
STAMBRIDGE SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report appraises the Committee of odour problems being reported by Stambridge Parish Council, and of a consultation on nuisance control at sewage treatment works.

2 ODOUR COMPLAINTS

- 2.1 The Chairman of this Committee has requested that this item be brought before the Committee as representations have been received from Stambridge Parish Council and "Sludgewatch" about odours.
- 2.2 Concern has been expressed about the possible effect on residents, domestic animals and wildlife of the emission of hydrogen sulphide from the works.
- 2.3 At present, odour control equipment ("Odorgard") is installed in the ventilation system to the sludge dewatering building. For some months, essential repair work has been taking place in the dewatering building and Anglian Water Services have instead used a centrifuge to remove water from the sewage sludge. The centrifuge is ventilated through the "Odorgard" equipment.
- 2.4 Anglian Water Services propose to replace the odour control equipment by the end of this financial year. Arrangements will be made to ensure that there is odour control equipment operating during the installation of the new plant.
- 2.5 Other changes to sludge treatment at the works are currently being evaluated by Anglian Water Services.
- 2.6 It is suggested that representatives from Anglian Water Services be invited to the next meeting to advise Members of the work being carried out, and to answer questions. A representative from Stambridge Parish Council should also be invited.

3 NUISANCE CONTROLS

- 3.1 Members may recall that, following several court cases in 2002, it has been decided that statutory nuisance controls cannot be applied to sewage treatment works.
- 3.2 The Council had previously served a noise nuisance abatement notice in respect of this works. Notwithstanding these court decisions, Officers have continued to work to ensure that the problems are resolved. Work has now been completed and noise levels have been reduced.

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- 3.3 A consultation paper has very recently been received from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs on proposals for the statutory control of odour and other nuisance from sewage treatment works. It is intended that the consultation document will be reported to the next meeting of the Committee. The debate about the local issue may assist in formulating the consultation response.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That representatives from Anglian Water Services and the Stambridge Parish Council Sewage Treatment Works Liaison Officer be invited to the next meeting of this Committee.

G P Woolhouse

Head of Housing, Health & Community Care

Background Papers:

Consultation paper from DEFRA: December 2002

For further information please contact Mr G P Woolhouse on:-

Tel:- 01702 318044

E-Mail:- graham.woolhouse@rochford.gov.uk