

MINUTES of a meeting of the ACRE LANE, SHARDLOW, SAND AND GRAVEL LIAISON COMMITTEE held at SHARDLOW QUARRY OFFICE ON 27th September 2016

PRESENT

Representing Derbyshire County Council

Councillor Rob Davison and Mrs Vicky Webb

Representing Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Mrs Angela Mayson, Messrs Vic Bevan and Richard Spowage

Representing Hanson Aggregates

Messrs Paul Lagram, Rob Little and Brian Shaw

Representing Aston on Trent Parish Council

Councillor Chris Toon

Representing SAVE (Save Aston and Weston Village Environments)

Councillor Steve Graham

Representing Shardlow & Great Wilne Parish Council

Councillor Nancy Hawksworth

Representing South Derbyshire District Council

Councillor Hilary Coyle

Representing Weston-on-Trent Parish Council

Councillor Paul Newton

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Messrs Paul Dunn and David Hamson (Derbyshire County Council), Mr Chris Sellek ('SAVE'), Councillors Martin Bowles and Ed Green (Weston on Trent Parish Council), Councillor Peter Watson (South Derbyshire District Council) and Messrs David Southgate and Bob Woodbridge (Hanson Aggregates).

Councillor Rob Davison (in the Chair)

14/16 SITE VISIT PRIOR TO MEETING Members of the Liaison Committee undertook a site visit to view developments since the last meeting in April 2016.

15/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST **RESOLVED** to note that no Members had any Declarations of Interest.

16/16 MINUTES **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Liaison Committee held on 12th April 2016 be approved as a correct record; matters arising would be addressed later in the meeting.

17/16 PROGRESS REPORT BY HANSON AGGREGATES

Mr Shaw informed the Committee that a number of issues had delayed infilling and restoration of the last area (Phase 8/9) to be worked under the current (pre Weston Extension) planning permission. These related to geological features which required the whole of the last phase to be extracted before engineering works and infilling could commence; flooding, which prevented access to that phase for extended periods and made the road under the A50 impassable; and the cessation of pfa arisings from Ratcliffe Power Station.

The waste transfer station, located alongside the main quarry access road, has a very limited capacity as the height of material stocked there is restricted by Condition to 40m AOD. This effectively limits the volume of material that can be imported during periods when the access road is clear but tipping cannot take place in the void. Mr Lagram advised that the safe limit on the height of material stocked would be around half the height of the processing plant.

There remains only a very small reserve in Phase 8/9 (which should be extracted in the next few weeks) and in order to maintain available mineral for processing the Company submitted a planning application to commence development in the Weston Extension without complying with the agreed phasing plan. The application also seeks to increase the holding capacity of the waste transfer station by removing the height restriction for a temporary period until Phase 8/9 has been filled. The application has been accepted by the County Council but the Company has been asked for an Environmental Impact Assessment to consider the effect of the proposal.

Hanson is currently in discussion with a number of haulage contractors specialising in 'muck away' work with a view to entering into a commercial agreement to increase the volume of infill material being imported to the site.

With regard to the Weston Extension, all of the pre-commencement schemes have been submitted and are being considered by Derbyshire County Council and technical consultees.

Soil stripping commenced in the Weston Extension on 1st September, and the appropriate 7 day notice was served on the County Council as required by the planning permission.

Mr Shaw confirmed that applications for the temporary diversion bridleways and footpaths across the Weston Extension, but that a further application had also been submitted to retain the current diversion around Phase 8/9. Consultations on both applications are being pursued by Derbyshire County Council.

Discussions have also opened with Department for Transport regarding the two 'cuts' required through Kings Mill Lane to enable engineering works prior to infilling the void post mineral extraction. The 'cut' at the southern end of the lane is likely to take place late Summer 2017, and that at the northern end in 6-7 years. In both cases, the work is estimated to take 2-3 months and an alternative route will be provided during that period.

18/16 COMMENTS OF DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mrs Webb confirmed that all of the pre-commencement schemes – around 20 - had been submitted by Hanson and were being processed; some would shortly be approved while others were still being considered or subject of requests for further information. Generally the County Council was happy for the Company to proceed.

With regard to the application submitted by Hanson to alter the agreed phasing, Mrs Webb confirmed that it has been determined as needing an Environmental Impact Assessment, but that there was no timescale for submission at this stage. The Parish and District Councils would be consulted on receipt of the Environmental Statement from Hanson.

Mrs Webb reported that there had been a monitoring visit carried out earlier in September and all was in order. All monitoring was up to date with acceptable results, and there had been no complaints or objections.

Consultation on the emerging Minerals Local Plan had now ended, and it was hoped to have a pre-submission draft by the end of 2017.

19/16 COMMENTS OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillor Coyle asked about progress on Fine George's Bridge (see comment below)

20/16 COMMENTS OF THE PARISH COUNCILS

Aston – Mr Graham advised that the parish Council has a new Chair – Ed Hicklin and Vice-Chair – Tony Hurrell

Shardlow and Great Wilne – Councillor Hawksworth asked the Company to investigate a lorry travelling through Shardlow village towards Acre Lane on Friday 23rd September at around 15:30-16:30. Messrs Lagram and Little agreed to do so. (Post meeting note: CCTV records show that two tipper lorries entered the site via Acre Lane at 16:48 and 16:58 on that date, as the gates on the A50 access had been locked by that time. Both vehicles had been caught up in heavy traffic on the M1, but both drivers – one a new franchisee – have been reminded of our planning restrictions).

Councillor Hawksworth also thanked the Company for advising the Parish Council every time quarry vehicles are unable to exit via the A50 and have to travel through the village.

Weston-on-Trent – In response to a request from Councillor Newton, Mr Shaw advised that there had been little progress regarding repairs to Fine Georges Bridge and Councillor Davidson expressed concern that the matter was dragging on. Mr Shaw agreed to endeavour to pursue the matter prior to the next meeting. Councillor Newton was concerned about the condition of the parapet walls on the north side which appear to be worsening; Mr Shaw agreed to inspect.

21/16 COMMENTS OF SAVE

Councillor Graham reported on the revised structure of SAVE, which now has expanded its area of interest to "Save Aston and Weston Village Environments" and advised that Mr Sellek had resigned.

Councillor Davidson expressed thanks to Mr Sellek for his valuable input into the Shardlow Liaison Meetings over many years.

22/16 COMMENTS OF ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

None

23/16 WITCHES OAK WATER

Mr Spowage informed the Committee that this would be his last meeting as he was moving to a new job in Norfolk.

There has been increased management activity with now 57 participants and regular working parties. General access to the site is still limited but increasing through regular guided walks.

Mr Spowage reported on the management work undertaken since the last meeting, and in particular removal of invasive willow, hawthorn scrub and Himalayan Balsam, restoring overgrown ponds in the wet woodland, restoration of an artificial sand martin bank, maintenance of osprey nesting platforms and maintaining access tracks.

Weekly monitoring had recorded 91 species of wildfowl (including Smew, Goldeneye, Widgeon and Teal) 21 species of butterfly and 13 species of dragonfly. Councillor Graham asked if the information was in the public domain and it was confirmed that it is available on the DWT website (<http://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/witches-oak-water>). It was also confirmed that details of any managed visits is included on the website, but it was suggested that this information could be circulated to the Parish Councils directly.

Monitoring results feature in the annual report produced by the Derbyshire Ornithological Society, and butterfly details are passed to Butterfly Conservation.

The management plan is still in preparation, and Councillor Davidson questioned the delay in progress. Mr Spowage advised that this has been largely down to the success of the reserve as it will now include species, such as butterfly and dragonfly, that had not been envisaged.

Councillor Hawksworth asked if the Trust was able to provide speakers for local interest groups; Mrs Mayson confirmed that it is, but with Mr Spowage leaving it will be a few weeks before any requests can be considered.

24/16 MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Hawksworth advised that the smoke reported at the last meeting and thought to be coming from the quarry had been found to be from a property nearer to the A50.

25/16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Shaw informed the meeting that East Midlands Airport has a new Safeguarding and Wildlife Control Officer, Darren Hall, who has expressed interest in joining the Liaison Committee. It was agreed to invite Darren to future meetings. Mr Shaw will contact him accordingly.

Councillor Davidson offered thanks to Mr Spowage for his valuable contribution to the Liaison Committee.

26/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th March 2017 at Shardlow Quarry.

BAS/S121/G24

21/11/2016