

Beenham

Materials Recovery Facility

(part of Grundon's [Waste Disposal Services](#))

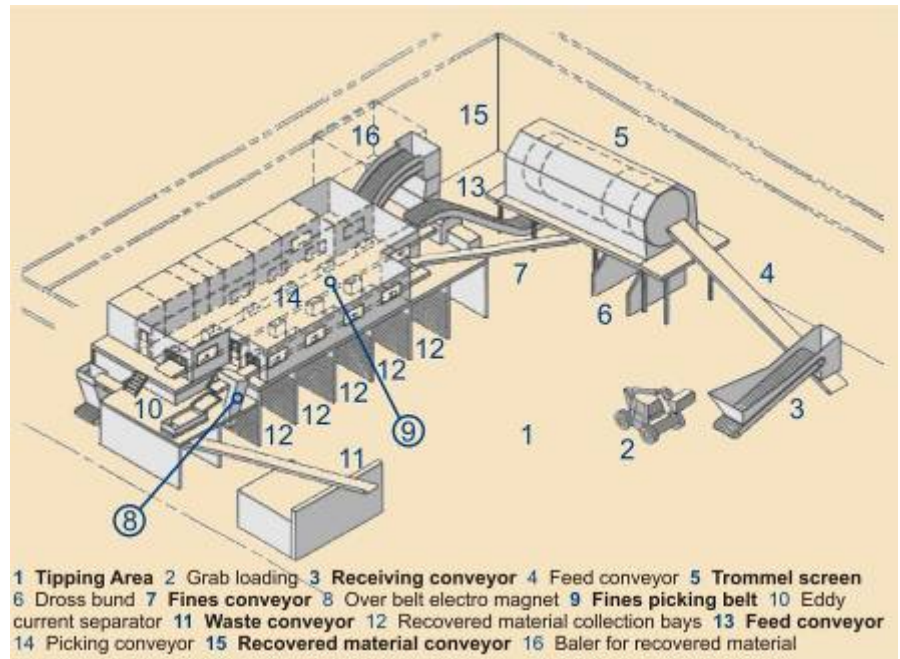
This new facility has the ability by a series of conveyors, trommel, magnet and eddy current to separate from unsorted waste the cardboard, paper, steel, aluminium and some plastics for recycling. This plant is able to process approximately 50,000 tonnes of waste per year reclaiming up to 40% of the throughput.

That's a benefit to both our customers and the environment.

Grundon also have existing MRF's in Colnbrook near Slough, Ewelme, near Oxford and a new MRF at Leatherhead, Surrey.



the picking conveyor



Beenham Depot

Beenham - The Past

The history of Beenham landfill goes back to the time just after the second world war, when planning permission was granted for sand and gravel extraction and the construction of the Marley roof tile factory. That land now forms part of the area that most people would recognise as the Grundon landfill and which stretches from the A4 to the west and north to Beenham Hill. Sand and gravel extraction took place from the 1950's to the early 1990's to serve the tile factory. Infilling of the gravel pits began in the 1970's and continues to the present day. The gravel pits have been infilled with household, commercial and industrial wastes. In total over 2.5 million cubic metres of waste has been deposited in the former gravel pits and 34 hectares (84 acres) have now been restored back to agricultural land.

Beenham - The Present

With over thirty years of waste deposited in the gravel pits, the waste is now producing large volumes of landfill gas (methane and carbon dioxide) which is now a valuable resource in its own right. Originally a network of pipes was constructed to extract the gas and pipe it to the Marley tile factory where it is used to fire the kilns. Since 1997, the gas has been sufficient to also power a generator for electricity production. The generator produces 6.5 million kW hours per year, sufficient electricity to power 2000 homes. It is expected that the site will continue to produce gas in sufficient quantities for these uses for at least a further fifteen years.

The landfill is being restored back to agricultural use and much of the site is now used for sheep grazing or hay production. Restoration of the land has also included renovating existing hedges and planting almost 1 kilometre of new hedges to bring the site back to the pastoral environment that existed before mineral extraction began. Last year we carried out the laying of the hedge along the A4 to strengthen and give it more structure. For this work we received a Mars Environment Award. Additionally we have planted approximately 1000 trees across the restored part of the site. Over the next few years, as the remainder of the landfill is restored, further tree and hedge planting will be undertaken.



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www.grundon.com

Further information can be obtained from any of the following offices of Grundon Waste Management Ltd.

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