

Notes from the Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 17 May 2010

Since the principal business of the Meeting was to hear a presentation from TEG about the proposal to establish organic waste processing units at Grundon and to ask questions about it, there was no public forum. However, following the presentation councillors and members of the public asked a large number of questions. Rather than attempt to summarise them here it is intended to amalgamate them into the question and answer document already produced by TEG. When this is available it will be made available to anyone wishing to see a copy and, of course, on the Village website.

It is understood that TEG/Grundon hope to submit a planning application during the summer. They still have work to do on it, in particular to take account of the concerns that have been raised locally. However, the Chairman has been supplied with a draft of the application together with reports on the visual impact of the development and on odour aspects. Anyone who wishes to see all of this material, or any part, should please contact the Chairman (dickrussell@clara.co.uk or 0118 9712269).

There is no doubt that if planning consent is granted, while there will be some visual impact particularly from Beenham Hill and the bridleway, and some increase in traffic and perhaps noise, the major concern is that the operations may give rise to unpleasant odours. If these did arise they would be likely to affect Beenham Hill residents most in view of their proximity and the prevailing wind direction, but the impact could be wider.

In order to allay concerns TEG have offered the opportunity for members of the community to see over their in-vessel composting facility at Exeter and also the anaerobic digestion plant operated by their partners at Munich (there is apparently no similar plant in operation in this country). Transport will be provided. Dates have not been fixed yet, but the visits will be in June after half-term, and on a weekday as the plants do not operate at weekends. Grundon are also happy to arrange for members of the community to see over their existing facility. A number of people have already put their names forward for these visits. If you would like to go please contact the Chairman as soon as possible.

Following the TEG/Grundon question and answer session there was time only for the following items of business.

New Councillor

The PC co-opted Alex Cother from Aldermaston Wharf as a new councillor to fill the existing vacancy.

