

Ardley Waste Management Facility, 12/01215/CM Ardley Fields Farm, Ardley

Ward: Caversfield

District Councillor: Cllr Jon O'Neill

Case Officer: Gemma Magnuson

Recommendation: No objection

Applicant: Viridor C/O SLR Consulting – Mr C Herbert

Application Description: Continuation of asbestos land-filling

Committee Referral: County Matter – waste development

1. Site Description and Proposed Development

- 1.1 The application seeks consent to continue the disposal of waste asbestos by landfilling at Ardley Waste Management Facility, Ardley Fields Farm, Ardley. This existing facility is situated south of the village of Ardley and is permitted by Environmental Permit to receive up to 10,000 tonnes of asbestos and asbestos containing waste per year. The application will be determined by the County Council as Waste Planning Authority. This Council is a consultee.
- 1.2 Planning permission for landfilling at the site was issued during 1996 (Ref: 95/00814/CM), this being revised during 1997 (97/00814/CM) and again during 2003 (03/00844/CM). The landfilling of asbestos at Ardley Landfill was permitted from the outset.
- 1.3 During 2008 planning permission was granted at Appeal for the following development: *Construction of an Energy from Waste (EFW) facility with associated offices, visitor centre, bottom ash recycling facilities, new road and weighbridge facilities; the continuation of non-hazardous landfill operations and landfill gas utilisation with consequent amendments to the phasing and final restoration landform of the landfill; surface water attenuation features and improvements to the existing household waste recycling facility.* (Ref:08/02472/CM). The 2008 permission in part effectively revised the previous 2003 permission for landfilling, in addition to the Energy from Waste Facility.
- 1.4 The 2008 permission does not however specifically cover the continuation of asbestos waste landfilling. Consequently, when the 2008 application is implemented the landfilling of asbestos at Ardley Landfill would no longer be authorised.
- 1.5 The current application seeks planning permission for the continuation of asbestos landfilling at Ardley in order to overcome the omission from the 2008 application.

2. Application Publicity

- 2.1 Cherwell District Council is a consultee only and the application has not been advertised.

3. Consultations

Cherwell District Council Consultees

3.1 **Anti-Social Behaviour Manager:** no objections or observations.

4. Relevant National and Local Policy and Guidance

4.1 Development Plan Policy

Adopted Cherwell Local Plan (Saved Policies)
None relevant.

South East Plan 2009

W3: Regional self-sufficiency

W4: Sub-regional self-sufficiency

W5: Targets for diversion from landfill

W15: Hazardous and other specialist waste facilities

4.2 Other Material Policy and Guidance

Planning Policy Statement 10 – Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
(this was not replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework)

Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy – Proposed Submission
Document (May 2012)

5. Appraisal

The key issues for consideration in this application are:

- Principle of the development
- Amenity

Principle

- 5.1 Government guidance relating to waste disposal is contained within PPS 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management. With regard to the determination of planning applications the following advice is given;
- 5.2 *The planning system controls the development and use of land in the public interest and should focus on whether development is an acceptable use of the land, and the impacts of those uses on the development and use of land. Waste planning authorities should work on the assumption that the relevant pollution control regime will be properly applied and enforced.*
- 5.3 Waste Planning Authorities should consider the impact upon the local environment and amenity.
- 5.4 Policies W3 and W4 of the South East Plan 2009 requires waste planning authorities to be self-sufficient, providing management capacity equivalent to the amount of waste arising and requiring management within their boundaries.

Policy W5 requires waste planning authorities to continue to provide sufficient landfill capacity to process residues and waste that cannot practicably be recovered.

- 5.5 The Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste Core Strategy – Proposed Submission Document (May 2012) estimates that less than 30% of hazardous waste produced in Oxfordshire is currently managed within the County. The document goes on to identify Ardley as having an asbestos disposal facility that currently provides for Oxfordshire, although capacity for an additional 50,000 tonnes of hazardous waste per annum could be required in order for Oxfordshire to become self-sufficient in accordance with Regional policies set out in the South East Plan 2009.
- 5.6 As the asbestos landfilling facility currently exists and is recognised by Oxfordshire County Council as an asbestos disposal facility serving Oxfordshire, and as capacity for the disposal of hazardous waste within Oxfordshire must increase rather than decrease in order for the county to become self sufficient, it is considered that the principle of the continuation of asbestos landfilling at Ardley is acceptable.

Amenity

- 5.7 The asbestos landfilling would continue as it does at present, being subject to a number of requirements in order to prevent harm to the wider environment (e.g. no mixing with other wastes, packaged appropriately, covered with the required depth of inert material and no drilling of holes). The landfill restoration contours and scheme are expected to remain as approved under Ref: 08/02472/CM. The landfill phasing, timescales, inputs (including traffic levels), hours of operation and employment are also expected to remain as approved under Ref: 08/02472/CM.
- 5.8 With specific regard to traffic levels and input, the movements and tonnage were included as part of the industrial and commercial waste to be received at Ardley that was assessed as part of the 2008 application. It is for this reason that they are not expected to increase.
- 5.9 It is assumed that an appropriate pollution control regime would be applied and enforced in line with Government guidance contained within PPS 10. The Anti-Social Behaviour Manager has raised no objection to the application and has made no observations. The proposal is therefore not considered to present significant risk to the amenity of the locality.

Conclusion

- 5.10 The principle of the continuation of landfilling of asbestos at Ardley is considered acceptable and the works are not expected to present harm to the amenities of the area. It is therefore recommended that no objection to the application be raised, subject to there being no alteration to the phasing, restoration, timescales, inputs (including traffic levels), hours of operation and employment details approved as part of 08/02472/CM.

6. Recommendation

That Cherwell District Council raise no objection to the application subject to there being no alteration to the phasing, restoration, timescales, inputs (including traffic levels), hours of operation and employment details approved as part of 08/02472/CM as a result of the continuation of asbestos landfilling.