

Spring 2024

ENRMF & Thornhaugh

Augean Named Sector Leader

To avoid the worst impacts of climate change, the international community set a target of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. Transitioning to a sustainable world is a substantial challenge, that Governments, cities and individual companies need to plan for.

Augean follows best practice in environmental stewardship, social responsibility and corporate governance. The continuous development of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards is integral to our business growth.

Our operating practices and our performance against selected criteria are reported in our annual Corporate Sustainability Report (CSR). We also demonstrate our ESG credentials through a variety of reporting mechanisms, one of which is the GRESB Infrastructure standards.

GRESB is an independent organisation providing standardised and validated ESG data and peer benchmarks to financial markets. GRESB has become the leading ESG benchmark for real estate and infrastructure investments across the world.

Augean is pleased to announce that it has been named a 2023 Sector Leader by GRESB Infrastructure for outstanding leadership in sustainability, scoring 95 per cent in the GRESB Infrastructure assessment process and ranked 2nd globally in the hazardous waste management sector.



GRESB
INFRASTRUCTURE
sector leader 2023

For an update
on the Cooks Hole
and Thornhaugh Landfill
see Page 2

Celebrating Twenty Years

2024 marks a very special year for Augean. It will be our twentieth year since we were first formed as a business, all the way back in August 2004, specialising in managing hard to handle wastes and focussing on delivering the best environmental outcomes. From the outset we have sought to create a clear and consistent company ethos, with a strong commitment to health, safety, and environmental compliance.

As a leading member of the waste management sector, we have always endeavoured to dispel negative perceptions of the industry by setting high standards in all aspects of our business. We have a strong track record in investing in new technologies, further driving the modernisation of the sector so that it is fit for the 21st Century.

A year ago, we welcomed Future Industrial Services Limited (FIS) as part of the Augean Group. This has greatly increased the range of recycling, recovery, treatment, and disposal services we can offer over a greater geographical area.

Being a part of the local communities in which we operate is very important to us and we will continue to strengthen those ties, especially with sites that are newer to Augean, with the same openness and transparency that we have over the last two decades.



New Website Launched

An up to date website is an important resource for any modern company. Augean has recently completed a comprehensive update and redesign of our own website, which is now live.

The new look website provides a lot of information about the company, our sites and what we do. There is also a dedicated section for Community, so those living and working close to our sites can easily find news, events and information relevant to them.

Take a look for yourself by visiting www.augean.co.uk.



Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh Landfill Application

Augean has submitted a planning application to Peterborough City Council proposing to revise the restoration schemes for Cooks Hole Quarry and Thornhaugh Landfill Site.

The proposed restoration scheme would extend the existing wildlife habitats from Thornhaugh to Cooks Hole so that a wider mix of habitats is available across both sites. There is the potential for the restoration to tie in with wider local aspirations for the enhancement of Rockingham Forest, to create green infrastructure links with Bedford Purlieu and for the proposals to contribute to landscape scale recovery.

In order to create the proposed landform at Cooks Hole it will be necessary to import material into the site, however this will comprise only natural materials such as soils and sub-soils which have been extracted as part of the existing landfill construction operations and will be extracted as part of the future construction operations for the landfill at the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) in Kings Cliffe and as part of the already consented landfill construction operations at Thornhaugh. The proposals will facilitate the continued operation of ENRMF which is a nationally significant infrastructure project by utilising the material that arises during the construction of the landfill cells.

Augean has consulted with the community and other stakeholders about the proposed development. A public exhibition regarding the proposals was held on 25 October 2023 at The Christie Hall, Wansford.

The planning application that has been submitted has been amended where

possible to reflect comments and feedback from stakeholders during the consultation process.

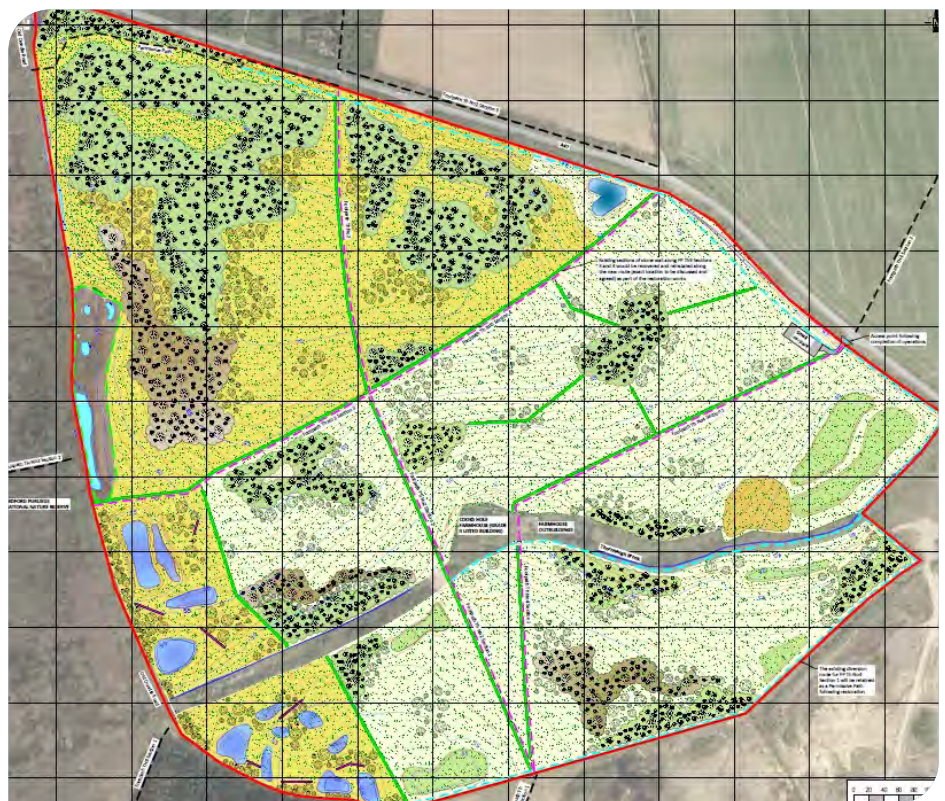
A table of the comments and feedback and Augean's responses can be found on our consultation website www.augeanconsultation.co.uk along with all the submitted planning documents.

Peterborough City Council are consulting on the application as part of the statutory consultation process. A date for determining the planning application has not been arranged yet.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the planning application, you can contact us: Telephone helpline: 01780 723827.

If you would like to be updated on the progress of the planning application, please sign up to our Register of Stakeholders. Please see the back page of this newsletter for details on how to do this.

Restoration plan



Safe Transportation

Although it is always more preferable to prevent or manage waste at the site where it arises, most of the time, environmental, practical and simply cost considerations mean that the most practicable solution is to send the waste to the nearest appropriate facility.

There are very few facilities in the UK where hazardous wastes can be managed, as dealing with these wastes safely and appropriately is very specialised in nature. Therefore, the majority of hazardous wastes need to be transported away from the site of origin, normally by road and frequently over a long distance.

At every operational Augean site, we have many, carefully thought-out procedures for accepting wastes on to the site, how they are then handled,

stored, treated or ultimately disposed of. The exact same care and attention that we take once we receive waste on to a site must also be applied to the method and means by which it is sent to us.

The Department of Transport strictly regulates how hazardous wastes are transported. Firstly, it must be established that the waste can be safely moved. The wastes being transported must then be secured and packaged or

contained in the most suitable way for that waste. The carrier of the waste is responsible for ensuring that the waste is safe for transport in accordance with the relevant transport regulations.

Sometimes it is necessary for a set route to be established along which the waste will travel to the accepting site and any waste materials which could be potentially dangerous also require the driver of the vehicle to have undergone specialist training.

In addition to working with external waste carriers, Augean is also a registered waste carrier and maintains its own fleet of vehicles, including very specialised vehicles, to meet our customers waste transportation needs.



Augean in the Community

It is a regrettable fact that the need for Foodbanks in the UK has become a necessary part of life. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis has led to a year-on-year increase in numbers of people being referred to Foodbanks, many of whom are seeking food aid for the very first time.

We are very proud that sites all across the Augean Group have sustained their efforts to support those in most need in their local communities by continuing to make donations to local Foodbanks, either through direct donations or financial contributions.



Augean Revenue & Small Capital Grants Fund

The planning consent to accept Low Level Waste at the ENRMF established the separate Augean Revenue and Small Capital Grants Fund fund to benefit local projects and community groups which is administered by North Northamptonshire Council.

Grants are available up to £5,000 for capital costs and applications can also be made to cover running costs up to £10,000. Preference is given to applications from within a 5-mile radius of ENRMF if interest in funding is high, but those within a 10-mile radius of the ENRMF site are still eligible to apply.

There are two rounds of funding each year. Applications for the current round of funding are expected to open in mid-May 2024 with a deadline of the end of June 2024. Exact dates will be confirmed soon.

To find out more or to apply please visit:

www.northnorthants.gov.uk/communities-and-grants/augean-revenue-and-small-grants-fund



A Day a Year to Volunteer

While Augean employees are encouraged to participate in group volunteering activities organised by Augean, such as litter picks, we are also making it easier for individuals to get out into their community and volunteer.

We have started our **Day a Year to Volunteer** scheme, where each employee is allowed a day off, for which they are still paid, to carry out the voluntary activity of their choice. There are limitless ways to do this, from donating blood to coaching at sports clubs or helping the local Foodbank.

Even Augean's Chief Executive Officer, John Rauch, has taken advantage of this scheme by taking time to volunteer at his local foodbank. John worked in all stages of the foodbank's supply chain, from collecting donations to dating and sorting and packing them, ready for distribution.

Whichever way our employees choose to volunteer, we do know that getting involved in community organisations or charities to help others or the environment is a very positive experience for all that Augean fully supports.

Augean Community Fund

The Augean Community Fund helps community projects within a 10-mile radius of ENRMF in Northamptonshire and Thornhaugh Landfill near Peterborough. The fund is managed by Grantscape with qualifying projects decided by local community volunteers on the Kings Cliffe Environmental Association (KCEA) and the Thornhaugh Environmental Association (TEA). There are two rounds of funding each year that allocate grants of approximately £500,000 per annum in total, up to a maximum of £50,000 for each individual project. The current round of applications is now open with a closing date of **15 May 2024**. Eligible projects will be informed of the decision by the **end of July 2024**. After that the

second round of funding in 2024 has a closing date of **13 November 2024** with decisions made by the end of **January 2025**.

Projects that were awarded grants in Round 2 of funding for 2023 were:

Barnack Cricket Club Community Sports and Storage Shed £39,949

Langtoft Parish Council Restoration of the late 18th Century East End Pond £7,615

Nene Park Trust, Woodlands, Peterborough Construction of PlayZone Community Sports Facility £50,000

Peterborough City Rowing Club Extension to the existing facility and an upgrade of the kitchen £50,000



Peterborough Lions Leisure Community Interest Company Multi-use floodlit artificial Football/Netball pitch and toilet provision at Bretton Park £50,000

Peterborough Town Cricket Club Installation of a permanent irrigation system to reduce water waste and volunteer time £15,000

To discuss the eligibility of any project, to apply or for more information please contact: Grantscape, Office E, Whitsundoles, Broughton Road, Salford, Milton Keynes MK17 8BU Email: info@grantscape.org.uk Tel: 01908 247630. <https://grantscape.org.uk/fund/augean-community-fund/>

Tackling Waste Crime

New reporting from the Environment Agency (EA) has provided sobering information on the extent of waste crime that is occurring, with little prospect of the situation improving soon.

Following their National Waste Crime Survey (2023) the EA have estimated that, in England alone, 18 per cent of all waste, the equivalent of 34 million tonnes, is being illegally handled and managed. This is thought to cost the economy around £1 Billion a year in unpaid taxes, lost legal business activity as well as social and environmental harm.

At the beginning of February, the EA introduced the Economic Crime Unit, comprised of the Asset Denial Team and the Money Laundering Investigations Team. We welcome any move to help stamp out criminals illegally operating in the waste sector, but it will take some time to assess the effectiveness of this new Unit.

Augean has also sponsored an independent study by Localis, which has recently been published, called *Cleaning up our act* – reforming landfill tax for place resilience and best local outcomes. There is currently a huge disparity in the levels of landfill tax being levied for active and inactive waste materials, which has unintentionally been a factor in the rise of waste crime. A key recommendation of the report is the introduction of an intermediate level of landfill tax to bridge this imbalance and reduce the incentive for waste crime.

The EA Waste Crime Survey found that only around one quarter of all waste crime is reported. So, we would like to remind you that if you have any concerns about the waste activities of an individual or a business, you can anonymously raise your concerns with CrimeStoppers by calling 0800 555 111 or on their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/



Environmental Permits

To legally operate as a waste facility, each of our sites must obtain the necessary planning consent from the relevant Local Planning Authority, or, in the case of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, a Development Consent Order (DCO) from the Planning Inspectorate. However, in addition to a site being granted the required planning approval, every site must also obtain an Environmental Permit before operations can commence.

Environmental Permits are issued to waste operators by the industry regulatory bodies; in England this is the Environment Agency (EA). Sites will not be lawfully able to operate unless this additional authorisation has been given by these specialist regulators, even if planning permission is in place.

There is nothing vague or broad-brush about an Environmental Permit. It precisely details what activities or processes can take place on a site, and the quantities and types of wastes or materials that can be accepted and present at the site. A framework for how a site is required to be monitored is also set out in the Permit, so that the site's performance and compliance to environmental standards can also be assessed.

Obtaining an Environmental Permit is only the first step in an ongoing process that lasts for the entire operational life of a site. Any site with an Environmental Permit is regularly and rigorously inspected by the EA, who independently assess and grade a site on its performance.

Sometimes, there is a need to make changes to the operation of a site, for example, to introduce a new process or where there are changes to a waste stream. If these fall outside of the scope of an existing Environmental Permit, a variation must be applied for and granted before those changes can be made.

Augean aims to be open and transparent about all aspects of our business and each of our sites. For this reason, we publish all the relevant Environmental Permits and/or Waste Management Licenses for every site on our website, so they are easily available for public scrutiny in full. You can find these by visiting www.augean.co.uk/site-locations.

Keeping You Updated

Would you like to be kept informed about Augean news and other events such as site open days, engineering days and other information you might find useful? So that we can advise efficiently on information, events and activities, which may be of interest to people living nearby, Augean has established a Register of Stakeholders, which has been developed from existing contacts with whom we have already corresponded. If you would like to sign up to receive updates by email or by post please contact us at ENRMF@augeanconsultation.co.uk or telephone us on 01780 723827. It will be possible to unsubscribe from these updates at any time.

CONTACT

To ask any question or report concerns regarding our sites or to arrange for a site visit so that you can see our operations first-hand, please contact:

**Lottie Ball – Site Manager,
ENRMF and Thornhaugh**
Tel: 01780 444900

Email: info@augean.co.uk

OPEN DOOR POLICY *While we are intending to hold our annual Open Day again in 2024, the details are yet to be decided. We will confirm a date and times and circulate these to the wider local community closer to the event. However, we would like to remind you that we have an open-door policy at all of our sites so a visit can be arranged by appointment with the Site Managers at any time of the year.*



For further information about Augean, please visit www.augean.co.uk or contact our Telephone Helpline: 01780 723827

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