
WARWICKSHIRE WASTE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Manor Hall, Leamington Spa, 15th February 2006

Warwickshire's Waste Development Forum held its inaugural meeting on the 15th February 2006. 21 representatives attended.

Present: Arbury Estate, Hugo Mallaby

Biffa, Mary Tappenden

CL Associates, Paul Rainbow

Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Ltd., Chris Douglas

Environment Agency, Laura Hackwood

Friends of the Earth - Nuneaton and District, Keith Kondakor

Green Party, Janet Alty

Merevale and Blythe Estate, Philip Blackman

New Earth Solutions, Ted Bleszynski

Regional Technical Advisory Body, Bruce Braithwaite

Parish Councillor for Marton, Cllr. Vaughan Owen

Sita UK Ltd, Shaun Denny

Studley Parish Council, Cllr. Bill McCarthy

Veolia ES Birmingham Ltd, Steve Mitchell

Waste Recycling Group, Paul Green

Warwick District Council, Cllr. Michael Kinson OBE

Warwickshire County Council, Jon Radley

Warwickshire County Council, Cllr. Anne Forwood

Warwickshire County Council, Cllr. Helen McCarthy

Warwickshire Disposal Councils' Waste Forum and Warwickshire County Council, Roy Burton

Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils, Cllr. Patricia Wyatt

Dr. Susan Juned and Donna Maskery, NISP (Presenters)

Cllr. Chris Saint, Warwickshire County Council (WCC), (Chair)

Suzanne Osborn, Senior Planning Officer, WCC

Derek Greedy, Principal Waste Management Advisor, WCC

Jim Davies, Planning Officer, WCC

Rebecca Bailey, Student Planner, WCC

Mikka Styles, Arup

1. Presentations:

Cllr. Chris Saint opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. This was followed by a series of presentations. Copies of these presentations are available at:

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/Corporate/pages.nsf/Links/203EAB16C6F3FA7D80257130003BFB69>

- Getting the Process Right, Mikka Styles, Arup
- Why Have A Waste Development Forum, Suzanne Osborn, Senior Planning Officer, WCC
- Setting the Scene: Waste Development in Warwickshire to 2021, Derek Greedy, Principal Waste Management Advisor, WCC
- NISP's Approach to Achieving Sustainable Waste Management, Dr. Susan Juned and Donna Maskery, NISP

2. Breakout Session:

Two brief discussions took place. To facilitate the process the meeting was divided into three groups. Following these discussions, each group fed back to the meeting their key points.

Discussion 1: What Should the Waste Development Forum Achieve?

Group 1

1. Educate decision makers;
2. Assist the Council to deliver an achievable Waste Development Framework;
3. Ensure the Forum is representative;
4. Ensure that there is a democratic process within the Forum;
5. Educate Forum members on waste technologies and how well these comply with legislation;
6. Ensure the Waste Development Framework remains flexible to enable the introduction of new technologies;
7. Create a Waste Development Framework on which business can plan;
8. Educate the general public;
9. Communicate waste alternatives to the general public.

Group 1 concluded that there was consensus of opinion on points 1 to 7, but that some felt that points 8 and 9, whilst important, were not the responsibility of the Forum. Points 1 and 2 were identified as the Forum's key responsibilities.

Group 2

1. Ensure a broadbase of involvement, including residents, industry, NGOs etc;
2. Ensure that the opinions of all stakeholders are collected and reflected;
3. Consider ALL options available in detail;
4. Ensure that the sustainability of each option has been considered;
5. Review the criteria used to evaluate the options and the way the Sustainability Appraisal was carried out;
6. Require an energy audit of the different waste options;
7. Ensure that % recycling is included as part of a development;
8. Ensure all waste options are included in the Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper;
9. Produce a flexible Waste Development Framework that allows for future changes that cannot be predicted at present;
10. Assist WCC to identify what should happen and where it should happen;
11. Offer solutions to problems identified;
12. Ensure that the general public is fully informed.

Group 2 was in consensus on most of these suggestions, however, some felt that responsibility for points 7 and 12 was more appropriately placed elsewhere; in the case of the latter, WCC was identified as the responsible body.

Group 3

1. Parallel the Framework's statutory planning process;
2. Be an informed group;
3. Identify the important issues for consideration;
4. Address site identification and public awareness issues raised by the Waste Strategy;
5. Identify criteria for site allocation.

Discussion 2: How can planning deliver sustainable waste development?

Group 1

1. By enabling the infrastructure which supports resource management to be developed;
2. By making the process open to public scrutiny;
3. By creating a policy framework that goes from EU legislation to local decision making and can be demonstrated to have complied with the required process;
4. By setting achievable timescales;
5. By building in flexibility and deliverability (ensuring that the plan is valid over the plan period).

Group 1 was in consensus of opinion on all points, and collectively agreed that points 2, 3 and 5 were most important.

Group 2

1. By importing best practice from other authorities;
2. By allocating suitable sites for the different treatment processes, taking into consideration the nature of waste arising and available infrastructure;
3. By opening up effective dialogue between WCC and the general public on the need to re-use, reduce and recycle waste, thereby reducing the need for waste facilities.

Group 3

1. By being flexible to the development of new technologies;
2. By considering the protection of our natural and historic environments;
3. By considering where waste can be used as a resource;
4. By balancing the weight of interests and factors;
5. By making allowance for the needs of different facilities and locations;
6. By providing a process that can achieve decision-making where there isn't consensus.

3. Feedback on the Process:

Participants were invited to comment on the success of the meeting using the evaluation forms provided. 5 forms were returned before the 6th March. All 5 members concluded that the event had secured their interest in participating in future meetings of the Forum. 2 members suggested the meeting format could be improved by allowing more time for discussion.

4. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Waste Development Forum will be held on Friday the 17th March, at Manor Hall, Leamington Spa. For further details please contact mikka.styles@arup.com