

Notes from Covanta CLP meeting 29th June 2020

Andy Smith (Construction/traffic – Covanta)

Plans for the next three months, as construction comes towards the end – The tower crane in the refuse bunker will be dismantled within a week or so. Steel erection and cladding will continue. The waste cranes that will be permanently sited in the waste hall will be installed. The steam turbine is due to be delivered Sunday 5th July, travelling overnight from Tilbury. Cabling, electrical equipment etc will be installed before boiler pressure and preparation for initial commissioning later this year. Hook up to mains electrics will happen in October.

Applications for extended hours are being considered by CBC – the works cover welding and steel erection on the ground before the steel components are lifted into position. CBC have contacted local residents for their views but have had no objections as these activities are not too intrusive at night. We have regular meetings with the Covanta/Veolia reps at South Pillinge Farm so that they can keep us informed of what is going on.

They produce a quarterly video of the construction progress. This is now up and running on the Covanta/Rookery South website.

The UKPN works at Green Lane will be finalised by end of September to allow the switch on in October.

Anglian Water works on Green Lane have been finished but there are still wider improvements that they need to do in Stewartby.

Traffic – Once the turbine has been delivered on 5th July, most of the largest components will be on site and they hope they will all be in before the closure of Green Lane for the Network Rail work at the end of August. Very large convoys require police escort and some (such as the turbine) have also required removal of some street furniture along the way. Large vehicles are required to stop at the Green Lane level crossing and phone the signal box before and after crossing as the crossing currently has no CCTV.

HGV routing – from M1 J13 along new A421 to Marston junction and then along the old A421 to Green Lane. Over the coming months, they will be erecting enhanced signage to try and keep HGVs to the approved route. We have had many instances of vehicles of all shapes and sizes arriving at South Pillinge Farm thinking they can access the site from there. We have signs in English and Polish at the farm entrance with details of where to set Sat Navs for to reach the Covanta site. These have helped but it's still a nuisance.

We were assured that once the facility is operational, Veolia will control their fleet and reprimand drivers that flout the routing arrangements.

Network Rail

John Emery gave a presentation on the upgrade of the Stewartby level crossing. Green Lane will be closed 22nd August for 9 days for replacement of the half barriers with full barriers, the installation of CCTV for the signalmen and a new road deck between the rails on the crossing. The diversion to the site will be via Kempston Broadmead but not for HGVs. NR will be using the compound at Millbrook for parking and will run minibuses from there to the site.

Veolia

When operational, waste vehicles will be coming from Veolia's waste transfer station near Northampton. Vehicles will be split between Veolia owned and sub-contractor operated.

Next meeting to be end Sept/beginning Oct.