

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: THURSDAY, 29 AUGUST 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 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY LIAISON MEETING

2.1 A liaison meeting was held on 1 July 2013. A copy of the minutes is attached as the Appendix to this report.

## 3 CLITHEROE CEMETERY EXTENSION UPDATE

3.1 I can report the ongoing satisfactory progress with the Clitheroe Cemetery extension scheme. Since the last meeting of this committee, the infrastructure work has been completed.

3.2 Detailed discussions are now to be undertaken with grounds maintenance as to developing a suitable final finish and a site maintenance scheme and associated costs for inclusion in the future revenue budget.

## 4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STAFF

4.1 Julie Whitwell Environmental Health Officer (Health & Safety) has commenced her maternity leave. Unfortunately to date, we have not been successful in appointing a full time maternity cover replacement. Other options are being pursued with regard to possible part time cover.

4.2 In the event that suitable cover cannot be appointed then it may be necessary to use environmental health consultants to meet end of year annual service targets.

## 5 DOG WARDEN UPDATE

5.1 Since my last report, I am pleased to report considerable ongoing effort and dedication by our Dog Warden Officers. Since April, a further 3 Fixed Penalties have been issued and paid. In 2012/13, 11 informal warnings were issued and have been recorded in the event of further offences being reported or witnessed.

5.2 As reported previously, in 2012/13, a further five Fixed Penalty Notices were issued in relation to dog fouling. Including this year's to date, this means that a total of 69 fixed penalties have been issued since the introduction of the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act Provisions.

- 5.3 To coincide with the introduction of the new Dog Control Orders it is intended to include a significant article in the Autumn edition of the Ribble Valley News to explain the new control orders, summarise dangers of dog fouling and related infections hence reasons for cleaning up promptly, interesting statistics including 'profiles of dog foulers' concluding with a strong message: **'You must clean up after your dog – every time everywhere'** and promote: **'ensure your dog is regularly wormed'**.

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.

JAR/HEALTH & HOUSING/29 August 13

### LIAISON MEETING BETWEEN RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL, THE HEALTH PROTECTION AGENCY AND THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

#### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2013 AT RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL OFFICES, CLITHEROE

#### PRESENT:

Phil Goodwin – Regulatory Officer, Environment Agency  
Councillor Richard Sherras – RVBC  
Councillor Ian Sayers - RVBC  
James Russell – RVBC EHO

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Dr Sohail Ashraf - PHE.

#### 2. MINUTES & NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 10 December 2012

- The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING –

- **Paper Pulp** - Stoneygate Lane, Ribchester – No repeat deliveries, believed resolved. PG explained EA require agricultural assessment before approval to use. General discussion as to whether product has much to assist plant growth. Generally conclusion that product is soil conditioner.
- Enquiry if any issues with regard to waste water lagoons @ slaughterhouse. PG indicated not aware of any concerns but would make enquiries.

#### 4. HANSON CEMENT UPDATE

- PG pleased to report that Hanson production levels starting to recover and increase. Market demand seeing signs of improving with result that plant now working more days continuously than anytime in past 3 years. Been reorganisation within company, Ketton now mainly supplying SE, Ribblesdale North including Scotland and now SW. Likely to be more trains, 3 to Scotland and 3 to Avonmouth per week. Potential that rail network may only permit extra trains to run at night which may result in more movements around Clitheroe.
- PG reported that trials delayed for MBM and WDF/RDF ( Waste/Refuse Derived Fuel) until kilns achieve more continuous operation to achieve consistency of operating conditions. Likely to be at least September 2013 before trials can commence. RDF to be sourced from potentially 3 suppliers,; Shank's Carlisle, JWS Ramsbottom or Global Renewables, Leyland & Thornton.
- PG reported that Ribblesdale recently installed new variable speed fan to kiln, which is expected to result in considerable running cost efficiencies not available before. Significant capital investment ongoing which is reassuring for future of site.
- Selective Non-Catagenic Reduction (SNCR) to be installed to Ribblesdale Works to further reduce Nox emissions. Likely to be in next 2/3 years. Other Hanson sites already have installed.

- Recent introduction of plastic sack bagging plant has been very successful and welcomed by construction industry with less waste and reduced damage from wet.
- Question asked as to validity of monitoring for mercuric compounds in cement. Councillor recently seen brochure. PG responded that not considered of any consequence in cement as only present as natural trace metal in rock.

## 5. COMPLAINTS

- No complaints received by EA in 2013. Aware of some incidents of dust reported direct to Ribblesdale in March during prolonged dry period. Incidents localised

## 6. UPDATE ON OTHER PPC SITES

- Dugdales Nutrition – Nothing to report
- Johnson Matthey – Nothing to report
- Trouw – No complaints for 3 years since bio filter media last changed. E growing evidence that bio filter media requires changing every 3-5 years. Found that media breaks down over time degenerates into compost and then blocks.
- BAe – Site inspector is Tony Glynn Jones. EA have electro-plating system, which EA permit. Gill Atkinson new RVBC Pollution Officer should direct site enquiries to him.

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Boyces Brook, Ribchester – Recent erosion of bank exposing roots of very large willow tree. Asked if EA responsible for cutting down and removal as potential to block water course. Advised that riparian owner is responsible. ***Post meeting: confirmed Dave Hewitt @ RVBC dealing with trees in question as RVBC own land.***
- Asked if EA have any involvement with recent changes to timber weir in Rimington. Several alterations taken place over past few years but who undertaking? Suggested that likely to be River Ribble Trust based at Hanson Cement Transport.

## DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Please can you diary next meeting for:

Monday **9 December 2013 at 2.15pm** at Ribble Valley BC Council Offices, Clitheroe

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