

CROMFORD QUARRY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Chair: Councillor M Birch (Cromford Parish Council)

Clerk: Wendy Amis (DALC)

Email: clerk@cromfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of the Quarry Liaison Committee held at the Cromford Institute, Cromford on Wednesday 18 September 2024 at 6pm

PRESENT: Cromford Parish Council: Cllr M Birch, Cllr I Page, Cllr R Walsh
EH Officer: Karen Carpenter,
Planning Enforcement and Monitoring Officer at DCC: Andy Porter,
DCC: Cllr Dermot Murphy,
Collins Earthworks: Katie Collins,
Clerk: Wendy Amis (DALC)

24/9.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from: Cllrs D Greatorex, G Spencer (Middleton PC). Andrew Caile and Andrew Newbold (Tarmac).

24/9.2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 19th June 2024 were agreed as a true record of that meeting.

24/9.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Pecker noise early in the mornings has been noted. Ball Eye Quarry are pushing it back to 9am with immediate effect

24/9.4 SPILLAGE FROM LORRIES/DUST IN CROMFORD

None

24/9.5 REPORTS FROM:

i. Environmental Health

Karen Carpenter reported no inspections had taken place. Dene is due next sometime in October. Pecker noise – when this was investigated there was no noticeable noise. Slinter and Dene have an environmental permit that needs to be inspected issued by DDDC. Amber Valley issue the permit for the mobile crusher at Ball Eye so they should be inspecting that.

DDDC took advice from the Environment Agency who advised that a full permit is required for Dene due to the scale of the works.

ii. Planning Enforcement and Monitoring Officer – Derbyshire County Council

Inspected the Slinter Top Quarry on the 14th August.

Limestone extraction is continuing in the bottom of the quarry and in the vicinity of the alternative access route. Only a relatively small amount of limestone now remains in the

original quarry. Infilling of the quarry void with inert waste is continuing and the eastern end of the restored area has started to be prepared ahead of receiving turves from the extension area. The CM3/0817/40 planning application for the lateral extension was granted by Committee in May but hasn't been issued yet as the S106 legal agreement relating to biodiversity issues has yet to be finalised and signed.

Dene Quarry – last inspected 10th June

Ball Eye Quarry – 17th September

Operations are continuing to re-establish the quarry in compliance with the planning conditions which were put forward by the previous quarry owner in 1998. Excavation works are progressing to create faces which are in accordance with modern H&S requirements. Crushing and Screening is taking place and aggregate product is being removed from site. All of the lower quarry area has been concreted and the access route into the site improved with the intention that road-going vehicles won't travel over the muddy areas of the site. Site drainage has also been improved and lagoons installed. Hopeful that the dirt carry-out and water run-off that have previously been a concern at this quarry have now been dealt with and can be regarded as historic problems.

Complaints/ Enquiries – all 3 relating to Ball Eye Quarry

3rd July – concerns reported relating to smoke, dust and noise relating to Ball Eye Quarry. On investigation, found that whilst the majority of the vegetation which has had to be removed ahead of development was either chipped or removed from site skips, it appears the contractors did have a small fire. The manager has confirmed that it won't happen again.

Whilst it is unclear what the origin of the dust was, it is controlled by condition and will continue to be monitored. Water is available on site from a borehole for dust suppression. The noise has been confirmed as being associated with the hydraulic breaker (Pecker) that was being used at that time on the quarry top to reduce blocks within a hard bed of limestone. The manager has explained that they will try and restrict the use of the pecker to lower levels and behind features where they can, however on occasions the use of pecker on the higher parts of the quarry is unavoidable.

27th August – aware that at the end of August there was some discussion on social media about pecker noise relating to Ball Eye Quarry. DCC also received a contact from a concerned Cromford resident about pecker noise and a request for a copy of the planning conditions, which has been provided.

28th August – complaint received from a Bonsall resident about pecker noise which was subsequently confirmed as being associated with Ball Eye Quarry. The complainant also contacted the quarry direct and had a discussion with the manager. As a result the pecker was repositioned, however I understand from the manager that at some point soon it will have to return to the higher part of the quarry to continue reducing the larger blocks within the bed of hard limestone.

30th August – visited Bonsall and Slayley area with Karen and we spent an hour of so visiting five locations in and around the village assessing the noise climate. On that day, at most locations, Ball Eye Quarry was virtually inaudible. Pecker noise was identified at a location close to the quarry, on the perimeter bridleway; noise levels would have been well within the planning condition limit. Also visited the complainant and discussed matters. Also visited The Hill, Cromford and similarly I could hear the pecker at times but it would have been well within the planning condition limit.

iii. Tarmac Ltd

Andy Caile sent the following report:

We mentioned last time we were recommencing mobile crushing on site; this is still the case to which Chapmans are undertaking.

Sales fairly quiet, we had forecast around 2,000t per day going out from site as mentioned on previous minutes, but we haven't quite seen these volumes as we'd expected.

Dene Hollow earth works mentioned on previous minutes has been completed regards digging works, with further blasting to do to create the V cut as per the agreed quarry development plan / final design. The Northern landform has now been filled to its final level using the material taken from Dene Hollow earth works, this will form part of the restoration in this area.

Thompsons Tree services are currently undertaking a considerable amount of tree work around the perimeter of Dene Quarry over the next few weeks to include vegetation and scrub management as part of the aftercare requirements under the restoration scheme.

iv. Slinter Mining Co. Ltd

No report

v. Collins Earthworks

Katie Collins reported that they have had no issues. Pushed the pecker timing back to 9am. Next blasts are tomorrow – 2 expected.

24/2.6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

24/2.7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting would be held on Wednesday 19 February 2025 at 6.00pm in the Cromford Institute, Cromford.

I hereby certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate record of the Cromford Quarry Liaison Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18 September 2024

Signed.....Chair Dated.....