

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the East Devon Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board, held at Knowle, Sidmouth at 2.30pm on 28 April 2009

Present: Councillors:
David Cox – Portfolio Holder, Street Scene Services (Chairman)
Mike Green
Philip Skinner

Honorary Alderman Ron Mudge

SITA:
Rick Aldridge
Dave Swire

EDDC Officers:
Donna Best – Principal Estates Surveyor
Paul Deakin – Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager
Cherise Foster – Customer Service Manager
Karime Hassan – Corporate Director
Diccon Pearse - Corporate Director
Rachel Perram – Democratic Services Officer
Mark Reilly – Head of Street Scene Services
Derek Smith – Legal Executive
Nick Stephen – Communications Officer

Apologies: Andrew Moulding

The meeting started 2.33pm and finished at 4.31pm

The Chairman advised the Board that 'Material income from recycling collections' would be discussed as a Part B item at the end of the meeting.

128. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting of the Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board held on 7 April 2009 were agreed and signed as a true record.

129. Matters Arising

Dog Bin, Littleham Cross, Exmouth

In response to concerns raised about the relocation of this bin away from the busy junction, the Head of Street Scene assured the Board that action to resolve this issue would be carried out as soon as possible.

High Street, Beer

Members were advised that collection concerns in Beer High Street had been resolved by SITA and that bins would be cleared early in the day.

Aylesford Mill, Kent

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager advised the Board that a visit to Aylesford Newsprint who recycled the paper collected by SITA, had been set for 21 October. The visit would include a tour of the Mill.

130. Details of missed collections (Recycling & Refuse) – March & April 2009

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager distributed the latest version of these statistics and the contents were noted.

There had been little reduction in the numbers of missed collections throughout the area in the past month. In response to a query over particularly high numbers for the Exmouth and Sidmouth areas, Rick Aldridge advised that these towns were particularly problematic in terms of collections due to the high number of backdoor and non-kerbside collections. It was anticipated that there would be a significant drop in missed collections in Sidmouth once Phase Two was launched and kerbside collections became mandatory.

Members discussed the possibility of introducing kerbside collections for Phase 3, 4 & 5 areas in advance of their new collection service launches.

RESOLVED

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager prepare a report for the Board giving greater detail on problematic collection areas of Exmouth.

131. Lease of depot – EDDC – Discussion with Greendale Business Park

The Principal Estates Surveyor reported that proposals for the lease of the new depot were ongoing with Greendale's agent with feedback from EDDC's counter-offer awaited.

Members heard that clarification needed to be sought from Greendale as to whether planning issues were being progressed for weekend working and proposed minor amendments to the building. SITA had not progressed discussions further with the applicant, Greendale Investments. A meeting was scheduled for 28 April, which would provide clarification on a number of matters.

(Donna Best left the meeting at this point)

132. Phase Two Progress

a) Leaflets

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager circulated the final version of the instruction leaflet for residents of the Phase 2 area. This was in print.

b) Bin distribution

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager advised the Board that delivery of the 180 litre wheeled bins were nearly complete. Food waste bin deliveries were ongoing. Few calls had been received, with the majority being requests for bin swaps. A possible need to order more stock of 140 litre bins would be monitored.

c) Road shows/Member day

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager advised that dates and venues had been sent via email to Council Members. SITA confirmed that a vehicle would be available as necessary.

Posters would be sent to Town and Parish Councils to advise of roadshow dates in their area.

Phase Two Progress cont'd...

d) Policy regarding kerbside collections

The Board heard that there had been a number of calls from Sidmouth and Ottery St. Mary residents, whose properties faced straight onto the road – with little or no pavement. Their concerns over the practicalities of having a wheeled bin were shared by Devon County Highways, who had requested that some specific areas be dealt with differently, as it was not practical to have wheeled bins that blocked highways and pavements. Mill Street residents in Ottery had been offered gull sacks as an alternative to wheeled bins, but a number were unhappy with this solution.

The Board felt that it was important to abide by their policy with regard to kerbside collections and specific issues would be dealt with by the Waste Management team.

RESOLVED That EDDC continue to abide by their established kerbside collection policy for new waste collection areas.

133. Update from SITA on progress with recycling and refuse contract

Senior Contract Manager's Report

Rick Aldridge distributed a report containing statistical performance information to Board members.

RECOMMENDED

- 1 That Members would feedback with a list of specific requirements for detail in the SITA Contract Manager's Report report at the next meeting of the Board.
- 2 that data be presented in simplified Bar Chart format.
- 3 that Health and Safety reports accompany this Manager's report.

Incident in SITA yard

SITA reported that there had been an accident in their yard over the past week involving a contracted delivery lorry (TJK Logistics, delivering on behalf of Craemer, wheeled bin manufacturer) and a SITA employee. It appeared that the vehicle had reversed and had knocked over a man. Members were concerned to hear that the man had suffered severe injuries to his head as a result of the accident and was recovering in hospital and sent their wishes for a speedy recovery back to good health. SITA's Health and Safety Manager was investigating the matter. It was not felt that responsibility for the accident lay with EDDC.

Vehicle livery

Rick Aldridge advised the Board that this was ongoing. A new narrow access vehicle would be measured shortly and this would be the last vehicle to be completed.

Operational Spend Versus Performance Budget

Board Members noted that more accurate monitoring of budget versus contract price should be possible for 2008/09. It would be interesting to see the reporting from Bentley Jennison.

134. Re-routing – details of progress of IT software

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager advised the Board that the business case for the required routing software had been taken to the EDDC ICT Project Board and had been approved. WebASPX had been consulted about the programming that would be needed. The Board noted that EDDC's ICT department were unable to provide any resource until June/July.

Re-routing – details of progress of IT software cont'd...

Discussions were on-going at present as to who should place the order for the software. EDDC did not want to have to pay SITA a 10% premium for this.

There were three options being discussed for the location of the server for this software:

1. EDDC server – this option would attract a cross charge to Street Scene for usage and maintenance
2. SITA
3. Remote Server – there would be a charge associated with this.

No resolution over this matter had yet been reached, and it was noted that there may be security issues over information sharing between SITA and EDDC due to the Government controlled secure networks that operated at EDDC.

135. Partnership Agreement – to finalise the constitution of Board

The Legal Executive advised the Board that a requested amendment had been made to the Board's constitution for SITA representation at Board meetings to be reduced to one. This had been sent to SITA's legal representative and a response was awaited.

136. Communication Update

The Communications Officer advised that further to a request from the Board, a press release had been issued that recorded the success of Phase One. This had been reported in two newspapers. In addition to this, there had been a BBC radio interview about the service.

Press releases were about to be issued which would promote Phase Two road shows.

The Customer Service Manager reported that calls received by the Council had mostly been to confirm details and for information rather than of concerns from residents. It was felt that the Supervisor roles to help cut down on missed bin collections were producing positive results.

(Cherise Foster and Nick Stephen left the meeting at this point)

137. Material income from recycling collections

The Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager advised the Board that up until January 2009 EDDC had been receiving credits from SITA to allow for sales income received from recycled materials for cans, plastics and textiles. These credits had been stopped in January with no notification of this change being made to EDDC in advance. Members expressed their disappointment in the apparent breakdown of communication over this issue, reminding SITA that they had entered into a partnership working arrangement with EDDC.

A meeting had been arranged for 30 April between both parties and the Board would be updated fully as to the outcome and details of this change at the next meeting.

(Diccon Pearse, Derek Smith and Paul Deakin left the meeting at this point)

138. To consider position re: Interim Recycling & Refuse Manager

Members gave consideration to the review of the contract for the Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager. It was felt that it was important to have continuity in this role in order to roll out the 3 remaining phases of the new recycling and refuse contract.

RESOLVED

That by unanimous vote the Interim Recycling and Refuse Manager be appointed for a further period until Spring 2011 in order to complete the project management of the roll out of the remaining phase launches of the new contract.

139. Next meeting

The next meeting of the East Devon Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board would be held on Tuesday 26 May at 10.00am in The Members' Area.

A request was made for a pictorial presentation at the next meeting by the Waste Management Officers of cases of excess waste and side waste issues in the Phase One area.

Chairman

Date