

## PUBLIC MEETING with JOHNSONS AGGREGATES AND RECYCLING

Held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February in Bunny Village Hall

### Attendees

Lewis Johnson Managing Director (L.J)

Ana Alfonso Group Environmental Compliance Manager (A.A)

Cllr. Featherstone Chair Bunny Parish Council

Cllr Stubbs, Cllr Beckford, Cllr Cannon, Cllr Alldred

Linda Price Clerk to Bunny Parish Council.

Circ. 40+ members of the public

Cllr. Featherstone welcomed all the attendees to the meeting and introduced Lewis Johnson and Ana Alfonso to the meeting. She explained that the meeting was to discuss any concerns that the public have regarding concerns around the recycling plant in Bunny Village on the A60.

Lewis Johnson (MD) told us that the company has been operating out of the site for over 15 years. The company currently has 3 sites, Bunny, Ilkeston and Cambridgeshire. The company deals with the recycling of Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA). This is brought into the Bunny company site by HGVs from Nottingham Incinerator and is recycled into various products and metals removed and recycled further. Lewis wants to engage with the locals and understand their concerns. Furthermore, he wants to build a relationship with the local community and educate the local area on what happens in Bunny. The meeting was passed over to the community to ask questions.

I have summarised the questions and answers into similar concerns.

1. IBA dust particles and the hazardous nature of the materials were a concern from the audience- L.J explained that the dust particles are tested regularly and were deemed to be not hazardous. There are strict

legal regulations that the company must adhere to. The plant at Bunny has had no environmental breaches and is regularly inspected by environmental officers. Today they had a visit from Nottinghamshire Environmental Health and the plant was deemed safe. Lewis would be happy to arrange a visit by residents so they can see how the processing works. L.J is happy to arrange a bus tour of his company for residents to see the process. A.A informed us that Johnsons Aggregates are required to meet strict guidelines and processes including a two-weekly check of materials being brought into the site.

2. Dust settling in the village – L.J explained the dust management system with wheels of HGVs being washed before leaving the site and the IBA being regularly sprayed with water. It is mandatory that a cover should also be put on all the lorries travelling to and from the site, and a road sweeper is employed 3 times a week. He said he sensed that Johnson's were not being received well in the local community, however he was not aware of frequent complaints. L.J said please provide him with photos showing the settled dust so he can investigate further. He also agreed to visit a member of the public's field tomorrow so he can see for himself the amount of dust laying on the ground and on the stables at the field.
3. Odour from the plant – Lewis again stated that he was unaware that there was a large problem with the smell in the area, and again reiterated that the company was highly regulated and had to adhere to strict rules. L.J encouraged the members of public to report any issues and will pass a contact number on to the clerk.
4. Transport and speed of vehicles entering and leaving the site- L.J explained that live data is received from the vehicles and any driver breaching the regulations would be removed from the company. A recent local accident led to employee's being immediately removed from Johnson's . A meeting then took place with all employees to reinforce the importance of safety and reiterate the company guidelines. L.J asked that the community help with the monitoring of speeding or dangerous actions by his drivers and gave his Transport Managers phone number to the public to enable them to report anything.

Cllr. Featherstone concluded the meeting and thanked Lewis Johnson, Ana Alfonso and the members of public for attending.

This meeting should help the community and Johnson's Aggregates to work together in the future. A visit around the plant will be arranged shortly.