

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF P.A.IN HELD AT POTTERS SNOOKERS CLUB, RAINWORTH ON  
THURSDAY 17.1.08

The meeting opened at 7 p.m.

**Attendance** As per signing sheet

**Apologies** Cllr. Allison, C. Canning, W. & V. Downing, P. Kirby, G. Kitts, T. Stevens,  
J. Vasey

**Minutes** of the last meeting confirmed as correct.

**Treasurer's Report**

Current balance = £2304.05. Invoice for first £1k from A. Watson due soon. Now is the time when we need to be thinking seriously about raising funds.

**Distribution**

Nothing to report at present. Correspondence for circulation is currently being prepared.

**Membership**

The last 6 weeks have been very quiet for new members. Members were reminded that membership renewals will be due shortly. A. Tift was pleased to announce that a new member, David Bellamy, has joined our ranks in support. S. Downen proposed a vote of thanks for the important and often unseen work that has been carried out by C. Canning. Seconded by R. Johnson.

**Raffle** raised £32

**Environment Agency Consultation**

A discussion took place regarding the public surgery being organised by the EA to be held at Rainworth Village Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> February between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Members were advised that this event is intended for members of the public to have the opportunity to meet on a one to one basis to air their views and concerns. It has been made quite clear that only questions relating to the incinerator will be entertained, that appointments will and must be booked, and that a maximum time of 25 minutes will be allocated to each appointment.

Proposal – should we hire another room (at a cost of £50) where interested people will be able to optimise their questions/concerns by speaking with advisors from P.A.IN prior to their appointment. S. Downen pointed out that P.A.IN will be allowed only one appointment, so willing volunteers could have the opportunity to maximise on the allocated time and also bring useful feedback from the EA replies.

He also pointed out that there will be two applications ultimately, one to NCC for the incinerator itself and one to the Environment Agency for the Operators Permit. Work is currently in progress to prepare a group of questions.

B. Thompson stated that the fisheries manager at the L-lake has asked the EA about the implications of carbon from the incinerator landing on the water, sinking and killing the fish stocks.

Apparently the reply was that there was nothing to worry about, since the wind is not predominant in the direction of the lake. It was noted that there was no denial of the evidence of carbon.

L. Tift wanted to know if the purity of the water in the aquifer is retrievable if dioxins should enter it. The reply indicated that at present there is no method to enable the removal of dioxins from water. Additionally, the meeting was advised that water is used in many ways in an incinerator and sometimes the used product is so toxic that it cannot be cleansed and must be removed from site in sealed containers.

A Tift introduced a new member to the group who has a particular interest in the toad population on the heathland. She has contacted Frog Life, a national organisation for the protection of toads and frogs. This has led to Rainworth Heath being added to the national database of protection areas and the Highways Agency has given approval for the erection of signs beside the Rainworth by-pass to assist in the protection of these amphibians, especially at breeding times.

The Veolia application for the incinerator is expected to be called in to public consultation. Members of P.A.IN have been granted a 2 hour meeting with P. Tipping on 18.1.08. A question was asked whether A. Meale will be approached. This is already in progress.

Various meetings are set to take place in the next few weeks and the time limit for objections to the Veolia application has been extended to the end of February. It is anticipated that the public enquiry will not happen quickly, since a judge will be required to be found to hear the enquiry. This additional time will act in our favour, as the preliminary steps are easily expected to take longer than originally laid down.

L. Tift – Should we perhaps create a leaflet giving around 10 objections to the incinerator. This could then be forwarded to parish councillors to keep them advised of the proceedings.

1 very important issue was mentioned that Veolia intend ultimately to process bottom ash from sites all over the UK. As a result, our campaign could become a national issue.

We are still awaiting an update from B. Norris with regard to the residents of Pit Lane and their proximity to the proposed site. P. Cullen had questioned the 500 metre limit set for residents within an incinerator area. We will be challenging the fact that two properties have been omitted from the details in the application relating to this **legal** distance requirement. It is also understood that Sherwood House will be making a separate objection to ours.

The national body of Friends of the Earth has shown an interest in our case since NCC accepted that residents of Nottinghamshire had a right to have a say in the Waste Strategy for the county and we have been excluded from the right to speak regarding our waste PFI contract. P. Tipping will be consulted regarding our right having been removed.

A parish councillor from Kirklington has contacted S. Downen for more information regarding our reasons for objecting to the application. People in Bilsthorpe have also shown more interest and we welcomed two members of Clipstone Parish Council to the meeting.

A question was posed as to whether anyone knows what date coal stocking and blending was ceased on the site, even though planning has been given for the activity until 2011. There is possibly a need to identify whether the land is presently administered by UK Coal or the Coal authority. The Coal Authority apparently owns closed pit sites.

Lobbying M.P.s – P. Cullen will be seeing A. Meale. We should ensure that parish councillors in other areas are kept aware of proceedings. Unfortunately agencies and bodies funded by NCC are not in a position to join us.

Petition – many people can be involved in signature collection at the specified time. Preparations are in place for this.

Letters – members were encouraged to write to NCC about any concerns they may have over the incinerator. The more people who make contact, the more they will be noticed. We can provide addresses and topics of question if people are unsure what to communicate.

P. Cullen is to contact East Midlands Planning Aid to apply for a caseworker to assist us.

We are in conversation with P. Thom, North Notts. Highways Manager regarding the problems being experienced with the speed ramps having been lowered through Rainworth and the increase in traffic already. An answer is requested as to what the expectancy of traffic through the village will be should the incinerator go ahead, as traffic to and from the site will have an impact on the traffic lights at this junction.

At the present time the parish council is fragmented over the incinerator issue due to members being involved with P.A.IN and also the Miners Welfare which received payment from Veolia. As a result, the parish is effectively divided. A. and L. Tift have indicated that they will allow their memberships of P.A.IN to lapse. This is in advance of a parish council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February at the Parish Council office, starting at 7 p.m., when the only agenda item will be the council's position on the incinerator. Members of the public may attend but will be unable to speak or take part.

**Correspondence** Nothing to report.

**Publicity** EA consultation 19.2.08, Rainworth Village Hall 3 p.m.– 8 p.m. P.A.IN workshop to co-incide, 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

**Date of next meeting** 7 p.m.Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February, Potters Snooker Hall, Kirklington Road, Rainworth.