

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

held on Thursday, 30th July, 2015 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor J Wray (Chairman)

Councillors H Davenport, M Hardy, N Mannion, A Martin, M Parsons and
B Roberts

In Attendance

Councillor R Menlove

Councillor D Stockton

R Kemp – Strategic Commissioning Manager –Waste and Environment

P Traynor - Strategic Commissioning Manager - Highways

Apologies

Councillors G Barton

75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

76 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations

77 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public present wishing to speak

78 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2015

RESOLVED

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

79 THE RECYCLING OF GARDEN AND FOOD WASTE THROUGH ANAEROBIC DIGESTION TO GENERATE ENERGY AND A HIGH QUALITY COMPOST.

Consideration was given to a presentation on recycling Green Waste and Food Waste through Anaerobic Digestion to generate energy and a high quality compost, prior to a report being submitted to Cabinet in September 2015.

The presentation detailed the current situation and following drivers for change:

- The current contract for the processing of kerbside garden waste would expire in March 2016 (extendable to 2017). Savings needed to be made on the current contract costs. Currently only garden waste could be collected due to the process used.
- As part of its Waste and Energy Strategy, the Council would be seeking to utilise waste streams as a resource for energy production.
- Initial indications from the EC suggested there would a 70% recycling rate by 2030 and a ban.

An initial feasibility study indicated that there was a potential of 5-6,000 tonnes of food waste from kerbside collection, £12.5 million capital build over a 2 year period and net present value of £10.35m over 27 years.

Technical specialists were carrying out a feasibility study of potential sites and revising the business case which would be submitted to Cabinet in September for a joint venture project. If approval were to be given, procurement engagement with potential suppliers would commence in Autumn 2015.

Members questioned how the facility would cope in winter, when there was less garden waste. R Kemp highlighted that there would continue to be a garden waste collection throughout the year, however the process would slow down due to the type of waste being digested i.e. grass cutting in summer and woody material during the winter.

It was suggested that the possibility of a partnership with schools and hospitals be investigated as they would have a large amount of food waste. Another possibility would be to use the energy to run Council vehicles.

Following a discussion regarding tyres and chemical waste, it was requested that a description of the various types of waste and how it can be disposed of be circulated to the Committee.

RESOLVED

That a description of the various types of waste and how it can be disposed of be circulated to the Committee.

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 11.30 am

Councillor J Wray (Chairman)