

BENT FARM QUARRY LIAISON MEETING

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON

TUESDAY 1st MAY 2018

Attendees: Mr John Carter (Astbury PC)
Mr Stephen Fern (Brereton PC)
Cllr R Bailey (Cheshire East Council)
Mrs Helen Baker (Smallwood PC)
Mr A. Sutton (Bent Farm)
Mr D Muir (Resident)
Mr Michael Hurley (Sibelco)
Ms Maria Cotton (Sibelco)
Mr Tony Green (Sibelco)

The meeting was chaired by Mr J Carter.

1. Apologies

Ms. E. Williams, Mr. R. Davenport, Councillor Wray

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (31st October 2017)

These were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Quarry Developments

T Green noted that since the last meeting extraction has been continuing on the east side towards the limit of extraction in the south-east corner. In the next two weeks the quarry floor field conveyor is to be moved closer to the working face.

The quarry floor drainage ditches have been deepened and this will enable the floor sand to be taken in due course and this, in turn, will facilitate restoration of the eastern boundary with the available on site clay overburden in accordance with the approved scheme.

J Carter asked if the groundwater level in the quarry varies

T Green advised that it does vary a little during the year depending on rainfall but is controlled by pumping.

Environmental Monitoring

Environmental noise monitoring was conducted on 6th February 2018:-

1. Brownlow Farm received noise level: 36.5 dB(A)
2. Less-a-Tree Cottage received noise level: 33.0 dB(A)
3. Bent Farm received noise level: 38.6 dB(A)

A limit 55 dB(A) applicable for sand extraction operations so all noise results are well within limits.

Particulate Monitoring – Sand Dryer

Dryer stack particulate emissions were tested on the 6th March 2018. The Environmental Health Officer has reduced visits from twice per year to once per year since. Results as follows:-

Location	Result (mg/m3)	Limit (mg/m3)
Dryer / Cooler	77	100
Dryer LEV	4	50

Directional Dust Monitoring – Brownlow Farm

Levels below 200 mg/m²/day are considered acceptable, therefore all results are well within range

Mg/m ² /day	North	South	East	West
12.01.2017	16	32	8	9
22.02.2017	49	36	42	189
24.03.2017	13	32	28	31
02.05.2017	23	37	26	26
28.06.2017	35	29	70	28
31.07.2017	34	39	63	92
31.08.2017	23	46	47	49
10.10.2017	46	65	39	38
22.11.2017	7	27	20	15
22.12.2017	21	22	32	35
26.01.2018	68	65	50	46
28.02.2018	19	22	21	21

Water Discharge Monitoring

All weekly results for 2018 so far have been within limits for suspended solids (parts per million). The discharge to Loach Brook is water removed from the quarry to allow dry working. The water discharge is tested weekly and the average result for the past 4 months has been 3.35 ppm. The figures ranged from 1.80 to 5.00 ppm. The limit is 20 ppm.

D Muir noted that noise levels were higher than last time

M Hurley advised that these results are still very low noise levels and significantly below the permitted levels.

J Carter asked where the environmental monitoring results are filed
M Cotton advised that as well as being saved on the company systems all results are reported to Cheshire East Council. The Environment Agency can arrive unannounced to site to see water quality results.

D Muir asked if there is a limit on size fractions in the stack emissions
M Hurley said there are no limits on individual size fractions.

J Carter asked if the water discharge to Loach Brook involves water from the tailings / washing circuit

T Green advised that this is not the case since the plant water circuit is separate.

5. Planning and Estates Matters

5.1 Holford Farm

Studies are nearing completion and a Scoping Option will be submitted to Cheshire East in due course. We will call the site Bent Farm Quarry West; this is to make clear this is an extension to the existing site and the process plant area will be included in the planning application boundary due a proposal to link the extension site to the plant site by conveyor.

D Muir asked if the quarry extension area reflects the 1999 Mineral plan area
M Cotton said that it does, apart from a very slight difference near Holford Farm.

Cllr Bailey asked when working is planned to commence

M Cotton advised that this is subject to consent and is some way off. The submission will need to await the outcome of the Scoping Request and the application may not be lodged until Q4 2018 or maybe held over to January 2019.

J Carter suggested that local residents will be interested in how the sand will get to the plant site
M Cotton said this will be by a conveyor in a tunnel under Wallhill Lane. There will be public exhibitions held before the planning submission is made to Cheshire East Council.

An application for additional storage silos has been submitted to Cheshire East Council and is required due to the demand for dry sand and more storage is required.

5.2 Time Extension Application

Due to slower than expected sales following the most recent planning consent, it will be necessary to apply to Cheshire East Council to extend the time for extraction of the mineral and restoration of the existing site. This will not involve the extraction of more mineral than is permitted or an increase in size of the site or any change to the restoration of the site. Further details will be provide to the liaison group at future meetings.

5.3 Cheshire East Minerals Plan

M Cotton noted that Cheshire East is still evolving its own Mineral Plan and a site allocation document is still awaited.

6. Council Matters:

6.1 Parishes

J Carter noted that Astbury Parish Council has an annual meeting at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 9th May at the village hall.

There was no other matters from the other Parishes.

6.2 Cheshire East Council

Cllr Bailey had nothing further to report.

7. Any Other Business

M Hurley noted that Sibelco will be supporting Astbury May Day with a stall and will supply a sand play pit area.

8. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 13th November 2018 at 5.30 pm.