



Operator Liaison Group

Medworth CHP Ltd

Date and time of meeting: Thursday 18th September 2025, 4:30-6:00pm

Venue: Oasis Community Centre
St. Michael's Avenue, Wisbech PE13 3NR

Present:

MVV (Developer/Operator)	Community/education organisations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Carey (Managing Director) – PC Gary Parkinson (Construction Manager) – GP Tim Marks (Head of Planning) – TM Jane Ford (Communications and Community Relations Manager) – JF Andy Houghton (Community Liaison Manager) – AH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Stevens (Wisbech Community Development Trust) – CS Viv Atkinson (Cambridgeshire Community Foundation) – VA Andrew Callaghan (Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Learning Trust) – AC Marija Lysak (Support Cambridgeshire) – ML Annette Williams (Wisbech Schools' Partnership) – AW
Host Authorities/Regulator/statutory bodies	Residents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deborah Jeakins (Cambridgeshire County Council) – DJ Environment Agency officer – EA Dal Roy (Elm and Christchurch, observer) – DR Neil Buttress (Hundred of Wisbech IDB) – NB Henry Duncalfe (Hundred of Wisbech IDB) – HD Mike Day (Chair, Hundred of Wisbech IDB) – MD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wayne Cooke (resident) – WC Marcus Aspden (resident/WisWIN) – MA Saxongate Residents representative – SR

Item:	Notes:	Action(s):
1. Welcome, introductions and apologies	<p>Apologies received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew Rosamond (National Highways) Mervyn Sargeant (Hair World UK) Roy Gerstner (Whittlesey Town Council) Fred Leach (Walsoken Parish Council) Michael Mackle (Mackle Apple) Keith Smith (Ferry Project) <p>PC welcomed everyone to the meeting; it was agreed that he should continue to Chair. Attendees confirmed their affiliation and role in relation to the project.</p> <p>PC announced that the local company name has now been changed to MVV Environment Medworth Ltd, in line with the wider MVV group.</p>	
2. Confirm/update agenda	The agenda had been circulated in advance and was agreed by those in attendance, with no additional items raised.	
3. Project update (MVV)	<p>a) GP explained that water vole surveys and licencing are in progress and the existing operator of the site is clearing their activities ready to vacate it.</p> <p>b) TM provided an update on the discharge of Order Requirements, which includes producing detailed schemes that were outlined at the application stage. The number in</p>	

	<p>brackets refers to the Order Requirement and all documents can be found on MVV's and CCC's websites.</p> <p>1) Pre-commencement Requirements Local Air Quality Monitoring Scheme (27) Employment and Skills Strategy (21) Air Safety (26) Community Fund (section 111) Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy (6)</p> <p>2) Installation of acoustic fence at New Bridge Lane Construction Traffic Management Plan (11) Detailed Design Drawing Schedule (2)</p> <p>3) Main EfW site Biodiversity and Landscape Mitigation (4) Contamination and Groundwater (9) Construction Traffic Management Plan Route Restrictions Operational Traffic Management Plan Route Restrictions Detailed Design Appendix A – design update (2) Detailed Design Appendix B – detailed drawings (2) Construction Traffic Management Plan (11) Detailed Design (2) Operational Drainage Strategy Landscape and Ecology Strategy</p> <p>4) Temporary Construction Compound Temporary Highway Access (7)</p> <p>There are further Requirements to be discharged for the grid connection and some detailed plans for access along New Bridge Lane are being prepared.</p> <p>MA asked whether air quality monitoring data will be available to the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ TM confirmed that data will be accessible to the council and a report will be presented to this group as well as being uploaded to MVV's website. <p>SR asked how long monitoring will last.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ TM confirmed that the commitment is for the first four years of operation. <p>SR suggested that the public might prefer a longer period of monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PC confirmed that this is similar to the commitment at Plymouth which has shown no increase in particulates since the start of operations. ➤ TM stated that the strategy is linked to and coordinated with FDC's and BCKLWN's air quality plans. ➤ TM showed the location of the air quality monitoring equipment (continuous monitoring station at Thomas Clarkson Academy and the diffusion tubes). ➤ At the time of this meeting, the continuous monitoring station at TCA is being tested and calibrated; the diffusion tubes are in situ; and we are awaiting delivery of the Zephyr monitor. <p>CS stated that she is happy to see early monitoring in place to establish the current air quality, which is believed to be poor.</p> <p>c) VA confirmed that the funding agreement between MVV and the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation is ready to be signed and that there will be a simple application process.</p>	<p>MVV</p> <p>MVV</p> <p>MVV/CCF</p>
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	There will be help available for people and organisations to apply for funding.	
4. Host Authority update (CCC)	<p>DJ clarified that the Order Requirements are being approved in the order that they are needed.</p> <p>a) DJ explained that no decisions have been made yet on how to spend the section 106 funding for Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Non-Motorised Users (NMU). CCC's rights of way team are engaged with NCC to present options and promote the fund; there will be further engagement with wider stakeholders. If all four parishes want their £100,000 then some smaller plans may come forward; if the money is pooled then a larger plan to benefit all parishes may be possible.</p> <p>TM confirmed that £200,000 has already been paid and a further £200,000 will be paid before construction starts.</p> <p>DJ stated that relevant officers can attend these OLG meetings as and when relevant or required.</p> <p>Engagement with the traveller community was requested and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DJ will pass this on to officers. <p>CS asked whether there is additional PROW money available from Central Government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DJ will ask officers. 	<p>CCC/NCC</p> <p>DJ</p> <p>DJ</p>
5. Regulator update (EA)	The EA confirmed that they are also discharging Order and pre-operational Requirements, including emergency plans. Annual site visits are planned for the operational phase. A virtual operator meeting was held so that an initial CAR form could be issued to move MVV off the 'u' banding. From 12 th August 2025, all CAR forms will be available on the public register, with a 42-day delay for any challenge from the operator. CAR forms issued prior to 12 th August can be accessed with a Freedom of Information request.	
6. Questions	<p><i>A number of questions have been included at section 3 above as they relate to the flow of the discussion around the project delivery timeline. Answers to those questions are marked with arrowed bullets to distinguish them from the bulleted list of project delivery and other update items.</i></p> <p>DR asked what the capacity of the waste bunker is and what happens to the waste during maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PC explained that waste deliveries are scaled down in the run-up to a maintenance outage. The Medworth facility has the advantage of two lines so it would still operate at 50% capacity if maintenance was being carried out on one boiler. People will continue to produce waste, so priority is always given to council-collected waste. The waste bunker will have a storage capacity of 46,000m³, or approximately 11.5 days at full delivery volumes (and therefore longer with reduced waste deliveries before and during an outage). ➤ EA confirmed that reducing waste input and storing it in the bunker during an outage is standard procedure. ➤ PC added that there will be a separating wall between the reception and storage bunkers to prevent waste avalanching. 	

	<p>MA asked what MVV will do if they can't get any more waste contracts and only have 60% of the capacity filled. Furthermore, what if the facility is not financially viable?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PC explained that MVV charge a gate fee (per tonne) for waste delivered to the facility. The 60% already secured is at the preferred price and the rest could be secured at a lower price if necessary. ➤ PC confirmed that the facility will be financially viable as there are other factors to consider, such as energy prices. <p>MA asked whether operating at a small scale in a large facility would be a breach of the DCO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DJ pointed out that this question has already been answered and the facility was granted on the grounds of its capacity; it can legitimately operate at a lower capacity. ➤ PC added that other operators have tried using the DCO process to get consent and then build something smaller but that is not the case here. ➤ DJ pointed out that if MVV's application had come to local planning and been refused, MVV would have appealed and the decision would have gone to the Secretary of State anyway. ➤ DJ added that the waste and minerals plan for 2026-2030 is out for consultation now and people can have their say on the allocation of sites. <p>DR asked whether there will be any monitoring of ground pollution for chemicals etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ EA confirmed that fugitive emissions to soil and groundwater are covered (as well as emissions to air) by the Permit. The permit has conditions for monitoring of emissions, including groundwater and soil under Condition 3.3.4 which states: <i>Periodic monitoring shall be carried out at least once every 5 years for groundwater and 10 years for soil, unless such monitoring is based on a systematic appraisal of the risk of contamination.</i> The permit and the supporting decision documents, which details the permit assessment process, are available at: PE13 2TQ, Medworth CHP Limited: environmental permit issued - EPR/HP3441QA/A001 - GOV.UK. ➤ DJ added that there is a surface water drainage Requirement under the DCO, which has been discharged (see section 3 above). ➤ PC added that chemicals on site will include oil for starting up the boilers, hydrochloric acid and sodium hydroxide; these will be safely stored in bunded enclosures. ➤ TM confirmed that the Construction Environmental Management Plan includes a map of sampling points around the construction site to ensure activities are undertaken in a considerate manner. 	<p>All</p> <p>EA</p> <p>MVV</p>
7. Any other business	There was no other business to discuss.	
8. Date, time and location for next meeting	The next meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd January 2026 at the Oasis Community Centre (St. Michael's Avenue, Wisbech, PE13 3NR) from 5pm .	