

**John Pointon and Sons Ltd Liaison Group Meeting
5.00 pm Friday 20th April 2018**

The following members were present:

Chair	Karen Bradley (Member of Parliament)
Member of Parliament For Stoke South	Jack Brereton (Member of Parliament)
Environment Agency	Steve Thomason – Site Inspector
Councillors:	CLr Harold Jennings - Cheddleton Parish Council CLr John Tunna - Cheddleton Parish Council CLr Mike Bowen- SMDC District Council
Pointons:	Barney Williams - Technical Director
Animal Health	See apologies
Representing Residents:	Kevin Benfield Joe Smith
Staffordshire County Council	See apologies
Apologies	Stephanie Young (Trading Standards – Animal Health) Patricia Duffy

1. Welcome

Karen Bradley our Member of Parliament welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Update from Environment Agency

Steve Thomason (ST) stated that since the last meeting in November 2017 that there had been 13 complaints received, all reported in 2018. Bringing the year to date total of odour complaints from local residents to 13. ST commented that it had been an unusual period for weather so far in 2018 i.e. the wind direction in particular.

<i>January</i>	- 1
<i>February</i>	- 7
<i>March</i>	- 2
<i>April</i>	- 3

ST reported that there were 3 Schedule 5 notifications from the company since the last meeting which included issues such as power outages (x2) and stack emission.

ST stated that the Company were currently working through their agreed proactive tracker to ensure that potential odour complaints are mitigated wherever possible.

Examples of new initiatives are as follows:-

- The Company are about to explore the potential of installing an air lock on the Category 3 raw material building. Two Port cabin offices have been removed and the Pointon architect will now work to produce an accurate drawing to determine if access is sufficient.
- The Company are also exploring a technology utilised in the waste industry which is an air curtain around the perimeter of raw material doors. BW to update at the next meeting.

3. Update from John Pointon and Sons

Roof Replacement – Category 1

Category 1 raw material building roof will be replaced before the end of June 2018. Work commencing in May 2018.

Furthermore, BW confirmed that the company were utilising a drone with a thermal image camera to inspect and record surveys to pinpoint any heat loss and/or any decay in the fabric of the buildings.

Biomass Proposals

The company received planning permission from Staffordshire County Council for a waste wood biomass facility on site which will provide the energy needed to operate the Category 3 processing facility and also enough electricity to operate key aspects of the factory i.e. 1.4 MW of electrical energy.

The project is currently on hold due to the size of the capital expenditure investment and also the uncertainty created by the delays in the 27MW grid connection i.e. delayed until Q4 2019.

Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Project

The company are currently working with Centrica to design a combined heat and power (CHP) system which will be a gas fired electricity generator that will also raise steam to provide the heat for a drying process within the water treatment plant (WTP). 1.8MW of Electricity will be generated which will be fed into the factory electrical system. It is estimated that the site will be

Core - PLC Technology

The Company have invested in a SCADA / PLC technology which dramatically reduces the fluctuations in temperature within the Category 1 cooking process. The overall average temperature has been reduced by 15°C which is clearly a significant energy saving but the most significant benefit is that the volume of acid vapours from the cooking process have been reduced in the workplace. Therefore, reducing the potential for fugitive odour releases. It is now planned to roll out the same modifications to the Category 3 cooking process.

Odour and Olfactometry Monitoring

The Company plans to employ the services of ADAS, a specialist consultant, to carry out odour monitoring on the factory and at the boundary of the site to ensure that the Company are fully compliant and to highlight any potential issues. The work will take place in May 2018 and there will be an update from BW at the next meeting.

4. Update from Staffordshire County Council - Animal Health Team

There had been one spillage reported since the last Liaison Group meeting which occurred on the roundabout at Meir on the junction to the A50. The spillage was a small amount of offal and Pointon's onsite emergency spillage team were utilised and the residues were cleaned up within 30 minutes and the road disinfected.

Members of the public can contact the council or report spillages by the following websites or telephone 0300 111 8000 :-

<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/business/tradingstandards/animalhealth/byproducts/>

<http://www.stoke.gov.uk/ccm/content/business/trading-standards/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-waste-spills.en>

5. Update from Animal Health

There was no update from APHA for this meeting.

BW reported that there have been no related disease outbreaks since the last meeting and the Company continues to comply with the animal by product regulations in accordance with their premises APHA approval.

BW also stated that the Company had hosted a major visit for DEFRA in April 2018 from 12 members of the Chinese government. The visit was a major success and will hopefully contribute to the relaxation of the current export ban on beef to China.

6. Any other business

- Joe Smith asked the E.A. if Pointon's fleet were compliant with legislation. Steve Thomason assured him that Pointon's were compliant but it was actually Staffordshire County Council Trading Standards who regulate transport. Barney Williams expanded on the point that trailers could not actually be 'sealed' as there was a requirement to vent as offal expands.
- Kevin Benfield asked if the E.A. had carried out any analysis of the distance from the site that complaints had been received over the last 3 years. ST confirmed that he had carried out extensive analysis.
- Jack Brereton MP stated that he had recently had a conversation with constituents at St Andrew's church in Weston Coyney who had stated that on occasion they could not open their doors due to odour from passing trailers. Cllr Tunna stated that it was not only Pointon's who used this route to move animal by products (ABP). It was also stated that the vehicles are fully compliant with ABP and road transport regulations.

7. Date of next meeting

Next meeting to be held at the John Pointon and Sons Recreation Centre on

Thursday 20 September at 3.00 pm.