

**Tytherington Quarry  
Community Liaison Group Meeting  
25<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Meeting Room at Tytherington Quarry**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

<b>Keith Spooner (KS)</b>	<b>Resident</b>
<b>Hugh Johnson (HJ)</b>	<b>Tytherington Parish Council</b>
<b>Cllr Jon Lean (JL)</b>	<b>South Gloucestershire for Frampton Cotterell Ward</b>
<b>John Graham (JG)</b>	<b>Alveston Parish Council</b>
<b>Jenna Roberts (JR)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials, Tytherington Quarry Unit</b>
<b>Manager</b>	
<b>Esther Hardy (EH)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials, Tytherington Quarry</b>
<b>Production Supervisor</b>	
<b>Michelle Beasley (MMB)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials, Secretariat</b>
<b>Trystan Mabbitt (TM)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials Consenting &amp; Development</b>
<b>Manager</b>	
<b>Mike Brown (MB)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials, Southwest Area Operations</b>
<b>Manager</b>	
<b>Samantha Stagg (SJS)</b>	<b>James Reed Public Relations (Heidelberg Materials</b>
<b>PR agency)</b>	

**APOLOGIES AND MEMBERS ABSENT:**

<b>Simon Ford (SF)</b>	<b>South Gloucestershire Council Planning and Minerals</b>
<b>Dept</b>	
<b>Neil Higgs (NH)</b>	<b>South Gloucestershire Council (EHO)</b>
<b>Paul Chapman (PC)</b>	<b>Iron Acton Parish Council</b>
<b>Chris Bloor (CB)</b>	<b>Thornbury Town Council</b>
<b>Lindsay Saunders (LS)</b>	<b>SGC PROW Officer</b>
<b>Andy Duncan (AD)</b>	<b>Heidelberg Materials Principal Landscape Manager</b>

## **AGENDA FOR TYTHERINGTON QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING**

- 1. Welcome and introduction - Chair Mike Brown (MB).**
  - Welcome and chair introductions.
  - Review of minutes from the last meeting.
  - Matters arising from last minutes.
  - Ongoing chairing of group.
  
- 2. Tytherington operations – Jenna Roberts (JR) Unit Manager Tytherington Quarry.**
  - Operations and logistics including road and rail.
  - Blasting.
  - Feedback received.
  - HV works update.
  - Residents’ day.
  
- 3. Environmental, landscape and biodiversity update – Jenna Roberts on behalf of Andy Duncan (AD) Principal Landscape Manager.**
  
- 4. Land and mineral planning update – Trystan Mabbitt (TM) Consenting and Development Manager.**
  
- 5. AOBs.**
  
- 6. Date for future meetings.**

## MEETING MINUTES

### 1. Welcome and Chair introduction.

- MB advised the group that this would be JR's last meeting as she had taken an opportunity in Manchester, still working for Heidelberg Materials but for a different division. He said for continuity purposes and until a replacement for JR was fully up to speed, he would attend meetings, even though JL had offered to take on the role of chair.
- MB asked the group if they were happy for JL to chair meetings in the future. All agreed to the change, and MB added he would chair this meeting, and any future meetings would be chaired by JL.
- MB introduced EH to the group.
- MB asked the group if they thought the draft minutes from the previous meeting was a true reflection and if everyone was happy to sign them off as approved.
- All attendees said yes, they were happy with the detail.
- MB went through the actions from the last meeting.
  1. MMB to upload approved minutes from last meeting.  
*MMB confirmed.*
  2. AD to look at the rear of the quarry that needs tidying.  
*JR advised some work had been done and this is ongoing.*
  3. JR to speak to Asphalt about tar spots appearing on vehicles and windows on a couple of occasions since the last meeting.  
*JR spoke with Asphalt Manager who was unaware of the issue, but due to it being raised weeks after the incident, it was impossible to say. He did say if anything is experienced in the future, please can you let us know straight away so we can investigate.*
  4. AD to get pictures of the restoration and tree planting on level one for the next meeting.  
*Pictures in slides for this meeting.*
  5. TM to show planning application in the next meeting.  
*TM said the planning application is not fully drafted yet but will share it when its complete.*

## **2. Tytherington operations**

### **Operational and logistics overview**

- **JR said they were still working on level 5 and 64% of the material sold was being transported by rail.**
- **JR said plans were to open on level 6 in the coming weeks and start sinking. She said the village may feel the vibration more as we go deeper. We still have the same permits and plan all the blasts. She explained we have to open up the level before the production blasts start, and we will be monitoring with a vibrograph in the village.**
- **JR said one plant making single sizes is now situated with the stock yard rather than in an active excavation area. This was due to operational space available within the excavation area for a plant this size. She said the plant is now further from “The Slad”.**
- **KS asked if the reason for the village feeling the vibration more, is because the houses are now on the same level.**
- **JR replied yes, and we’ll continue monitor and plan each blast specification to minimise as much as possible.**
- **KS asked if Tytherington Quarry had ever been this low before.**
- **JR said yes, when working the North Face but this would have been in the 1960’s and also in the early 2000s.**
- **MB said the quarry development plan allows to go down 8 levels.**
- **JR said electric pumps were now up and running, replacing generators that were running on gas oil.**
- **JR said regarding recruitment there was nothing in the near future for apprentices or foremans etc.**

### **Quarry Blasting**

- **JR advised of currently blasting on levels 1-4.**
- **JR said blasting will commence in Q1 2024 on level 5-6. First step is sinking, which is the hardest step and can take 4-5 months.**
- **JR said she was seeking an alternative location for a fixed vibrograph at Lime Kiln Court in Q1 2024.**

- JR provided detail on the lowest and highest Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) mm/s monitored, as well as the air over pressure (AOP) recorded at “The Slad” and “West Street”. (See below)
- JR said as you can see, we have seen a reduction since the last meeting, with all results being within the permitted levels. We are managing the blasts much better.

### **The Slad**

October 2023- January 2024

Highest: 6.2 mm/s  
 Lowest: 4.5 mm/s  
 Average: 4.9 mm/s

AOP

Highest: 129 dB  
 Lowest: 113 dB  
 Average: 118 dB

### **West Street**

October 2023 – January 2024

Highest: 5.3 mm/s  
 Lowest: 2.1 mm/s  
 Average: 3.2 mm/s

AOP

Highest: 129 dB  
 Lowest: 111 dB  
 Average: 119 dB

- MB asked what had been done to achieve this.
- JR said a lot of work is being done with the blasting contractor to try and lower the vibration. Using less explosive, double decking the shots.
- JR said when we come to sink on level 6, we will mitigate any risk of higher vibrations by altering technical specifications of the blast accordingly.
- MB said we would continue to work with the contractors, they are experts in geology, to minimise the impact.
- JR said for every blast we do, we try to predict the vibration and model what the vibration is going to be. For instance, if it was predicted at 9mm/s PPV, we would go back and redesign the blast specification to bring it down.
- KS asked for clarification, that in 3 months we may see lower vibrations at West Street, but higher at “The Slad”.
- JR said that is correct, but would depend on which side of the quarry and how low in the quarry.

- **JL asked if the work being done is documented, so the work continues when JR leaves.**
- **JR said we will be using the same blasting team, and our own production supervisors who will be carrying on the works. So yes is the answer to your question.**
- **MB said every blast specification has a thick document, by law.**
- **JR said we can and do make changes right up to and even on the day, and we learn from the previous blast specs and outcomes of vibration results. We also keep a log of blast complaints.**
- **JR showed the group complaints received into site since the last meeting. There were two, both for blasting. The reported incidents were investigated on receipt of the complaints. On both occasions quarry operations were fully compliant with regulations.**
- **KS said it as good to see this information added to the agenda.**

#### **HV Works**

- **Works are now completed and internal pylons are now dismantled.**
- **Power supply for the local area is now fully outside the quarry boundary and no further road or planned power disruptions.**

#### **Rail update**

- **JR said as of 15/01/2024, Network Rail had increased the line speed to 20mph again along the branch line.**
- **JL asked if the increased speed would stop the squealing of brakes.**
- **JR replied that is should have but had not received any feedback.**
- **JL said he hadn't heard anything either.**

#### **Community**

- **JR said type 1 material had been donated to Olveston Scout group for their carpark.**
- **JR said she had recently visited the Girl Guides group in Thornbury to present the information about the quarry.**
- **JR said a commitment had been made to provide specialist asphalt for the development of a new pump track in Alveston.**

- **JR said a resident had been in touch to ask if the trees could be cut back on the Itchington Road, but they are outside of our boundary. She said we have never cut it, but it has been cut back in the past.**
- **JL said if its not yours, it could be “Street Care”.**
- **HJ said at the last meeting it was said that the road had been adopted.**
- **JL said if its not yours, can you let me know.**
- **MB said Heidelberg Materials was still trying to get clarification of its ownership.**
- **KS mentioned that the area that had been cleared there is a wildlife fence and felt that someone could park there and walk into the quarry.**
- **JR said she was aware but could not progress due to birds nesting and will be completed as soon as possible.**
- **MB said the “Resident Day” has been earmarked for 27<sup>th</sup> April, which would be invitation only due to learnings from Whatley’s open day, where 6,000 people attended from all over the UK, even though it was only advertised locally.**
- **JR added it would be aimed at residents that live in proximity to the quarry, which our operations affect directly. Mainly the Slad and Itchington.**
- **KS asked how people would be notified, would it be a letter drop?**
- **JR said it hadn’t yet been figured out, but possibly letter drop.**
- **SS advised that the date was subject to confirmation, as it may clash with a possible consultation period re a Tytherington quarry planning application. (See land and mineral planning update below)**
- **SS asked if there would be a “grand opening” of the pump track for a PR opportunity.**
- **JS replied yes, anything you want to use, there will be local papers there on the day.**
- **MB said these opportunities are important to Heidelberg Materials.**

### **3. Environmental, landscape and biodiversity update**

- **AD was unable to attend the meeting but had prepared some information for JR to present.**
- **JR advised bench restoration on level 1 had been planted in December with 250 trees and shrubs, and level 2 had been restored. She said we probably won't go any further as it will flood up to there in the long term, but this will be kept under review.**
- **JR said the work to cut back the ivy and dead hedge plants opposite The Slad houses had been selectively cut yesterday.**
- **JR said soil from the store was to be used to dress off the slopes beside badger haul road when the earthworks gang is next available.**
- **JR said the banks around the edge of the former waste Asphalt stockpile opposite The Slad houses is to be planted up with native shrubs.**



#### **Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)**

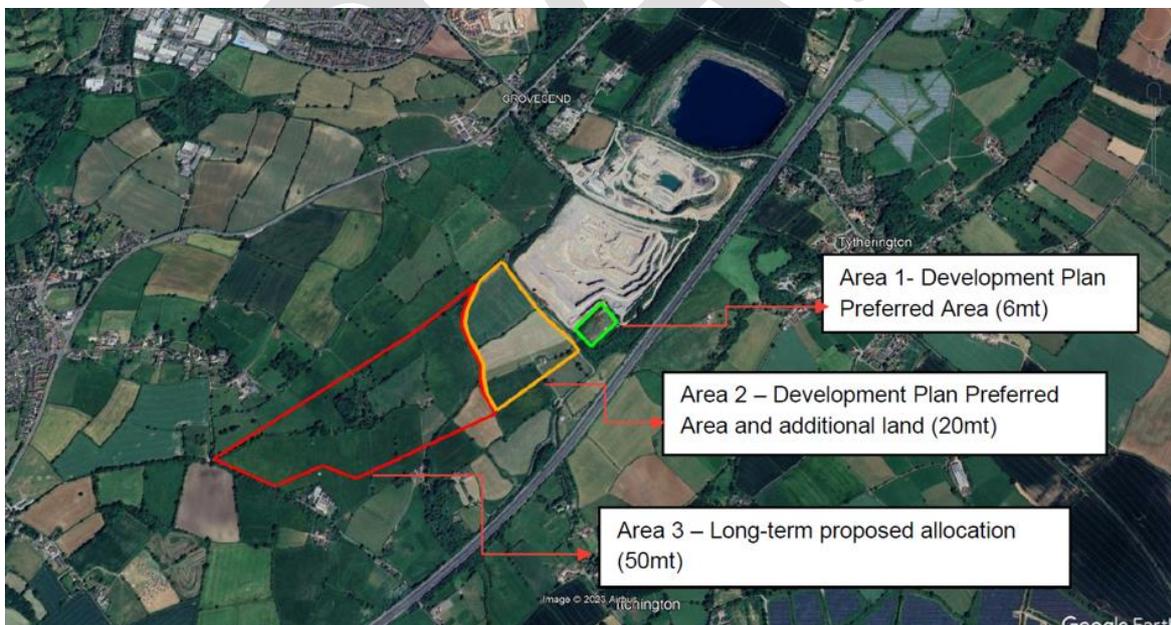
- **JR said the site BAP has had its 5-year review and the updates will be finalised shortly before being posted to the Tytherington quarry community website.**

- **JR said there was a new target for Itchington Road hedgerow management/hedge laying over the next few years.**
- **JR said included would be wildflower seeding to create “temporary nature” of Woodleaze restoration benches that will be below final lake level (below level 2) on completion.**
- **JR said there was ongoing management of badger and slowworm habitats in Grovesend Tip, following translocation required for the badger road.**
- **JR said it will also include a target for more partnership working with Tytherington PC for the 3 leased plots in the village, or beyond.**
- **JR said a tree survey was completed in Nov/Dec 2023 of the full surface landholding, assessment and recording of 54 individual trees and 15 groups of smaller trees.**
- **JR said the outcome of the survey was a few trees and groups needed short term work in a 3–6-month timeframe, but most trees needing no action.**
- **JR said the survey recommended it would be prudent to fell and replace Jubilee Field Ash trees sooner rather than later due to proximity of the play equipment and the road, despite still only relatively early-stage Ash dieback (ADB) symptoms.**
- **MB said that the trees by the playground that had been condemned will have to come down. He said they will replant tree’s there, and AD will get in touch with HJ to ask what type of tree’s would be preferred.**
- **JR said the larger trees at Coronation Gardens could be left a little longer, but with regular monitoring of their ADB status. Tree work in the village will require Conservation Area consent.**
- **HJ said it was a shame the tree’s had to come down, but understood if they were causing a safety issue, they would have to. He asked if he would need to get a survey done as well as the survey Heidelberg Materials had got done.**
- **JR said she understood both parties would need to get a tree survey done.**
- **KS asked if Heidelberg Materials take an interest in any fossils found.**
- **MS replied yes, at the Daglingworth Quarry fossils had been found and all around the country, some being in museums.**
- **JR said in terms of Tytherington, it’s not fossiliferous. She said we don’t have fancy minerals, as it’s a fine limestone you don’t get big fossils.**

- JR said geological groups had visited Tytherington Quarry but rarely find anything.

#### 4. Land and mineral planning update

- TM showed a map of the quarry and advised of the preferred areas of extraction.
- TM said due to the local development plan being delayed, Heidelberg Materials is looking at all options. With the next stage looking within the confines of the quarry and the soil store (highlighted in green) with a scheme for the wider area to be developed in the future following SGC local plan being finalised.
- TM said there is still three million tonnes of material in the quarry floor, which we do not have planning permission for at present. The sustainable approach is to focus on this first. A scoping document has been submitted to SGC for this as well as the three million tonnes that exists within the soil store to be developed as part of a single submission for consideration.
- TM said when we receive the scoping opinion back, which is likely to request some changes, it will help us to develop an application in the near future.



- TM confirmed that ahead of submitting a planning application for these additional areas within the existing boundary of the quarry, we will hold a pre-application public consultation to capture comments from local people to help inform the final plans before submission. In planning

terms, it's a minor application as it's within the existing confines of the quarry.

- **MB asked if this application means we'll be able to go down two more levels in the quarry, to level 9.**
- **TM said yes, two more levels in the confines of the quarry.**
- **KS asked if it could be confirmed we are talking about area 1 in the photograph.**
- **TM confirmed it was area 1.**
- **KS asked when is area 2 likely to be proposed.**
- **TM said area 2 is more complex. He said it's already in the mineral plan, with area 3 being consulted upon at the moment by SGC as part of its Local Plan development. (highlighted in Amber and Red).**
- **TM said he expects any application would be some time away, up to three years as there's a lot of work to do, for example geological and ecological surveys.**
- **MB said for the proposed extraction within the existing quarry, a pre application consultation drop-in session will be held at Tytherington Village Hall to engage and inform, and for local people to ask questions. It's likely to be early March ahead of an anticipated late March submission of just this application to SGC.**
- **SS referenced that there is a possibility of a clash between the likely timing of SGC's own consultation on Heidelberg Materials proposals and the planned resident's day and that protocol may require the resident's day to be postponed until after this period.**
- **JL said he would ask within SGC and let SS know.**
- **SS said we wouldn't want to postpone the resident's day again but would like to seek confirmation from South Gloucestershire that it's ok to go ahead.**
- **JL set out that the local plan currently being consulted on by SGC should meet the 10 years mineral requirements for the council's area. He said he would be happy to discuss this further with Heidelberg Materials and another cabinet member.**
- **TM showed a photo updating existing planning consents for Tytherington Quarry.**



- **TM said that when developing plans across Itchington Road, Heidelberg Materials would want to submit planning for the green area and the yellow area at the same time, so it would be considered as one scheme.**
- **TM said that there was also mineral resource underneath the Itchington Road that is earmarked as part of the existing minerals plan, yet was something the company was seeking to retain in terms of its strategic approach for the wider area.**
- **TM stressed that Heidelberg Materials wants to be transparent re its intentions about developing the long-term future of the quarry and is keen for more discussions with SGC. JL confirmed he would help facilitate this.**

#### **5. AOB**

- **None**

#### **Contact details.**

**Email: [tytheringtonquarryenquiries@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com](mailto:tytheringtonquarryenquiries@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com) or call us on our freephone number 0800 160 1321**

**Tytherington Community Web page is [www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/tytherington-quarry](http://www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/tytherington-quarry)**

**Heidelberg Careers [www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en](http://www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en)**

## **Summary of Actions**

- 1. MMB to upload approved minutes to community page.**
- 2. AD to get in touch with HJ to decide what trees to plant when the condemned ones around the playground are felled.**

## **Proposed dates for next 4 meetings**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024 17:30**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 17:30**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 17:30**

**[ENDS]**

**DRAFT**