

**Archers Fields Energy Recovery Facility
Consultation Report
January 2021**



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1. Introduction

This report has been created by Font Communications on behalf of our client Clearaway Holdings Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the applicant') in order to set out the pre-application consultation activities undertaken by the applicant and its professional team in support of an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) in Basildon, Essex.

The applicant is proposing to build the facility in close proximity to its sister company's (Clearaway Recycling Limited) existing recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate, Archers Fields in Basildon.

The site is one of a number of sites within the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate operated by both Clearaway and Wasteaway for a range of recycling, waste management and depot activities.



Impression of the proposed facility

The Archers Fields ERF will help tackle two problems facing society; how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create secure, low carbon sources of energy from residual waste from the existing waste processing operations.

The facility will take non-hazardous commercial and industrial waste from local businesses and private households, which already comes to the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate, and use the residual waste to generate energy – enough to power up to 20,000 homes each year.

The applicant is a member of the Clearaway Group, a family-run business which has been based in Basildon for over 10 years, and currently treats around 190,000 tonnes of waste each year.

The Group currently employs over 100 people, supporting a full apprenticeship programme, and the plans to expand the business will create an estimated further ten jobs in the new facility, plus additional jobs such as waste recycling staff and local construction opportunities.

This Consultation Report accompanies the planning application for the proposed development. A more detailed description of the proposed development is provided in the Planning Statement and Design and Access Statement.

The applicant is committed to meaningfully engaging local residents and stakeholders and took an open and inclusive approach to consultation. As the consultation was undertaken during the COVID-19 lockdown a public event was not possible. However, a variety of hard copy and online methods were used to reach out to a wide audience.

This included:

- Varied methods of engagement, including community contact points; information on the dedicated Archers Fields website; and a newsletter including a questionnaire sent directly to local residents and businesses
- A series of virtual meetings offered to key stakeholders and interested parties,
- A proactive approach to engagement with the media, offering press releases and statements

The report presents an overview of the views and feedback from the consultees that have been engaged in the process. All the comments received during the consultation have been logged and analysed and where appropriate taken into account in the development of the planning application. These comments have assisted in understanding the issues that are of most concern to consultees; especially those residing in the surrounding local community.

2. Methodology

2.1 National policy on consultation

Community involvement is an essential part of the planning process and helps to ensure that development is shaped by local views. The applicant recognises that community involvement is an integral and important component of planning and its approach to consultation with the local community reflects this.

While there is no legal requirement to undertake pre-application consultation on most planning applications, it is widely recognised that involving local communities leads to better development. Consultation provides the opportunity to glean information and ideas from a local community which can enrich a scheme. It also provides the opportunity to understand local concerns and aspirations.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), revised in February 2019, encourages applicants to undertake pre-application consultation. Paragraph 39 states: “Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality preapplication discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community.”

The NPPF also states that local planning authorities should encourage those applicants, who are not already required to do so by law, to engage with the local community before submitting their applications: “Local planning authorities have a key role to play in encouraging other parties to take maximum advantage of the pre-application stage. They cannot require that a developer engages with them before submitting a planning application, but they should encourage take-up of any pre-application services they offer” (Paragraph 40).

2.2 Essex County Council’s Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

All local planning authorities are required by law to adopt a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) setting out how consultation takes place on planning issues. Most SCIs also provide guidance to developers on how they should undertake pre-application consultation within the local community.

In designing the engagement strategy for the Energy Recovery Facility, the applicant has taken into account the recommendations in Essex County Council’s SCI. This encourages applicants to undertake pre-application consultation using methods such as consulting stakeholder groups, publishing information on a website, setting up public exhibitions and local meetings, leaflets, posters and newsletters.

For this development, the approach to engagement was agreed with the planning officer at Essex County Council ahead of launching the consultation.

2.3 Font Communications

Specialist consultants Font Communications were engaged to design and implement consultation on the Energy Recovery Facility and report back on the results.

Font Communications is an independent communications consultancy specialising in consultation relating to planning applications, with a particularly in-depth understanding of schemes in the energy and waste sectors.

3. Consultation methods

3.1 Overview of consultation

The consultation was launched on 20th May 2020 and initially was intended to run until 12th June, however the deadline was extended for an additional two weeks to allow consultees additional time to respond. Due to the limitations of consulting during the COVID-19 lockdown we were not able to hold a public event or any face-to-face meetings. However, the team adapted the approach to include a variety of other online and offline methods to ensure a wide reach. These are outlined below.

The consultation approach, including the distribution area, was agreed with the planning officer at Essex County Council in advance.

3.2 Identifying stakeholders

As part of the consultation, various local stakeholders in the vicinity of or with a likely interest in the proposal were identified.

The stakeholder list included:

- Councillors and officers at Essex County Council and Basildon Borough Council
- The relevant Member of Parliament for the site
- Other interest groups such as business groups

3.3 Engagement with local planning authority

In order to inform the development proposals and scope of assessment work, various pre-application discussions were held with Essex County Council at an early stage in the project's development to assist in gaining an understanding of key issues. These included:

- A formal pre-application advice request submitted in December 2019.
- A formal EIA Scoping Opinion (requested in June 2020) was issued by Essex County Council in late July 2020. The Scoping Opinion set out the required content of the Environmental Statement. A formal Scoping Process was then undertaken to agree the content of the Environmental Statement with Essex County Council and statutory consultees.
- Formal scoping opinion response from Essex County Council issued 6th August 2020.
- Formal conversations regarding design approach.

3.4 Newsletter

A newsletter was sent to 10,949 homes and businesses within the local area as agreed in advance with the planning officer at Essex County Council.

The newsletter introduced the project, provided details of the consultation, publicised the contact channels and included a tear off questionnaire which could be returned to the project team via Freepost. The newsletter can be viewed at Appendix I. The distribution area for the newsletter can be viewed at Appendix III.

3.5 Project website

Launched on 20th May 2020, the dedicated project website www.archersfields-erf.co.uk was created to provide visitors with information about the scheme, the consultation, detailed FAQs, and will act as a hub for further updates as the project develops. The website also included the questionnaire which

people were able to complete online. The website was promoted through the stakeholder letters, consultation newsletter, press releases and advert. The website can be viewed at Appendix III.

3.6 Questionnaires

A questionnaire was developed to seek feedback on the proposed Energy Recovery Park. Consultees were able to either complete the questionnaire in hard copy (if they received a copy of the newsletter in the post) or on the project website. The questionnaire can be viewed in the newsletter at Appendix 1.

3.7 Stakeholder letters and meetings

All identified stakeholders were written to upon the launch of the consultation, enclosing a copy of the newsletter, including members of Essex County Council, Basildon Council and the Member of the Parliament for the site. A copy of the letter can be viewed at Appendix IV.

Letters to stakeholders proactively offered the opportunity to have video or phone calls with members of the project team, to discuss the proposed development in further detail and address any questions directly. To date no stakeholders have taken up the offer of a meeting.

Stakeholders were also written to when the consultation was extended. A copy of the letter can be viewed at Appendix IV.

3.8 Community contact points

There are an established a set of community contact points for the proposal which were advertised during the consultation:

- Freephone Information Line: 0800 689 1095
- Email: info@archersfields-erf.co.uk
- Freepost address: Freepost HAVE YOUR SAY (no stamp required)

Contact with the team was recorded and responded to where a response was requested or appropriate. A holding response was issued to enquiries that required a response which took longer to collate or where the information was not immediately available. Where possible, those who contacted the project team were directed to further resources or encouraged to participate in the consultation.

3.9 Advert

At the start of the consultation a half-page advert was placed in the Basildon Echo. This advertised the consultation and the community contact points. When the consultation was extended for an additional two weeks, a second advert was placed.

The adverts posted in the Basildon Echo can be viewed at Appendix V.

3.10 Press releases

As part of the consultation strategy, the applicant took a proactive approach with the local and regional media outlets, in order to encourage participation in the consultation and inform a wider audience of the proposed development.

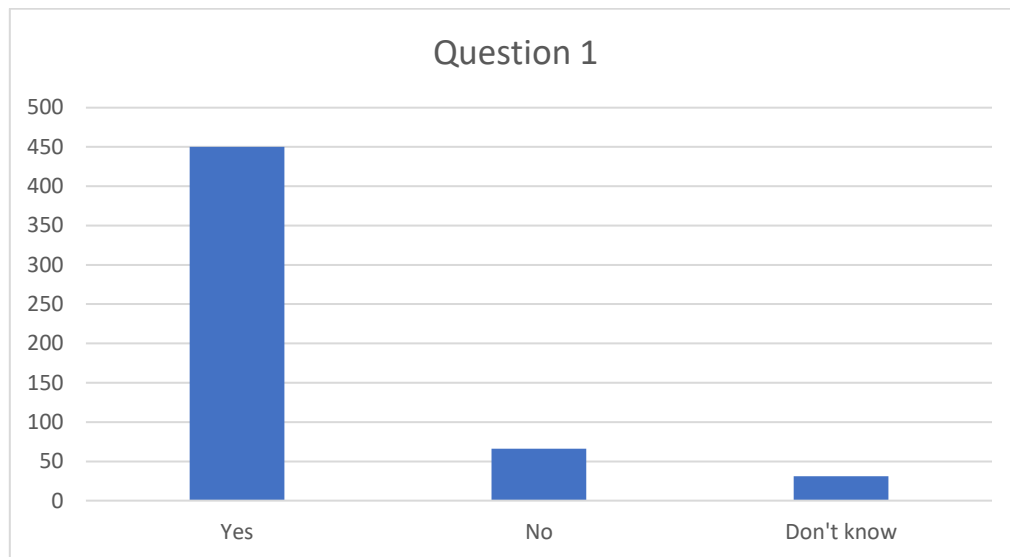
A launch press release was issued to media outlets on 20th May to provide an overview of the proposed development. This can be viewed in Appendix VI.

The release was covered in the Basildon Echo and Essex Live. A radio interview was also held with BBC Radio Essex.

The extension of the consultation was announced via a press release and advert in the local papers (seen in Appendices VII and VIII, respectively).

The applicant also sought to keep an active dialogue with local press and responded promptly to queries regarding the scheme for follow-up news articles. Various follow up articles have appeared in the Basildon Echo.

Question 1 Do you agree that we should be looking at alternatives to landfill for the waste left after recycling?



The majority of respondents felt that we should be looking at alternatives to landfill for the waste left after recycling.

Comments included:

- For me landfill should now only ever be an absolute last resort
- Provided the chosen site is five miles from residential areas
- I strongly agree we should be looking at alternatives to dumping waste in the ground
- With landfills closing a less waste able to be sent abroad, we need to have more options in the UK to dispose of un-recycleable waste
- As long as it doesn't impact air quality or add to pollution
- Yes, but not at the expense of the blight on my community. There are two primary schools, a nursery and a care home in the near vicinity and a lot of very nice housing that will lose value.

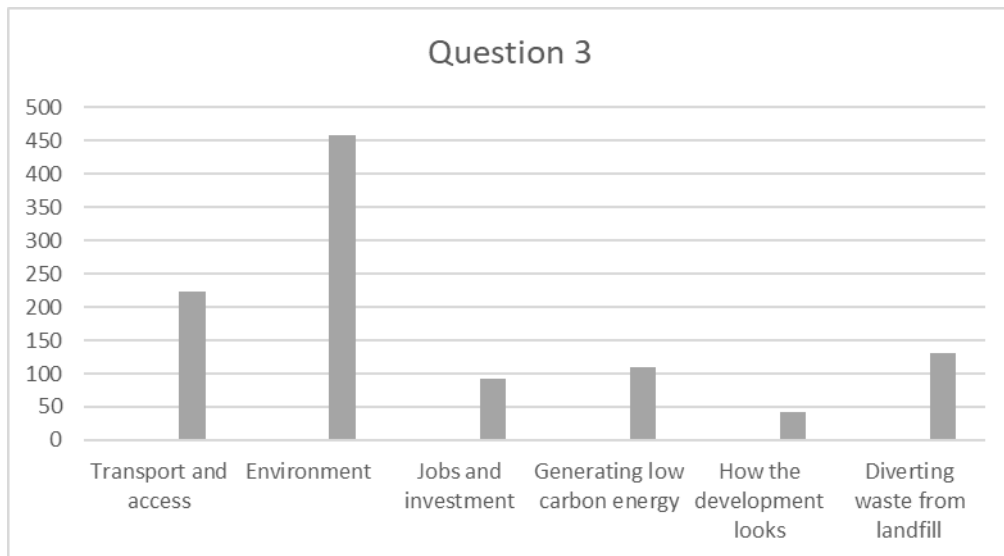
Question 2 What is your view on using waste that would otherwise end up in landfill to create low carbon energy?

A large number of respondents supported using waste to generate low carbon energy, however a significant proportion felt that an Energy Recovery Facility should not be located in Basildon or near to residential areas. Others raised concerns about the potential environmental impacts of energy recovery, including air pollution, increased traffic, noise and odour. Further detail on the issues raised can be found in section 4.3

- It's an innovative idea, but ideas need thorough exploration to be certain that they don't result in other negatives for the environment

- Resourceful, imaginative, hopefully money well spent? (if it goes ahead)
- Sounds like a good idea but I am sick of these facilities always being in Basildon. There are already too many lorries in this area and the traffic really bad.
- This incinerator must find a more appropriate site away from any residential housing. What's the point of low carbon energy if it makes us all sick?

Question 3 Which of the following aspects of the proposal are you most interested in?



The most commonly raised aspect was environment, followed by transport and access, then diverting waste from landfill. Further details on the issues raised can be found in section 4.3. Comments included:

- It's about time someone did something to help the environment. Good luck with the planning application
- Of course, diverting waste from landfill is important but, without being 'nimby' about it, I think that the Basildon area is not the place for yet another treatment facility
- By building an ERF we are helping the local community saving the environment. Creating energy that would have otherwise been lost
- More traffic more pollution from lorries, it's bad enough with what already goes on in the area of Burnt Mills smells and litter coming off lorries as they whiz along the dual carriage way to bring waste and exit to pick up more.
- Helps to aid the environment issues and also generating low carbon energy as well as providing additional employment and avoiding adding to the landfill

Question 4 Please use this space to make any general comments

There were a variety of general comments made which are covered under section 4.3 below.

4.2 General enquiries

During the consultation period 9 enquiries were received via the community contact channels. These covered a variety of topics including: requests for further information on job and supply chain opportunities, questions regarding the source and type of waste and environmental issues such as air quality and traffic.

All enquiries were responded to on an individual basis.

4.3 Themes

While not explicitly asked the question of whether they supported the proposal a number of respondents expressed their support or opposition for the scheme, while others supported the concept but not in the proposed location.

Supportive comments included:

- I think it's a great idea. I would like to understand and learn more about it and how businesses can use low carbon energy
- Superb idea. We should have done it as soon as the technology was known
- In general, the whole project is necessary going forward as humans produce so much waste and it has to be dealt with. So I wish your every success in your application.
- Investment in the local area of £50 million would be great for the community and extra funding for the council through business rates.

Those objecting to the proposals commented:

- Not in Basildon/Pitsea!
- I oppose this proposal. The local air pollution is deplorable. So deplorable in fact that the Government considered imposing a clean air charge on the A127. An incinerator next to the A127 is patently, therefore, a bad idea.
- My view is that although it's a good thing to use waste that would end in landfill, these facilities should not be built anywhere near residential dwellings.
- Good idea but Basildon already has a landfill at Pitsea. Why not try Billericay or Chelmsford?

There were a number of common themes and questions raised during the consultation. All of the comments received during the consultation have been carefully considered and where appropriate taken into account in the development of the planning application. This section of the report sets out how the applicant has responded to the issues raised during the consultation, along with some sample comments.

Topic	Sample comments	Response
Economic benefits and job creation	<p>Some respondents welcomed the economic benefits that the development would bring, however had questions regarding whether the jobs would be available for local people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reuse rather than using landfills is a lot better for the environment and investing in the Basildon borough as well as making jobs for the vastly unemployed population of Basildon • The project will bring a lot more jobs in the local area which is a great benefit • It's a good forward-thinking idea that will boost the green economy of Basildon • Would most labour be requested from local area? Would be nice. 	<p>The applicant currently employs over 100 people at Clearaway and Wasteaway, including apprentices, and the plans to build an Energy Recovery Facility will create an estimated further ten jobs within the Energy Recovery Facility itself, plus additional jobs are expected to be created through its sister company to support the growth in recycling. A number of jobs will also be created during the construction phase.</p> <p>All jobs created will be available to local people and will be advertised locally. Clearaway is a local family company and has always invested in local people. Full training will be provided by the Company, and job opportunities will come from the operation of the plant, security of the site, and additional recycling operations that will be undertaken to further minimise the waste going to landfill e.g. through the building of low carbon dioxide building blocks.</p>

		<p>In addition, the applicant has just created a second recycling line at the existing facility, creating 15 new, permanent jobs. Local people have been employed to fill these roles.</p> <p>The facility represents an investment of £50 million into the local area. We will work with the Chambers of Commerce in the region, to make sure that local businesses can easily find out and apply for supplier opportunities. We are already in discussions with local suppliers and will encourage our main contractors to use local labour where possible.</p> <p>We also hope the heat and power provided by the plant will encourage other businesses to the area, further increasing job opportunities.</p>
Environmental benefits	<p>Some respondents welcomed the environmental benefits that the development would bring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We should be looking at alternatives to that of continually dumping household and other waste in a big hole in the ground	<p>The ERF will help to tackle two problems facing society – how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create secure, low carbon sources of energy. The facility will prevent up to</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing the emissions are not harmful this will be a great idea as less waste will be being shipped out of the area meaning fewer lorries on the road• This is an ideal way of reducing greenhouse gases that are effectively damaging the ozone layer and in return it will produce energy	<p>150,000 tonnes of waste going to landfill each year. Of this tonnage, anything that can be recycled will be removed earlier in the recycling process, and the residual material will be converted into energy.</p> <p>A significant amount of recycling takes place with this material, which comes from local businesses, local household skips and other local sources. In excess of 150,000 tonnes is sent back out again, to landfill sites.</p> <p>There is now an opportunity to take some of these lorries off the road and to turn this waste into energy at the Energy Recovery Facility within Burnt Mills. Once processed in the facility, only a small proportion of the residual ash will need to be trucked out of the site, significantly reducing transport movements across the entire Estate.</p>
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		The Archer's Field Energy Recovery Facility will reduce waste going to landfill, will generate low carbon energy, and will reduce lorry movements.
Site location	<p>A number of respondents questioned the proposed location of the Energy Recovery Facility, suggesting that it is too close to residential areas. Others felt that Basildon already has enough waste treatment infrastructure and didn't want to see any more in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided that the chosen site is at least 5 miles or more away from residential areas and preferably sited on part of our coast that has limited access. • I think this is a bad idea, however, if it must go ahead I would be more supportive of it not near residential areas like near the biomass plant. • This must not be built in this area. It needs to be as far away from areas inhabited by living things as possible • What alternative sites have been or are being considered? • Access to the site is good being near a major trunk road. How it looks on an industrial site is of little importance. Anything built on the site will attract jobs and investment. • Sick and tired of Pitsea and Basildon being a dumping area 	<p>The site is in an industrial area that has both an existing Council designation for waste uses, as well as significant heavy industrial uses. In addition to the Clearaway recycling facility, there are also scrap yards and a Veolia recycling facility.</p> <p>The waste that will be used in the Energy Recovery Facility already comes onto the site into the Clearaway recycling facility, or through other waste businesses in the area. In addition, waste is already waste is sent to landfill from the businesses within the industrial estate every year, supplementing the 190,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste sent to landfill by Clearaway.</p> <p>The Energy Recovery Facility would use some of this material that within the industrial estate to create energy which other businesses, or the national grid, can use. In so doing, it would not only reduce the waste sent to landfill by the</p>

		<p>Estate, but it will also significantly reduce transport movements through Basildon as the waste is not being transported to landfill.</p> <p>Clearaway has also identified a potential user for the heat, which could be piped into the concrete manufacturing facility located on the Estate. Other businesses on the site will also be able to make use of the heat and power.</p>
Existing waste facilities	<p>A number of respondents made reference to the existing Mechanical Biological Treatment facility built for Essex County Council on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. Some people believed that this is an incinerator and pointed to existing issues with litter, odour, flies and emissions from existing waste facilities on the industrial estate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We already have one incinerator in Basildon which is sufficient enough and pollutes enough. • We currently live by the current site and have noticed terrible smells coming from this site to the point where we have been unable to open our windows of our house it does affect the quality of the air and whilst driving past the a127 you can see the black fumes being chunked out into the air. 	<p>Clearaway has no involvement with the existing Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. This facility does not use incineration or energy recovery technology, and uses completely different fuel as feedstock.</p> <p>The Energy Recovery Facility will take waste materials brought onto the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate by Clearaway and Wasteaway which has been collected by other companies in skips from households, businesses and construction sites throughout Basildon and the surrounding area.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the local community is already suffering from rubbish odours, excessive flies, and noise from the Archers Fields Industrial area and the Courtauld Waste plant	<p>Other materials are brought under contracts from local businesses. Ultimately, the waste to be processed is waste generated by local businesses and residents.</p> <p>The MBT takes waste collected from households in Basildon and throughout Essex by the County Council. The MBT plant is not an incinerator but treats the waste which then requires further management (e.g. in incinerators) or disposal to landfill, requiring it to be taken off site.</p> <p>The proposed Archers Field Energy Recovery Facility would accept waste from the existing sites within the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. Because they are so close to each other, materials would arrive on a just-in-time basis, with low amounts of materials stored on the site. Those that would be stored, would be inside a building with odour control systems to prevent odour-escape from the building. Our odour assessment found that the odour impacts of the facility will be negligible.</p>
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Air quality	<p>A number of respondents raised concerns about the potential impact on local air quality. The fact that there are local measures in place to improve air quality with the potential for a Clean Air Zone to be introduced was also mentioned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The incinerator would be right next to the area that is already subject to a Government directive to improve air quality and on which the Government has threatened to impose a charging Clean Air Zone. • Burning it will cause more damage to the environment and decrease our air quality • It would be detrimental to the environment to carry out the planned proposal in this area. I believe it would have an effect on the air quality. • What impact this has on the local environment in the here and now and also in the future. The air quality of local residents will be impacted and this could go much further than the local area. 	<p>An air quality assessment was carried out, assuming worst case scenarios. It found that any impact on air quality for humans and the local ecology will be below required levels. Combined with the reduction in the number of road vehicles, we expect the facility to have a minimal impact on air quality.</p>
Traffic and access	<p>The potential impact of traffic from the facility was referred to by a number of respondents with reference made to existing problems on the local road network. There were also concerns raised about the impact on air quality from transport movements and the potential for pot holes caused by HGVs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in clean air quality, which will decrease, as more chemicals will be released into the air by the lorries • Really worried about the amount of traffic as an already built up junction and also that goes into the clean emission zone. Roads around Basildon are not well maintained at the best of times. 	<p>The ERF will reduce traffic movements in the area because it will prevent waste from the industrial estate being transported to landfill. Instead, the waste currently removed from the Burnt Mills industrial estate will be processed through the ERF.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The large number of lorries to transport this waste- which will not be local, will clog the overcrowded road system even more. The extra vehicle traffic plus the emissions from the incinerator in an area threatened with road tolls due to emissions will cause financial pain for the residents in addition to health problems. • Rail and river links should be utilised where possible 	<p>Most leftover ash will be used to make concrete blocks and only a small amount of residual ash (2-3%) will need to be removed from the site.</p> <p>Overall this will see a reduction of more than 8500 HGV movements each year over the current arrangement.</p> <p>We will also encourage staff to use electric vehicles by providing charging stations at all new parking bays.</p>
The potential for health impacts	<p>The potential for health impacts was raised by some respondents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archers field is too close to large estates of people where emissions will impact on their health and welfare. Depending on wind direction it could impact on many thousands of lives • Waste to energy incinerators generate toxic pollution. This is a fact • So I would like to know if the risk to residents' health has been thoroughly assessed, and what measures are in place to protect the health of residents, like myself, who have a long-term respiratory problem. • I would strongly oppose an incinerator being built in Basildon. With ever expanding traffic, air quality is already poor. As a mother to a son with chronic 	<p>A Health Impact Assessment was carried out and found any physical health impact of the development would be negligible or insignificant following mitigation. In the interests of transparency, and to prevent perceived health impacts, Clearaway will publish emissions data on a daily basis to show that the facility will not exceed permitted level. In the unlikely event it does, operations will be stopped.</p>

	lung disease I would find it extremely concerning should an incinerator go up in our area.	
Consultation	<p>Some respondents questioned the effectiveness of the consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of these questions have been carefully selected so that the public cannot express themselves fully - the timing of the consultation has been cleverly worked out to coincide with the social distancing and lockdown measures that are in place. • I feel this questionnaire has asked questions to only put the proposal in a positive light and is trying to mislead residents into thinking this is going to have a positive impact on the environment • I have not received a consultation to complete via post or hand delivered to my property. I would strongly question therefore if you are reaching the whole community and if everyone is being able to comment in a fair way. 	<p>After initial pre-application discussions, the consultation process was developed in conjunction with Essex County Council and in full recognition of the restrictions of the COVID-19 lock down.</p> <p>The proposed consultation approach had to be adapted following lockdown, however local people were given a variety of ways to get involved in the consultation – both online and offline – which are set out in this report. This included nearly 11,000 newsletters – including a questionnaire to return comments – which were sent to advertise the consultation.</p> <p>The consultation period was also extended for a further two weeks to allow people further time to respond. The questionnaire was designed to address a number of the key points about the plans – including the aim to divert waste from landfill and generate low carbon energy – however</p>

		<p>it also provided space for respondents to give their views on any aspect of the proposal. All comments have been reviewed and are included in Appendix VII of this report.</p> <p>If planning permission is granted, the applicant will set up a community liaison group comprised of local residents' representatives, councillors, stakeholders and Clearaway representatives. This will meet on a regular basis and enable two way dialogue during the construction and operation of the Energy Recovery Facility.</p>
Odour	<p>Some respondents raised concerns about potential odours from the facility and pointed to existing odour problems from the industrial estate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I live on the Wick and we sometimes get some strong odours from the centre.• There are already problems with odours and health in the area, which this will only make worse• I worry that the burning will cause odours and emissions.	<p>In its 10 years of operation, Clearaway's existing recycling site has never received any complaints about odour.</p> <p>The materials to be used in the facility will be residual waste from commercial and industrial waste materials, and from household skips after recycling has taken place, which is then further sorted and processed into a fuel. This material is unlikely to include significant food, which tends to</p>

		<p>be the main source of waste odour, and the waste will be fairly dry.</p> <p>The waste will only arrive to the site as it is needed, preventing a large buildup of waste – just enough for a long weekend – and the materials will be used promptly. The material would be bulked up and processed elsewhere at Clearaway’s existing sites on the industrial estate. It would then be transported to the proposed Energy Recovery Facility in fully sealed HGVs.</p> <p>There will be various measures in place to prevent any odours from leaving the facility. Firstly, all materials will be stored inside a building. That building will be sealed, with doors only opening to allow in the materials, and the doors will be fast-closing. The building will operate at negative pressure, meaning it will suck air in rather than push air out – to prevent odours escaping. A fully integrated odour control system will ensure regular air changes inside the building and this</p>
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		<p>system will scrub the air clean before it is released.</p> <p>It is expected that the odour impact of the facility will be negligible.</p>
<p>Impact on house prices and the reputation of the area</p>	<p>Some respondents raised concerns that the facility would have an impact on local house prices and the reputation of the area. While others thought that it would have a positive impact on the reputation of Basildon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about the impact on property prices and further reputation so harm to the area • Property prices in Pitsea area are reduced already because of the refuse centre being past its close date • I strongly feel this will help to improve the image of Basildon in terms of a more sustainable and eco-friendly standard of living 	<p>There is no evidence to suggest that property prices are impacted by the presence of an energy recovery facility (ERF). In fact, a study undertaken by Cluttons LLP in 2011, showed that, based on empirical evidence of house prices near to three operational ERFs, that there were no noticeable effects due to the presence of the facilities.</p> <p>The proposed development will be an important and high value investment into the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. It will present a step-change in the use of modern waste management technology and processes to manage the local waste materials collected within the Basildon area and brought to Burnt Mills for recycling and transfer, with local planning policy support.</p> <p>The proposed development will transform the immediate area within which it is located with a</p>

		significant uplift in the quality of development and open areas surrounding it. This should help to improve confidence in the level of commitment and the quality of attempts to improve the sustainability and the environmental performance of waste management of local waste in the area.
The carbon saving	<p>Some respondents questioned the carbon savings that the proposal represents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What quantity of CO2 will be released per week/month/year? • I would question if it was low carbon energy? • It all depends on how low carbon we are talking and how much more pollution it will put into the atmosphere. 	<p>The proposed development serves a dual purpose - as in addition to the carbon benefits associated with diverting material from landfill, the ERF will also generate a significant amount of energy in the process.</p> <p>The carbon intensity of energy generated from residual waste is approximately 500gCO2/kWh when operating in 'power only mode' (i.e supplying electricity only), and slightly higher than the 300-400 gCO2/kWh when generating electricity from the combustion of gas.</p> <p>However, as levels of heat recovery from the combustion process increase, the carbon intensity associated with the process decreases.</p>

		<p>For facilities of this type, if all of the heat output from the combustion process is recovered, for every kWh of energy produced, 67g of CO2 would be saved - as more carbon intensive forms of energy generation are displaced. Based on the proposed operating profile of the ERF, with a supply of heat and power, this would equate to a reduction of circa. 15,000 tonnes of CO2 per annum.</p> <p>Overall, the development will have a positive effect, and will result in lower carbon emissions compared to if the development was not progressed.</p>
Technology choice	<p>A number of respondents questioned the choice of technology and thought that the facility was proposing to use incineration technology, rather than energy recovery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have you explored other ways to utilise the waste, or transmute it into something that can be composted or used constructively in some way? If incineration is the only way to destroy the remaining matter, surely incinerators that provide power by virtue of creating energy would be preferable. 	<p>We are proposing to use proven energy recovery technology which is widely used across Europe. The technology provider, HoST, has a number of operational plants which are working to stringent emissions limits. The technology is being deployed in the UK by Bio Global Industries who have gained planning consent for a facility in Wolverhampton,</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burning via inefficient generators with poor after treatment systems in already heavily polluted areas is not the way forward. There are other more advanced solutions out there. 	<p>and four of its other projects are going through the planning process in Falkirk, Kidderminster, Essex and London.</p> <p>We considered other technologies, but ruled them about for various reasons. For example, the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) process still leaves a large amount of material that needs to be disposed of, and it is often exported abroad, put in landfill or incinerated.</p> <p>The board believes the waste solution offered by the proposed facility is the best technology to meet the needs of the Basildon community and the waste produced by it.</p>
Visual impact	<p>Some respondents commented about the potential visual impact of the facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the facility should be kept as small as possible This incinerator would be taking up land, becoming an eyesore Actual height of chimney and the look of the harmful smoke bellowing from stack or stacks. 	<p>The development will fit into the wider area in which it is located. The proposed ERF has a smaller footprint than traditional ERFs, and is at a small scale. Building Heights are limited to 22m. Stacks will extend to 50m. The site is considered</p>

		<p>appropriate for the proposed development in the context of the industrial area within which it sits.</p> <p>Energy from waste technologies often operate at significant scale and result in very large buildings. The proposed development at Archers Fields utilises a smaller technology and a smaller throughput to limit the need for large buildings and significant imports. Nevertheless, the proposed building will be among the larger buildings in the industrial estate and Basildon. It is therefore important that the design of the proposed development reflects the commitment to high standards in the operation of the proposed facility so that, if and when people see it, they are reassured that a commitment to quality is evident.</p> <p>The development needs to pay regard to the wider area within which it is located. There are few design cues within Burnt Mills as the area is laid out and developed functionally with predominantly industrial and business sheds and</p>
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		<p>storage yards for the most part. The built environment is again functional in appearance and overall, poor. The proposed development will transform the immediate area within which it is located with a significant uplift in the quality of development and open areas surrounding it. This should help to improve confidence in the level of commitment and the quality of attempts to improve the sustainability and the environmental performance of waste management of local waste in the area.</p> <p>Within the constraints imposed by the need to provide a functionally efficient development and to fit within the site, the design approach seeks to recognise the new town heritage of Basildon with the incorporation of features into the elevations which pay homage to the original design ideas which guided the development of the new town. The colour scheme also seeks to reflect this idea and also minimise any visual impacts where it can be seen from sensitive areas. The commitment to</p>
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		<p>provide a design which stimulates recognition of the local provenance of the facility, its operators and the waste it will manage, should also stimulate some confidence that the development is based on a commitment to quality and to safety by those who already live and work to manage local waste in the local area.</p> <p>Views of the facility will be limited, particularly from sensitive areas, and are not considered to create significant adverse impacts.</p>
Noise	<p>Some respondents commented about the potential for noise from the facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I don't understand why the Planning Authorities would allow such a noisy operation to continue next to a residential development which I assume the planning authorities also agreed! So how can it be equitable to expand that operation when there are lots of industrial space not close to residential development• Concerned about the increased traffic at varying times of day/night and impact on air quality and noise in the area.	<p>Clearaway's existing site has received no complaints about noise or odour in more than 10 years of trading.</p> <p>A Noise Impact Assessment found that cumulatively, noise levels would have no significant impact on the ambient noise levels at the receptors assessed. At night, noise mitigation measures will be in place to ensure noise doesn't affect local residents.</p>

Dust	<p>Some respondents raised concerns about the potential for dust from the facility, stating that this was already an issue in the local area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are very concerned as we already get lots of dust from your facility which settles on our car (we live in Burnt Mills) and dust also add be inhaling so will this increase and what can you do about existing dust? • Since the plant opened in Courtauld Road I and my neighbours have noticed that when you wash your car the following day is like, we have had a sand storm from the Sahara desert. Where is this dust /ash like substance coming from? 	<p>Clearaway takes its commitment to the control of dust very seriously. We currently control it on site through spray suppression which covers the whole area of operations. We also have a mobile dust suppression machine which can be moved to any area which becomes dusty. In addition to this, we have commissioned a road sweeper that runs up and down the road once a day, and our own internal road sweeper is in continuous operation in the yard.</p> <p>Within the building, any emissions will be filtered to remove dust and odours. The baghouse filter that will be used in the flue is extremely efficient at collecting particulates, even very small ones. It is expected that the dust impact will be negligible.</p>
Impact on recycling	<p>Some respondents felt that waste could more effectively dealt with by increased recycling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if it was recycled properly you would not need to burn it, and if everything was not wrapped in plastic sometimes twice. • We need to stop the production of non-recyclable, toxic waste in its entirety, not provide commerce with an excuse to continue bad practice. 	<p>The waste hierarchy ranks waste management options according to what is best for the environment. It gives top priority to preventing waste in the first place. When waste is created, we should look at re-using it first, then recycling,</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to look into more ways we can keep recycling things and getting wider communication out there to get people into freecycling instead of throwing perfectly good things away 	<p>then recovery, and last of all disposal in landfill.</p> <p>The Energy Recovery Facility will only take waste that has already been extensively recycled and which would otherwise be destined for disposal in landfill. Waste that arrives at the facility will already have been recycled at the existing Clearaway facility. At this site, the waste is shredding and separated into recycling bays using air, water, magnets and manual separation. Any material that arrives at the new site will have already been through this process.</p> <p>The new facility will have a space that will allow us to host school visits to teach children about the importance of recycling.</p>
Waste source and type	<p>Some respondents questioned where the waste would be coming from and what it would be composed of.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the facility should be kept as small as possible and not accept waste from outside the County of Essex until it is proved that the facility is operating with acceptable pollution limits why are we taking waste from around the country? All areas should take part in recycling and reprocessing waste locally, not dumping it here! 	<p>The Energy Recovery Facility will have capacity to process up to 150,000 tonnes per annum of locally arising non-hazardous waste, with the materials coming mainly from the existing Clearaway Recycling activities with the opportunity to take waste from other existing waste operations within the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate complex.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am totally against waste from other areas being brought to Basildon to be disposed of • What kind of waste you are going to give priority to e.g. (hazardous clinical waste)? • You also state in FAQS no general refuse will be taken to the site, what guarantees will be implemented that this will not be altered in the future? • Do your proposals include plastic waste such as polystyrene? • What percentage of the waste you take to landfill now will still go to landfill after being processed in this proposed new facility? 	<p>The materials used in the facility will solely be residual waste that has been recycled and segregated prior to being delivered to the facility.</p> <p>All waste that will be processed in the facility will come from the local area, whether through the existing Clearaway site or other businesses on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. The materials brought onto the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate by Clearaway/Wasteaway has been collected in skips from households, businesses and construction sites throughout Basildon and the surrounding area. Other materials are brought under contracts from local businesses.</p>
Future monitoring	<p>Some respondents asked whether environmental monitoring would be published for the facility, along with recycling levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing you do as planned, it should be ok but I think you should publish yearly reviews to ensure the environmental impact remains low. This should be all arrived at by an independent party. 	<p>Emissions from the facility will be monitored continually and checked and regulated, not only by the facility itself, but also by the Environment Agency in accordance with the Environmental Permit. Safety controls will be in place which are designed to shut down the plant in the unlikely event that emissions exceed allowed levels.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As a local resident I want feedback and results of recycling levels vs contaminated recycling that prevents sorting, recycling and how things can be improved. Clearaway should publish locally and the council feedback to residents.	Real-time emissions monitoring is required as part of our Environmental Permit from the Environment Agency. We will be publishing this data on a daily basis on our website so that local people can see the real-time performance of the facility at any time.
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5. Conclusion and Next Steps

Throughout this report, the applicant has demonstrated that pre-application engagement and consultation has been inclusive and proportionate to the proposed development. The consultation has also responded to the potential challenges presented by COVID-19 restrictions by broadening the scope, and length, of the consultation.

The applicant has placed community and stakeholder involvement at the core of the pre-application programme. By using a variety of methods – including setting-up community contact points; creating the project website, distributing a community newsletter and questionnaire, issuing press releases and taking an open and proactive approach to engaging with the media – the applicant has encouraged involvement and ran a continuous engagement campaign over a number of weeks.

The proposed development will be an important and high value investment into the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. It will present a step-change in the use of modern waste management technology and processes to manage the local waste materials collected within the Basildon area and brought to Burnt Mills for recycling and transfer, with local planning policy support. The proposed development will transform the immediate area within which it is located with a significant uplift in the quality of development and open areas surrounding it.

The design of the facility has been influenced by the consultation with stakeholders. It pays homage to the new town heritage of Basildon by incorporating design ideas and colour schemes seen in the town. The high-quality design also reflects the commitment to high standards in the operation of the proposed facility so that, if and when people see it, they are reassured that a commitment to quality is evident. Whilst a commitment to avoid and mitigate environmental and health impacts from the development and operation of the facility is already at the core of the proposals, demonstrable design-quality can be important in addressing perceptions of quality, and therefore of impacts, from the facility.

The channels used during the consultation period will continue to operate following submission of the planning application, to ensure interested parties and surrounding communities can keep up to date as the development progresses. This will include updates to the established website; maintenance of communication channels including email address and information line; and proactive measures to update and inform stakeholders following submission and consideration of the applications.

6. Appendices

I. Consultation leaflet



**ARCHERS
FIELDS**
ENERGY RECOVERY

MAY 2020

Clearaway is looking to build an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) next to our existing recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate, Archers Fields in Basildon.

The ERF will help to tackle two problems facing society – how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create secure, low carbon sources of energy.

We want to get your views on the plans as we pull together a planning application which we expect to submit to Essex County Council in the Summer.

Inside this newsletter you will find more information on our plans and a questionnaire where you can tell us what you think.

About Clearaway Recycling

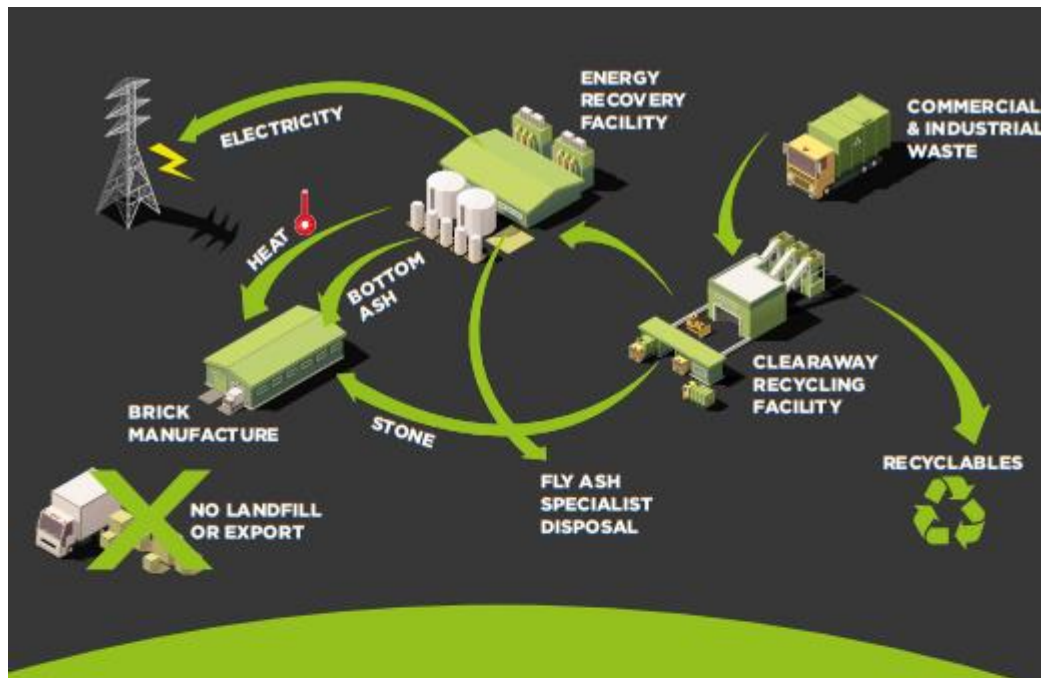
Clearaway Recycling is a family run business which has been based in Basildon for over ten years.

We collect waste from private households and businesses in the local area (via our sister collection companies Wasteaway and Clearaway skips) and bring it to our recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate where we treat around 250,000 tonnes every year.

We currently employ over 100 people at Clearaway and Wasteaway, including apprentices, and the plans to expand our business will create an estimated further ten jobs plus additional jobs during construction.

WWW.ARCHERSFIELDS-ERF.CO.UK

**RECYCLING
CLEARAWAY
LTD
RECYCLING**



WHAT ARE WE PLANNING?

Non-hazardous waste from businesses in the local area already comes into the industrial estate to be recycled at our existing Clearaway facility. However not all of the material can be recycled so currently we are having to send some waste to landfill. Sending waste to landfill is bad for the environment so we started looking at other options for dealing with what's left after recycling.

The next best thing after recycling is recovery, which includes using the waste as a fuel to generate energy. So, we are looking to build an ERF which will generate up to 11MW of electricity every year - enough to power up to 20,000 homes.

The only thing left over at the end is ash and we can use most of this (the bottom ash) to make bricks which can be used in the construction industry. The bricks will be made on site and heat from the ERF (which would otherwise be wasted) will be used to dry the bricks. We are also looking at including solar panels on the buildings and electric vehicle charging points.

THE WASTE HIERARCHY

The waste hierarchy ranks waste management options according to what is best for the environment. It gives top priority to preventing waste in the first place. When waste is created, we should look at re-using it first, then recycling, then recovery, and last of all disposal in landfill.

WWW.ARCHERSFIELDS-ERF.CO.UK



THE SITE

We are proposing to build the ERF in an industrial area next to our recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate, Archers Fields in Basildon. The brownfield site is currently being used by our collection company as a transport yard.

The ERF is being designed to take the waste that already comes to the Clearaway recycling facility, which means there will be no additional deliveries. It will process waste left over after recycling, significantly reducing the amount of waste which is currently transported on local roads to North Essex for disposal in landfill.



LOCAL BENEFITS



Divert up to 150,000 tonnes of waste from landfill every year

Generate up to 11 MW of low carbon electricity – enough to power up to 20,000 homes



Using leftover heat in the manufacture of bricks

Using bottom ash to produce bricks with a lower carbon footprint than concrete



Saving carbon from a reduction in vehicle movements currently transporting waste to landfill and generation of low carbon energy

Expected investment of at least £50 million in the local area



Additional income for the Council through business rates every year

We hope to create ten full time permanent jobs and additional jobs created during construction



HOW CAN I HAVE MY SAY?

We want to get your feedback as we prepare a planning application and there are a number of ways you can get involved:

- ☛ Fill in the questionnaire attached to this newsletter and pop it in the post (it's free!)
- ☛ Take a look at our website www.archersfields-erf.co.uk to fill in the questionnaire or ask a question
- ☛ Get in touch using the contact details on the bottom of the newsletter

The consultation closes on 12th June 2020 so please send us your comments before then. Following the consultation, we plan to submit a planning application to Essex County Council in the Summer and expect a decision before the end of the year. If we are successful, the ERF would take up to two years to build.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

If you can't find the answer to your question here visit our website where we've lots more.

Will there be an impact on local roads?

One of the main benefits of the site is that the waste is already coming into Clearaway so there will be no additional deliveries.

How safe is energy recovery?

The ERF will use proven technology and the process is closely regulated by the Environment Agency. Before it can operate the ERF will need an Environmental Permit and it will have to meet very strict emissions limits. Emissions data is monitored continually with safety controls designed to shut the plant down if it exceeds allowed levels.

Will it smell?

We will not be taking 'black bag' waste. The waste already comes to the site and we have not had any issues with odour in the past. All waste is normally processed within 24 hours and there will be odour control systems in place.

Will it detract from recycling?

We remove recyclable materials from the waste when it arrives at the Clearaway site. The ERF will take waste where the only other realistic option is landfill, using it to generate electricity and heat. We also recycle the bottom ash by using it in the production of construction bricks.

Call 0800 689 1095 Email info@archersfields-erf.co.uk

Website archersfields-erf.co.uk

Post (no stamp required) Freepost HAVE YOUR SAY

HAVE YOUR SAY

Please complete this questionnaire, tear off the slip, fold in half, moisten and glue together. Then just pop it in the post – no need to add a stamp!

Need more space? You can write to us using the contact details on the back of the newsletter or fill the questionnaire in online.

All consultation responses must be submitted by **12th June 2020**.

Q1. Do you agree that we should be looking at alternatives to landfill for the waste left after recycling?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

Please provide any comments here

Q2. What is your view on using waste that would otherwise end up in landfill to create low carbon energy?

Q3. Which of the following aspects of the proposal are you most interested in? (Tick up to three)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transport and access | <input type="checkbox"/> Generating low carbon energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> How the development looks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs and investment | <input type="checkbox"/> Diverting waste from landfill |

Please expand on your choices here

Q4. Please use this space to make any general comments

ABOUT YOU

Name

Address

Email

Phone

Age: ☐ Under 20 ☐ 20 – 35 ☐ 36 – 50 ☐ 51 – 65 ☐ Over 65

This information is optional but will help us to analyse the information you have provided more effectively and enable us to keep you updated on the project in the future.

Would you like to be kept updated about the project?

If so, please state how:

Yes / No

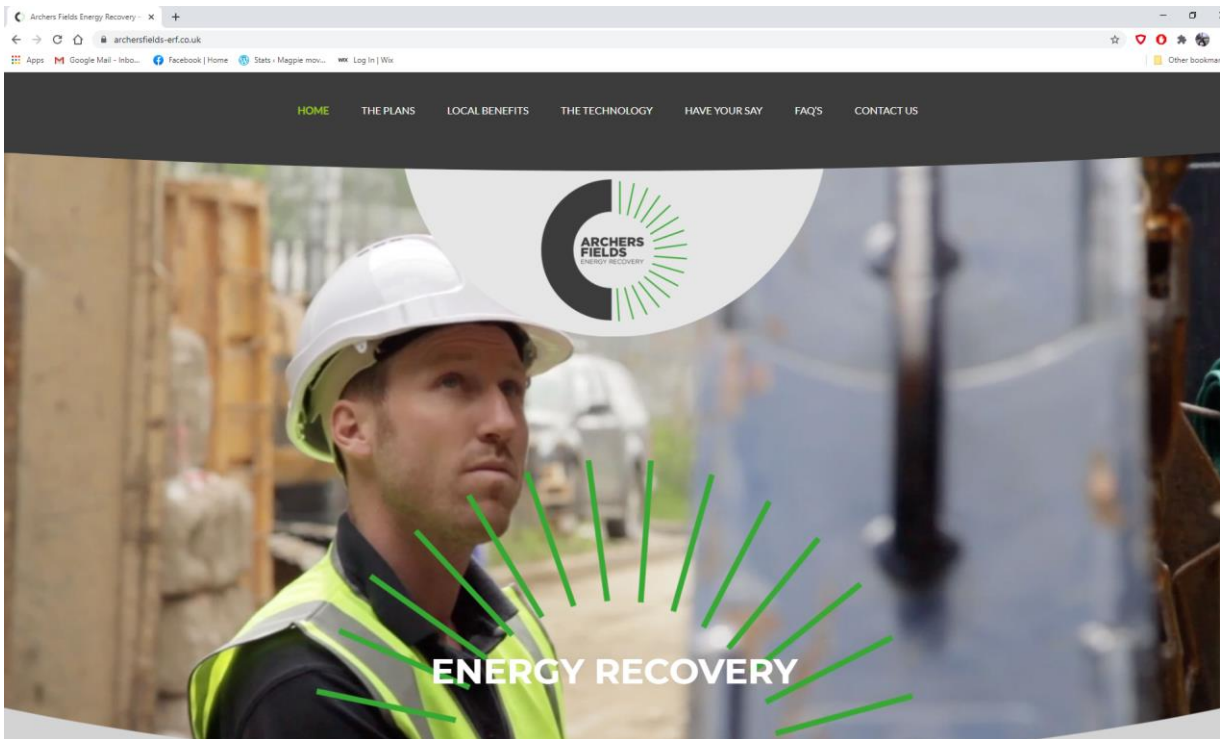
☐ Email ☐ Post

Providing your contact details allows Font Communications Ltd, on behalf of Clearway, to assess the reach of the consultation and log responses. Should you select to be kept informed, your email address and telephone number will allow Font to keep you updated on plans for Clearway only. Copies of the feedback received may be made available, in due course, to Essex County Council. We will, however, request that your personal details are not placed on the public record. Your personal details will be held securely by Font Communications Ltd and Clearway in accordance with the GDPR act, 2018 and will not be passed to any additional third parties.

II. Letter distribution area



III. Website



IV. Letter to stakeholders

05/10/2020

Email - Archers Fields - Outlook

Clearaway Facilities, Basildon: Public Consultation

Archers Fields <info@archersfields-erf.co.uk>

Wed 20/05/2020 18:56

To: Archers Fields <info@archersfields-erf.co.uk>

Bcc: cllr.carlo.guglielmi@essex.gov.uk <cllr.carlo.guglielmi@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.mike.stepto@essex.gov.uk <cllr.mike.stepto@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.jillian.reeves@essex.gov.uk <cllr.jillian.reeves@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.john.moran@essex.gov.uk <cllr.john.moran@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.mike.mackrory@essex.gov.uk <cllr.mike.mackrory@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.john.jowers@essex.gov.uk <cllr.john.jowers@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.dave.harris@essex.gov.uk <cllr.dave.harris@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.mike.garnett@essex.gov.uk <cllr.mike.garnett@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.dave.blackwell@essex.gov.uk <cllr.dave.blackwell@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.barry.aspinell@essex.gov.uk <cllr.barry.aspinell@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk <cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.stephen.hillier@essex.gov.uk <cllr.stephen.hillier@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.patricia.reid@essex.gov.uk <cllr.patricia.reid@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.allan.davies@essex.gov.uk <cllr.allan.davies@essex.gov.uk>; cllr.jeff.henry@essex.gov.uk <cllr.jeff.henry@essex.gov.uk>; gavin.callaghan@members.basildon.gov.uk <gavin.callaghan@members.basildon.gov.uk>; jack.ferguson@members.basildon.gov.uk <jack.ferguson@members.basildon.gov.uk>; patricia.reid@members.basildon.gov.uk <patricia.reid@members.basildon.gov.uk>; adele.brown@members.basildon.gov.uk <adele.brown@members.basildon.gov.uk>; cllr.allan.davies@essex.gov.uk <cllr.allan.davies@essex.gov.uk>

Dear Councillor,

I'm writing to introduce Clearaway and inform you of our expansion plans.

Clearaway is a family run business which has been based in Basildon for over ten years. We collect waste from private households and businesses in the local area (via our sister companies Wasteaway and Clearaway skips) and bring it to our recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate. We treat around 250,000 tonnes of waste every year and currently employ over 100 people, including apprentices.

We are developing plans to invest over £50m in a new Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) adjacent to our existing recycling facility which would not only help reduce the amount of waste we currently have to send to landfill, but it would also generate a low carbon source of energy.

Prior to taking the proposals out to public consultation later this week, we thought it would be helpful to issue you with the material we'll be sending to residents in the local area (attached) and let you know that the project website is now live at <https://archersfields-erf.co.uk>.

The community have until the 12th June to submit their feedback to our proposals, at which time we will take this onboard before submitting our proposals to Essex County Council.

If you have any further questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with the project team on 0800 689 1095 or at info@archersfields-erf.co.uk.

Best wishes,

The Archers Fields Project Team

V. Advert in local paper – May 2020



**ARCHERS
FIELDS
ENERGY
RECOVERY**

CONSULTATION ON PLANS FOR ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY

**CLEARAWAY IS LOOKING TO BUILD AN
ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY NEXT TO
OUR EXISTING RECYCLING FACILITY ON
BURNT MILLS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
ARCHERS FIELDS IN BASILDON.**

The facility will help to tackle two problems facing society - how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create low carbon sources of energy.

The facility will take local waste that already comes to our recycling facility and use it to generate enough low carbon electricity to power up to 20,000 homes.

We want to get your views as we pull together a planning application which we plan to submit to Essex County Council this summer.

The consultation closes on 12th June 2020. To get involved:

Visit www.archersfields-erf.co.uk
Call 0800 689 1095
Email us info@archersfields-erf.co.uk
Write to us Freepost HAVE YOUR SAY

Group 'trespassed' for nearly 19 hours after they'd promised to leave the Windjammer

Travellers 'finally' move on from seafront car park

By POPPIE WEBSTER
@poppiewriter

A LARGE group of travellers have finally moved on after they had crammed caravans and cars onto a seafront car park.

The move came after furious residents spotted the group of 15 vehicles on the small car park which sits along Carney seafront on Tuesday night.

The encampment was set up outside the Windjammer restaurant at around 4.30pm, where buses were told the group would be gone by 4pm Wednesday afternoon. However the encampment still remained there the following morning.

Staff from the Windjammer have now confirmed the last caravans left at around 11am yesterday, after trespassing for what was nearly 19 hours after they promised to leave.

Caravans were also spotted fur-



■ Leader - Norman Smith

ther along the seafront.

Essex Police took to the site of the unsanctioned encampment on Eastern Esplanade on Tuesday evening and linked with the land owner to monitor the situation, with the team from Cayle Point Council taking the same approach to ensure there were no problems during their stay.

Council leader Norman Smith, said: "I have been made aware

the travellers have finally left the Windjammer, which is fantastic news, although I'm not sure where they'll go next.

"So far I haven't heard of any nuisance during their stay, but I'm yet to hear if anything was left behind.

"When they seem to be there for a long while they tend to leave a lot of rubbish or even mess with people's back gardens, and the council has to spend thousands making things right."

More caravans were also spotted in another car park further along the seafront, with council bosses saying a welded entry barrier had been broken. It is not yet clear if caravans are still there.

Mr Smith added: "People sometimes don't feel as secure while they stay so it will definitely put people at ease, but it is always a worry they will have somewhere else lined up and cause problems there."



■ Moved on - travellers set up camp at the Windjammer on Tuesday



**ARCHERS
FIELDS**
Energy Recovery

CONSULTATION ON PLANS FOR ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY



RECYCLING
CLEARAWAY
LTD
RECYCLING

CLEARAWAY IS LOOKING TO BUILD AN ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY NEXT TO OUR EXISTING RECYCLING FACILITY ON BURNT MILLS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ARCHERS FIELDS IN BASILDON.

The facility will help to tackle two problems facing society - how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create low carbon sources of energy.

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 Write to us Freepost HAVE YOUR SAY

VI. Press release – May 2020

<p>PRESS RELEASE</p> <p>LOCAL RECYCLING FIRM UNVEILS PLANS TO REDUCE ESSEX LANDFILL WASTE</p> <p>Local recycling business, Clearaway, is launching a consultation on their plans for a new £50 million energy recovery facility next to their existing recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate in Basildon.</p> <p>The Archers Fields Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) will help to tackle two problems facing society – how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create secure, low carbon sources of energy.</p> <p>Clearaway is a family run business which has been based in Basildon for over ten years, with the family continuing to operate other successful businesses in the area for nearly 20 years.</p> <p>Clearaway collects waste from private households and businesses in the local area (via sister collection companies Wasteway and Clearaway skips) which is delivered to the recycling facility on the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate where Clearaway treats around 250,000 tonnes every year.</p> <p>The family, through Clearaway and Wasteway, currently employ over 100 people, which includes a number of apprentices who are either still serving their apprenticeship or who now occupy full time positions. The plans to expand the business group will create a further ten jobs plus additional jobs created during construction.</p> <p>Clearaway was founded by brothers Ian and Paul Whitehair, and Paul said "We have been recycling waste from local businesses at our site in Basildon for over ten years, but we were getting increasingly disappointed with how much still has to end up in landfill. Sending waste to landfill is bad for the environment so we started looking at other options for dealing with what's left after recycling."</p> <p>According to Government policy, the next best thing after recycling is recovery, which includes using the waste as a fuel to generate energy. Clearaway are planning to build an ERF which will generate up to 11MW of electricity every year – enough to power up to 20,000 homes.</p> <p>The only thing left over at the end is ash and most of this can be used to make bricks for use in the construction industry. The bricks will be made on site and heat from the ERF (which would otherwise be wasted) will be used to dry the bricks.</p> <p>The ERF is designed to take the existing waste that already comes to the Clearaway recycling facility so no additional deliveries will be required. It will process waste left over after recycling, significantly reducing the amount of waste which is currently transported on local roads to North Essex for disposal in landfill.</p> <p>Paul said "In these unprecedented times due to Coronavirus, we are unable to host the public exhibition where we had planned to show our proposals to the community. Instead, we are ensuring that everyone can view our plans in a safe way by visiting our website or requesting our newsletter. You'll be able to view our proposals, leave us some feedback and ask any questions you have."</p>	<p>The website for the proposals is www.archersfields-erf.co.uk and the consultation is open until 12th June 2020. Newsletters have been sent to over 4000 households and businesses around the site and can be requested by calling 0800 689 1095 or emailing info@archersfields-erf.co.uk.</p> <p>Following the consultation, Clearaway will be submitting a planning application to Essex County Council in the Summer and expect a decision to be taken before the end of the year. If the application is successful, the ERF would take up to two years to build.</p> <p>To help the local NHS in its response to Coronavirus, Clearaway has made a donation to Basildon NHS of £2000 plus providing supplies of much needed PPE from its reserves.</p> <p>ENDS</p> <p><u>Editor's Notes</u></p> <p>Attached: Infographic which shows the process of the ERF, redline of the site</p> <p>Please contact Rebecca Eatwell at Font Communications on 07827 353113 or at rebecca@fontcomms.com if you have any questions.</p>
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VII. Second press release – June 2020

<p>PRESS RELEASE</p> <p>Strictly embargoed until xx June 9am</p> <p>CLEARAWAY EXTEND PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ERF PROPOSALS</p> <p>Clearaway, the family run recycling business, have made the decision to extend the ongoing public consultation regarding their proposals for a new Energy Recovery Facility at Archers Fields in Basildon until the 26th June.</p> <p>Paul Whitehair said "We have noted the interest in our proposals from the residents of Basildon, and having taken into account the extraordinary circumstances which we find ourselves in due to the ongoing Coronavirus crisis, we have decided to extend our consultation period. We will now be accepting feedback until the 26th June, which is an additional two weeks after the original end date of the consultation."</p> <p>Paul said, "We're reviewing all the feedback received to date and will be responding fully as part of the planning application but wanted to address directly a few points raised by the community."</p> <p>On questions raised about additional traffic, Paul said "One of the benefits of the site is that the waste is already coming into the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate so there will be no additional traffic. In fact transport movements will be reduced as the waste left after recycling will no longer be going to landfill."</p> <p>With regards to air quality, Paul said "Emissions from the facility will be tightly controlled and will comply with strict regulations under an Environmental Permit to ensure local air quality is not adversely affected. We are also going through a very robust planning and technical assessment process which will include a detailed air quality assessment. We are proposing to use technology that has been used widely across Europe for over 20 years with a proven track record of meeting emissions limits. Emissions from the facility will be monitored continually and checked and regulated by the Environment Agency in accordance with the Environmental Permit. Safety controls will be in place which are designed to shut down the plant in the unlikely event that emissions exceed allowed levels."</p> <p>Paul went on to say: "As part of the planning application we will need to demonstrate that the facility will be safe and not impact adversely on human health. The process is permitted and closely regulated by the Environment Agency and there are numerous real-time safety controls which prevent safety hazards."</p> <p>The website for the proposals is www.archersfields-erf.co.uk and the consultation is now open until 26th June 2020. Newsletters have been sent to over 11,000 households and businesses around the site and can be requested by calling 0800 689 1095 or emailing info@archersfields-erf.co.uk.</p>	<p>Following the consultation, Clearaway will be submitting a planning application to Essex County Council in the Summer and expect a decision to be taken before the end of the year. If the application is successful, the ERF would take up to two years to build.</p> <p>ENDS</p> <p><u>Editor's Notes</u></p> <p>Please contact Rebecca Eatwell at Font Communications on 07827 353113 or at rebecca@fontcomms.com if you have any questions.</p>
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VIII. Second advert in local paper – June 2020



CONSULTATION EXTENDED ON PLANS FOR ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY

CLEARAWAY IS EXTENDING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ON OUR PLANS TO BUILD AN ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY NEXT TO OUR EXISTING RECYCLING FACILITY ON BURNT MILLS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ARCHERS FIELDS IN BASILDON.

THE NEW CONSULTATION CLOSE DATE IS 26TH JUNE 2020.

The facility will help to tackle two problems facing society – how to sustainably manage the waste we produce and how to create low carbon sources of energy.

The facility will take local waste that already comes to our recycling facility and use it to generate enough low carbon electricity to power up to 20,000 homes.

We are pulling together a planning application which we plan to submit to Essex County Council this summer. This will show how we have addressed the issues raised during the consultation. Here are responses to some of the questions raised so far.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Will the facility cause additional traffic?

One of the benefits of the site is that the waste is already coming into the Burnt Mills Industrial Estate so there will be no additional traffic. In fact transport movements will be reduced as the waste left after recycling will no longer be going to landfill.

Will it impact on local air quality?

Emissions from the facility will be tightly controlled and will comply with strict regulations under an Environmental Permit to ensure local air quality is not adversely affected. We are also going through a very robust planning and technical assessment process which will include a detailed air quality assessment. We are proposing to use technology that has been used widely across Europe for over 20 years with a proven track record of meeting emissions limits. Emissions from the facility will be monitored continually and checked and regulated by the Environment Agency in accordance with the Environmental Permit. Safety controls will be in place which are designed to shut down the plant in the unlikely event that emissions exceed allowed levels.


Will it impact on public health?

As part of the planning application we will need to demonstrate that the facility will be safe and not impact adversely on human health. The process is permitted and closely regulated by the Environment Agency and there are numerous real-time safety controls which prevent safety hazards.



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