

Residents Liaison Meeting

11 June 2015, Conference Room, Mogden STW at 6pm.

Chairperson: Mr Christopher Shipway

Attendees:

Thames Water: Tony Stanbridge

Richard Dennett

Andrew Georgiades

Ian Ruffell

Cecilia Larkin

Trevor Hennessy

Odour Expert: Ian Cranshaw

Public Representatives: Ruth Cadbury MP

Councillor Ed Mayne

Councillor Sam Hearn

Councillor Joe Burke

Councillor Bob Watley

Hounslow Council: Gerry McCarthy

Tony Bull

Richmond Council: Shaun Case

MRAG: Barry Edwards

Residents: Catherine Rampton

Keith Knight

1.0	At the request of the Chairman attendees introduced themselves	
2.0	Review of previous minutes	
2.1	<p>Cecilia Larkin went through the action from previous meeting as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Storm tanks: updates given during the meeting b. Odournet survey: issued to Gerry McCarthy c. Meeting with Barry Edwards, Thames Water and Council: has taken place d. Number of discharges to river: Mogden STW discharged to river four times since January 2015 e. Update on odour monitors and servers: dealt with during the meeting f. Graphs to reflect odour complaints only as per Ruth Cadbury's request: displayed in that format at the meeting g. Litter and gate: updates given during the meeting h. Public footpath through the works and World Cup preparations: dealt with in meeting 	
2.2	Matters arising from the minutes: Tony Bull asked that the minutes be amended to record that he stated at last meeting that heat treatment for mosquitoes, while effective in general at Mogden was not practical. He wished the words 'everything possible' be amended.	
3.0	Operations and Communications	
3.1	Recent Odour: Andrew Georgiades outlined the issues that had contributed to the recent odour issues (listed on the slides). Catherine Rampton asked why there had been an accumulation of solids in the FSTs. Ruth Cadbury stated that the odour had persisted for three weeks prior of the previous weekend. She asked how much the break in the OCU pipework had contributed to odour and if it was a major job. She also asked if the work being carried out at present would address the issue, how old the pipework was and was the problem uploaded to the webpage. Cecilia Larkin confirmed that notices are issued and those notices are later uploaded to the webpage. Tony Stanbridge stated that a break in the pipework was a major issue and a possible major contributor to odour. Richard Dennett agreed with Catherine that solids should not have accumulated in the FST and stated that the increase in manpower on the site should address this issue. Andrew Georgiades explained that the pipework was 7 years old and that all pipework was being inspected for any possible breaks. Councillors Hearn, Burke and Watley all contributed to this discussion.	

3.2	<p>Barry Edwards asked how comfortable Gerry McCarthy was that these issues were the cause of the odour.</p> <p>Gerry McCarthy outlined issues that concerned him. This included sludge levels being too high, high retention of sludge on site and the possibility of it going septic, the condition of the storm tanks, number of skips on site and the seals on the digesters. Ian Ruffell explained that sludge in itself won't cause odour. Richard Dennett agreed with Mr McCarthy that the stocks were too high and explained that there was a full investment plan to address this matter. He also agreed that the storm tanks could be turned around quicker and stated that the increase in manpower would help to address this issue. Tony Stanbridge stated that there was now a dedicated management plan to accelerate the works programme. Andrew Georgiades, in addressing the issue of the seals on the digesters, stated that the new anti-foaming system was working well. Catherine Rampton asked what skips were used for onsite. Andrew Georgiades explained that they were used for rag, grit and general waste. Rag was placed in a covered container and old skips containing general waste was left uncovered.</p>	
3.3	<p>Networks: Trevor Hennessy gave an update on the repair to the sewer line at Twickenham Stadium that had contributed to traffic congestion along Mogden Lane.</p>	
3.4	<p>Update on current work detailed at last meeting: Ian Ruffell outlined progress on current work being carried out on OCUs, monitors and storm tank hoppers. He stated that the monitors would be moved by the end of July and the new server would be up and running in six weeks. Refurbishment of OCUs almost complete and work on the storm tanks hoppers is now with a dedicated project team. Councillor Burke asked if Thames Water discharged to river every time the storm tanks are filled. He wanted to know if the site had the capacity to treat the potential increase in flow following any future development. Andrew Georgiades explained that the storm tanks took the overflow when there was heavy rain, and this effluent was returned through the works. He confirmed that Thames Water had discharged to river four times since January 2015. The council would discuss any future development with Thames Water, whose development team would handle that section of the process.</p>	
3.5	<p>Future Capital investment: Richard Dennett outlined future capital investment to be carried out over the medium term. £12 million to replace existing assets, £10 million to install three new engines and £9 million to modify and install new effluent and sludge assets.</p>	

4.0	<p>Rugby World Cup preparations, litter, fly-tipping and the back gate: Cecilia Larkin explained that litter and fly-tipping had been cleared. However, the fly-tipping was an ongoing problem. The back gate would be replaced next week, and the site was working in conjunction with Hounslow and Richmond councils regarding the public footpath use and traffic and crowd movement during the rugby world cup. A general discussion ensued regarding signage, public lighting and possible solutions to the fly-tipping to which Councillors Burke, Hearn, Whatley, Catherine Rampton, Keith Knight and Ruth Cadbury MP contributed. Ruth Cadbury raised issues regarding the signage during the world cup. She asked that the 'energy' poster be amended and also offered her assistance to Thames Water in a campaign to tackle the wet wipes problem when it came to blocking the sewage system and process. The chairman thanked her for her offer of assistance. Ruth Cadbury also said the team of Radio 5 Live had told her Thames Water's response to their query regarding odour on site was there had been no recent odour from the site. The Chairman advised that this was most certainly not the case.</p>	
5.0	<p>Odour graphs: Cecilia Larkin displayed the complaints graphs for Mogden and Gerry McCarthy circulated complaints graphs for Hounslow council. Ruth Cadbury asked if there was a collation between the odour graph and the complaints graph. Cecilia Larkin explained that complaints were checked against the odour graphs. Barry Edwards asked if the trigger levels needed to be revisited. Gerry McCarthy stated that they used to be higher. Ian Cranshaw, the odour expert, explained how the monitors worked and that they registered an upset on site which would then be investigated. He said that each person experienced odour differently and that an odour that was to some very offensive may not be as offensive to others.</p>	
6.0	<p>Mosquito survey results: Cecilia Larkin displayed and explained the graphs relating to the mosquito survey. Tony Bull asked if consideration was being given to avoid developing breeding grounds for mosquitos when any modifications were being made to the site. Richard Dennett explained that he had met with the entomologists and would continue to take account of their advice.</p>	

7.0	<p>Odour expert: Ian Cranshaw took questions from the floor regarding the measurement of odour. He explained that there was no equipment that could reliably detect all odours. The only reading that the existing monitors could pick up was H₂S gas. He stated that this was a good measure for operational monitoring and troubleshooting but obviously each person experienced odour differently. However there is a generally accepted middle ground which is only identifiable by the human nose. Councillor Burke asked if covering the storm tanks would alleviate the odour problem. Ian Cranshaw stated that covering storm tanks was not standard industry practice and that odour from storm tanks can be managed by good operation</p> <p>Barry Edwards stated that he had had a meeting with Thames and the Council and that he had a solution to the odour problem but for confidentially reasons could not share it with the meeting. The Chair advised that this may not be a matter for the meeting.</p>	
8.0	AOB	
8.1	Gerry McCarthy asked when the annual odournet survey for 2015 would take place. Andrew Georgiades stated that it would take place in September and he would get back to Gerry with the date.	Andrew Georgiades
8.2	<p>Regarding the storm tanks, Shaun Case stated that it should not be necessary to cover the storm tanks as they would not always be in use. Andrew Georgiades explained that the first flush went to the covered storm tanks. Barry Edwards raised the issue of regulation around the use of storm tanks. A general discussion ensued to which Gerry McCarthy, Richard Dennett, Tony Stanbridge, Catherine Rampton and Ruth Cadbury contributed. Ruth Cadbury stated that there may be a need for more storm tanks. Tony Stanbridge pointed out that there was no area on which to build more storm tanks. Catherine Rampton asked if Richmond council had received complaints regarding storm tanks. Shaun Case replied that they had not. Gerry McCarthy was asked if he had liaised with Defra. Gerry replied that he had liaised with Defra but not recently. Barry Edwards again stated that he had the capacity to deal with the problem with Mogden and that he could get rid of the odour. Catherine Rampton stated that the residents needed to know that the recent problems would not happen again. Ruth Cadbury stated that if difficulties arose the community needed to be notified. The Chairman stated that notice was circulated.</p>	
9.0	Next meeting to take place on 8 October 2015	

