

At the second public meeting last night Simon Pattison from Mid UK revealed that the new owners of the company have conducted a review of the Caythorpe site, and as a result the operation there is being altered so that it will only deal with skips, and stone and aggregate recycling. All other waste streams will no longer be dealt with there. A number of the workforce have been issued redundancy notices and the site will gradually be cleared over the next few months.

This is great news as it will mean a reduction in vehicle movements on our roads, an eventual reduction in smells emanating from the site and a reduction in the amount of litter deposited locally.

Our Local Councilor from SKDC (who was present at the meeting) has emailed me this morning about the smell and portions of her messages are reproduced below :-

However, the issue of the smells will continue whilst the site is cleared and hopefully the smell rectified. It suggests to me that the source of the smell was known. It is not insignificant that so many residents of Caythorpe are affected by the smells and over a long period of years.

I apologise if you thought that the smell was being investigated by SKDC. However, whilst Environmental Protection at SKDC can investigate odour they can't take action without approval from the secretary of state as the site has an Environmental Agency Permit. They also don't hold a copy of the relevant permit making it difficult to know what their controls should be and so it's generally accepted that the permitting authority, which would be the Environment Agency, are best placed to investigate issues relating to the activities they permit. We can work with them on this, but they would need to be the lead.

I have informed Matthe Dobson, the LCC Planning Enforcement Officer accordingly as he was under the impression it was SKDC's responsibility. Our advice therefore from both authorities is now consistent, not conflicting and clear for residents.

The relevant references for the EA are:

EA references: case number 230712/CMC20 **GE/31102** - **Ref 240408/KAY15**:

Nigel Cooper

Usual working hours Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Customers and Engagement Team
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24-hour incident line, 0800 807060

I have received the following response from the EA as to the best (only) way to report incidents as they happen:

Thank you for your email dated 8th April 2024. I have spoken to the Environmental Management team who regulate the site. They informed me that our policy is that all incidents are reported using our 24-hour incident line, 0800 807060 instead of reporting incidents directly to officers who may be on leave or out of the office visiting sites. The same applies to the team's inbox, their inbox is not monitored between 15:00 hrs on a Friday and 08:30 hrs on the Monday, longer on bank holiday weekends.

A response at the time of the incident call is down to the daytime/duty officer and how serious they perceive the incident to be.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Odour assessment hints:
Patterns/times of day. Monitor. Diary entries.

5 Points:
Frequency
Intensity
Duration
Offensive
Location

Going forward, I am sure that residents will want to keep the pressure on the EA to monitor this site and we will be in a better position to discuss again in 6 months time.

The hints for odour assessment should help residents to formulate their complaints and keep a diary. I would add weather conditions and wind strength and direction details.

Andy Crawley
Caythorpe & Frieston Parish Council
17/04/24