

WHATLEY LIAISON MEETING
5th March 2020
Whatley Quarry Area Office



PRESENT:

Gary Langton – Operation Manager
Ian Strachan – Strategic Development Manager
Justin Collis – Whatley Production Manager
Alex Hemming – Senior Landscape Architect
Adam Chapman – Senior Geologist
Dawn Carpenter – Hanson Area Clerk

Jane Butcher – Whatley PC
John Henderson – Mells PC
Will Palmer – Whatley Resident

APOLOGIES:

Martin Symons, Richard Francis, Steve West – Mells PC, Trystan Mabbitt – Land & Mineral Resources Manager, Davin Kenwood, Martyn Ford – Somerset CC, Ryan Mockridge - Avon and Somerset Police

Justin made the introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr Gary Langton was introduced as the new Operational Manager for site.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of 3rd December 2019 meeting were distributed and approved as a true record.

Operational Overview

This remains unchanged from the previous meeting. The sinking is continuing in Level 8 and we will soon be putting in a sump for Level 9. Level zero final extraction has taken place. Production and Sales are in line with budget of 5.5mt.

Current production stands at 840kt

Hinkley Point C run at 5 trains per week now. This is 21 wagons x 100t 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.

December shut down period saw the replacement of 3x new screens

Visit by Mr Holland and Mr Hill 12/02 with regards our planning which was all found in order

Visit by Mr Edwards 30/01 from HSE unannounced. Review of isolation and controls.

Blasting

No blasting complaints

Dates of blasts are reported on our website, a month in advance:

<http://www.hanson-communities.co.uk/en/sites/whatley-quarry-community-page>

Noise

One noise complaint received. Levels were check and found to be within planning limits. We will continue to monitor and work with our neighbours.

Dust

No complaints have been received since the last meeting regarding dust. Dust monitoring continues with results posted on our community page.

Sweepers continue on site twice per day and beam sweeper once per week.

Rail

No complaints have been received since the last meeting regarding rail.

Whatley generally runs 10-12 trains a day (20kt), through its operational hours.

Transport

No complaints have been received since the last meeting regarding transport.

Lighting

One complaint was received due to the lighting of the quarry at night. Gary visited and so far all lighting towers in the haulier / contracting area have been reduced and refaced. Electrical work is taking place to the top office block to assist.

Discussion has been had with Alex as to the use of evergreen's as a screen bank.

Asham and Westdown

Site update by Ian and Alex

Justin has moved away from managing closed sites.

Letter written to Whatley Parish by Justin. This was in reply to questioning from them about the rave. No further communication received.

New signs ready to be installed post consultation with Police, Rights of Way on site. Action – Ian

Break-ins have taken place by general walkers who have been clipping the new deer fencing at various locations to aid their walk. Action - Ian

Ecological surveys are ongoing with Wood plc.

The Bat monitoring continues.

Dormice have been found and Otters, but there are no reptiles.

A meeting will be held with Natural England early next year to discuss the site.

Recent coppicing event took place 11 January and 29 February as part of an ongoing partnership with the Somerset Wildlife Trust.

Wildlife and site information boards in conjunction with Somerset Wildlife are ready for production. Action - Ian

Information about events is available on our website:

<http://www.hanson-communities.co.uk/en/sites/whatley-quarry-community-page>

Planning

Currently we are still exploring options.

It was agreed that a meeting would be held with the Liaison group before any announcement re future planning applications, was made public.

Any Other Business

Road Adoption is still on-going.

A planning application re the "Regularisation of the Contractors Area" has been received by Mells Parish Council but not Whatley. Devon County Council are dealing with this, as they are covering all mineral planning as Somerset do not have any staff in this role.

Ian / Justin confirmed that Hanson have funding available to support local projects - please submit any requests to Justin Collis.

School visits on going around 10 per week.

Information supplied and well received to a local resident doing a degree in environmental management.

Science Technology Engineering Management (STEM) has topped 1,000 visits now. This looks to bring school leavers into the industry.

Wiltshire College Engineers from year 2 hosted as part of their development.

Date of next meeting: