



Minutes of the Mortimer Quarry liaison committee meeting held on Thursday 31 January 2018 at the Mortimer West End Village Hall

Present:

Englefield Estate

Edward Crookes (EC)
Richard Edwards (RE)

Mortimer West End Parish Council

Jonathan Bray (JB)

Hampshire County Council

Rhydian Vaughan (RV)

Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council

Councillor Roger Gardiner (RG)

Hills Quarry Products

Peter Andrew (PA)
Andrew Liddle (AL)

The Hills Group Ltd

Monique Hayes (MH)

		Actions
1.	Minutes of the previous meeting The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. PA welcomed Cllr Vaughan who had been appointed as chairperson for this committee.	
2.	Apologies The following apologies were received: David Smith, enforcement officer, Hampshire CC	
3.	Update on current site status and existing planning permission The following planning report received from David Smith was tabled: The planning permission has to be implemented by 27 May 2018. Uniquely for planning permissions, for a mineral permission this means that the operation has to actually commence and a bucket of gravel dug. Consequently, all details and schemes have to have been submitted and approved and all preparatory works undertaken. The required details have all been submitted and agreed (and can be viewed on the County's website under permission BDB/73759 under the tab for Article 27s). The Deed of Variation for the s106 Legal Agreement has now also been finalised and signed. The only remaining works required before extraction can commence (and therefore the permission	

	<p>implemented) is the construction of the gantry. The line for this has been cleared and the concrete bases constructed. Hills will be able to update on this work, and the soil stripping and bund construction in phase 1.</p> <p>As a mineral development, under the Town & Country Planning (Fees for Applications and deemed applications) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006, the quarry will be subject to a fee for the monitoring of the conditions of the permission. During its active life it is the County's general policy to monitor quarries 4 times per year (unless there are any problems or issues that require more frequent attendance). As of 18 January 2018, the Govt. raised all planning fees by 20% so the fee is now £397 per visit. As we are now nearing the start of operations I intend starting chargeable, routine visits next quarter.</p> <p>Obviously, there's not much to say at the moment as extraction has not yet started and there have been no complaints or queries to us, but please pass on my contact details if the Panel members would like to raise anything with me in the future. Hopefully I will be able to attend the next meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>Update on programme of works</p> <p>AL gave an update on site activities and the programme of works for the site and advised that the site will go through transitional changes as we move through each phase.</p> <p>Phase 1A – ecological mitigation had been completed and all reptiles translocated. Soils had been stripped and archaeology investigations done with no finds recorded. Topsoil bunds had been created and these will be covered with vegetation such as ferns and heathers which are in keeping with the surroundings.</p> <p>Phase 1B – to be cleared in February, beginning with stump removal / timber harvesting and followed by ecological mitigation, translocation of reptiles, archaeological investigations and bund creation between April – September.</p> <p>Phase 2 – to be cleared in March, following same procedure as above and undergo ecological mitigation between April – September.</p> <p>Gantry - confirmed the location of the gantry and installation of two support columns on either side of Welshmans Road. AL advised that the gantry structure will be delivered w/c 5 Feb and will be assembled on site. Welshmans Road to be closed temporarily from 26 Feb to 9 March with diversion route in place.</p> <p>Entrance road to Mortimer Quarry – had been resurfaced and site signage installed.</p> <p>Entrance road to Englefield Estate Forestry Office – has been resurfaced.</p> <p>Refurbishment – trades would begin arriving on site w/c 5 Feb to undertake a 13 programme to refurbish the existing plant, offices, weighbridge installation and construction of the conveyors. Various vehicles and machinery has been ordered.</p> <p>Recruitment – Kevin Cleall has been appointed as quarry manager and</p>	

	<p>will be on site within 2-3 weeks, he will attend future liaison meetings. Hills is currently recruiting for an apprentice to be based at Mortimer Quarry, recruitment of additional site staff will take place in April. Details can be obtained from info@hills-group.co.uk</p> <p>PA advised that the quarry will last for a period of 10 years with the extraction of 2 million tonnes of mineral.</p> <p>PA advised how key concerns have been addressed: <u>Noise</u> –there are only two vehicles operating in the quarry working area and a conveyor transports material across the site, thereby reducing noise. Some increase in noise levels may be experienced during soil stripping activity, however this is not a permanent activity. <u>Dust</u> – the levels of dust from the site are low as conveyors move the material around the site with only two vehicles moving within the quarry working area. <u>Traffic</u> – vehicles leaving site loaded with material have direct access onto Welshmans Road and follow an agreed routeing plan to reduce traffic impacts.</p> <p>PA confirmed that the topsoil bund on Welshmans Road will be grass seeded and maintained.</p> <p>PA confirmed that restoration of the site will be in progressive phases, to a combination of commercial and mixes forest and areas for increased biodiversity.</p>	
7.	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>Open Day</u> It is proposed to hold an open day at the quarry during the summer when local residents can visit the site to gain a better understanding of quarry activities and how the site will be restored. To be discussed further.</p> <p><u>Queries</u> Members were reminded that news and updated information, including an quarterly newsletter, was available from the website www.mortimerquarry.co.uk PA requested members to contact Hills via the website, or email info@hills-group.co.uk if they had any queries.</p>	HILLS
8.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12 April 2018 at the Mortimer West End Village Hall from 16.00.</p>	