

RUFFORTH PARISH COUNCIL, YORWASTE LIAISON GROUP

MINUTES OF 'ZOOM' MEETING 14:00, 15 March 2021

Present: **Yorwaste:** Kevin Smith. **Rufforth YLG:** Peter Rollings, Andrew Mate, Nick Murray, Helen Butterworth, Jane Wright, Anne Powell. **Apologies:** N/A

Site Entrance.

PR opened by complimenting KS on the conclusion of the project and for the standard of finish. The announcement of the opening had unfortunately coincided with the roadworks at the A59/A168 junction which has meant that Allerton Park vehicles had, by necessity, to route through Rufforth, where some residents had mistakenly assumed that the vehicles were ignoring the 'Left Turn' markings. KS will advise when the roadworks are finished and vehicles are able to revert to the A59 route.

Operational Update.

KS reported that there were no significant changes to operations. PR asked about Sunday working to which KS responded that any activity, albeit limited, was down to intake from various CYC & NYCC satellite recycling centres. These are a commercial activity and part of Yorwaste's normal business.

JW inquired if the HGV's that pass through Rufforth in the early morning hours might be bound for Harewood Whin but KS assured the group that this is not the case as operations would not start until 07:30 so any early arrivals would be unlikely to be on site much before that.

PR asked if there had been any movement of direct approaches to Yorwaste about vehicle activity from concerned residents. KS replied that these were not becoming an issue and that he is happy to respond to them as part of his normal routine. PR mentioned that we should encourage people to make their comments via the website contact form. <https://www.rufforthwithknapton-pc.gov.uk/your-council/yorwaste-operating-agreement/>

PR asked if any changes to operations might be seen as part of the mooted changes to CYC waste management operations? KS responded that this was in the early days of discussion and, as far as he was aware, likely to be more administrative than physical in impact.

Vehicle movements.

Numbers of vehicles remain within forecast and, despite a dip during lockdown, are in line with anticipated levels overall.

Site matters.

Reclamation: All landfill now capped and recent works have been undertaken to address surface water drain-off issues. It is hoped that the permissive footpath might be re-opened by 'very soon' having been delayed by lack of resource due to COVID 19 and bad weather.

The intended scenic footpath and viewing site plans have, regrettably, been put on hold indefinitely. Long term, ongoing safety issues and the insurance issues associated therewith, need to be addressed first and these are unlikely to be deemed safe for many years to come. Regrettably, this will mean that this will not be incorporated within the facilities planned for the proposed Knapton Woodland project.

Timber fencing: There has been some damage/theft to the perimeter timber fencing, particularly in the Moor Lane area and walkers, some with dogs, are trespassing onto the site. KS will get this inspected and repaired as necessary.

Action KS

Litter:

Rufforth PC thanked KS for responding to requests for clean-ups of litter on the B1224. Residents are encouraged to inform CYC of litter issues directly as they will take this seriously and improve operations of refuse vehicles.

Lighting:

The question of light pollution from the site was discussed. The floodlighting, visible from the B1224, in particular has raised concerns. KS was clear in that this was essential for after-dark working and the safety of staff and vehicle road worthiness. He acknowledged that the lights are currently on during daylight hours but reported that this is due to a failure of the photocell circuitry and is awaiting repair.

Concerning lights visible from the village, KS thinks that these may be from the Yorkshire Water treatment plant, not Harewood Whin.

Allotments

There was a short discussion about allotments and PR is progressing the matter with CYC and allotment holders.

Action PR

AOB

Benches along cycle path: HB asked again about this. It was agreed that, as neither Yorwaste or CYC have any issues that this be dealt with by the Parish Council.

Burial Ground Skip: KS and HB to arrange date and time to suit.

Date of next meeting: TBA Scheduled for September 2021, PR to propose some dates.

NVM 15/03/2021