

RIPON QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP MEETING

Meeting held on 23rd February 2017

MINUTES

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Body Represented</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>
Amy Taylor	North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)	07944 580 367
David Webster	Hambleton DC / Tanfield Ward member	07831 573 966
Peter Almack	Tanfield PC	01677 470 2451
Glenys Bailey	North Stainley PC	01765 635 236
Bob Orange	Hanson	07802 391 301
Conrad Breckon	Hanson	07972 017 049
Jack Tregoning	Hanson	07813 430 477

Apologies:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Body Represented</u>
Tom Brown	Hanson
John Ingham	Hanson
John Warren	Hambleton DC
John Weighell	North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC)
Mike Porter	North Stainley PC

1. Introductions

Those present were recorded above. It was agreed to run through the meeting as per the draft agenda distributed by Jack Tregoning (Lands and Planning Manager) on the 20 February 2017.

All present parties introduced themselves. Jack Tregoning explained he had recently joined Hanson, replacing Ben Ayres, and is responsible for land and planning matters.

2. Matters Arising

One alteration was agreed to the second paragraph of item 5 of the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 21st September 2016.

It was agreed that Christine Casling did not raise the concern as stated in the minutes. The concern was raised by Peter Almack, to which Christine Casling contributed the stated dates and times. The minutes are to be amended and recirculated.

3. *Planning update from Hanson and NYCC planning department*

Ripon Quarry extension of time application was submitted by Hanson on the 29 October 2015. This application was validated by NYCC on the 17 November 2015 and seeks permission to extend the current planning permission to the end of December 2019. Jack Tregoning explained that there has been no change to the status of the application since the last meeting and it remains for NYCC to take the application to planning committee to determine.

Peter Almack raised concerns that the parish councils had not been consulted on a submission made by Hanson to NYCC regarding a noise monitoring scheme. Jack Tregoning and Amy Taylor explained that the submission was not a formal application, it was a submission as required under conditions of the existing planning permission. It was explained that the existing planning permission requires for an updated scheme to be submitted to NYCC on a 5 yearly basis and that the scheme submitted is simply an update and is therefore not subject to the formal application process. Jack Tregoning explained this was a standard procedure similar to other conditions of the permission which require periodic submissions to NYCC.

Pennycroft extension area (south of the River) application was originally submitted by Hanson in December 2011. Additional supplementary information was submitted in February 2016. Further supplementary information was submitted to NYCC in December 2016 to address remaining outstanding queries. Amy Taylor confirmed the final date for consultation was 16th February 2017. Jack Tregoning explained the NYCC website shows that various consultation responses are outstanding, but the main queries to be addressed were in relation to matters raised by Natural England. Jack Tregoning explained that Natural England has made Hanson aware that in principle their previous concerns had been addressed by the further submission and that Natural England would shortly confirm this to NYCC. The next NYCC planning committee is the 4th April, but Hanson is not expecting the application to go to this committee as there is unlikely to be enough time for the officers report to be prepared. Amy Taylor advised the subsequent planning committee meetings are to be held in June, July and August 2017.

4. *Update on Quarry development and Restoration works*

Bob Orange ran through the development of the site including ongoing and proposed final restoration works. Hanson intends to continue working the current phases of the site and to undertake all restoration earthworks once extraction has ceased.

Bob Orange advised that regular hydrographic surveys are being undertaken to provide updated estimates of the remaining reserves. At current production rates the quarry is anticipated to cease extraction of sand and gravel around October 2017. The site is

expected to be fully restored approximately 12 months after sand and gravel extraction has ceased.

David Webster asked how the timescales of continued of working and subsequent restoration would tie in with the timescales of the extension of time application. Jack Tregoning confirmed the extension of time application seeks permission for extraction up until December 2019. Bob Orange explained extraction is likely to cease before 2019, but the extension seeks to provide leeway in the event of any unexpected adverse weather conditions delaying extraction.

Bob Orange advised that 2016 production was approximately 300,000+ tonnes and that 2017 production is anticipated to be around 200,000 tonnes.

Peter Almack raised concerns of noise from water pumps in the current extraction areas and queried whether they would continue to run once the site has been restored. Bob Orange confirmed that the pumps would not continue to run once the site has been restored.

5. *Review of ongoing noise and water monitoring*

Noise monitoring is currently carried out on a quarterly basis as per the adopted monitoring scheme in the planning permission.

Bob Orange explained that during the noise monitoring surveys Hanson try to operate additional equipment beyond normal operations to ensure that a worst case scenario is recorded. Bob Orange outlined the various measures undertaken by Hanson to further mitigate the generation of noise. It was explained that Hanson has rubber lined dumpers, muffled white noise reversing alarms, acquired a new modern excavator which as standard is quieter than the previous machine. The excavator engine bay has been soundproofed, along with other operational equipment. Sound deadening material has been installed on the primary crusher and a solid wood double skinned acoustic fence has been installed behind the processing plant. Various processing plant shoots have been covered with rubber matting and the site has banned the use of horns.

Jack Tregoning explained the quarterly noise monitoring survey was undertaken in January 2017 and had been submitted to NYCC. An extended 24 hour survey beyond the requirements of the planning permission was undertaken at Rushwood Lodge. The surveys confirm the site is operating in compliance with the noise conditions.

Jack Tregoning explained the surveys did record a couple of very minor exceedances of the maximum noise limit, however audio sample analysis identifies these were as a result of other noise sources, including passing traffic, sound of hoofs, wind rustle and farm machinery. The noise surveys indicate that there are other various influences in vicinity of the site which attribute to high ambient sound levels which cause background sound levels to be higher than the maximum site noise limit.

The annual water monitoring report was discussed. In accordance with the planning permission Hanson are under no obligation to send the report to any party other than

NYCC. It was advised that Parish Councillors should contact NYCC should they wish to obtain a copy.

Peter Almack asked where the water supply would come from for the plant once the Pennycroft extension commences. Bob Orange confirmed the water supply would initially continue to come from north of the river. Bob Orange advised that the volume of water supply required is significantly less than the volume of water pumped out of the site.

6. Establishment of a complaints record book

A site specific complaints record book has been set up which then feeds into the Hanson system. Bob Orange confirmed that two complaints had been received directly at the site.

One complaint related to noise monitoring equipment not being located in the correct place and the quarry working outside the permitted time. Bob Orange advised that the monitoring equipment had been relocated and that the site had not operated outside of the approved operating hours.

The second complaint related to potholes on the internal haul road. Bob Orange advised that the condition of the haul road is monitored but is susceptible to adverse weather conditions.

Glenys Baily confirmed that North Stainley had not had any specific complaints made to them relating to the quarry.

Bob Orange and Jack Tregoning explained that if Hanson receives complaints directly at the site this provides the opportunity to substantiate and take action to resolve issues at the time they arise. It was encouraged that complainants contact the site direct rather than via NYCC.

The complaints book was signed and dated.

7. Any other business

Constitution of the group was discussed. The committee jointly agreed that attendees of the liaison group would remain to comprise representatives of NYCC, Parish Councillors and Hanson.

Peter Almack thanked Hanson for its contribution towards the purchase of a new defibrillator for Tanfield Parish Council.

8. Date of next meetings

Thursday 14th September 2017, 3pm. Venue Ripon Quarry offices.