



# BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK: Kate Gill, The Town Hall, Clarence Road  
Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1LD

Telephone: 01243 867744 Fax: 01243 865744

E-mail - [bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk](mailto:bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk)

**MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE  
TOWN MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF BOGNOR REGIS  
HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2006  
AT THE HUB, CANADA GROVE  
TO CONSIDER THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE FORMER LEC SITE AS A  
POSSIBLE WASTE TREATMENT SITE**

**PRESENT (BRTC)**

Cllr J Hayward, Town Mayor (in the chair)  
Cllr S McDougall, Leader of the Council  
Cllr R Nash  
Cllr Mrs J Warr  
Cllr M White

**(ADC)**

Cllr J Cosgrove  
Cllr P Wells

(Note: Cllrs McDougall and Mrs Warr are Arun District Councillors and Cllr McDougall is also a West Sussex County Councillor)

**(ELECTORS)**

Mrs D Derfield, Mr H Derfield, Mr M Everitt, Mrs G Farina, Mr J Farina, Mr S Holland, Mr T Hutchins, Mr M Jones, Mr P Lee, Mr D Lowden, Mrs G Lowden, Mr M Phillips, Mr D Sansom, Mr A Smith, Mrs J Spanner, Mrs V Spanner, Mr D Todd, Mr A Trehane, Mrs A Trehane

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Gina Carrington, Friends of the Earth  
Paul Beckerson, Projects & IT Officer  
Sue Holmes, Events Officer

*The Meeting opened at 7.30pm*

**1. WELCOME**

The Town Mayor Cllr John Hayward welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**2. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2006**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2006 were amended in paragraph 8 to read Bassett instead of Devonshire Road. The Minutes were then **APPROVED** by the Meeting and signed by the Town Mayor.

3. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2006**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2006 were **APPROVED** by the Meeting and signed by the Town Mayor.

4. **PRESENTATION BY MR MICHAEL JONES**

Mr Jones deplored the fact that WSCC had not sent any representatives to the meeting. He was against the installation of an incinerator on the site, although WSCC had stated that there would be no incinerators in the county until at least 2015. He stated that neither the owners of the site or Arun District Council favoured this use of the site. He was also concerned that once WSCC had given permission for the site to be used, they would not have any control over how it was run. Despite his request to the appropriate experts, they had been unable to give him any idea how much waste was likely to be processed or how many extra lorries would be using the road system.

Those present were advised that if they wished for more information, green sheets were available for them to fill in.

5. **PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR ROGER NASH**

Cllr Nash emphasised the need to increase recycling to lessen the need for further landfill sites. Bognor Regis was badly in need of regeneration and that this proposed use of the site was detrimental to this objective. It also went against Bognor Regis Regeneration plans for the area which included the relief road and an additional Railway Station. He argued that the LEC site was a gateway for the town and that a Waste Treatment site would demean this objective. He would favour the Waste Site being placed in a rural area.

6. **REPORT BY COUNCILLOR PAUL WELLS ON THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Cllr Wells stated that the proposals for these sites were driven by central government decisions as portrayed in the South East Plan. Most people at the meeting expressed the view that it would produce a negative image about the town and that the transport infrastructure was inadequate to take the increased volume of traffic. He stated that the flows experienced by similar sites could approach one lorry every seven minutes.

5. **PRESENTATION BY GINA CARRINGTON (FRIENDS OF THE EARTH)**

Ms Carrington felt that the site was large enough for some of the proposed uses and that it would permit screening works to be undertaken. One major advantage is that the rubbish would not have to be transported large distances to enable disposal, therefore creating less emissions to the environment. It was also suggested the railway could be used as a mode of transport. Ms Carrington agreed with the previous speakers that the road network was inadequate and the site was not suitable for an incinerator. She distributed a leaflet issued by WSCC called 'Rubbish to Resource' outlining various options for dealing with rubbish. She went on to say that waste reduction and recycling must be led by central government and that every urban area would require a waste management site.

The Meeting was advised that Community Information Groups were a good way to find out what was going on. It was felt that it would be possible to influence the final decision if pressure was kept up.

**6. COMMENTS BY ELECTORS**

Electors made the following comments.

There should be more affordable housing because at the present time one needs nine times the average salary to buy. Rural areas within the County should accept more housing in their locality.

An elector spoke in favour of the planting enhancements to the Shripney Road central reservation and how the proposed site would detract from this improvement. Would favour a park or housing for the site and would like to see a greater use of green packaging to reduce waste levels.

Concern was expressed about the possibility of waste coming in from outside the area and that commercial operators would need to do this to make the operation viable.

It was reiterated that the road structure was insufficient and the lack of affordable housing relative to wage levels. It was also recognised that more housing will bring more waste.

It was stated it would be difficult to control the smell emanating from the plant and they were not in favour of using bio-degradable processes. Concern was expressed at the possibility of contamination of the water supply and the local environment. There would need to be strict control to ensure this did not happen.

There was a suggestion that if the site were used for waste processing then the town should be compensated by County with an equivalent amount of land elsewhere to use for regeneration.

It was said that the Meeting needs to recognise the need to process our rubbish but that this site was unsuitable.

**7. TOWN MEETING RESOLUTION**

Cllr R Nash and Cllr M White, as elected members of the Bognor Regis Town Council, proposed and seconded the following resolution:

“This Town Meeting condemns the identification of the former LEC factory site on Shripney Road and the prospect of this area being used as a widespread waste treatment site which could include incineration and landfill. This meeting believes the risk of contamination, the extra pollution and large number of extra large vehicles this will bring to this section of town will have an extremely detrimental effect on the quality of life for the whole of the town of Bognor Regis and particularly for those who live in the immediate area. Furthermore, it believes that a more suitable economic use could be made of this site and calls upon Arun District Council, West Sussex County Council and Bognor Regis Town Council to work together to find an alternative suitable purpose for the sake of the regeneration and future economic development of our Town.”

Mr M Jones moved an amendment to the Motion:

Remove the words 'and landfill' from the first sentence.

The Meeting **AGREED** the amendment.

The Motion was then put as amended. It was **APPROVED** unanimously by all electors present.

**8. THANKS**

The Town Mayor thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting.

*The Meeting closed at 8.50pm*