

Proposal

On the 28th of September the council of the Isles of Scilly accepted our bid and awarded us their green waste contract. This contract is for us to receive green waste from the Moorewell site and process it on site at Parting Carn in a process called open windrow composting.

As it will be open windrow composting there will be no need for any physical modifications to the site prior to use. The green waste received from Moorewell will mainly consist of grass, small hedge cuttings and general garden waste. Any larger waste such as tree branches, larger cuttings or Christmas trees will be chipped up prior to composting.

Windrow composting is the production of compost by piling organic matter or biodegradable waste, such as garden waste, in long rows (windrows). The windrows get turned over and allow fresh air (oxygen) to get into the compost and the waste gases produced by bacterial decomposition are vented. The oxygen feeds the aerobic bacteria and thus speeds the composting process. There are different factors that affect the composting process, these factors include temperature, moisture, oxygen, particle size, carbon-to-nitrogen ratio and the frequency and degree of turning. The length of the process also depends on the results required. Generally, an immature compost can be produced in about a month, while a mature compost may take six months to a year.

I will be looking to produce mainly an immature compost that can be spread onto some of the fields at Parting Carn, to help promote good grass growth. I will also process a small amount to a mature compost that I can use in my Polly tunnels.

The waste will be brought to the site once Moorewell have a full load that needs emptying, obviously the frequency of these movements will depend on the amount of garden waste disposed of by the islands residents, and the time of year will probably effect this as more gardening happens in the summer months.

All the correct exemptions for this type of waste operation to take place have been granted by the environmental agency and are already in place. These exemptions are shown on Appendix A

The previous application was proposing a different location that highlighted some issues regarding SSSI's and protection zones, taking these points into consideration I have selected the current proposed filed as the majority of this field is outside any protection zones, and only this part would be used for the green waste staying clear of the protection zones. Also I think that the chance of the change of use being granted is more likely as the field has been granted for change of use previously when it was used as a site compound and batching plant for both Lagan construction and Kier.

Visual Impact of Windrows

The height of the windrows will be approximately 4-5ft, this will ensure there is enough material in the windrows, but they will not be so high that they become an eyesore - they will be similar height as the surrounding boundaries walls and hedges. The windrow needs to be big enough to generate heat to speed up the process but also be long as it is the long shape of windrow that makes airflow into the compost.

Traffic Impact

There will not be a net gain in traffic movement as Green Waste is already transferred by road to the quay for shipment to the mainland. The traffic moments to site will depend on how much green waste is presented and this varies across the year. It is likely to range from one trip a month to two or three a month. It is assumed that during March and April there is likely to be an increase in

volumes as people will be variously getting their gardens ready over spring or getting their hotels and lets ready for guests. Also there won't be any increase in traffic as it is already transported to the quay via road, if anything it will be better as any traffic will now be heading away from the busy town.

Data showing monthly volumes of green waste collected at Moorwell in the table below. As you can see, the volumes are incredibly low all year round with some slight increases, therefore the scale of the operation would be equally small.

| YEAR | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2015 | | | | | | | | | 3.94 | 1.88 | 2.90 | 1.14 |
| 2016 | 2.28 | 1.87 | 5.39 | 3.31 | 4.39 | 6.41 | 4.17 | 5.25 | 8.89 | 6.42 | 3.43 | 8.79 |
| 2017 | 2.56 | 2.06 | 3.70 | 3.79 | 13.79 | 4.19 | 6.70 | | | | | |

Environmental Impact: Air and water pollution

The scale of the proposed operation will be very small and therefore have a negligible negative impact on the environment (air and water) whilst also producing a beneficial by-product that can be retained on the islands.

It is considered that the moisture content from garden waste, rich in carbon, is not generally high enough to create significant quantities of leachate and the thatch effect created by piled up green waste stops rainwater getting contaminated.

The risk of surface water run-off sitting at the base of the windrows will mostly be absorbed into the soil in the field, so a risk of polluting any water with organic substance is very low, but to reduce any risk the windrows will be sited to the Eastern side of the proposed field keeping over to the wall, increasing the distance from the protection zone. Additionally, and if deemed necessary, a small soil bund could be put in place to redirect any surface water run-off. Given the scale and location of the operations this is not likely but is a good precaution that can easily be implemented.

Due to the nature of the operation – which will only accept green garden waste – any run-off will be non-hazardous and any nutrients contained will be absorbed in the immediate vicinity.

I think it is important to consider that all waste produced on the islands has an environmental impact, however it is imperative to find ways to minimise this impact and also find environmental benefits from any opportunities that may be presented: If the green waste is processed on the island, the carbon footprint will be a lot less than the current arrangement; there will be a lot less movements by road (on island and the mainland) and sea. The current export of green waste requires it to be transferred in expensive, single use, plastic lined bulk bags which are disposed of – these will not be required for an on island operation; there is also the increased cost to the community of the shipping of green waste. By moving to an on island solution, the cost and environmental impact of freight will be reduced, the scale is so small that the on island environmental impact will be negligible and there will be a beneficial by-product which will help the islands move towards a circular economy and increased self-sufficiency.

Vermin and birds

The composting of garden waste does not attract vermin or birds as it does not contain any other materials such as kitchen waste. The site is fairly close to St. Mary's airport but I feel this would not be a problem, as I mentioned green waste does not attract birds. Also the site is situated to the side of the field that is not near any active runways.

Noise

Any noise associated with the composting activities is limited to that of the transport, turning and screening machinery, which is considered to be no more than that of the ordinary farm operations.

Access

There is already good access to the proposed site which consists of a hard-core road previously installed by Lagan contractors when they occupied the fields, this will eliminate any mud being taken onto the highway from the field, therefore there is no need to change or modify this. There are no access issues with the site location, the existing access path can be seen on a map I have supplied with the application.

Notes

Map A shows the boundary of all our land/tenancy in blue.

Map B shows the proposed site location and the access to the site, marked in red.

Map C shows the protection zones and site.

Appendix A shows what exemptions are in place.

Appendix A

Registration details

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Reference number | WEX104712 |
| Activation date | 16 August 2017 |

Your contact details

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Your name | Andrew Watts |
| Your business telephone number | 01720422176 |
| Your business email | andrewwatts86@hotmail.co.uk |

Business details

| | |
|--|---|
| Business or organisation type | Individual |
| Person responsible for the waste operation | Andrew Watts |
| Address of the person responsible | PARTING CARN, ST. MARY'S, ISLES OF SCILLY, TR21 ONE |

Waste operation contact

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name | Andrew Watts |
| Position | |
| Telephone number | 01720422176 |
| Email | andrewwatts86@hotmail.co.uk |

Waste operation details

Waste operation location PARTING CARN, ST. MARY'S, ISLES OF SCILLY, TR21 ONE

Grid reference

Site details

Exemptions


D7: Burning waste in the open Expires on 15 August 2020

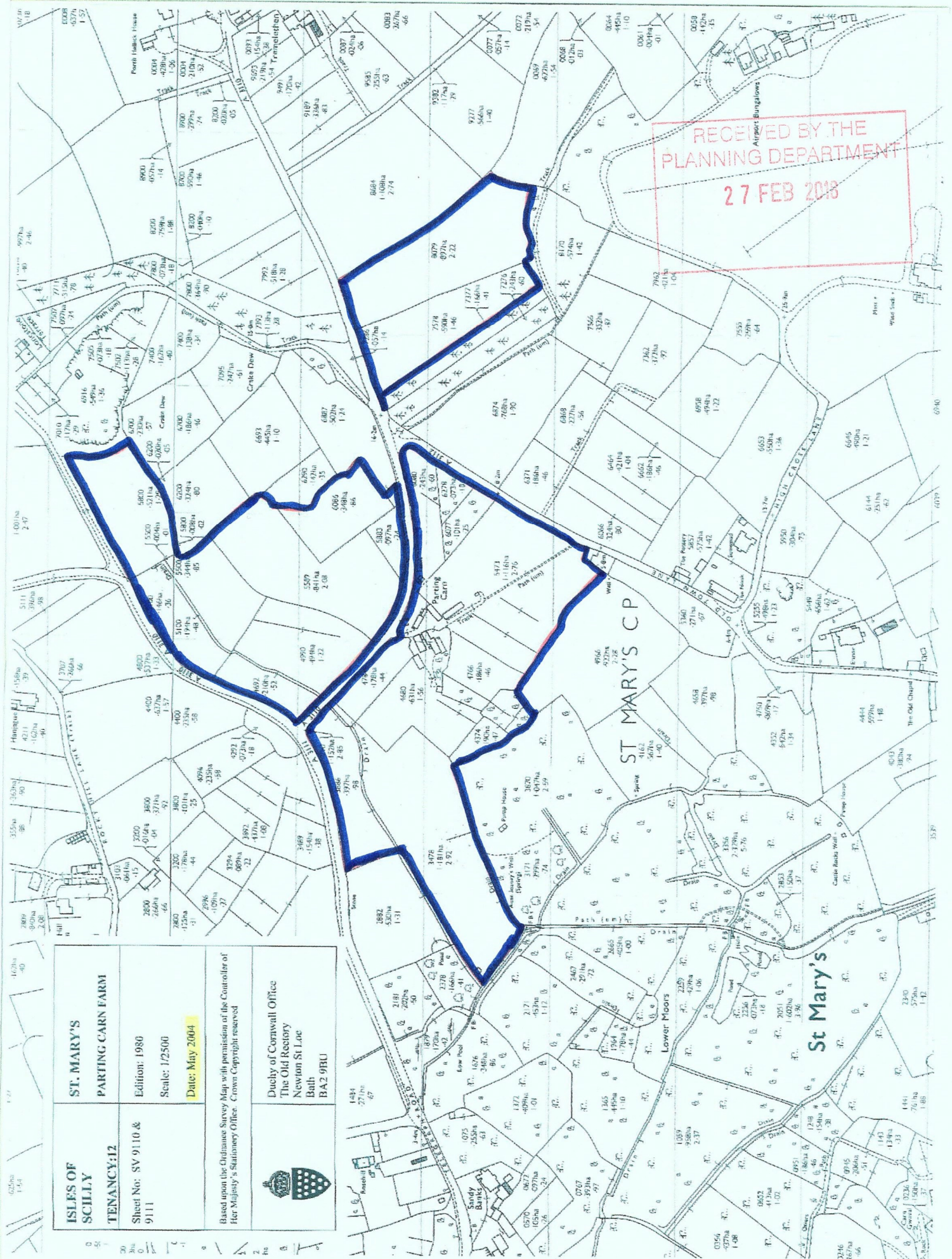
S2: Storing waste in a secure place Expires on 15 August 2020

T23: Aerobic composting and associated prior treatment Expires on 15 August 2020

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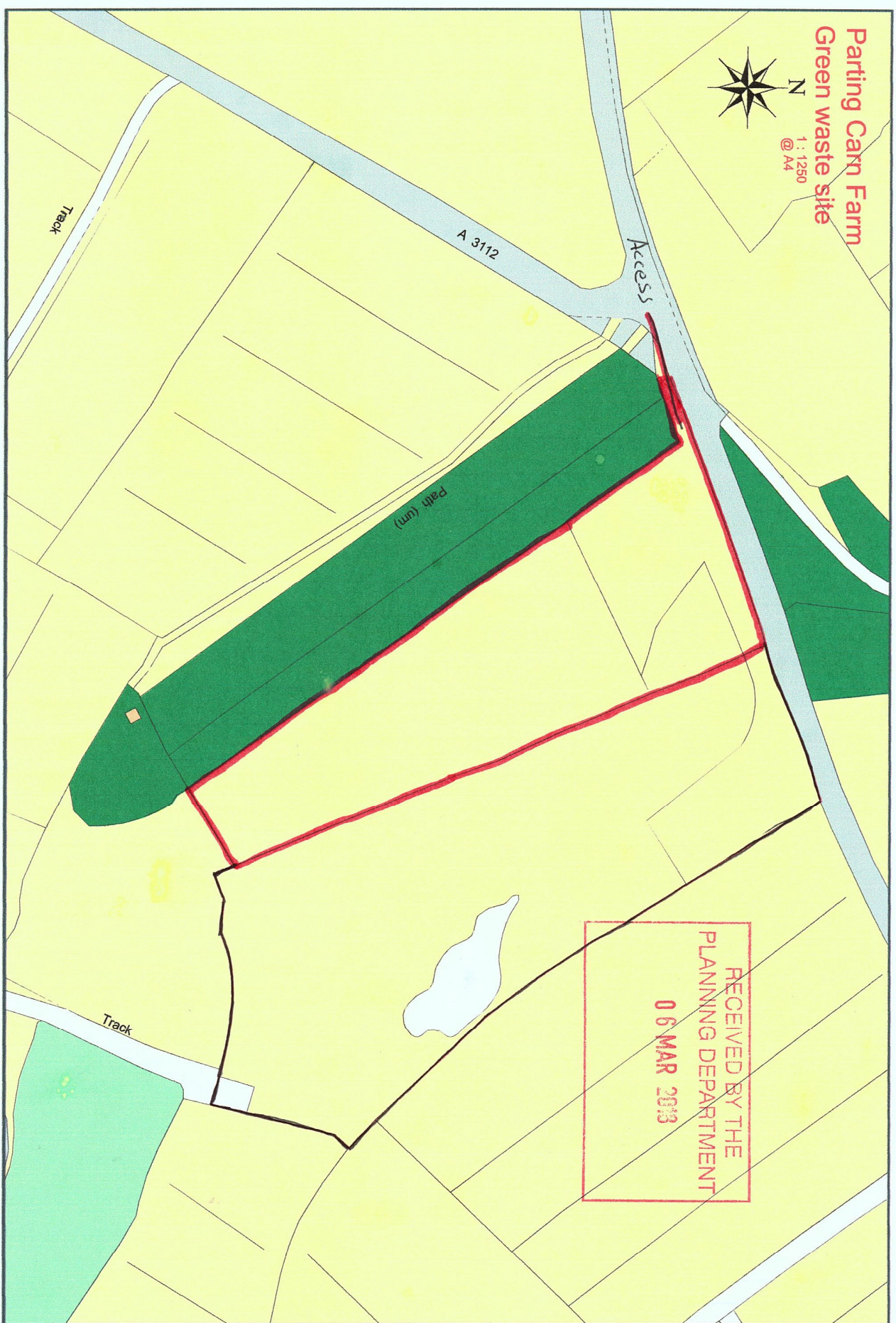
27 FEB 2018

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|---|---|---|
| ISLES OF SCILLY TENANCY:12 | ST. MARY'S PARTING CARN FARM Edition: 1980 Scale: 1:2500 Date: May 2004 | Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown Copyright reserved.  Duchy of Cornwall Office The Old Rectory Newton St Loe Bath BA2 9BU |
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MAP B

P-18-014



Parting Carn Farm
Green waste site



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Access

Path (un)

Track

Track