

Hingston Down quarry
Community Liaison Group Meeting
14th November 2024
Meeting Room at Hingston Down quarry

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Cllr Richard Newton-Chance (RNC)	Calstock Parish Council
David Adams (DA)	Gunnislake Community Matters
Clare Bullimore (CB)	Calstock Parish Council Clerk
James Hynes (JH)	Heidelberg Materials UK, Estates Surveyor, Land & Minerals South
Michelle Beasley (MMB)	Heidelberg Materials UK, Secretariat
Mike Brown (MB) (CHAIR)	Heidelberg Materials UK, Southwest Area Operations Manager

APOLOGIES AND MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joanne Addeems (JA)	Calstock Police Community Support Officer
Ed Davis (ED)	Callington Community College
Cllr Alex Polglase (AP)	Calstock Parish Council
Gill Court (GC)	Calstock Parish Council
Cllr Jim Wakem (JW)	Calstock Parish Council
David Jenkins (DJ)	Heidelberg Materials UK, Hingston Down quarry Unit Manager
Alexandra Hemming (AH)	Heidelberg Materials UK, Senior Landscape Architect

AGENDA FOR HINGSTON DOWN QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING

1. **Welcome and introduction** - Chair Mike Brown.
 - Welcome and introductions.
 - Apologies.
 - Matters arising from the last meeting.
2. Hingston Down update – Mike Brown, Aggregate Area Operations Manager, Southwest
 - Operations overview (inc. blasting)
 - Feedback received (complaints)
 - Traffic Management
3. **Community giving and communication update** – Mike Brown, Aggregate Area Operations Manager, Southwest.
4. **Land and mineral planning update** – James Hynes, Estates Surveyor, Land & Minerals South.
5. Landscape and biodiversity update – James Hynes, Estates Surveyor, Land & Minerals South.
6. **AOBs**
7. **Date for future meetings**

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Chair introduction.**

- MB welcomed the attendees and advised there were no new members since the last meeting, and apologies had been received from AH. He went on to say that DJ had been unwell and has been off work for four months but was planning on returning.
- MB asked the attendees if they had read the minutes from the previous meeting and if they agreed with its contents. All attendees said they were happy with the content.
- MB went through the actions from the previous meeting.
 - **MMB to upload draft minutes to community page. (Complete)**
 - **MMB to send bitumen data sheets and draft minutes to all liaison group members. (Complete)**
 - **DJ to add RNC's email to blast notification list. (to do when it goes live)**
 - **RNC to get AP to contact DJ about skate park. (RNC said this was no longer relevant as they were going down a different route)**
 - **MB to give RNC details of skate park contractor. (Complete)**
 - **MB to send questionnaire to invitees asking what the best time for the liaison meeting is to attract more attendees. (Complete. MB said we had only received one reply and asked the group if the frequency of the meeting at three times a year was too much. RNC replied he felt twice a year would be adequate for the time being but could review in the future.)**
- CB said JW also sends his apologies.
- MB said we'll look at dates at the end of March and September and send them to the minutes of this meeting.

2. Hingston Down quarry update

Operational and logistics overview

- MB showed some production figures to the attendees.
- MB said the industry is generally quieter but the southwest is steadier and due to quality of the material at Hingston Down, volumes are generally consistent.
- MB said development of the quarry had increased on the eastern side of "Lawrence Land", with a new lower level 4 water discharge pump installed to allow for "horseshoe" reserve removal on level 3. He said the idea is to maximise material extraction by going wider and deeper in line with existing permissions, with the company's Quarry Development Plan (QDP) was reviewed in detail every two years.



- MB said Hingston Down Quarry had recently employed Higher Apprentice who would be training to become a future supervisor/manager.
- MB explained to the group the types of apprentice schemes HMUK have to offer and said attending careers fayres at school and colleges is on the agenda for the new year to try and secure staff for the quarry in the future.

Blasting

- MB said they were currently blasting on levels 1-5.



- MB said blasting in the quarry in 2024 so far has been done 7 times, which has provided 172,000 tonnes of rock, and of these blasts no complaints were received.
- MB said the highest vibration reading (measured in Peak Particle Velocity – PPV) of 7.10mm/s was likely to have been caused by two smaller blasts being fired at the same time. This was still in line with the quarry's permissions for blasts which allow vibration levels of up to 12mm/s at 95% confidence.

- RNC said there always seems to be some chatter on the other side of the hill from the old mines and often get complaints from residents at St Annes Chapel. Is there any evidence that mines can cause the vibration felt to be higher at those properties?
- MB said there was no evidence to support the residents claims but would ask the blasting contractors senior technical engineer to consider.
- RNC asked if the vibrations through the mine shafts could cause damage to the nearby properties.
- MB said he would ask the blasting specialist to attend the next meeting to explain in detail how the blasts are designed and to answer any questions.
- RNC said that would be helpful to put residents mind at ease.

Feedback received (complaints)

- MB showed the group complaints received since the last meeting. He said there were two about odour from the asphalt plant, two about noise and one about water leaving the site and overflowing a ditch.
- MB said complaints regarding speeding HGVs seem to have peaked and employees do complete random speed testing on occasions, using a recently purchased speed gun. In addition, the company is also trying to get the police to carry out speed monitoring as well due to the excessive speed in particular of cars.
- MB said it is difficult to perceive the speed of a lorry, due to its size. An example of this at another quarry was a complaint came in of a lorry speeding, we were able to review the on-board camera and tachograph, which showed he was doing 14mph.
- MB said the EHO visited Hingston Down Quarry following a noise complaint from a resident. The quarry was found to be operating in compliance with the prescribed planning conditions.

3. Community

- MB said a blasting notification text service was being developed for the local community. He said it will be a free service that includes a weekly update, setting out the planned blast times for the week ahead, plus a follow up notification approximately half an hour before each blast takes place.
- MB asked the group what the best form of communication would be to make people aware of the service.
- RNC said we can add it to our website.
- MB said when set up is complete we'll pass on details to you to communicate, plus we'll send a letter drop locally.

Example

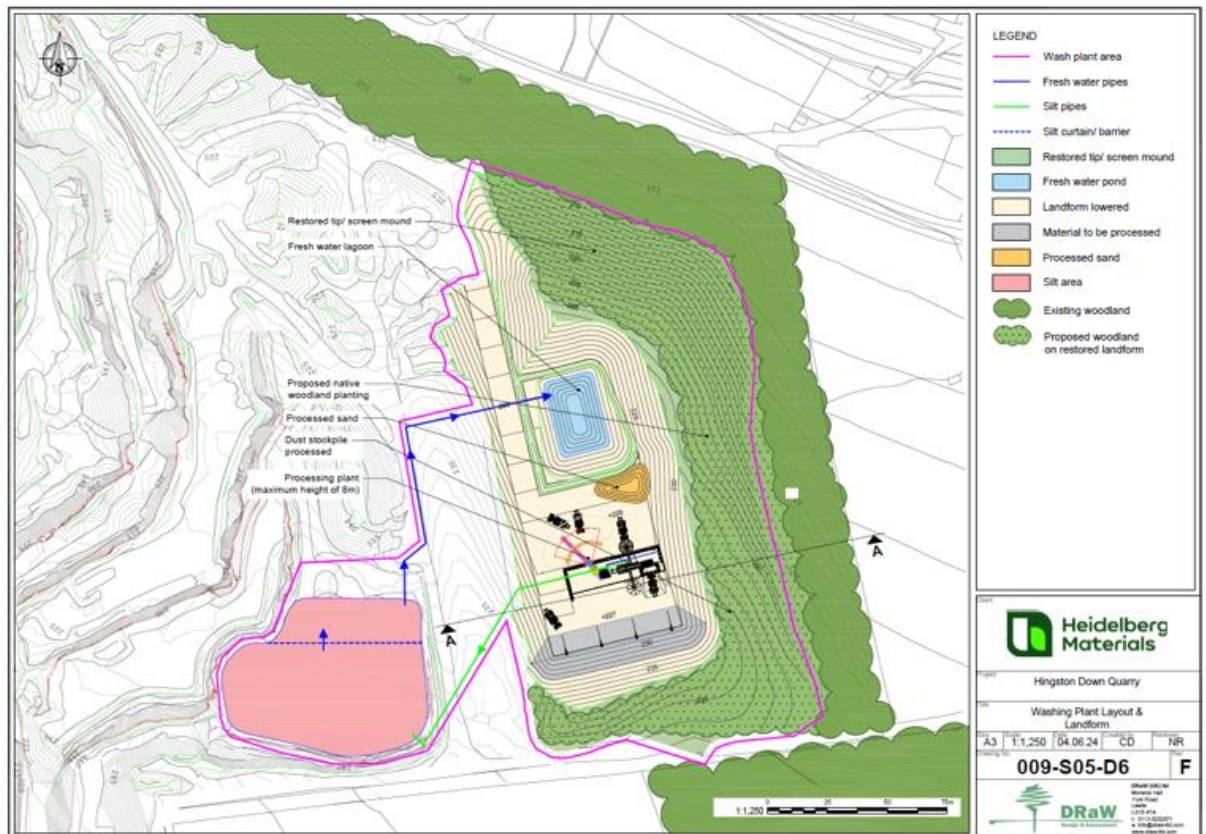


- MB said the trees suffering from Ash Dieback disease will be managed in accordance with the company's policy and best practice.
- RNC asked at which location.
- MB replied at the roadside initially but will confirm the exact location and details of when work will start before the next meeting.
- MB said an email address is in place to contact the quarry. He said this is the best form of contact as the mailbox is manned constantly. Due to the number of persons monitoring it is likely to receive a quicker response than by emailing an individual. The email address is hingstondownquarry@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com.
- MB said if anyone receives complaints, please can you send as much detail as possible to enable an investigation, including the date and time of occurrence. He said a noise assessment is being carried out at Hingston Down Quarry in the new year by a specialist contractor.
- JH asked if the assessment will be done when the plant is operating and at its noisiest.
- MB confirmed that the assessment would be carried out capturing the normal operations of plant and machinery.
- Concerns were expressed about hauliers arriving very early causing noise to adjacent residents. MB would ensure that any vehicles arriving too early would be contacted to remind them of operating times.
- RNC said there is still a bitumen smell all the time. Previously when mentioned it I was told it was only when lorries are venting, but its not, unless they are venting all the time.
- MB said he would report the feedback to the area asphalt general manager and the local production manager about the concerns.
- RNC said also, roughly about two weeks ago there was a heavy white dust.

- MB asked if in the future, could you report it straight away using the Hingston Down Quarry email address so it can be investigated.
- RNC asked if dust monitoring was a possibility and MB confirmed that it was planned to be organised in the second quarter of 2025.
- MB said HGV speed monitoring would continue and data would be shared at the next meeting.
- MMB said modern tachographs and onboard cameras track every movement of HGV's now and as a part of an investigation into a complaint, if we have exact dates, times, and locations we can get the information from the haulier.
- MB said Hingston Down quarry would soon be getting a community web page of which details will be emailed to the group when it was live.
- RNC said at the last meeting he had referenced water coming out of the quarry onto the road. DJ had advised that it was going into a drain but it's apparent that this is not the case - it's coming across the road. It comes from the furthestmost part of the asphalt stockyard.
- MB said it would be reviewed in line with the project of moving the wash plant and how water run off reacts in the extreme weather events that are happening more frequently.

4. Planning update

- **JH said the wash plant relocation plans submitted to CCC has been agreed as permitted development. Once the work to relocate the operation, as per the plans, has begun we can also look at the potential to capture the water runoff.**
- **JH said other than that there was no further update.**
- **RNC said just to confirm, you want to move the plant so you can get to the material in the quarry floor.**
- **MB confirmed and said nothing else changes, just moving the plant.**



5. Landscape and biodiversity update

Ongoing works at Hingston Down quarry

- JH said we are continuing to treat the Japanese knotweed on site and monitoring for any recurrence in the Himalayan balsam.
- JH said a maintenance visit to the bench restoration planting will be carried out to control weeds around each plant to reduce competition and give the species the best chance of growing.
- JH said heather brashing of the bench restoration will take place this autumn. He said we will collect heather seed from other plants on site for use.

6. AOB

- MB informed the group that due to changes in the regions structure and changes in his roles and responsibilities, Hingston Down quarry would no longer be in his area of responsibility and so this would be the last liaison meeting he would be attending.

7. Proposed dates for next meetings

- Thursday 20th March 2025 16:30
- Thursday 18th September 2025 16:30

Contact details.

Email: hingstondownquarry@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com

Hingston Down Community Web page

www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en//Hanson-Aggregates-Hingston-Quarry

Heidelberg Careers Web page

www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en

Summary of Actions

1. MMB to upload draft minutes to community page.
2. MMB to communicate two dates for March & Sept 2025 to group.
3. MB to ask EPC to attend March meeting.
4. MB to communicate dates and locations of tree felling at next meeting.
5. MB would ensure reminders of opening times are sent to companies arriving early causing noise disruption.
6. MB to speak with asphalt area manager about constant smell.
7. MB to arrange dust monitoring in the new year.
8. MB to share speed monitoring data at the next meeting.
9. MMB to email group details of the community web page.
10. MMB to email details of blast notification service to RNC.
11. JH to look at capturing water that is currently running off into the road.

[ENDS]