

# OXFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008

**Present:** The Chair (Councillor John Tanner, Oxford City Council), the Vice-Chair (Councillor Roger Belson, Oxfordshire County Council), Councillors David Dodds (South Oxfordshire District Council), Jenny Hannaby (Vale of White Horse District Council), David Harvey (West Oxfordshire District Council) and George Reynolds (Cherwell District Council).

**Officers Present:** Wayne Lewis (Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-ordinator), Carolyn Baxter (Oxfordshire County Council), Steve Bishop (Vale of White Horse District Council), Hannah Bishop, (Clean and Green Officer, Oxfordshire Waste Partnership), Chris Cousins (Oxfordshire County Council), Peter Dobson (Oxford City Council), Cath James (West Oxfordshire District Council) Paul Mocroft (Communications Officer, Oxfordshire Waste Partnership), Ed Potter (Cherwell District Council) and Matt Prosser (South Oxfordshire District Council)

William Reed (Clerk to the Committee, Oxford City Council)

## ACTION

### 19. MINUTES

The Committee confirmed as a correct record the minutes of its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008.

### 20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Colin Bailey (Oxford City Council) for whom Peter Dobson substituted, Ian Davies (Cherwell District Council) and Andrew Pau (Oxfordshire County Council).

### 21. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair agreed to accept as urgent business an item on the plastic bag free towns initiative and specified the following reasons for urgency:-

- (a) In order to advise the Committee at the earliest opportunity of the initiative on which substantive progress would have been made by the date of the Committee's next meeting;

(b) In order to consider a proposal that the Chair and Vice-Chair be authorised to approve bids from applicants to become “plastic bag free” towns.

The item was dealt with at the end of the meeting (minute refers).

## **22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest by members attending the Committee.

## **23. “WILD WASTE” SHOW – REPORT AND PRESENTATION**

Edd Thomas for the Northmoor Trust presented a report (previously circulated and now appended) and gave a presentation on the work of the “Wild Waste” waste education and awareness programme.

Among other things Mr. Thomas said that the Wild Waste bus was fully booked until Summer 2009. The Wild Waste outreach programme was fully booked until January 2009. The Wild Waste project had seen a growth in project delivery of 30% over the last year. Repeat bookings were frequently made. 85% of Oxfordshire primary schools and 50% of Oxfordshire secondary schools had received a visit from the bus.

Mr. Thomas referred to the bus used for the programme and said that the same vehicle had been in operation for the past nine years. A vehicle used for such a purpose had a life of about ten years. Consideration needed to be given to funding for a replacement for the bus within the next two years. He said that the cost of a replacement bus was in the region of £150,000. He would be talking to the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator about funding possibilities for a replacement.

**Wayne Lewis**

The Committee noted the position as far as a replacement bus was concerned and thanked Mr. Thomas for his presentation.

## **24. BIG TIDY UP**

Paul Mocroft (Communications Officer, Oxfordshire Waste Partnership) presented a report (previously circulated and now

appended) and gave a presentation on the Big Tidy Up campaign.

Among other things Mr. Mocroft presented the following information:-

- More than 40 groups had taken part in the 2008 Tidy Up;
- 350 bags of general litter had been collected;
- 125 bags of recyclables had been collected;
- 50 bags of compostable waste had been collected.

Councillor David Dodds (South Oxfordshire District Council) suggested that consideration be given to publicity for the 2009 campaign in Buckinghamshire as well as Oxfordshire newspapers because, for instance, Thame and surrounding areas looked to Buckinghamshire newspapers as much as to Oxfordshire newspapers and he felt it would be sensible for maximum publicity to be given using all media that covered the area.

Councillor David Harvey (West Oxfordshire District Council) said that his Council was currently reviewing the number and location of street litter bins in the district to ensure that they were provided where needed.

Councillor George Reynolds (Cherwell District Council) referred to his Council's forthcoming Spring Clean Week that would involve parishes and groups in a concerted effort to clean up their areas.

Councillor Jenny Hannaby (Vale of White Horse District Council) made specific reference to litter from take away food outlets. Hannah Bishop (Oxfordshire Waste Partnership) said that ENCAMS would be starting a campaign in January aimed at fast food litter.

The Chair (Councillor John Tanner, Oxford City Council) reported that the City Council had recently addressed litter problems in Cornmarket Street and had, with good effect, worked with retail outlets.

The Committee:-

- (1) Noted the presentation and the remarks made by the District Council representatives;

- (2) Agreed that thought needed to be given to the nature and focus of events in 2009.

**Wayne Lewis**

## **25. NEW FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS – TESTING**

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator.

The Committee resolved:-

- (1)(a) To note the results of the first part of the testing phase;
- (b) To agree that the two forms of modelling (ie linear profiling and monthly profiling) should continue to be used for the remainder of the testing phase;
- (c) That a further report on the testing of the new arrangements be presented to the Committee's January meeting;
- (2) That in view of the outcome so far of the testing arrangements as far as West Oxfordshire District Council was concerned, to ask Councillor Roger Belson (Oxfordshire County Council) to discuss with Huw Jones (Director, Environment and Economy, Oxfordshire County Council) the introduction of transitional or financial dampening arrangements for West Oxfordshire District Council until its new waste collection contract commenced in 2010, and to report back to the Committee's January meeting;
- (3) That in the light of the information gathered from the testing arrangements and the outcome of discussions concerning the position so far as West Oxfordshire District Council was concerned, a decision be reached at the Committee's March meeting on the form of monthly payment profiling that should be used for 2009/10.

**Wayne Lewis**

**Roger  
Belson and  
Carolyn  
Baxter**

**Wayne Lewis**

## **26. WEED SPRAYING AND CLEANING – HIGHWAYS AND FAST ROADS**

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated

and now appended) prepared by the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator.

The Committee resolved:-

(1) To note that:-

(i) The County Council's budget for roadside weed control had been reduced to £34,000 per annum for the whole of the County's area;

(ii) That the County Council's priority in its highways maintenance budgets was on repairing potholes;

(2) To ask Councillor Roger Belson (Oxfordshire County Council) to relay to the County Council the concerns (as set out in the report) about weed control and the negative public perception there was about street cleaning as a result of the limited weed clearance that was undertaken, and to ask that the County Council reconsider the budget allocations within the highways maintenance budget to increase (either as a one-off or on a permanent basis) the budget allocation for weed clearance, and to report back;

**Roger  
Belson**

(3) To note that options for contracting out litter clearance on fast roads and for district councils to carry out litter picking whilst planned lane closure were in operation would be reported to a future meeting of the Committee.

**Wayne Lewis**

## **27. PROCUREMENT UPDATES**

(a) Food and Garden Waste Treatment

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by Andrew Pau (Oxfordshire County Council).

Carolyn Baxter (Oxfordshire County Council) and Wayne Lewis (Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator) updated the reports by saying that:-

- The food and garden waste contract was likely to be awarded in early November and a public announcement of the successful tenderer would be made then.
- The contract would in all probability commence in April 2009 with the first treatment facilities being available by late summer.

The Committee:-

- (1) Noted the position;
- (2) Asked Wayne Lewis to check whether as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 both food and garden waste would be treated or whether this would apply only to food waste initially.

**Wayne Lewis**

(b) Waste Collection Joint Procurement

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by Michael Mackay (Vale of White Horse District Council).

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

(c) Residual Waste Treatments

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by Andrew Pau (Oxfordshire County Council)

Further information was reported as follows:-

- The residual waste treatment facility was programmed to be operational within the period 2012-2014;
- A planning application for a facility at Ardley had now been made and this would go the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee in February/March 2009;
- A planning application for a facility at Sutton Courtenay had also been made and this would be considered at the County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee in January 2009.

- The two short-listed participants were being asked for
- their proposals for waste transfer stations.

The Committee:-

- (1) Noted progress on the project;
- (2) Asked officers to let Andrew Pau (Oxfordshire County Council) have details of any amendments to reported indicative collection tonnages as a matter of priority.

**All Officers**

## **28. MONITORING PROGRESS**

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator.

Councillor David Harvey (West Oxfordshire District Council) advised the Committee about helpful advice that his authority had received from the County Council concerning advance on-street advertisements for new housing developments. These signs, often on a yellow background, were intended not to advertise the developments but, rather, to assist contractors delivering materials to the development sites. The signs were permitted to be on display from the start of the construction period to the time when 80% of the development was completed. The signs should be removed at that time. In consequence of the advice, West Oxfordshire District Council had arranged for 111 of these signs to be removed in the Witney area.

The Committee:-

- (1) Noted progress on the Joint Waste Management Strategy Action Plan;
- (2) Agreed to revised dates for elements of the Plan as follows:-
  - (a) Waste reduction and re-use plan – February 2009;

- (b) Trade waste enforcement policies and plans – March 2009;
- (c) Enforcement measures to support new collection schemes – March 2009;
- (3) Noted that progress reports on the New Initiatives Fund projects set out in Table 4 of the report would be submitted to the January meeting;
- (4) To thank all involved for their work in progressing action plan initiatives.

**Wayne Lewis  
(and officers  
responsible  
for projects)**

## **29. DRAFT BUDGETS 2009/10 – 2011/12**

The Committee considered a report (previously circulated and now appended) prepared by the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-Ordinator.

The Committee agreed the draft budget in principle and noted that a final draft would be presented to the Committee's January meeting.

**Wayne Lewis**

## **30. PLASTIC BAG FREE TOWNS INITIATIVE**

The Clerk to the Committee submitted details (circulated, now appended) on this initiative. The Committee noted that £7,700 was being made available for the initiative from the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership's budget and that £20,000 was being made available from the County Council for the same purpose.

The Committee resolved:-

- (1) To note the initiative;
- (2) To record that applications should be capable of being issued and considered not only from the bodies mentioned in the circulated paper but also from residents' or local interest groups;
- (3) To agree that the Chair and Vice-Chair be authorised to approve bids from applicants to become "plastic bag free" towns.

### **31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Committee noted that it would next meet at 9.30 am on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009 in the Town Hall, Oxford.

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 11.07 am.