

Presentation by Ian Adams (Chief Engineer) of 2 Sisters Ltd.

On 18th January 2008 Lloyd Maunder's business was bought out by 2 Sisters Ltd, the land is being leased from Lloyd Maunder Holdings. From 19th January 2008 2 Sisters began operations in Willand, the operational area is a triangle as marked out on maps seen, they have a licence to operate out of the existing Lloyd Maunder's buildings for one year.

Office staff and boilers to be relocated within the site and by 19th January 2009 all operations must be within the leased area hence the need to move and build new buildings.

Transport sections are being made redundant at end of May, 2 Sisters may use transport area for their transport needs but no agreement has been made.

2 Sisters intend to increase volumes of production of chickens going through the plant 2 shifts operate currently and production will until 10pm where currently production ceases at 6pm.

1st planning application submitted was approved but they have had to reapply due to a conflict of understanding about the clean air act. With regards to the packaged boiler plant room – Simon Newcombe Environmental Officer at MDDC worked out that the flues were too close, therefore they had to move the building 1 metre.

Works taking place will reduce all emissions, spillages etc from the building further.

Gas boiler house to replace existing on the other site, one storage tank has already been moved there is one more still to move.

Plant room – currently storing some tanks inside.

The 2 boilers are 14 mega watt condensing boilers, the old boilers are only 3 mega watts. They intend to use heat reclaim from the refrigeration plant.

Ammonia plant, whilst it is generally considered to be one of the most dangerous refrigeration gases, it is efficient and Ian finds it to be the safest because you are aware of leaks.

Lots of work is taking place inside factory to support the move that will have no impact to the building therefore does not need planning permission.

As part of new business and because they now have new customers 2 Sisters are driving forward using gas to stun the poultry rather than the electrical way currently used it is far more humane.

Gas stun equipment fits into a small area but to support it a large amount of work is needed.

They currently have a trailer and by-products waste is transported around site to be tipped on the other side but there can be spillages.

Keeping in one building will retain the odour and reduce seagulls. They are working to drive green energy looking for someone to take feathers for compost or to make green energy – need the area to separate the waste.

No ventilation in this building at all.

Lairage – 2 lanes have currently been closed off. Chickens can be kept up to 5 hours here as it is aired and cool.

They only use suppliers within a 2 hour drive

They will extend lairage to 5 lanes to create more airflow.

The system is currently manual but in the new design it will be automatic.

Bulk liquid is delivered and this is then passed through an evaporator and turned into gas hence the large tanks.

The 'tanks' are 12.6 metres high – this is one of the smallest available – economics and animal welfare need to be considered.

Smaller tanks – would need more than one delivery per week, increasing HGV movement.

White tanks but will turn green with time.

Ian will ask the supplier if it is possible for them to be painted.

Air compressors and condensers will be moved

They are changing machines to be more energy efficient

To accommodate the tanker movement they will need to concrete the area, tankers cannot unload alone therefore they will only work between 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday.

How many more applications to follow?

One more application for the time being – this would be for storage purposes, to lay out dispatch.

What impact on vehicle movements will production until 10pm make?

This will make no difference to late vehicle movement. 20.30 would be the latest vehicle movement, currently 18.30.

Garages, engineering team have had redundancies. Office staff have been duplicated so some redundancies.

They are currently advertising for staff looking to take on more apprentices and took on 4 new apprentices last year.

There will be new factory positions created.

Ian is unaware of the plans for the area which will become vacant once they have moved to the new part of the site, this may be developed by Lloyd Maunder holdings.

The Chairman thanked Ian and his colleague for an excellent presentation, making the point that, pre discussions lead to open and transparent dialogue, result, a more meaningful outcome for all areas which make up this community.