



Thursday September 8th 2016

Name of meeting: Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility, Veolia Community Liaison Group		
Date: Thursday September 8 th 2016	Time: 6.00pm	Address: RERF, Newmarket Approach, Leeds, LS9 0RJ
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lucy Wheeler (TCV) Chair• David Mackie (Resident)• Amy Bhava (Resident)• Josie Olivent	Observers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amanda Pitt (LCC)• Paul Fowler (Veolia)• Sarah Dawson (Veolia)• Steve Haywood (Veolia)	Apologies: No apologies noted
Secretariat: Sarah Dawson (Veolia)		
Agenda: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome and Apologies2. Operational overview3. Residents – feedback from the community4. Community Engagement and Community Fund5. AOB6. Tour		

1 Welcome from the Chair, round table introductions and Apologies

Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved and accepted as a correct record.

2 Operational overview by Paul Fowler, Veolia

Paul Fowler gave an overview of operational activities at the facility, including an update on the paper pulping facility and ongoing works. Paul added that the final touches to landscaping were being put in place, and said tours to the RERF's visitor centre were well underway and receiving good feedback.

Steve Haywood, plant manager at Veolia's Tyseley who is interim plant manager at the Leeds facility, stressed the uniqueness of the RERF facility both operationally and architecturally and told the group that the challenges towards the Leeds RERF were unique from other Veolia sites.

3. Residents - Feedback from the community

Resident DM commented on signage at the facility and said he believed more was needed in place at the pedestrian entrances to direct those walking into the reception of the facility. PF responded by saying additional signage will shortly be installed in the car park and entrance for pedestrians and cyclists.

JO said there has been a slight concern with residents regarding the dome shaped ash building, which has now gone red and people are wondering if this colour change was linked to the emissions at the facility. PF confirmed that the colour was changing as a result of the sedum plant and that this is part of the ornamental look of the dome.

4. Community Engagement and Community Fund

PF said Leeds City Council and Veolia were currently establishing the final stages of its application process for its Community Benefit Fund.

PF encouraged those who want to apply for funding to contact him. AP added that the criteria for the funding will be available and guidance will be issued to those who apply to help meet the criteria. PF confirmed there would be up to £25,000 available from the Community Benefit Fund and Environmental Trust and that a board panel is in the process of being set up.

Resident DM welcomed the idea, but questioned whether there could possibly be a conflict of interests within fund allocation. DM added that he would like to see the terms of reference and what impact measures are in place for measuring the benefits of the fund.

SH added that Veolia also works with a national charity every year and links up with partners locally, this year the charity Veolia is sponsoring is FoodCycle who have a charity food hub set up in Leeds.

AB asked about the official opening and SD confirmed that this was going ahead on November 15th. SD confirmed that the CLG will be invited to the official opening.

5. AOB

Residents asked if there was a possibility of moving the tour slightly earlier to allow more flexibility, it was agreed by all that the next CLG meeting would start at 5.30pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending. Meeting closed at 7.15 pm and site manager Paul Fowler and Communications Manager Sarah Dawson took residents on a tour of the facility. . The next meeting will be held on January 19th 2017 at 5.30pm in the Visitor Centre.