



17 May 2016 Stroud, Gloucestershire, UK

For immediate release

JAVELIN PARK INCINERATOR 'OBSOLETE BEFORE IT IS BUILT' SAYS JONATHON PORRITT

A local project to build an incinerator in Gloucestershire has been criticised by writer and environmentalist Jonathon Porritt, CBE.

The controversial Javelin Park project, which has received strong local opposition since it was first proposed in 2010, was described by Porritt as *“an example of poor waste and resource planning that is preventing the UK moving towards a true circular economy”*, at the Talking Rubbish seminar held at Gloucestershire University on 29th April.

Other speakers included leading research group Eunomia, Resource Futures and CommunityR4C, an environmental initiative representing the community interests of Gloucestershire.

Criticism levelled at the project included a:

- Lack of transparent decision-making at county level
- Inefficient use of resources
- Poor value for money
- Encouraging infrastructure lock-in
- Ignoring the potential for a circular economy
- Not future-proofing the technology; and
- Ignoring the needs and wishes of the local community

The seminar was attended by around 150 concerned local residents and representatives from the waste and recycling industry and chaired by Jonathon Porritt. Local councillors and decision makers from Gloucestershire and the surrounding areas were invited to attend but few did, according to the organisers.

Jonathon Porritt said: *“World leaders are all now signing up to the ‘Zero Net Carbon Economy by 2050’. So what are we going to do when we bring forward a new asset such as the Javelin Park incinerator, which demonstrably is not heading towards net zero emissions and which will still be in our midst in 20-30 years’ time? This is the height of irresponsibility - it is actually imposing upon people a carbon legacy which will cost us dear and something we will all have to deal with for a very long time.”*

Tom Jarman of Community R4C, who also spoke at the event, said: *“We want a legacy of proper and efficient use of resources, community-led and supported environmental projects that will deliver real benefits to Gloucestershire and provide an example for other*

communities faced with incineration as the only alternative. That's why we are proposing a different model - a better way to manage resources in Gloucestershire."

A transcript of Jonathon Porritt's opening remarks at the Talking Rubbish seminar are available online [here](#).

Community R4C has recently launched a community share scheme to support an alternative to incineration in the area using advanced MBHT (mechanical, biological and heat treatment) technology, which experts claim can put more than 90 per cent of the county's waste to valuable use instead of burning it.

Anyone interested in the share launch can find out more on [Crowdfunder](#), on CommunityR4C's website or by emailing admin@communityr4c.com. You can also download the share prospectus [here](#).

Ends

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EDITOR'S NOTES

1 The R4C Recycling Plant

The recycling plant will use the latest MBHT (mechanical, biological and heat treatment) technology to extract valuable material such as plastics, glass and precious metals from the Gloucestershire's residual or 'black bag' waste. It is calculated that 92% of it can be usefully recovered or recycled instead of incinerating the untreated waste or sending it to landfill.

The MBHT plant will be commercially funded and operated and, after community investors have been repaid, a share of all profits from the plant will revert to CommunityR4C to fund a 'community chest' to be used for local projects. The plant is expected to be operational in 2018.

The R4C recycling plant will be operational in 2018 and will put the valuable resource in residual or 'black bag' waste at the centre of a sustainable circular economy for Gloucestershire. Best in class waste treatment technology provided under a free community licence will recover valuable materials such as metals, glass and plastics and produce >90% biomass fuel pellets. No more than 8% of treated waste will remain for disposal by landfill or incineration.

2 CommunityR4C

CommunityR4C is a Community Benefit Society registered in 2016. Its objectives are:

The protection and preservation of the environment for the public benefit by:

(a) the promotion of waste reduction, re-use reclamation, recycling, use of recycled products and the use of surplus;

(b) advancing the education of the public about all aspects of waste generation, waste management, waste recycling and the resource circular economy.

(c) the promotion of such other activities and initiatives that contribute to and stimulate the development of a local resource circular economy.

Community R4C aims to create local economic, social and environmental value by mobilising public support for RR4C (a privately funded commercial company with whom we have a contract) to build and operate an advanced recycling facility, returning savings and other financial benefits to CR4C and the local community.

Watch our animation [here](#).

3 Crowdfunder UK

Crowdfunder UK is the country's leading crowd-funding site and its projects range in size from a few thousand pounds to £100's of thousands. One of its specialities is community share schemes like CommunityR4C.

4 Community Shares Schemes

Community shares is a term used to describe non-transferable, withdrawable share capital in an asset-locked entity; a form of equity unique to society legislation. Shareholders have the right to withdraw their share capital, subject to the terms and conditions stated in the society's rules and share offer document. They cannot sell or transfer their shares to a third party in order to achieve a capital gain from their investment in share capital.

<http://communityshares.org.uk/resources/handbook>