

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF P.A.IN HELD AT RAINWORTH VILLAGE HALL ON 27TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The meeting opened at 7.55 p.m.

Present As sign-in sheet

Apologies B. Thompson (Chair), T. Stevens (Vice Chair/Publicity), J. Allison, J. Bradbury, P. Frost, H. Holt, A. Minchin, Cllr. Sutcliffe, A. Tift (Membership), L. Tift (Treasurer/Fundraising), R. Twyning

In the absence of both Chair and Vice Chair, the meeting was co-chaired by P. Cullen and S. Downen (both Legal & Research)

Treasurer's report – report attached

Balance of account at 22nd September stood at £1987.92

We are still contesting the MEAA decision to withdraw the £1000 promised donation. The Public Law Project are in agreement that we have a case, so we are pursuing this further. Any more ideas for fundraising?

Membership

Current figure stands at 136

Distribution

All of the latest leaflets have now been distributed throughout the village and also on Oak Tree Lane and Bellamy Road estates. Small changes will be made and then a planned distribution in Bilsthorpe will follow.

Shlomo suggested that Trevor might include in the web site a plea for volunteers to help distribution in other areas.

Legal & Research

The team have been working endlessly in searching for information to support our resistance to the proposed incinerator. Shlomo and Paul introduced to the meeting a presentation which has been prepared for the Liaison Group on 11th October and then for Newark & Sherwood Councillors on 22nd and 24th October.

The presentation to the Liaison Group has been organised as a result of negotiations. Previously we had been accused of turning down an invitation to deliver a presentation, but the invitation was a set-up in so far as we had been invited to speak opposite a paid professional and our comments were limited to the disputed territory of human health impacts. We have now been given the opportunity to address any and all of the issues we wish to speak about. The whole session will be given over to our presentation and ensuing discussions. This will be a testing ground for our arguments before we present to Newark & Sherwood Councillors and eventually as part of the planning process. What is very important is that our handout (the full 30 pages!) which accompanies the presentation should be made available on the Veolia website. That is a victory in kind.

Main points of the presentation:

- Despite good relations with 3KQ, trust has not been built with Veolia
- Many questions put to Veolia remain unanswered

- There was a lack of response from Veolia to MAIN's invitation to roundtable discussions on the MRF despite a verbal promise to participate in talks
- Mistrust of Veolia, even a sense of betrayal, arising from bad experience in Forest Town, where we feel a distorted and inaccurate account of the information event was included in the MRF planning application
- Insulting and inaccurate letter published in the Chad in Simon Bussel's name at a crucial juncture
- PAIN's goodwill gesture to work together with Liaison Group was rebuffed
- The Liaison Group's Terms of Reference rule out influencing the outcome
- We remain unconvinced of the seriousness of the Veolia's intent, or openness to change as a result of comments from Liaison group members
- We remain unconvinced of the meaningfulness of engagement, given its limited scope
- We do not recognise the Liaison Group as a meaningful form of consultation with our community (as evidenced by the very small number of local people who attend the meetings)

The presentation is divided into two parts – a history of the circumstances leading to the proposal for the Rufford site and then the health and environmental reasons for our campaign against it.

An interesting and informative question and answer session followed the presentation, giving everyone the opportunity to understand more fully the object of our campaign.

The presentation was a resounding success and Shlomo and Paul, together with others who have helped put the facts together, were applauded and thanked.

Raffle	£38.00
Kitchen	£14.25

Any other business

On Sunday 14th October, there will be a walk from the proposed incinerator site in Rainworth to Annesley.

Question - Why are the signs posted around the village not bigger? The reply was made that we can advertise on roundabouts, but there is a cost involved in doing so. Signs or posters placed anywhere else on what is classed as the highway are illegal. We are working on placing protest signs on private land.

Thanks are extended to Mr. & Mrs. Marples of the Forest Town Heritage Group for their kind loan of projector and screen to enable our presentation to be shown.

Date of next meeting – Rainworth Village Hall, Thursday 25th October, 7.45 p.m.

