



NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE JOINT COMMITTEE

Thursday 18th June 2020 at 2pm – virtual meeting hosted via Webex video conferencing service

PRESENT:

Councillor Brian Jones (Chair)
Councillor Greg Robbins
Councillor Carolyn Thomas
Councillor Catrin Wager
Councillor Richard Dew

Denbighshire County Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Flintshire County Council
Gwynedd County Council
Isle of Anglesey County Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Flintshire County Council

Colin Everett (Lead Chief Executive)
Tina Roberts (Project Accountant)

Denbighshire County Council

Tara Dumas (Waste and Recycling Manager)

Conwy County Borough Council

Andrew Wilkinson (Head of Neighbourhood Services)

Gwynedd Council

Steffan Jones (Head of Highways and Municipal)

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Meirion Edwards (Chief Waste Management Officer)

North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project

Steffan Owen (Regional Contract Manager)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Gary Ferguson (Flintshire County Council), Lisa Brownbill (Flintshire County Council), Stephen O Jones (Flintshire County Council), Gareth Owens (Flintshire County Council), Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill (Denbighshire County Council), Tony Ward (Denbighshire County Council).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

Councillor Greg Robbins was nominated as Chair to the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee by Councillor Brian Jones. This was seconded by Councillor Richard Dew.



Colin Everett thanked Greg Robbins for taking on the role.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That Councillor Greg Robbins be appointed Chair of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee.*

4. **VICE CHAIR TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Brian Jones was nominated as Vice Chair to the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee by Councillor Greg Robbins. This was seconded by Councillor Carolyn Thomas.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That Councillor Brian Jones be appointed Vice Chair of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee.*

5. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee held on the 28th November 2019 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the minutes of the meeting of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee held on the 28th November 2019 be approved as a correct record.*

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

No matters arising were raised from the previous meeting.

7. **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

Steffan Owen went the Annual Accounts Report, and highlighted that the accounting treatment of the project had changed following a review by Flintshire County Council to include the costs of servicing the Joint committee only.

No comments were raised.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the Joint Committee approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2020.*

EXEMPT ITEMS: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100A AND SCHEDULE 12A (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)

RESOLVED *that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting under the provisions of Section 100A of the above Act during consideration of the*



following items as they involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that in all the relevant circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

8. **SERVICES UPDATE REPORT**

Steffan Owen went through the Services Update Report, and noted that waste deliveries continued to site with no significant or recurring issues, noting that this was, of course, during the Covid 19 pandemic. The plant is also performing very well in terms of its efficiency, emissions etc with emissions well below permitted levels.

Steffan Owen highlighted the effect that Covid-19 and the lockdown in the spring / early summer of 2021 had had on tonnage throughputs into Parc Adfer. He noted that tonnages had dropped into April and May, however that these were expected to increase in the summer as restrictions may be eased further. He noted that recycling performance of the site (of the Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) and metals from the IBA) was good and well above the contractual levels.

Councillor Brian Jones thanked Parc Adfer and the lead authority for their assistance in dealing with the waste that was left as a result of a fire at Denbighshire's Waste Transfer Station in Ruthin.

Steffan continued through the report and noted that the financial procedures put in place have worked well during 2019/20 ensuring that payment flows all take place within required timescales and are accurate.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

9. **COMMERCIAL ITEMS REPORT**

Steffan Owen went through the report as issued in the papers, with updates on the progress on discussions with WTI in relation to two contractual matters. A discussion was held on progress on dialogue with WTI, the next steps and basis for reaching agreement with WTI.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

(b) *Receive a written update on the outcome of discussions on both aspects.*

10. **WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS UPDATE (VERBAL)**

Steffan Owen gave an update in relation to Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) and that an application had been put in to Welsh Government for capital funding for the WTS's at Conwy and Denbighshire. The two authorities



provided a more detailed update in relation to progress within their authorities.

Both authorities also informed Members that they had been given verbal indication from WG that their applications been successful, however the award letters had not been received yet. When the award letters are received, it will mean that the capital funding put aside by the authorities for the development of the WTS's would no longer be required and could therefore be retained by the individual partner authorities for their own use.

On the assumption that the letters are received from WG, the Joint Committee will be asked to formally approve the release the capital funding back to the partner authorities at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (c) *That the verbal update be noted.*
- (d) *The decision in relation to the capital funding for WTS's be put to the Joint Committee at the next meeting.*

11. **COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND UPDATE**

Steffan Owen noted that a consultation on the Community Benefit Fund was going to be carried out over the coming months.

Colin Everett added to Steffan's comments and noted good progress had been made on the education and visitor centre development prior to the covid pandemic, and that the consultation paper on the fund was ready to go subject to going through Flintshire's Cabinet.

He also noted that consideration would need to be given to doing more in-school curriculum based work whilst the Visitor Centre at Parc Adfer is unavailable due to the pandemic, and that the Partnership will work with WTI on it.

Cllr Greg Robbins noted the above and highlighted how important the educational side is to the whole project.

Colin Everett clarified that the consultation document outlined that a proportion of the fund is to be put aside for the purpose of the education and visitor centre for the whole contract period.

Tara Dumas welcomed the funding for education and pointed out that with the current trend for online learning, could we look at on line learning be part of the experience?

Colin Everett responded that this was an aspect that had always been the intention, but that current situation may accelerate the world of on line resources and that it was a positive that we have some resource dedicated to it. He noted that it can be developed when time allows, hopefully during 2021 and beyond.



12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other items were noted.

(The meeting ended at 3.30 pm)

DRAFT