

Kirby Bellars Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting

17th June 2015

Present: -

Kirby Bellars Parish Council

Andy Howe, Alan Batten, Clair Ingham, Angus Smith

Alf Beurling.

Severn Trent Water

Jonathan Wroe (Regional Clean & Waste Water Business Leader 07786 198636), - Melvyn Leicester (Despatcher Operational Team), - Scott Burgin (Infrastructure County Waste Water), - Miranda Snell, - Andy Wilson (Program Eng – Cap Ex Asset creation), - Owen Davies (Senior Solutions and Feasibility Engineer)

Minutes: -

Angus gave a potted history of the issue and where we currently seem to be, clarifying the purpose of the meeting was to understand the short term and long term plan to fix the serious odour in the main street and residents houses due to the H₂S occurring due to mainly septic sewage from the Great Dalby pumping station.

Miranda commented it was good to have the parties round the table. She formally apologised for the smells on the recent bank holidays – accepting chemical had run out at the Great Dalby station and due to some other issues. Miranda also mentioned that the team had also reported that the Flying Childers had an air locked dosing system on one occasion. Unfortunately the manager from Flying Childers was not present to comment.

Miranda outlined that the team present from STW has recently had a meeting to evaluate the situation and had worked up some proposals that they wished to share with the PC.

Jonathon Wroe then proceeded to share the short and long term plans wishing to show a commitment to fixing the issues. A summary of actions along with outcome of the meetings will be compiled by STW Liaison Officer after agreement with the PC to then be circulated to all residents in the village.

Scott Burgin summarised the technical operation of the system from Great Dalby for new PC members, explaining it is pumped across the rising main into the top chamber on Main Street which is a gravity system down to Kirby's pumping station on Washdyke Lane, to be pumped onward to Asfordby's station. Nutrinox chemical is added at Great Dalby via a dosing system to try and control stagnation/septicity due to delay of sewage transfer over the 3 – 4 miles of pipeline. Scott also

added there is a private pumping station at the Childers that is pumped into the same chamber at the top of Main Street, they also have a dosing system for their short distance of rising main.

Owen Davis reported the dosing system at Great Dalby had been replaced within the last 2 years, the dosing system has been checked recently for operation and that correct dosing levels were being used after conferring with chemical supplier on the length of main and its residence time – adjusted in March.

Issues that had been found with the system recently: -

The dosing point was applying chemical over the top of sanitary waste flocculation and not into the sewage

The low level alarm was set almost too low leading to chemical running out through delays in ordering system with a 7 day lead time made worse over bank holidays

Reliant on experience operative knowledge, so when off sick/on holiday etc there is an issue

System only visited monthly unless report of failure

Reliant only on breakdown maintenance

Vegetation growth over the access lane sometimes preventing delivery issues

During dry weather flow levels can be low

Note: - The alarm is an automatic alarm at the Coventry base that then is responded to by an operator who then raises an order for chemical, which then has to be authorised before the chemical supplier receives the order.

Planned Short Term Fixes: -

Dosing point has been lowered under flocculation – earlier this year

Low Level Alarm position raised in tank to alert earlier, residual chemical in tanker from other deliveries in the area will automatically be delivered to Great Dalby

There will be no need to gain authority before the chemical supplier receives an order on alarm

Maintenance visits will be increased to twice weekly to ensure system operating correctly

Operating procedures and manuals will be written so that all operatives are capable of rectifying faults and ensuring correct operation

Scott Burgin to contact landowner to edge of access lane to ensure that maintenance is carried out by either STW or landowner to maintain deliveries

Plan to increase frequency of removal of flocculated sanitary waste

Investigating adding additional water flow during dry weather conditions to move slug

Pressure release valves on rising main will be checked for operation to release gas into the fields in transit

STW will look into outsourcing bespoke maintenance programme for pumping station, keen to understand the regime operated by the Flying Childers – Angus to ask the Flying Childers for copy from their maintenance supplier

Long Term Fix Options being explored: -

A: -Redirecting rising main so that instead of turning left towards Kirby Bellars it will turn right at the Great Dalby junction on the A607 towards Melton Mowbray, terminating in the STW pumping station at the end of Beler Way

B: - Investigating the Urban Rural Strategy to build a standalone sewage works at Great Dalby

Both of the above will need to be investigated with respect to ecology, environment and impact on other housing development plans on the south side of Melton Mowbray.

The favoured option is A: - Funding for nuisance projects such as this is expected to get support with a delivery time of raising the Cap ex and project completion taking between 12 and 18 months.

The STW team were asked by Alan Batten if it would help if there was positive support for the proposed long term project from Sir Alan Duncan MP – the PC took on a commitment to request Sir Alan's Support.

Jonathon Wroe gave a commitment that their focus was in stopping the smell.

During proceedings Scott Burgin reiterated that there were difficulties with the Flying Childers system that often caused odour problems for the village. The PC wish it noted that this irritates the PC and villagers alike, as odour issues were being recorded on PC minutes in the 70's long before the Flying Childers expanded, and the sewage system was added onto Kirby Bellars main system through the private pumping station towards the end of the 80's early 90's.

The PC however were heartened to see the commitment from the rest of the persons present from STW.