

WHATLEY LIAISON MEETING
30th September 2020
Whatley Quarry Area Office



PRESENT:

Justin Collis JC –	Quarry Manager
Ian Strachan IS –	Strategic Development Manager
Richard Keith-Hill RKH –	Environmental Protection Officer, Mendip District Council
Steve West SW –	Mells PC
Jane Butcher JB –	Whatley PC
Trystan Mabbitt TM –	Consenting & Development Manager

Via TEAMS:

Gary Langton GL –	Area Operations Manager
Joanne Hudd JH -	Graduate
Francis Hayden FH –	District Councillor
David McGinty DMG –	Explosive Supervisor
Martyn Ford MF –	Senior Enforcement Officer (Planning, Rights of Way, Gypsies & Travellers), Somerset CC

APOLOGIES:

Martin Symons –	Logistics Manager
Richard Francis –	Distribution Resource Manager
Ryan Mockridge -	Avon and Somerset Police
Alex Hemming –	Senior Landscape Architect
Andy Duncan –	Principal Landscape Manager
John Henderson –	Mells PC
Davin Kenwood –	Whatley PC
Will Palmer –	Whatley Resident
Adam Chapman –	Senior Geologist

Justin (Chair) made the introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 5th March 2020 meeting were distributed and approved as a true record.

Operational Overview

The Quarry has gone through a restructure and 17 people have been made redundant. The new senior management team consists of

Justin Collis –	Quarry Manager
Martin Symons –	Logistics Manager
James Veakins –	Engineering Manager
Gary Langton -	Area Operations Manager

Covid reduced the workings to site with hours and numbers fluctuating inline with the commercial forecast. Hanson voluntarily enhanced wages beyond the government 80% guidelines during this time and no person remains on furlough.

JB – request that the minutes and agenda are circulated before the meeting now Dawn has left.

ACTION JC

Site is at forecast around 3.2mt YTD with an expected 4.7mt year end.

The excavation is continuing with Level 9 ready to sink. Level zero is finished and level 1 has 1x further blast to complete leaving circa 1mt from level 3 upwards.

Walters have been engaged in a new load and haul contract and new equipment to replace existing has started to arrive on site.

We are now running 2x new CAT 988 KXE loading shovels which are the first in the UK. They are diesel / electric hybrids giving 30% better fuel efficiency along with other green features.

Hinkley Point C remains unchanged running 5 trains per week. This is 21 wagons per day. Road sales have reduced in line with rail movements.

We will send an invite to Liaison representatives to attend the next Hinkley presentations at Whatley but this has yet to be scheduled.

Checkproof which is a tablet-based system introduced for maintenance control.

Visit by the HSE unannounced. Review of isolation, controls and traffic segregation resulted in site improvements being made. This was actioned by site and signed off with some advanced systems such as FHOSS being used.

Visit by Mr Edwards HSE and Mr Darling HM Inspector of Railways. This found everything in order.

Blasting (8)

JC There were no blast complaints last meeting but a rise which may be in line with covid keeping people at home

JB says the residents feel powerless and that when questioning the quarry any blast is “well” below the limit. **DMG** all blasts are designed within the limits, the information we gather from our monitors allows us to build data.

MF confirmed that the limits are set and Hanson operate within those limits thus no breaches of planning have occurred. He has checked details on the calls annotated below.

DMG as explosive supervisor reiterated that he would visit any resident with permission during a blast. 50mm/s ppv would begin to cause structural damage and air over pressure >150dB(L) damage of poorly fitted single glazed windows. Human perception is far greater and even the best designed blast comes with vibration. It is worth noting that EPC are the only UK based drilling and blasting services that have their own technical engineering department.

ALL discussion on 3rd party monitoring. **MF** confirmed that Somerset CC have monitored blasting at Whatley without Hanson’s knowledge and found all to be in order. EPC who blast use an independent company (Datum Interactive) for monitoring and **JC** has passed these reports to resident in the past as an open book policy. **ACTION** **JC** will review a secure location for Somerset CC to add their own monitor to recheck those results.

JC there have been many offers of monitoring and no engagement. **DMG** stated this data helps build a regression line for future blasting

JC stated that in time along covid lines he wants to put on a blasting roadshow to the residents with **DMG** of EPC and his team. This would aim to demonstrate the best practice used, developments and general understanding.

No concerns or breaches were raised by either **RKH / MF**

Asham and Westdown

TM / IS gave an update on site developments

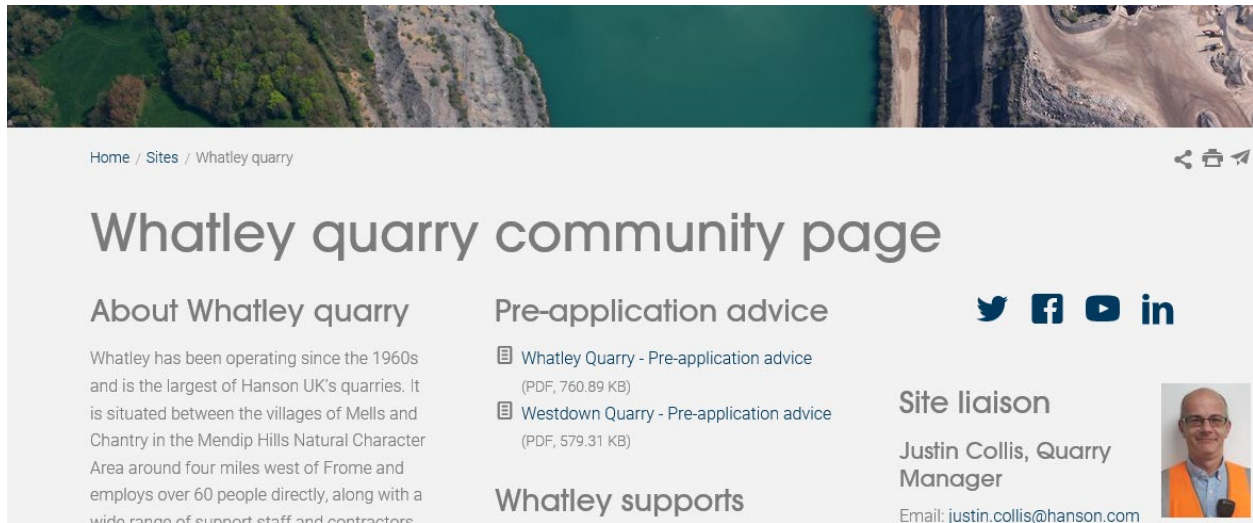
Planning

Pre applications have been submitted for both Whatley and Westdown, **TM/IS** sent letters to residents in June. No engagements / feedback has been received to date. **JB** confirmed she had received her copy.

Planning is an update to existing consents and not new applications. Westdown has 160mt planning until 2042. Application due by 18th Dec 2020 for Westdown and Whatley's in 2021

Somerset now have 3x new members of staff in the planning department.

ACTION JC adding planning documents to the community site pages. Completed 01/10
<https://www.hanson-communities.co.uk/en/sites/whatley-quarry-community-page>



Home / Sites / Whatley quarry

Whatley quarry community page

About Whatley quarry

Whatley has been operating since the 1960s and is the largest of Hanson UK's quarries. It is situated between the villages of Mells and Chantry in the Mendip Hills Natural Character Area around four miles west of Frome and employs over 60 people directly, along with a wide range of support staff and contractors

Pre-application advice

- Whatley Quarry - Pre-application advice (PDF, 760.89 KB)
- Westdown Quarry - Pre-application advice (PDF, 579.31 KB)

Site liaison

Justin Collis, Quarry Manager
Email: justin.collis@hanson.com

Any Other Business

TM Road Adoption is still on-going and being pushed from our end as we have accrued the monies year on year. It is sat with the council legal department.

School visits cancelled in line with Covid guidance.

Mells have received circa £3k for payment of allotment fencing in the village backed by Clare Asquith.

Mells School received circa £3k for an interactive whiteboard.

Fibreway broadband works for Whatley and Mells being worked on backed by Clare Asquith.

Justin is in consultation with various parties over other works, sponsorships and community projects i.e. nurse, school, play park, forest school.

SW thanked **JC** for the work provided in his Parish.

Final matters / around room

- SW** no
- JB** can a list of names and contacts be made **ACTION** JC. Completed 01/10
- TM** no
- RKH** MDC are not inspecting quarries at present due to covid. Happy to have email details added to a contact list.
- IS** Clare at C&JM Consulting, architects in Nunney contacted him as forming a party about planning. **JB** requested her details which **IS** passed on.
- DMG** thank you for invitation, here to assist all parties
- JH** thank you for invitation as forms part of her graduate program
- GL** keep on communicating as this is a two-way street
- MF** no

Date of next meeting: 17:30 Wednesday 9th Dec 2020 again part physical, part Teams.
ACTION JC to send invites

Contact List

Name	Role	E-mail	Mobile	Office	Detail / Area
Justin Collis	Quarry Manager	Justin.collis@hanson.biz	07970 333520	01373 475936	Any Whatley Site Issues
Ian Strachan	Strategic Development Manager	Ian.strachan@hanson.biz	07872 100894	01373 475912	Any closed site issues. Planning
Richard Francis	Distribution Resource Manager	Richard.francis@hanson.biz	07816 992767		Out of Hours / Local Transport
Erica Williams	Distribution Resource Manager	Erica.williams@hanson.biz	07966 243320		Daylight Hours / Local Transport
Darren Plant	Regional Transport Manager	Darren.plant@hanson.biz	07764 241854		All Road Transport
Emergencies			0800 5870999		Emergency
Richard Keith-Hill	Environmental Protection Officer. MDC	richard.keith-hill@Mendip.gov.uk		01749 341638	Environmental
Martyn Ford	Senior Enforcement Officer (Planning,	MJFord@somerset.gov.uk		01823 358226	Planning, Rights of Way, Gypsies & Travellers

	Rights of Way, Gypsies & Travellers)				
Charlie Higgins	Assistant Highways Services Manager	countyroads- mendip@somerset.go v.uk		0300 123 2224	Highways