.3 As a result, the tender has been awarded and work is commencing with construction of the infrastructure, to be completed by the end of July 2013.

JAMES RUSSELL
HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for James Russell on 01200 414466.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

HANSON CEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING DATE – THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 2013

PRESENT:	G Young	-	Hanson Cement
	S Wrathall	-	Hanson Cement
	L England	-	Bellman Committee
	M Gysbers	-	Bellman Committee
	S Booth	-	Chatburn PC
	B Honeywell	-	West Bradford PC
	J Haine	-	LCC
	Cllr I Brown	-	RVBC
	Cllr P Dowson	-	RVBC
	J Russell	-	RVBC
	O Heap	-	RVBC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cty Cllr A Atkinson and D Sharp (West Bradford).

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2012 were circulated and approved as a correct record.

3 OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- 3.1 Gary gave a brief update on operations at Ribblesdale
- 2012 new CO² allocation rules
 - Changes for 2013 will realise an increase in production at Ribblesdale (Padeswood will reduce)
 - Plastic sacks now replaced paper and in production at full capacity
 - Company seeking to develop new range of low Carbon emission cements

4 BELLMAN, LANEHEAD AND COPLOW QUARRIES

- 4.1 Gary reported that development at Bellman had continued although there have been some issues with management of clay deposits. Company extracting in the order of 3.5 million tonnes per annum. De-watering has continued from Bellman into Worston Brook and Lanehead into the Ribble in compliance with EA permit conditions. Extraction and recovery of stone from Tarmac Quarry was ongoing as was the development in the Horrocksford area. The application for the deepening of the operation at Lanehead had been submitted. Intention to deepen from 17 to 31 metres in Horrocksford to access a further 7 years of high grade limestone. Production requires access to 25,000 tonnes per week of appropriate grade/blend to enable continuous plant operation.
- 4.2 Gary presented an overview of blasting data for both Bellman and Lanehead along with the outflow data that confirmed excellent compliance with quarry planning conditions.
- 4.3 Gary gave details of the outflows at Bellman and Lanehead along with suspended solids/ph graphs.
- 4.4 He reported that the discharges to the river were still monitored even though this was no longer required by the Environment Agency.

5 QUARRY DEEPENING APPLICATION

- 5.1 This had been submitted on 17.9.12 for the right hand side of Lanehead quarry. There are current reserves of 7 years that would be extended by a further 13 years. This application, in conjunction

with existing Bellman reserves, allows for sufficient reserves to support ongoing investment at the plant. For compositional reasons, it will be necessary that both quarries will operate together up to the end of reserve life; estimates for when this will be relate to production volumes but could potentially provide to 2050.

6 SUBSTITUTE FUELS / MATERIALS UPDATE

6.1 Gary showed a bar chart of the comparative use of substitute fuels - situation again improving – in that site had achieved 65% in 2013, compared to highest achieved of 70% in 2009.

6.2 SRF was currently being sourced from Scotland. It was hoped that a local source in Lancashire would soon be secured. A trial was planned for April.

6.3 Alternative raw materials also being used included;

- waste roof tiles
- plaster moulds
- sea shells
- waste ash

7 COMMUNITY CONCERNS (COMPLAINTS)

7.1 Hanson had received 4 complaints so far in 2013. 1 of these was odour and the other 3 related to dust. Three dry weeks of easterly winds had caused some issues.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

8.1 Gary gave an overview of continuing monitoring of dust by dust gauges on Google Earth that were placed all around the site and had been in operation since 2007 (single kiln operation). The results showed correlation between all the gauges (North, South, East and West) and the general trend of deposits was continuing to decrease. Any gauge linked with a complaint is sent off for independent analysis.

8.2 Gary reported that the company were to review the number of monitoring stations that would probably result in a rationalisation and reduction in number.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Housing development

Gary had made representations on behalf of Hanson Cement at the Planning Inquiry. The outcome was awaited from the Planning Inspector to be around 19th April or more likely the following week.

10.2 Geology Trail: A series of geology walks were being developed in Lancashire and details given of a further one being developed which will include Lanehead Quarry with the creation of another viewing platform.

10.3 Open Evenings:

Gary outlined the intention to have a series of educational open evenings for both primary and secondary schools. Recognised importance of engaging with local community and explaining what was being achieved and strategic importance of maintaining local manufacturing base.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11.1 The next meeting of the Hanson Cement Liaison Committee will be held on Thursday 21 March 2013.