



Haresfield Herald

December 2011



GlosVain Press Release
14th December 2011

Preferred Bidder Selected

Campaigners listened with equal quantities of interest and frustration as Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) selected its preferred bidder today for the

construction of a huge incinerator at Javelin Park in Haresfield. The selection precedes the Council entering into the biggest contract in its history at a cost of £500,000,000, coming from local taxpayers' pockets.

Costas Ttof of GlosVain commented, "GCC today exercised their choice to select bidder Urbaser/Balfour Beatty, with whom they will now enter into contract negotiations. Gloucestershire residents, by contrast, will no doubt continue to be deprived of choice with regard to how the County's waste problem is dealt with, while the Council continues its fixation on mass burn incineration (MBI).

Alternative technologies like Mechanical and Biological Treatment with Anaerobic Digestion are much better all round, but calls to reconsider these continue to fall on deaf ears despite opposition from so many quarters, including residents, Cheltenham Borough Council and Stroud District Council. Stroud's position is particularly telling, since it would be required to play host to a facility it opposes because it seeks to use the waste in a more positive way!"

The International Climate Change Conference in Durban closed this week with world leaders committing to reforms so insignificant that our planet will now be on a course to be hit by global temperature increases of 4 degrees, to the dismay of many scientists.

Gerald Hartley of Glosvain said, "In the 21st century, materials viewed as waste in earlier times will increasingly be seen as a precious resource to be reprocessed, recycled and reused. Burning these resources now and for 25 years, when we are faced with the challenges of Climate Change and when cleaner alternatives exist, will be seen as reckless and profligate behaviour by the generations who come after us. For each unit of electricity generated, incineration produces more of the greenhouse gas (carbon dioxide) than gas fired power stations. So energy from waste using MBI fails the carbon reduction test.

A solution involving a number of smaller, distributed facilities would allow waste to be treated as a resource, encourage more recycling, make less impact on our environment, still provide some energy from waste, reduce landfill and provide flexibility for future solutions."

GlosVAIN

LETTERS

It was obvious from the very start that, although they gave lip-service to "considering all options" for waste disposal, Waddington and his cronies always intended to build an incinerator and that it would be at Javelin Park near Haresfield.

Seldom have I seen a so-called "servant of the people" so entirely free to bulldoze his will all the way through to a deal such as this... even against significant opposition from the public, who will be stuck with this monstrosity in the future. This is a real example of abuse of power in public office and of what we are encouraged to believe is a democratic process.

Waddington is a dinosaur who is no doubt going to win some powerful friends (at HIS end of the county) by placing this ghastly and polluting edifice as far away as possible from his own electorate, doubtless catching a massive grant of public funds (to be spent by his Council cohorts) in the process.

What, I wonder, does the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change (Chris Huhne) think about the countless thousands of tonnes of CO2 which this will produce. How much will the public REALLY be allowed to know about what belches from the chimney being planned... ? ... the particulates, the CFC's, the heavy metals, the radioactive isotopes, all of which are to be found in many of the items most likely to be burned in this ghastly thing... !

There stands the old duffer in the picture, grinning triumphantly against the mountain of rubbish whose disposal he has sought to turn into a nice little earner (for someone)... When the grim reaper finally calls Waddington to account it would be appropriate for him to be collected by a council dustcart (with apologies to the good people who have to do that work) and sent, as a puff of unsavoury smoke, up that ugly chimney, along with all the other pollutants which generations as yet unborn will be breathing for much of their lives, as a direct result of this old fool being given the power to have his ignorant way... !

OK, I'll come off the fence. Waddington has abused his power beyond all belief. It's time he was called to account... by people who take no prisoners, and who cannot be bullied or bought !

John Parris

GlosVAIN contact channels

Twitter @Glosvain

Facebook "Rage against the Incinerator"

Email pr@glosvain.info

Article from Councillor Tony Blackburn

JAVELIN PARK –THE BATTLE OF THE INCINERATOR HOTS UP!

“Since I last reported to you there have been further developments with regards to the Waste plant.

The decision was taken by the GCC Cabinet on Wednesday 14th December to select Urbaser/Balfour Beatty as the preferred contractor for the contract. Next it will be confirmation by full council on 18th January 2011 and after that the Environmental Input assessment and planning consent application both further GCC processes, dates to be notified.

I raised the matter of what was the GCC going to do to reassure the residents of Haresfield, Standish and Hardwicke at the full council on 30th November in a debate which I only got 1 minute to speak because 3 and 5 minute speeches by Lib Dem and Green speakers who were keen to hear the sound of their own voices droning on so that my opportunity to press the urgent issues of the size of the plant, the emissions, restriction on lorry traffic and compensation for the community which I expressed forcefully was drowned out! Local residents feel that no one cares and boy are they right! All concerned should come to the meetings I refer to above and put their point of view.

I have had my session with Professor Harrison the GCC's expert on incinerators upon which I said I would report. Salient points:-

- A. He has never had any experience of the present bidders or any incinerator being in breach of safety compliance. c.f. cement, hospital waste plants
- B. Modern incinerators and this applies to either bidder are controlled to limit potentially harmful particles escaping, only emitting a tiny proportion through the stack
- C. Emissions are monitored in the plant to a high EU standard. I queried whether this had been relaxed recently but he said not. The Environment Agency carried out frequent checks. The operator could make monitoring data public and put it on line for public view
- D. I asked if there was an automatic cut off if safety limit exceeded. He said no, but an officer would be there to operate a failsafe mechanism
- E. If new safety measures were invented during the 25 year contract period could GCC oblige the operator to put in new safety methods? He said this would be difficult
- E. Was the chimney going to be high enough to clear away emissions over Haresfield Beacon? He said that the stack height would be approved by the Environment Agency at a level which assured public safety
- F. On my asking he said that there was no reason why we should not ask for monitors to be set up e.g. on Haresfield Beacon to further check emissions. He said this would be unusual but yes.
- G. What about the chemicals used in the emissions cleaning kept on site? These are not hazardous on their own but must be handled appropriately

For a full note of the meeting please apply to Katherine Sinclair at the GCC.

So what do I think now? Slightly more reassured about safety but not happy that everything is being done to make the plant 100% safe nor to fit it into the community. We must keep putting on the pressure!

The above has left little room for other news e.g. success over the Sellar's Farm Development, but there is still space to say “Happy Christmas and New Year to all in North Stroud!”

County Councillor, Tony Blackburn

Noted in the Financial press on Thursday 15th December...

Balfour Beatty, have announced their appointment as the preferred contractor for a £500m contract to design and build “a machine that turns waste into energy”

This is a key phrase for the pro-incineration lobby – putting a positive spin what is, and always will be, incineration.

As a result their shares rose 7.2p! Any shareholders with a moral or ethical conscience need to seriously consider their shareholding

Extract from

Our Village Within Living Memory

By Lofty Holland, 1956

Nestling on the slopes of the Beacon is College Farm. This curiously named farm has nothing to do with a seat of learning. It seems certain, however, that there was at one time a connection between it and the Monastery at Standish. Probably it was a monastery farm. Many of the old inhabitants of Haresfield talk of an underground passage between the two, and a doorway, now blocked up, in the cellar of the farm, has been stated to be the entrance to it.

For those people who believe in the supernatural, there is a true story of the Headmaster of the Village School, who believes that he met one of these monks revisiting the scene of his earthly existence. One particular dark night, Mr Powell was taking his dog for a bedtime run, when he heard footsteps approaching him from the direction of the Farm. He stepped to the side of the road, but no one came along, thinking that his ears had deceived him, he called to his dog to come along, but as she did not move, he shone his torch upon her. She was standing rigid, with every hair on end and her tail between her legs, and she absolutely refused to move. Her master then slipped her lead, and she turned tail and ran for home as fast as she could. When he reached her, she was shivering miserably on the doorstep. Mr Powell was convinced that with her very much more sensitive ears and eyes, she had seen something unusual.

Later, however, his wife was telling the story to the occupant of a cottage quite close to College Farm, who said quite confidently that she had seen the gentleman in question but that he was dressed as a Cavalier. He appeared in her sitting room one evening. She had not felt in the least nervous or upset, but while she was wondering who he was and what he wanted, he disappeared. So whether this was the same presence which Mr Powell had met, or whether there are two such wanderers roaming the hillside, will never be known. The connection between Haresfield and a Cavalier seems feasible, as there is some evidence to support the theory that Cromwell and his Roundheads were in the vicinity during the Civil War.

Haresfield Parish Council Meeting

Monday 5th December 2011

Cllr Blackburn confirmed his support to an application for a 20mph signage in Haresfield under the Highways Big Community Offer - 20 is plenty.

Cllr Blackburn spoke of attending the recent Full Council meeting on the 30th November when he was given precisely **one** minute to raise the many numerous issues against the proposed incinerator at Javelin Park i.e. the question of compensation for Haresfield, traffic omissions etc., The response he received from Cabinet – leave such questions until the planning application is submitted.

The Cabinet to meet on the 14th December to decide/ announce which of the two bidders is to be selected as the preferred bidder.

Full Council meeting to be held on the 18th January 2012 for Environmental Assessment & Planning.

Secretary of State Carol Spellman is marking time over a decision on incineration in Norfolk due to the large amount of objections.

Cllr Blackburn outlined the outcome of a meeting held with Prof Ray Harrison. Prof Harrison has been commissioned by Glos C.C to advise them on health risks on various waste strategies. Prof Harrison who is entirely pro-incineration confirmed that the Environmental Agency are responsible for and will be carrying out safety checks, details of which will be placed on line for public viewing.

Monitors to be placed on the Beacon to ensure safety levels are not being breached.

The Chairman enquired if compensation has been taken into consideration in the business plan for the incinerator.

The Chairman requested Cllr Blackburn to query why the incinerator capacity has jumped from 150,000 tonnes to 190,000 tones and where this increase in waste to be treated would be coming from.

Gloucestershire C.C.'s: Asset Manager Highways (Scott Tomkins) re The Big Community Offer Highways and a proposed speed limit of 20mph by the school.

Mr Tomkins suggests a starting point would be to set up a working group to begin to look at developing the details of the scheme. Enclosed details of offers together with costs of the new bespoke highways packages available to communities. The item to be placed on the 9th January Agenda, Mr Tomkins to be invited to attend the meeting.

Comic Relief: Sports Relief 2012. Looking for organisations interested in hosting a Sainsbury's Sport Relief Mile. The village hosting a Mile event should be a bit of fun. All it takes is an accessible venue, a route which allows people to run 1, 3 or 6 miles, and some handy volunteers. **Anyone in the village ready to rise to the challenge to raise funds for this worthwhile course?** Further details available from the Parish Council.

Care & Repair (Stroud) hope to encourage those who do not rely on their fuel allowance to support C&R by donating all or part of their allowance to Unit 9 New Mills Industrial Estate, Libby's Drive, Slad Road. Stroud. GL5 1RN.

Last year over 300 people in Gloucestershire died from causes directly attributed to the cold and poor living conditions

Planning:

Mr James Heame - St Josephs Travellers Park.

Permission granted by Stroud District Council re Discharge of Condition. 2.4.5.6.7.8.10,12,13 and 14 of approved application S.09/1033/COU Change of use from agricultural land to travelling showman's site.

Mr James Heame - St Josephs Travellers Park.

Permission granted by Stroud D.C. re Discharge of Condition. 2.4.5.6.7.8.10, 11,12,13 from planning permission S.09/1519/COU

Budget Total Precept required for 2012 - 2013. £6400

Javelin Park

GlosVAIN (Gloucestershire Vale Against Incineration)

The Planning Sub-Committee are seeking advice from a planning lawyer/barrister with a view to hiring one to advise on legitimate objections to the planning application that the successful bidder will be submitting and the various conditions that could be attached to principally to protect and compensate the residents of Haresfield.

Looking into locating a large balloon to be erected near Javelin Park to demonstrate how high an 85metre will appear.

Glos Highways has replenished the supply of salt in the grit box held on Malthouse Farm. If this year hazardous conditions are experienced on the corner of Beacon Lane, please give Farmer Coates a call.

Glos Highways to be advised of the broken road surface/ verges and the generally disgusting state of the area in the vicinity of the Highways Dept, Mount Lane. Attention to be drawn to this being the main entry into the village from Junction 12.

Once again the Parish Council is receiving reports of inconsiderate owners not cleaning up after their dogs with particular emphasis on the public footpath running along the Merryfield and the school. As well as this being highly anti-social, dog faeces and the remnants of dog faeces can cause ill health effects, especially in young children.

To help reduce the problem Stroud D.C. are consulting on the introduction of dog control orders.

The Parish Council would remind dog owners of an article placed in the October issue of the Herald which drew attention to the report of an incident leading to a prosecution by SDC resulting in a fine of £826.50

Please dog owners have consideration for others and clean up after your dog.

The next Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2012

email haresfieldpc@btinternet.com

News from our Church



Advent Events

Carol Service for Haresfield & Standish parishes - Thursday 22nd December at 7.00 pm. NOTE this will be held at Standish Church. If you want a lift please contact Caroline (728387) or Alec (883403).

Midnight Mass for Haresfield & Standish parishes - Saturday 24th December at 11.30 pm, led by Canon Mike Irving.

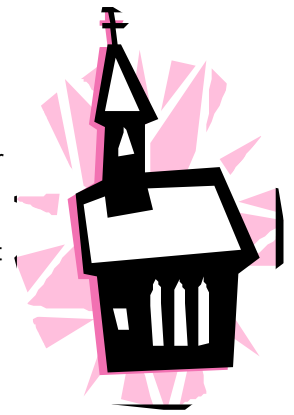
Christmas Day Communion Services are at Frocester 9.00 am and Whitminster at 10.30 am.

Benefice Birthday Communion at Frocester 3.00 pm 1st of January 2012.

Lay Led Services - December to March Caroline Segelov: December 4, February 5, March 18 Alec Jeakins: December 18, February 19: John Mitchell: January 15, March 4.

Christingle Service This year's service was a wonderful event, with about 100 children and around 70 adults attending. We are very grateful to Ros Farrell and other members of the School staff for organising this service. The pupils involvement was very apparent from the way they read. The singing of so many voices was a joy to hear. Our Rector gave the blessing. The School Governors served mulled wine & mince pies after the service. It was very nice to see pupils who had left last summer returning to join us. With some Christingle candles still to be returned the collection for the Children's Society has so far raised £186.00.

Caroline Segelov & Alec Jeakins - churchwardens



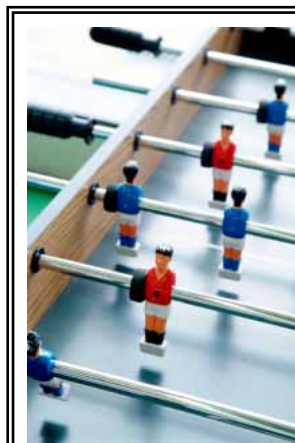
CONTINUE THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AND BRING YOUR OLD COMPUTER TO ROTARY FOR RECYCLING



The next collections by the Rotary Club of Severn Vale will be on Saturday 7th January 2012 at Tesco Stroud from 11am to noon and then at Tesco Quedgeley from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. Your old computers will be wiped clean and fully refurbished by IT Schools for Africa before being sent out to help children learn in Africa.

All computers should be Pentium III or above and in working order please. Monitors should be 15" or 17". Printers and scanners unfortunately cannot be accepted. So far over 400 computers have been collected by the Rotary Club of Severn Vale.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL THE
HERALD READERS**



FOR SALE Football Table

Free Standing.
Excellent condition
Hours of family fun, so ideal
Christmas present

SIZE: 77cm (w) x 138cm (L) x
87cm (H)

£120

01452 723074

ZUMBA Fitness



Wednesdays,
8.15pm to 9.15pm

Linda Virgoe Dance Studios,
Waterwells, Quedgeley

No need to book
- just turn up!

Your Village Newsletter

If you would like to contribute any articles, have any comments, publicise forthcoming events or would like to advertise items for sale, then please send them to:

Claire Card at Corner Cottage, tel: 883100.

Or ideally email them to:

claire@beaconmarketingsolutions.co.uk