

Regulation Committee
Thursday 7 November 2019
10.00 am Council Chamber, Shire Hall,
Taunton



To: The Members of the Regulation Committee

Cllr J Parham (Chair), Cllr N Hewitt-Cooper (Vice-Chair), Cllr M Caswell, Cllr J Clarke, Cllr S Coles, Cllr M Keating, Cllr A Kendall and Cllr N Taylor

Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 30 October 2019

For further information about the meeting, please contact Michael Bryant on 01823 359048 or mbryant@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda **including public speaking at the meeting.**

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

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AGENDA

Item Regulation Committee - 10.00 am Thursday 7 November 2019

1 **Public Question Time** (Pages 3 - 16)

The Chair will allow members of the public to present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. Questions or statements about the matters on the agenda for this meeting will be taken at the time when the matter is considered and after the Case Officers have made their presentations. Each speaker will be allocated 3 minutes. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes.

Regulation Committee

Late Paper Submissions

07th November 2019

Item 5	Page (3)	Additional Neighbour representation by Ms A. Morgan 30/10/2019
Item 5	Page (4-3)	Additional Neighbour representation by Mrs J Henderson 31/10/2019
Item 5	Page (6)	Additional Neighbour representation by Ms B Foster 31/10/2019
Item 5	Page (7)	Mendip District Council Response 24/09/2019
Item 5	Page (8)	Mendip District Council EPO response 31/10/2019
Item 5	Page (9)	Response from St Cuthbert's Mill Ltd. 01/11/2019

Item 6	Page (10-11)	Additional Consultation Response by Somerset County Council Acoustics Specialist – Mr M Highfield (Specified No- Objection) 29/10/2019
Item 6	Page (12-13)	Consultation Response made by Somerset West & Taunton District Council (Specified No- Objection) 05/11/2019

Item Number: 5 Additional Neighbour representation by Ms A. Morgan, 30/10/219

Thank you, but unfortunately I shall be working abroad on that date.

I note that Pyrocore have not only moved their equipment onto the site and set it up, but they have also now placed a made to measure company sign in a wall recess on the outside of the site. This seems to me to be an indication either that it has been suggested to them in advance that they will get planning permission irrespective of the objections, or that they simply have no regard for appropriate processes.

I hope someone will make this point at the meeting; if not could I make it in writing please, by this email?

Thank you

Alison Morgan

Item Number: 5 Additional Neighbour representation by Mrs J. Henderson, 31/10/219

To : Stephen Boundy, Planning Officer;

- Michael Bryant, Democratic Services Officer;
- John Parham, Chairman Regulatory Committee;
- Mike Pullin, County and District Councillor for my area

FOR REGULATORY COMMITTEE THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2019

Please could my submission below be added to the comments on the website, shared with the Committee members in advance and/or read out at the meeting, as appropriate? Sadly I cannot attend the meeting to speak as I will be away on holiday.

I write in support of Pyrocore's application for a temporary R&D pyrolysis site at Old Railway Yard, Haybridge, near Wells. I am on St Cuthbert Out Parish Council and at our Planning Committee on 31st July 2019 proposed the motion that the Parish Council recommend this application for approval, but I write now as a private individual, not on behalf of the Council. The views expressed below are my personal ones.

Having been present both at the SCO Planning Committee meeting on 31st July and heard the company's submissions then, and also on Friday 25th October at a parish council site visit with Pyrocore's CEO and others, to be shown the four containers and the equipment they house, it is abundantly clear to me that this application should go through. The technology is tried and tested to the very highest standards. The process when operational is subject to constant online feed of emissions data that is available for auditing by the EA, and should anything ever begin to go wrong it can all be shut down very quickly. The current application does not seek to change any of this mature technology in any significant way; the only modifications to it are:

1. *An improved mechanism for feeding the rubbish through into the heating chamber at a steady rate, which will not alter the emissions (perhaps analogous to fitting new tyres to your car)*

2. *An extra filter of the emissions, made by Brunel, to be fitted in addition to the existing ones which already keep the emissions to less than 10% of the permitted level. The CEO said several times that their target is zero emissions*
3. *For the purposes of demonstration of the equipment at Old Railway Yard only tiny quantities of waste will need to be brought in, a maximum of one short wheel-base HGV truck a week, so fears of fleets of HGVs are groundless*
4. *The nature and constituents of that waste will be known and monitored, so fears of experimental, risky processes are also groundless.*

The main purpose of this project is to demonstrate that a pyrolysis plant can be fitted into containers, and therefore made portable – the technology is not in question. The benefits of being able to set them up rapidly in disaster areas and warzones, or for small communities to be able to process their own waste without sending it long distances for incineration or landfill, are immeasurable.

I feel sure that if all those who object to this application had been on the site visit and seen and heard for themselves what is entailed, they would be reassured and indeed see that the community have nothing to fear from emissions, noise, pollution of any other kind, nor fleets of HGVs. It was also made abundantly clear that use of Old Railway Yard is only temporary as a demonstration site. Should this small facility be granted permission, it will be on site for a maximum of 12 months, as Pyrocore's "showroom", as the Bristol and Bath Science Park are keen to have Pyrocore on site there as soon as possible – the CEO said she had the Lease on her desk!

Jenny Henderson (Mrs)

Hartors Hill House

Item Number: 5 Additional Neighbour representation by Ms B. Foster, 31/10/219

As Parish Councillors for St Cuthbert's Out, we were invited to visit the Pyrocore site at Haybridge, Wells, and given a guided tour of the installation. Because the company still does not have full planning permission the equipment was not operational or yet on its 'permanent' base. However, we were able to see and understand how each of the components would function and learn about the safety measures built in to the apparatus at each stage of the Pyrolysis process. The CEO and Chief Engineer answered all our questions directly, particularly about the possible uses of the equipment, once consolidated into one unit, and so capable of being air-lifted into a range of settings, from a village, to a business site or an island, and beyond to disaster areas worldwide. We were able to appreciate the contribution this venture would make to solving the issue of waste disposal for a range of communities and businesses, once the early phase had demonstrated zero emissions were achievable, with the only outputs being heat and a char that can be used for breeze blocks. I felt vindicated in our collective decision to give conditional planning permission to Pyrocore and believe Somerset should be proud to host such an initiative. I am writing as a private resident of Wells and not as a Parish Councillor, because I believe this project is what the world needs. Yours sincerely, Bernard E Foster, 2 Farmers Joy Cottages

Item Number: 5 Mendip District Council Response, 24/09/2019

Application Number: 2019/1980/CNT
Date of Application: 17th July 2019
Application Type: County Matter

Mr Paul Wormald
20 Western Avenue Milton Park Abingdon
OX14 4SH Ms Linda Page
Unit 10 Portisfield Bristol Road Portishead BS20 6PN

Proposal: Temporary use of land, the creation of a low level removable slab for stationing of a portable temporary structure and the stationing of containerised equipment, for the purposes of R&D trials demonstrating portable waste management technology with greater efficiencies during &post pyrolysis for a period of up to twelve months.

Location: St Cuthberts Paper Mill Haybridge Lane Haybridge Wells Somerset

Parish: St Cuthbert Out Parish Council

OBSERVATIONS

1. No objections subject to Somerset County Council being satisfied that the suggestions of our Environmental Protection officer can be adhered to and that this proposal does not compromise nearby residents' amenity, it does not compromise highway safety and does not result in flood risk.

NOTES

1. This decision relates to the application form and associated drawings and documents received as part of the application, received 12.07.19.

Julie Reader-Sullivan
Planning and Growth Group Manager

Item Number: 5 Mendip District Council EPO Response, 31/10/2019

Stephen,

Apologies for the confusion in terms of who the notice was sent to, I will ensure that our back of house procedures are reviewed for future consultations from Somerset County Council.

Please find below comments from EPO as requested.

No objection advice only

Ours concerns are principally centred around any air quality impact of the installation.

Although this installation is below the threshold for IPPC we need to ensure under the planning regime that it does not have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the area.

Therefore, to avoid an air quality assessment we would strongly recommend the following:

- o Specification of the abatement plant and Continuous Emissions Monitoring System to be installed prior to first use as per paragraph 5.1.11 of the planning statement
- o stack height calculation designed for adequate dispersion of residual pollutants as per paragraph 5.1.13 of the planning statement
- o Confirmation that the installation will only be temporary for the 12 months
- o Confirmation that the plant is only to be used for demonstration purposes as per paragraph 3.18 of the planning statement

We would expect to see these issues ratified on any permission by way of conditions / agreement.

regards

Simon Trafford
Team Leader – Development Management
Mendip District Council
Council Offices, Cannards Grave Road, Shepton Mallet
Somerset BA4 5BT

Item Number: 5 Response from St Cuthbert's Mill Ltd, 01/11/2019

Good afternoon

Just an email of support from St Cuthbert's Mill Ltd, who are the immediate neighbours of Pyrocore
We have no objections to their proposal of a yearlong trial and research, at their Haybridge site

Regards

Neil Mays
Engineering Manager
St Cuthberts Mill Ltd
Haybridge
Wells

Item Number: 6 Additional Consultation Response by Somerset County Council Acoustics Specialist – Mr M Highfield (Specified No-Objection)

From: Mike Highfield

Sent: 29 October 2019 16:53

To: Barnaby Grubb

Cc: Planning Control

Subject: RE: Notification of Consultation SCC/3630/2019 Land at former Whiteball Landfill Site, Wellington

Hi Barney

These comments are in addition to those made in my report 302990N.255 presented on 18/9/19.

The Proposed Block Plan details that has now been submitted (revision 20/10/19) would fulfil my recommendation for a revised site working plan and now details a permanent noise mitigation feature. The 104m long bund with a height of 3m would (if related to the same aod level of the processing area) appear sufficient to physically obscure direct noise propagation from processing towards Shippen Farm and reduce expected noise levels to less than 45dB(A) and similar to the assumed background level at the Farm. The presence of further mounds of processed hardcore would then be likely to add further to the apparent bund height and screening potential.

The revised layout and acoustic shadow region is shown below.



Kind regards,

Mike Highfield

Somerset County Council Acoustics Specialist
Economy & Planning - Economic and Community Infrastructure
County Hall
Taunton
TA1 4DY
Web: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/consumer-testing/acoustic-services/>



**Somerset West
and Taunton**

Somerset West and Taunton Council
Environmental Health
PO Box 866
Taunton
TA1 9GS

Barnaby Grubb
Development Management
Somerset County Council

Our Ref: Env Health MA49002
Your Ref: 32/19/0004/OB
Date: 5th November 2019

Dear Mr Grubb

Former Whiteball Quarry. Proposed waste transfer station

Somerset West and Taunton Council's Environmental Health team have been asked to comment on the above application for a waste transfer station in the former Whiteball Quarry site.

There are houses close to the site, the nearest being approximately 125m from the proposed plant on the site, and the site plan also shows storage of materials closer to the houses, and therefore, there is the potential for noise and dust to affect nearby residents.

Regarding noise, I note that the proposal has been reviewed by Somerset County Council's Acoustic Specialist, who has provided a very comprehensive report on potential noise issues, with some recommendations to mitigate potential noise issues. I can add nothing to the report provided.

Regarding potential dust issues, the Scientific Officer at Somerset Scientific Services has commented on the application and made recommendations that the applicant should submit a scheme for the mitigation of dust from both the transporting and processing activities at the site. They also give examples of what should be included in such a plan. The applicant has subsequently provided a Dust Management Policy for the site.

I agree with the comments by the Scientific Officer, in that there is a risk of dust emissions from the development. A dust management plan should help to ensure that the site operator minimises the risk of dust affecting neighbouring properties.

However, I would suggest that Somerset County Council (SCC) as the planning authority use does grant permission for the use, conditions are put on the development to restrict the emission of dust from the site. As SCC deal with

mineral and waste applications they should be aware of suitable conditions that could be used.

Also, the activities on the site will require a Permit from the Environment Agency. This should also contain conditions that should ensure that that dust does not escape from the site.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Hill,
Specialist - Environmental Health

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