

**Advanced Proteins Liaison Group Meeting
4.00pm Friday 30th April 2021**

The following members were present:

Chair	Karen Bradley - Member of Parliament – Staffordshire Moorlands Rebecca Kirby - Karen Bradley's Office
Environment Agency	Steve Thomason – Team Leader
Councillors / MP:	Cllr Mike Bowen- SMDC District Council Cllr Harold Jennings – Cheddleton Parish Council Jack Brereton – Member of Parliament – Stoke on Trent South
Advanced Proteins:	Gerry McLoughlin – Managing Director Barney Williams - Technical Director
Animal Health:	See apologies
Representing Residents:	Patricia Duffy Ian Dakin – Also Cllr for Cheddleton Parish Council
Apologies:	Stephanie Young (Trading Standards) Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Stafford Office Joe Smith

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Karen Bradley (KB) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Gerry McLoughlin (GM) introduced himself to the group and the members of the group reciprocated.

2. Updates from:

Environment Agency

Steve Thomason (ST) explained that since the last liaison meeting on 9th October 2020, 24 reports had been made to the Environment Agency, all of which related to odour and none relating to noise.

The types of odours varied but were predominantly raw material related. It was noted that approximately fifty percent of the reports received came from two residents.

Reports had been received in relation to agricultural spreading in this period, which may have contributed to the complaints received.

ST noted that there were no failures of the permit or the site-specific odour management plan (OMP).

ST explained that there had been four Schedule 5 notifications received from the Company since the last liaison meeting, which Advanced Proteins are obliged to report under their permit conditions. One of which related to power loss on the National Grid, One related to roof damage and two related to vehicle access door breakdowns. The oxidizers and biobeds were reset immediately and there were no odour reports when the power blip occurred, and therefore it was managed appropriately. Likewise, there were no complaints received at the times of the door breakdowns and repairs were made as soon as possible.

ST added that the action tracker continues for positive improvement projects on site. Cat 3 roof replacement being a priority. Along with olfactometry morning. Further information from BW later on.

KB stated that since the last meeting she and JB had sent a joint letter to the minister for Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) regarding the potential for an amendment to the animal by product regulations (1069/2009) in relation to transport, to raise support for the potential for refrigerated sealed vessels. A response letter was received in March from Rebecca Pow (MP) which reiterated the current regulations i.e. products must be collected and transported in sealed or leak proof containers or vehicles. JB was not happy with the response received and would be seeking further discussions on the subject.

3. Advanced Proteins

BW explained that Advanced Proteins continues to progress positively, despite the challenges of a global pandemic and the fallout from the UK's exit from the EU on 1st January this year.

BW added that the Company continues to invest in the business and the future state of the art process discussed at the last meeting is progressing well from a research and development perspective.

As stated previously, the process design will ensure all environmental aspects and impacts have been considered to ensure there is no impact on the local community.

GM commented that the project will likely come to fruition later this year from a planning perspective, and the build would take place in 2022/2023.

BW reiterated that Advanced Proteins would continue to consult with the group as the projects develops.

BW explained that Advanced Proteins are working through the site action tracker, with the most significant investment over the next few months being the removal of a significant part of the category 3 building. The project will be phased over several weeks to ensure that sections of the roof can be removed and immediately replaced to ensure minimum odour impact. An environmental impact assessment (EIA) will be undertaken to ensure robust controls are in place.

During the summer months, the Company have committed to undertaking olfactometry monitoring with the view to providing an odour impact report for the site. The report was previously undertaken in 2017. Further information will be fed back at the next meeting.

Smoke testing of process buildings will also be undertaken on a monthly basis to identify any weaknesses in the building extraction systems. The technology is an industrial fog machine to

fill the building and to momentarily turn off the extraction systems on a non-processing day. The fog builds, to the point where any weaknesses can be identified externally. The extraction systems are then turned on to confirm that the fog is drawn away to the abatement systems.

Biobed refurbishments were undertaken in March and April to ensure that the essential abatement systems are in optimum health for the warmer summer months.

BW and ID explained that they had been liaising with a local resident from the Ostlers Lane area of the village with regard to an app which residents could utilise to record significant odours within the village. (See slides for further information at the end of the minutes). Feedback would be appreciated.

The thoughts of the Liaison Committee would be helpful to progress the concept. Some minor modifications would be needed to avoid abuse of the system i.e. cookies could limit to one submission every 24 hours. Some changes would also be required for data collection. To move to the next phase it would be helpful to receive views on whether participation could be incentivize, whether the concept could be integrated into social media and/or to target local residents in strategic geographical areas to participate.

ST commented that the Environment Agency could not adopt the concept as they have a National Incident Reporting System (NIRS) which is integral to the methodology that the EA employ to investigate incidents. The Incident Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We always request that reports are made to the incident line and not directly to an Environment Agency Officer. This ensures that they are picked up when the site Officer is on leave or out of the office for example.

Update at the September meeting.

4. Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)

BW explained that there had been limited Company activities involving the APHA in the various avian flu seasonal outbreaks over the past 4 months. The first cases started relatively early back in November 2020 which suggested frequent outbreaks over the winter months but there were very few reported.

The site APHA audits conducted since the last meeting were all very positive, with zero non conformances reported.

5. Trading Standards

BW confirmed that there were no spillages reported since the last meeting and no further engagement or activities during this time period.

6. Any other business

MB raised that a resident had again noted an increase in road usage by wagons on Rownall Road. BW confirmed that the Sylvesters site was in the process of being emptied of its current product and this would continue on an infrequent basis over the next few months. Advanced Protein's drivers have been briefed and continue to drive with the utmost respect in the

Rownall area. The use of Mill Lane as a thoroughfare is prohibited to avoid the local school traffic.

BW agreed to progress the planting of wild flowers on the grassy areas of the land on the roads to the factory. BW and ID to discuss.

7. Date of next meeting

10th September 2021 at 4pm with a site visit beforehand at 3pm. The meeting to be held at the Advanced Proteins site.



Odour Tracking App Proposal

The Odour Tracker is a simple to use web app that allows users to record odour release incidents based on odour type, time and location.

The information collected can be used to help monitor odour levels and allow Advanced Proteins to engage with residents who participate to help understand incidents and act accordingly.

This app is a prototype and can be modified to suit the requirements of the liaison committee.

A smartphone displaying the Odour Tracker app interface. The app has a white background with the AP logo and 'Odour Tracker' text at the top. Below the header are several form fields: 'Odour Level' with a dropdown menu set to 'High'; 'Day' and 'Hour' dropdown menus set to 'Today' and '7am' respectively; 'Duration' dropdown menu set to '10 mins'; 'Odour Description' dropdown menu set to 'Select an option'; a blue 'Use my location' button and a 'Postcode' input field; a note 'Approximate to within 200m'; a line of text 'By submitting you understand the terms' with a link to 'terms'; and a large green 'Submit' button at the bottom. A footer at the very bottom of the screen reads '© Advanced Proteins 2021'.

The app has been designed by Go Sho Communications Ltd. Go Sho is software consultancy company who specialise in market research apps, user research, software development and consultancy.



Odour Tracking Dashboard

The Odour Tracker logs daily records of odour release submitted via the app in a calendar view which allows administrators to click through to each daily entry.

Each entry loads a map view of daily logs based on location within 200 meters.

