

**WHATLEY LIAISON MEETING**  
**17 October 2017**  
**Whatley Quarry Office**

**PRESENT:**

David Searle – Whatley Quarry Unit Manager  
Martin Symons – Whatley Quarry Production Manager  
Billy Benton – Whatley Production Supervisor  
Dawn Carpenter – Hanson Unit Clerk

Philip Ham – Somerset County Council Ward Member  
Steve West – Mells PC  
Will Palmer

**APOLOGIES:**

Gary Morgan-Hanson, David Weeks-Hanson, Alex Hemmings-Hanson, Daniel Harper-Hanson  
Lands and Planning, Martin Payne-Whatley PC, Martyn Ford – Somerset CC, Davin Kenwood-  
Whatley PC

David Searle welcomed everyone and introduced Billy Benton, the new Production Supervisor  
at Whatley Quarry

**Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017 meeting were distributed and approved as a true record.

**Operational Overview**

Dave Searle gave an overview for the remaining quarter. Production has been cut by 25% until the end of the year. This is partly due to slower than expected demand for Hinkley Point product (HPC). As a result, stone has stopped moving from the face by 10:30pm, which should result in less noise for local residents. Total extraction for the year will be 5.3 – 5.5m tonnes.

The new sinking on Level 8 is progressing slowly.

There was a discussion about the development of the top of the site – the new lorry drivers and contractors area is almost complete. Permanent lighting is due to be installed in the new year.

## **Blasting**

On 14 September a complaint was received from Chris Gillard, about vibration levels. He was given the readings taken from George Cottage. The reading showed that the blast was within the permitted limits. The blast took place on level 2 Southern face.

Dates of blasts are reported on our website, two weeks in advance.

## **Noise**

Davin Kenwood complained about noise on the night of 27 September. This was investigated by the Production managers. On the night in question, a dumper got stuck on Level 2. The noise was caused whilst another vehicle was used to try to free it. An explanation has been sent to Davin.

Will Palmer said that he didn't remember hearing the noise that night, but that he was aware of noise from the Quarry on summer evenings. He said that he didn't hear the trains at night – the majority run between 16:00 – 21:30, with Tuesday and Thursday being busiest.

Will asked what was being done to prevent noise:

Dumpers are now rubber lined to suppress noise, as stone is tipped into them. The hopper is left 30% full, to reduce noise caused when stone is tipped into it

Steve West had no complaints to report from Mells residents.

## **Dust**

Will asked about dust levels. Whatley management are looking into solutions for dust removal and suppression. Various options are being considered.

Reports from ESG –Environmental Scientifics Group –who measure dust levels at the quarry, are attached. These reports are sent to Rupert Williamson – Environmental Health Officer at Mendip DC. All have been within permitted limits.

## **Rail**

Demand for stock movements by Rail continues to be very high. Movement of stone to HPC is expected to start by the middle of next year.

Noise has been reduced by the installation of greasing units, these are checked weekly, and also, by replacing some wagons.

A capital project is currently being implemented to improve the rail track. The rail tripper, which loads the stone into the wagons, is due to be re-furbished next year. Work on Murdecombe straight is complete, and the second checkcurve has been done.

## **Transport**

Lorries leaving site without sheeting will be banned. A lorry was recently spotted, the vehicle registration was taken, a supervisor spoke to the driver and he has not been back on site since.

The issue of the road at the Quarry Exit was raised by Phillip Ham. Somerset County Council have asked for £100,000 from Hanson to adopt the road, but this has been rejected by Heidelberg.

## **Asham and Westdown**

The Shoot finished on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Access was removed and additional fencing installed. However, bikes are still a problem. We have received a complaint from the Motocross Group, that their tracks are being used by the motor bikes.

There was a large illegal rave on the 27<sup>th</sup> August – further work has been done to prevent access.

On 14<sup>th</sup> September, Mrs Coles contacted police after spotting motorcycles on the highway by Westdown, she was referred to Hanson.

Complaints need to be directed to the police via the link below:

[https://secure-web.cisco.com/1zHplztoH6gold1NLyIUWhILW5Iho0I5TvCUsw1L4Ed3d-WI5t05NctP8wymwGdX9wESPglU1Md7sYD0tXkv0tTrn2ysg782gylT2h8N44or8Gfyi2V0D8Ku03n0iamlroTK48lsOF0V68iWcu2JcNQk7ga0hNxTns6fThrKRAZsWlglfIIOa\\_w-fzGpcV9BGdXVfKN5nwYrAmNjaUPyiCLozxCB1gdFc6P-5baN0Sm3uatDGqY0lf5NktgCLgH3KaqaMnnaciQpprHCM8CH6W6rJ6TU1P7EgxbAqL1O4-HIHEBI3u2Qay-xC-](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1zHplztoH6gold1NLyIUWhILW5Iho0I5TvCUsw1L4Ed3d-WI5t05NctP8wymwGdX9wESPglU1Md7sYD0tXkv0tTrn2ysg782gylT2h8N44or8Gfyi2V0D8Ku03n0iamlroTK48lsOF0V68iWcu2JcNQk7ga0hNxTns6fThrKRAZsWlglfIIOa_w-fzGpcV9BGdXVfKN5nwYrAmNjaUPyiCLozxCB1gdFc6P-5baN0Sm3uatDGqY0lf5NktgCLgH3KaqaMnnaciQpprHCM8CH6W6rJ6TU1P7EgxbAqL1O4-HIHEBI3u2Qay-xC-)

[awi4AgWBozNYQ2E6XgE5FaZzL2nIA/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avonandsomerset.police.uk%2Fcontact-us%2Freport-a-crime-or-incident%2F](https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/contact-us/report-a-crime-or-incident)

## **Planning**

There are no current planning applications to report.

There are 10 – 15 years of stone left in Whatley – there was a discussion over options to extend the reserve, but these are purely speculative.

## **Any Other Business**

Scalping's Pile is visible from outside the site – this is not waste and will gradually be processed to saleable product.

Steve West and Phillip Ham thanked Hanson for the donation of stone for Mells car park and Coleford Skate Park.

Christmas shut down will be from 22 December until 4 January.

Dave Searle thanked everyone for attending the meeting

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 27 March 2018, at 5:30**