John Pointon and Sons Ltd Liaison Group Meeting 5.00pm Friday 4th October 2019

The following members were present:

Chair Karen Bradley (Member of Parliament)

Environment Agency Steve Thomason – Team Leader

Councillors: Cllr Harold Jennings - Cheddleton Parish Council

Cllr Ian Dakin - Cheddleton Parish Council

John Pointon and Sons: Barney Williams - Technical Director

Charlotte Wood - Minutes

Animal Health: See apologies

Representing Residents: Joe Smith

John Tunna

Staffordshire County Council: See apologies

Apologies: Cllr Mike Bowen- SMDC District Council

Patricia Duffy

Stephanie Young (Trading Standards)
Jack Brereton (Member of Parliament)

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Stafford Office

Welcome

Karen Bradley (KB), Member of Parliament welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Updates:

Environment Agency

Steve Thomason (ST) stated that since the last meeting in March 2019, there had been a total of 20 odour reports, 16 of which were in April. ST explained that no failures were found, and some of the reports coincided with slurry spreading in the Folly Lane and Ostlers Lane areas

ST reported that there had been one Schedule 5 notifications from the company which was a power outage due to an external issue also affecting much of the surrounding area.

ST explained that JPS have continued to work through the action plan, and the roof replacements for this year had all been completed. ST added that key members of staff who would carry out odour checks had been on an odour detection training course and all had passed.

ST explained that there had been some comments around vehicle movements at night and asked Ian Dakin (ID) to elaborate on this.

ID explained that he had asked the community for feedback on JPS, the majority of which was positive feedback, however 2 people who contacted him about vehicle movement at night. ID explained that 1 of the complaints had stated that the road noise was waking up their family and they had also noticed the smell since the expansion to 1,100 Lorries per day. BW explained that 1,100 Lorries are not all from JPS, as there would be around 80 vehicle movements throughout the whole day.

ID explained that the second complaint was regarding the noise of the empty Lorries going over the bumps in the road, which are disrupting her son's sleep. ID added that she had informed Environmental Health who had suggested installing triple glazed windows.

ID added that both of these complaints were from residents in the Wetley Rocks area.

KB asked how many vehicles would leave the site empty, and BW explained that there used to be a number of empty Lorries leaving at the same time, however this is now staggered. BW added that the chains are also now sleeved up in order to reduce the noise coming from them. KB asked if the residents were sure that these vehicles were all JPS. BW explained that there are trackers one each vehicle and each vehicle goes over the weighbridge, so he will be able to analyse what times and how many empty vehicles are going out on which routes to help pinpoint how many of the vehicles are JPS.

John Tunna (JT) added that road condition is uneven, and so when Lorries go over the bumps, it will inevitably make noise. KB added that she will raise a complaint to the council to address the road conditions. JT added that there are also road marking missing for a short distance in Wetley Rocks. BW stated that he would look at JPS marking the road using the company which JPS use on the factory.

John Pointon and Sons

BW explained that there had been another instance of a vehicle from another company parking in the layby, but BW asked him to move on and had spoken to his boss to ensure that this won't happen again.

BW added that the airlocks project will be fully costed as it would mean a new entry point at the top of the JPS site. Joe Smith (JS) asked if there was the funding for this within the company and BW explained that this new technology is backed as there is a need for it.

BW stated that the review of the cooker validation to lower the temperature by up to 20 degrees is currently on hold.

BW explained that the affordable housing project on Mill Lane is under way, and JPS are currently waiting for the funding to be exchanged which should take place in the next couple of weeks, and the project should be completed by February 2020. JT expressed that credit should be given to the work which has taken place at the Old School House.

JT requested that the initial stone wall break in would be remedied within the next month, following approval of the safer road scheme.

BW explained that the next phase of the roof works should be starting again in spring which will take place on the Category 1 building.

Animal Health

BW explained that an audit had taken place on Tuesday 1 October with 3 DEFRA officers which returned positive reports for all areas.

Trading Standards

BW stated that there were no issues from Trading Standards.

AOB

JS explained that far less has been spent on ground maintenance and the planting is starting to look after itself.

Date of next meeting 24 April 2020 – 17:00 hrs