Planning Meeting Notes 27th Sept 2017

Apologies – Jo, Phill, Charlie Brown

Present – Jon Morris, Alison Bromilow, Kate Royston, Steve Ware, Julie Morgan, Chris Chard, James Norman & Georgina Sydney from Sims Metal

No Conflicts of interest were advised

Previous minutes agreed

No matters arising

Sims – Gave a description/introduction into their business, leading metals/electronics recycler – started 100 yrs ago in Australia, employ 4500 people worldwide, 250 facilities in 20 countries – head office is in New York – 40 locations in UK with 1000 employees. UK recycled scrap is mainly exported as not all steel plants use recycled steel

In UK, Sims employs 70 staff, 50 at dock.New project should increase jobs by 10%

Current plans – to be best recycling plant in world for metal shredding – Avonmouth to be a custom copy of good pieces of plant in Australia.

Extra room needed to spread & sort, build a pre-shredder, increase roadway – shredder breaks cars etc into small pieces.

New downstream plant linked to shredding plant – conveyor for material to dockside

Logistics area laned to improve/increase truck movement

3 stage plan – 1) infrastructure (1st yr) 2) downstream plant built next to old one(2nd yr) 3) pre-shredder (3rd yr) for sustainability and noise reductions system, these will be enclosed, but, no roof

James explained in detail each part of the system, and explained that the new equipment as it moves slower will decrease the number of explosions, this machine will be enclosed, but no roof and they are also looking to enclose the downstream machine

Will be applying for planning permission and are engaged with a planning consultant – putting in a pre-app to highlight any problems/issues

70% ferrous straight to dock to load – one magnet at moment will be replaced with two – remaining 30% is made into a concentrate with 15% being waste rubber etc. The cars are de-polluted ie rubber/airbags/batteries removed along with air con and all liquids, all done under government guidelines.

Question was raised regarding the number of explosions asking if they have a way of finding out cause and who supplied the scrap that caused the explosion?

Environmental permit recently renewed to a greater one, so records are kept re explosions and where possible these are used to find supplier of the explosion containing scrap and this customer may find Sims stop taking their waste.

Shredder will be enclosed with an open top with dust suppression to prevent pollution – this will be an air/water mist which is the best way to capture dust particles

Question: will Screens/Noise exclusion to be part of the planning application? Y.

Question regarding storing tyres/hazardous material – James explained this is to cover something they already have to do when cars are delivered to site with tyres on them, but need a new permit to cover the storing of these until enough collected to return to supplier/recycler – no further plans at the moment to increase what they already do in this respect.

Question re what happens to the scrap when its recycled – 70% ferrous goes by sea to Turkey to be used in production

New plants will create concentrate comprising brass, copper and aluminium 15% and rubber, fabric and foam 15% which goes to their plant in Stratford upon Avon

Heavy material will not be loaded after 10pm – there are 3 different grades of material, which have to be loaded equally onto the ship

1. Fragments – shredded cars
2. 99% pure steel
3. Girders etc

Dust suppression – this is fresh water – the waste goes into the drains

Air systems are sealed with bag filters which are self cleaning regularly through the day which is part of their permit

Plans are NOT to increase the amount of work but to keep to current capacity in a better way

James is happy to come back to another meeting and asked to be contacted in a couple of months for an update on the position regarding the pre-app

Operating hours currently 7am-9pm mon – Friday sat 7am-5pm, this is planned to change to 6am-10pm- part of planning application.

Sims were asked whether noise from operations could be reduced as, particularly in summer when windows were open, it caused problems for local residents eg during exam revision period, and disrupted sleep.

Sims explained cost of keeping ships in port means that work cannot be restricted to 9 to 5. There will be no Sunday working but ship loading will still continue.

All explosions and actions taken are reported to the EA

Day Group – Pre-appeal meeting @ Council house 16th October 10am – entrance via front door – informal meeting to enable views to be aired and questions to be asked – need local people to attend to show how we feel about this development.

Pre-App for Robin Cousins – Alison advised they are not ready to attend yet as still talking to Highways about access to the site

Bristol Heritage Forum – 27th October – visiting Avonmouth re 50 years of conservation – protect character of the area – Alison is facilitating a workshop table on Avonmouth: Council House - £15 pp – anyone welcome – there is a walkabout in the morning followed by meeting at Council House – contact for this is Alison. Sponsored places for Avonmouth planning group members available.

Breakfast meeting – David Brown from Bristol Port attended and promoted Avonmouth Skills Academy – venue of next meeting TBA this will be for Community Development Grants

Viridor Liaison Group – plant is costing £252 million – 2800 piles being put in –auger piles not driven- 600 construction workers – will burn waste from Somerset coming in via M49 link

Costain have been replaced by Balfour Beatty on Hinkley Point power plant tunnels construction work– will need to make contact to allow discussions.

National Grid Pylons – is there a possibility of money for the local community from these? £20000 available in grants.

Next Meeting – 25th Oct @ St Andrews Church Hall 7pm

Notes for next Agenda: