

**MINUTES OF OFFICE BEARERS MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

**TO DISCUSS WASTE INCINERATION PLANT ISSUES WITH  
SCOTGEN, STRATUS AND ELECTED MEMBERS.**

Item				
1	<b>MEMBERS PRESENT &amp; APOLOGIES</b>			
	<b>In attendance</b>		<b>Apologies</b>	
	George Smith (GS) Chair	Robert Freel (RF) (Secretary)	W Mackie (Treasurer)	Robert Craig (Vice Chair)
	M Casey (MC)	G Haddow (GH)		
	Cllr Holman	Cllr G Campbell		
	Invited members of Public:	Paul McGilvray Emma Stewart		
	Stratus consulting & Scotgen Representatives	David Baker (DB) Lloyd Brotherton (LB)		
	<p>Chair George Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting, and went on to outline what the purpose of the meeting was for. He first asked all present to introduce themselves. GS intimated that the meeting would formulate around a series of questions and answers out to Scotgen and Stratus.</p> <p>Cllr Holman advised he was merely attending on a watching brief and would not take any part in the debate apart from advice on planning process.</p>			
2	<b>Planning Process</b>			
	<p>Chair asked for an outline of the process in order to understand exactly at what point in the planning process the proposal was at.</p> <p>No application has been lodged. A scoping report had been submitted to SLC outlining Scotgen' intentions. Part of Scotgens process was to engage in public consultation in which they held a public exhibition.</p> <p>Currently an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) and Technical Assessments (TA) were being undertaken. When asked about timescales for planning application or project plan etc it was stated that these were not known. Further questions on timelines revealed that these assessments were currently underway and could be completed in approximately six weeks.</p> <p>When asked against what policies the planning submission would be made DB of Stratus advised NPP guidelines and local South Lanarkshire Waste Policy.</p> <p>Cllr Campbell asked how any eventual application would be classified. This would be classed as a major application on greenbelt land.</p>			
3	<b>Company Status</b>			
	<p>LB stated that company Scotgen South Lanarkshire was formed in March and was a shell company. When asked what the company relationship was with Scotgen Dumfries we were advised sister company. Ascot Holdings was the group company and was providing the backing. Plant was being private funded with no grant funding. Currently not operating any plants in England although a number are in the planning process. Currently operating a plant in Dumfries. Small plant operating in the Isle of Wight.</p>			

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4	<b>Customer / client Base</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>Currently no client base or contracts held, company will be looking towards South Lanarkshire council as a customer base to try and use residential waste as well as targeting any local surrounding companies for commercial waste.</p> <p>Stratus advised that they had analysed the waste potential of the area and it had shown a potential market.</p>	
5	<b>Plant Operating Process and Capacity</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>Capacity was 80,000 tonnes per annum this capacity was limited on the number &amp; size of Gasification chambers available for processing. Any operating licence would control this capacity. Questions were asked about fines for breaching capacity however LB /DB stated that this was not possible as there were strict controls on the operating licence. Capacity was restricted by the limits of the equipment.</p> <p>Plant was expected to generate 10.5 MHZ of electricity.</p> <p>Questions were asked about reportable breaches at Dumfries plant. Around 48 breaches were advised as having been reported and plant was still in commissioning stages. All breaches have been investigated.</p> <p>SEPA is the main controlling body and Scotgen are self reporting for all incidents. GH asked what was being monitored and how it was monitored; this is all listed in the permit however no clear levels were discussed. Monitoring was continuous but self reporting.</p> <p>What liquid residuals would be processed? Advised that all liquid is contained on site and tankered away.</p> <p>Questions were asked on capacity of the plant and if there was potential to exceed this capacity then what would happen. LB/DB advised that a further planning application would be made to extend the plant.</p> <p>Involves 75 lorries per day excluding what currently runs into the site from Doves dale plant. TIA would provide details of full numbers.</p> <p>What proportion of waste processed would be hazardous, advised that this would be minimal however some could be hazardous. GH advised that the process itself was hazardous as the fuel and process also can generate hazardous emissions.</p>	<p>RF</p> <p>RF</p>
7	<b>Why this area</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>Reason as to why this area was selected ranged from</p> <p>Location (next to motorway)</p> <p>Market base for waste</p> <p>Site already has a re-cycle plant.</p> <p>Questions asked about location of other sites however no clear indication given.</p> <p>No specific tie between Hamilton's who currently operate on site.</p> <p>Possible link to Waste management Policy of South Lanarkshire Council.</p> <p>Representatives were asked what weightings they would put to considerable objections; however answers provided would depend on the EIA, TIA and other assessments.</p>	

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	The site possessed no unique attributes.	
8	<b>Traffic</b>	
	What routes would traffic take when leaving or entering the site? This was unknown although presumed that traffic would exit to junction 8. Discussion on A71 and local road congestion at Strathaven.	
9	<b>Emissions</b>	
	What emissions would be monitored? Answer was that it would all be contained in any operating licence. Concern as to limits of mercury, and other chemical emissions discussed although no levels were provided. Noise was asked about and this would be captured in the EIA with current levels being measured.	
10	<b>Time limit for consultation</b>	
	The date of 12 <sup>th</sup> June was advised as the final date for consultation with public however DB & LB advised that this was flexible within reason	
11	<b>Business Plan</b>	
	GS asked about a business plan and how much would be spent on the investment of the proposed plant. Advised that Dumfries plant cost around £22 million to build this plant could be double. Also advised no business plan or model existed however this was stated as hard to believe by those present as if plant were to generate 50 jobs and turn a profit to give a return on the investment then some form of business model or plan must exist. Advised that no land has been bought yet, no post code allocated for site yet	
12	<b>Community council Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	
	Scotgen & Stratus had previously indicated they would attend the next public community council meeting however when asked if they would attend the public meeting of SCC being held on 21 <sup>st</sup> June they advised they would consider it in light of the number of possible objectors who lobbied the meeting. Chair advised it would be in their best interest to attend, that it would be an orderly chaired meeting designed to inform local residents. No commitment was given by DB or LB and they will advise secretary of their decision.  Meeting concluded with chairman thanking Scotgen and Stratus for attending.	