

Batts Combe Quarry
Community Liaison Group Meeting
11th December 2025
Meeting Room at Batts Combe Quarry

APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

- Cllr Pauline Ham (PH) Somerset County Council
- Cllr Mike Taylor (MT) Axbridge Town Council
- Nick Hoof (NH) Resident
- Sally Devlin (SD) Careers – Kings of Wessex Academy
- Simon Parkes (SP) (CHAIR) Heidelberg Materials UK, Batts Combe Quarry Unit Manager
- Michelle Beasley (MB) Heidelberg Materials UK, Secretariat
- Caroline Gould (CG) Heidelberg Materials UK, Batts Combe Quarry Operative
- Ben Ayers (BA) Heidelberg Materials UK, Land & Mineral Resource Manager

APOLOGIES AND MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Jim Hardcastle (JH) Mendip Hills AONB
- Martin Stoyles (MS) EHO Office Sedgemoor District Council
- Cllr Paul Fineran (PF) Cheddar Parish Council
- James Hynes (JRH) Heidelberg Materials UK, Land & Mineral Estates Surveyor
- Ruth Amundson (RA) Somerset County Council Planning
- Cllr Ben Ferguson (BF) CHAIR Somerset County Council
- Patrick Smith (PS) Avon & Somerset Police
- Alex Hemming (AH) Heidelberg Materials UK, Senior Landscape Architect

AGENDA FOR BATTS COMBE QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING

1. Welcome and Chair introductions – Simon Parkes (SP) Temporary Chair
 - Membership Update
 - Review of minutes and actions from last meeting
2. Landscape and biodiversity update – Ben Ayers (BA)
3. Batts Combe Site update – Simon Parkes (SP)
 - Blasting specialist presentation – Ian Healy (IH)
 - Quarry development and site update
 - Feedback & Complaints
 - Speed monitoring / Transport
 - Community giving
4. Land and Mineral Planning update – Ben Ayres (BA)
5. Environmental Health update – no attendance
6. Council update – Mike Taylor (MT) Pauline Ham (PH)
7. Local Resident update – Nick Hoof (NH)
8. Police and School update – Sally Devlin (SD) (no attendance from police)
9. AOBs
10. Dates for next meetings

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Chair introduction.

- SP welcomed attendees to the meeting.
- SP asked everyone if they had reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting, and if they had, were they happy for the draft to be finalised. All attendees said they were happy with the minutes from the previous meeting.
- SP went through the actions from the previous liaison meeting.
 - MB to upload approved minutes from previous meeting to the Batts Combe web page. **Complete**
 - MB to upload draft minutes from this meeting to the Batts Combe web page. **Complete**
 - SP to get a quote for a barrier at the wheel wash. **Complete**
 - SP to organise additional blast monitoring in the village. **Complete**
- SP reported that quotes had been obtained, and an order raised to install a barrier at the wheel wash; however, the contractor was unable to complete the work, so the process is being restarted.
- BA explained that the purpose of installing a barrier at the wheel wash is to reduce vehicle speed, ensuring trucks remain in the wash area longer for more effective cleaning of wheels and the underside.

2. Batts Combe (Heidelberg UK) site update

Quarry development and site update

- SP said that the quarry is continuing to develop level 4 (southeast corner) and new ramps were in position with production blasts on levels 6, 8 and 9.
- SP said recently sales volumes had increased and overall were still on track for the year despite previous months being slower than usual.
- SP set out that volumes were expected to increase in January.
- NH asked if anything could be done in advance like enforcing CB usage.
- SP said we have a plan in place which I will share later in the slides.

- NH noted that the previous increase in quarry traffic had been a particularly challenging period for local residents.
- CG confirmed that a new process has been implemented and will be in place ahead of volumes returning to previous levels.
- SP added that the upcoming upswing in volumes are still expected to be significantly lower than during the previous busy period.

Blasting update

- SP said there had been 28 blasts this year of which the highest PPV recorded was 4.55mm/s and the lowest 0.50mm/s and the highest AOP 111d/b. He said the permitted level of PPV is 9mm/s so all well within the planning condition limits.

Date	Shot No	PPV Record	Scaled Distance	Air Over Pressure	mic	mic N/A	Quarry	Easting of Shot	Northing of Shot	Elevation	Location of Vibrograph	gr vib E	gr vib N	distance to vibrograph (m)	Kg of explosive used	Blast Roll	Number of holes	Number of holes charge	Tonnes yield of st	Yield per hole	Burden & Spacing	Total cost per shot	Cost per tonne
14 January 2025	R01-25	1.43	53.2	108	144	12.0	5	345341	154968	163	Unit office	345867	154570	633	2911	5.77	26	24	16228	678.08	4.0 x 4.0		
21 January 2025	R02-25	2.28	60.0	110	137	11.7	8	346283	155136	120	Unit office	345867	154570	702	7595	7.08	71	64	53780	840.31	4.0 x 4.0		
22 January 2025	R03-25	2.13	45.2	109	145	12.0	5	346114	155055	163	Unit office	345867	154570	544	5772	5.53	46	45	31910	708.11	4.0 x 4.0		
13 February 2025	R04-25	2.43	55.2	109	152	12.7	7	345322	155160	134	Unit office	345867	154570	703	5440	4.88	38	37	20574	719.22	4.0 x 4.0		
13 February 2025	R05-25	2.45	61.2	110	137	11.7	9	346233	155180	105	Unit office	345867	154570	717	4831	4.99	40	38	24104	618.05	4.0 x 4.0		
20 February 2025	R06-25	4.55	24.9	110	73	8.5	LK	345919	154776	93	Unit office	345867	154570	212	2305	7.46	62	43	17198	399.67	4.0 x 4.0		
29 February 2025	R07-25	1.65	62.4	108	140	11.8	9	346286	155178	107	Unit office	345867	154570	738	4138	5.38	36	35	22260	630.00	4.0 x 4.0		
14 March 2025	R08-25	2.14	129.4	109	31	6.6	8	346336	155117	124	Unit office	345867	154570	721	315	6.27	22	22	1974	89.73	3.0 x 3.0		
14 March 2025	R09-25	1.21	45.0	108	132	11.5	5	346119	155022	161	Unit office	345867	154570	518	1634	5.25	13	13	8678	659.69	4.0 x 4.0		
18 March 2025	R10-25	2.4	59.7	109	148	12.2	7	346350	155113	132	Unit office	345867	154570	727	6643	5.75	53	44	32442	737.32	4.0 x 4.0		
25 March 2025	R11-25	0.83	54.1	109	99	9.5	5	346270	155026	155	Unit office	345867	154570	698	1968	12.84	74	56	25280	451.43	4.0 x 4.0		
07 April 2025	R12-25	1.57	53.8	108	159	12.6	7	346323	155073	135	Unit office	345867	154570	679	8595	4.95	65	59	42549	721.17	4.0 x 4.0		
15 April 2025	R13-25	2.4	51.9	109	195	14.0	9	346280	155166	107	Unit office	345867	154570	725	7755	5.71	73	66	44288	671.03	4.0 x 4.0		
15 April 2025	R14-25	2.20	50.1	109	114	10.7	5	346085	155058	159	Unit office	345867	154570	534	3459	5.02	37	37	17359	470.24	4.0 x 4.0		
06 May 2025	R15-25	<0.500	76.1	N/A	180	13.4	6	346168	155039	150	Pavvy Residence	345669	154149	1020	7289	5.12	52	46	37289	810.83	4.0 x 4.0		
19 May 2025	R16-24	1.10	64.4	108	137	11.7	8	346319	155173	120	Unit office	345867	154570	754	5082	5.71	41	41	29042	708.34	4.5 x 4.5		
17 June 2025	R17-24	1.89	55.8	110	143	12.0	8	346299	155135	120	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	788	5255	6.35	42	39	33392	805.21	4.5 x 4.5		
07 July 2025	R18-24	2.43	57.6	109	159	12.6	6	346397	155045	149	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	729	7370	5.49	49	49	40459	825.90	4.5 x 4.5		
10 July 2025	R19-24	1.78	58.8	110	134	11.6	5	346074	155104	159	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	681	4899	6.23	53	49	30520	622.86	4.0 x 4.0		
13 August 2025	R20-24	1.78	63.0	110	132	11.5	9	346278	155166	107	Unit office	345867	154570	724	4899	6.60	50	50	32121	642.42	4.0 x 4.0		
02 September 2025	R21-24	<0.500	148.2	N/A	21	4.5	5	346100	155084	154	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	670	162	16.07	17	16	2742	171.36	3.5 x 3.5		
02 September 2025	R22-24	0.70	75.7	109	152	12.3	9	346165	155340	109	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	933	7948	5.52	61	60	43864	731.07	4.0 x 4.0		
22 September 2025	R23-24	1.38	52.0	111	167	12.9	5	346212	155033	150	Quarry Entrance	345869	154455	672	3361	11.01	54	34	37003	1088.32	4.0 x 4.0		
10 October 2025	R24-24	0.93	62.2	109	144	12.0	8	346322	155161	120	Quarry Entrance	345867	154570	746	4719	5.47	40	38	27793	716.47	4.0 x 4.0		
21 October 2025	R25-24	1.03	62.1	109	154	12.4	7	346273	155073	135	Quarry Entrance	345867	154570	648	8217	4.36	56	55	35843	651.69	4.0 x 4.0		
31 October 2025	R26-24	1.40	74.1	110	83	7.8	6	346083	155117	150	Quarry Entrance	345867	154570	588	1656	12.20	114	30	20206	673.50	4.0 x 4.0		
10 November 2025	R27-24	1.10	45.1	110	163	12.8	5	346140	155077	150	Quarry Entrance	345867	154570	576	10915	4.77	72	71	52046	733.06	4.0 x 4.0		
20 November 2025	R28-24	1.52	42.8	108	158	12.6	6	346187	155024	150	Quarry Entrance	345867	154570	539	5948	8.0	70	65	47430	729.69	4.0 x 4.0		

- NH said he had made one complaint that he felt needed to be highlighted, but recently the feel of the vibrations seems much better.

Dust monitoring

- SP showed the group some data from the most recent site dust monitoring. He said the results always come back as “very low”. Example below.
- SP said the company was looking at improving dust emission on the load out but are currently awaiting CAPEX approval. He said it is costly so not something that can be pushed through quickly.
- SP confirmed that the quarry is well within its planning constraints for dust emissions, but we will always look at continuous improvements.



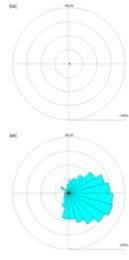
DS100 DIRECTIONAL DUST FLUX REPORT

Client:	Innison Aggregates	Site:	Batts Combe Quarry
Point:	1 Silver Street / Silver Street	Date In:	06-Nov-25
Date Out:	20-Oct-25	Our Ref:	155045 / 1 Silver Street / ZBATT
Interval*:	13 days		

DIRECTIONAL DUST FLUX DATA
 Effective Area Coverage (EAC%) / interval = 0.7
 Absolute Area Coverage (AAC%) / interval = 26.9
 Effective Area Coverage (EAC%) / day = 0.1
 Absolute Area Coverage (AAC%) / day = 2.8

Segment	EAC% Interval	AAC% Interval	EAC% Day	AAC% Day	Dust Impact Risk
00°-15°	0.2	22.1	<0.1	1.1	Very Low
15°-30°	0.2	27.7	<0.1	2.1	Very Low
30°-45°	0.4	38.1	<0.1	7.0	Very Low
45°-60°	0.8	54.1	<0.1	4.2	Very Low
60°-75°	1.1	66.3	<0.1	5.1	Very Low
75°-90°	1.7	79.1	0.1	5.0	Very Low
90°-105°	2.2	78.0	0.2	5.0	Very Low
105°-120°	2.7	81.0	0.2	6.2	Very Low
120°-135°	2.1	74.0	0.2	5.7	Very Low
135°-150°	1.6	64.0	0.1	5.0	Very Low
150°-165°	1.2	54.7	<0.1	4.2	Very Low
165°-180°	0.7	48.8	<0.1	3.8	Very Low
180°-195°	0.7	46.3	<0.1	3.0	Very Low
195°-210°	0.2	26.0	<0.1	2.0	Very Low
210°-225°	0.2	14.4	<0.1	1.1	Very Low
225°-240°	0.2	11.7	<0.1	0.8	Very Low
240°-255°	<0.1	8.4	<0.1	0.6	Very Low
255°-270°	<0.1	7.7	<0.1	0.6	Very Low
270°-285°	<0.1	6.6	<0.1	0.5	Very Low
285°-300°	<0.1	6.4	<0.1	0.6	Very Low
300°-315°	0.6	17.4	<0.1	1.3	Very Low
315°-330°	<0.1	9.5	<0.1	0.6	Very Low
330°-345°	<0.1	8.5	<0.1	0.7	Very Low
345°-360°	0.2	19.2	<0.1	1.2	Very Low

The rose diagrams represent the soiling (EAC) and presence (AAC) of dust for each 15 degree arc per sampling interval.



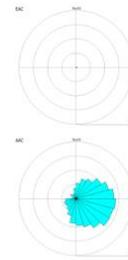
DS100 DIRECTIONAL DUST FLUX REPORT

Client:	Innison Aggregates	Site:	Batts Combe Quarry
Point:	3 Tutors Hill / Tutors Hill	Date In:	06-Nov-25
Date Out:	20-Oct-25	Our Ref:	155047 / 3 Tutors Hill / ZBATT
Interval*:	13 days		

DIRECTIONAL DUST FLUX DATA
 Effective Area Coverage (EAC%) / interval = 0.7
 Absolute Area Coverage (AAC%) / interval = 26.9
 Effective Area Coverage (EAC%) / day = 0.1
 Absolute Area Coverage (AAC%) / day = 2.8

Segment	EAC% Interval	AAC% Interval	EAC% Day	AAC% Day	Dust Impact Risk
00°-15°	0.4	27.8	<0.1	2.1	Very Low
15°-30°	0.6	38.0	<0.1	2.8	Very Low
30°-45°	0.8	40.0	<0.1	3.1	Very Low
45°-60°	0.9	50.0	<0.1	3.8	Very Low
60°-75°	1.0	59.0	<0.1	4.5	Very Low
75°-90°	1.8	68.0	0.1	5.1	Very Low
90°-105°	1.5	59.0	0.1	5.4	Very Low
105°-120°	2.0	67.4	0.2	5.2	Very Low
120°-135°	1.2	68.1	0.1	5.2	Very Low
135°-150°	1.2	59.0	<0.1	4.6	Very Low
150°-165°	1.0	52.0	<0.1	4.0	Very Low
165°-180°	0.8	47.7	<0.1	3.7	Very Low
180°-195°	0.6	43.9	<0.1	3.4	Very Low
195°-210°	0.4	31.2	<0.1	2.4	Very Low
210°-225°	0.2	20.2	<0.1	1.8	Very Low
225°-240°	0.3	20.0	<0.1	1.5	Very Low
240°-255°	0.3	11.6	<0.1	1.2	Very Low
255°-270°	0.3	18.8	<0.1	1.4	Very Low
270°-285°	<0.1	8.8	<0.1	0.7	Very Low
285°-300°	<0.1	6.2	<0.1	0.4	Very Low
300°-315°	0.2	11.5	<0.1	0.9	Very Low
315°-330°	0.1	8.4	<0.1	0.6	Very Low
330°-345°	0.1	9.7	<0.1	0.7	Very Low
345°-360°	0.2	18.5	<0.1	1.4	Very Low

The rose diagrams represent the soiling (EAC) and presence (AAC) of dust for each 15 degree arc per sampling interval.



Speed monitoring / Transport



- CG reported that a slight reduction in speed monitoring occurred due to staff shortages; however, a new rota has now been established, and monitoring has been scheduled in team calendars. She noted that when monitoring was increased, a rise in vehicle speeds was observed, and measures have since been implemented to address this.
- SP stated that a new process for handling complaints regarding haulier speed and behaviour is in development and will be shared with local residents soon.
- NH asked if this will be ready by January for when volumes are expected to increase.
- CG clarified that many of the new procedures proposed have already been implemented on site; the only outstanding item is the branded written documentation.
- SP stated the new process being implemented will also focus on rewarding drivers for demonstrating good behaviour.

- CG stated that MP Connect is now in the process of being implemented as an industry standard. Currently, it is exclusive to Heidelberg Materials UK, but it will eventually be rolled out as a universal one-card for all system which should include ex-works. When a driver visits a site, they will scan their card, and all relevant activity will be recorded.
- SP noted that this will eventually enable us to better manage both ex-works collections and our own franchise hauliers.

Feedback and complaints

- SP showed the group a list of complaints received since the last meeting.

Complaints received 1st June 2025 – 30th November 2025

28 Complaints received in total to the Batts Combe email address.

- Speeding x 16
- Driver with device in hand while driving x 3
- Stone spilled on road x 1
- CB interference in lane x 1
- Unsheeted lorries x 1
- Blasting causing damage to property x 1
- Blasting vibration x 1
- Blasting on a Sunday x 1
- Diver behavior 1 x aggressive driving in Bridgwater 1 x impatience
- Queuing and blocking road on the bypass early in the morning x 1
- Residents complimenting drivers for driving cautiously x 1

All complaints/feedback to be sent to battscombequarry@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com to ensure they are logged and investigated. Texts and emails to personal mobile phones and email addresses may not get actioned or logged.

Community giving

- SP said since the last meeting, Axbridge First School visited the quarry as a part of Year 3 pupils science lesson and they were booked in again for 2026. BA said he and AH visited the school with classroom activities as a part of the trip.



- SP said Axbridge TC had a request approved to help clear the community allotments which will use 10 volunteer days and machinery to clear the area plus 20 tonnes of scalping's to make a parking area, which will now be scheduled to complete in the spring of 2026.
- SP said Axbridge First school have made a request for volunteers and material to improve outside spaces, this has been approved and will also be scheduled to complete in the spring of 2026.
- SP reported that Batts Combe recently hosted work experience for four students from Kings of Wessex School (KOW), and has also already fully booked placements for 2026, and participated in the school's recent careers fair.



- SP reported that 100 tonnes of stone were donated to the National Trust to complete improvements to the footpaths at Black Rock in Cheddar Gorge.
- SP reported that a donation of 1,260 tonnes of aggregate was made to The Strawberry Line project to support the construction of a multi-user path between Cheddar and Shepton Mallet, which will eventually connect through to Clevedon.



Any request can be made by going to the Batts Combe Community page at www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/batts-combe-quarry/supporting-the-community

3. Landscape & Biodiversity update

BA presented AH's slides in her absence.

- We welcomed a new Graduate Trainee Landscape Architect- Jacob Smalley- in to the Lands and Mineral Resource Department. Jacob has a degree from Manchester in Geography and is a trained chainsaw user. He lives in Frome and will be based with Alex at Batts Combe and Chipping Sodbury. They will both attend the next liaison.
- The final area of restoration of Jefferies Tip has unfortunately had to be postponed. Originally, we were aiming to complete the restoration in the summer but the presence of protected species in one of the topsoil bunds halted restoration work whilst a licence was sought to displace them. Contractor availability and Autumn rain then meant that we couldn't complete topsoiling works as moving topsoil in wet conditions degrades the soil condition. Final works are therefore now scheduled for April.
- All but one information board has been put up on The Perch SSSI. The final one, relating to landscape scale habitat connectivity is waiting to be installed subject to briefing the contractor where exactly to put it.



- We are currently tendering the felling of hazardous dead and dying ash trees across our landholding at Batts Combe following a hazardous tree survey. Ecologists have been to site and highlighted 5 trees with bat potential which will be felled with an ecologist present, and the loss of the trees compensated with bat boxes. We already have a felling licence in place that is approved by the Forestry Commission and Natural England, and works will be overseen, as required, by Somerset Wildlife Trust Consultancy. It is hoped this work will commence this winter depending upon the tender process and contractor availability, but we will keep the liaison group updated.

- We will be again supporting Somerset Wildlife Trusts dormice project through match funding as we carry out further coppicing on the Perch SSSI this winter to improve the dormice habitat there.
- Volunteer dormice monitoring to the East of the Quarry and on The Perch is showing some positive results. Jacob recently attended a survey where a nest of baby dormice were found. The boxes that were also moved in association with coppicing works last winter on The Perch have also had dormice in so that is good news as none were found in 2024.



- We are currently working with Axbridge Men's Shed and The Reach Opportunity Centre to build 353 bird boxes for use on our Bulls Lodge site in Essex. Having them made in Somerset and delivering them to Essex is as cost effective as buying them 'off the peg' from our normal wildlife box supplier and it is great to also be able to support these two organisations.
- Minor repairs carried out to broken fences and gates on The Perch.
- Feral goat and sheep culling has resumed this autumn. This work is being done as the goats are posing a threat to woodland habitat by removing shrubbery and regrowth in the woods, used by dormice, they defecate in our mineral products and decimate our tree planting for restoration. We continue to liaise with The National Trust and the Longleat Estate on culling works and ongoing management.
- Axe Valley Men shed, and the Earth Science Centre won first prize of £4000 in the 2025 Heidelberg Materials Quarry Life Award community stream. They created a bug hotel in the car park area of the quarry. It included a naming competing that a pupil from Axbridge First School won with the winning entry of "The Creepy Crawler Hauler".



4. **Land and Mineral Planning update**

- BA said he had nothing new to report re the review of the mineral planning (ROMP) He said he had spoken with RA at Somerset Council but, as yet, we still haven't received notice for the periodic review. Once received HMUK will get 18 months to review the current planning conditions being in line with current and modern practices. He said the site had a monitoring visit on 21st August.
- BA explained that during a monitoring visit, the inspector reviews the planning documents and checks each condition to ensure site compliance. The visit typically includes about an hour in the office reviewing documentation, followed by time on-site. He noted that up to four visits per year can occur, funded by the quarry, although frequent visits usually only happen at sites found to be non-compliant.
- NH asked how many visits Batts Combe had had this year.
- BA confirmed there was a monitoring visit in August and two visits in the previous year. He said the report it produced by Somerset Council Planning Department.
- BA advised he would find out if Somerset Council upload these documents to be accessible to be public on their planning website. (as Devon CC do).
- BA confirmed Martyn Ford, was the Principal Monitoring and Enforcement Officer of Somerset Council as being the current officer for the site. Email address martyn.ford@somerset.gov.uk
- BA to check with Martyn Ford if his report can be uploaded to the site community page for ease of access.
- NH said he would like it circulated with the minutes.

5. Environmental Agency update

- SP explained that the site has not had any contact, which is normal as we do not have lagoons filled with water like many other sites. Being well above the water table, there is no need for pumping.

6. Council update

- PH said nothing from Somerset or Axbridge except for people still not stopping at the stop sign on the slip road from the bypass.
- SP asked what could be done about it.
- PH said she'd asked Highways for help.
- MT asked if we had any contact or liaison with the other quarry in Shipham.
- SP said no.
- BA said he had contact details for his equivalent in the estates department and would share the details with MT.

7. Local Resident update

- NH noted that some of his intended points had already been addressed during the meeting but highlighted that, following heavy rainfall, he has observed murky water running down the road at the quarry entrance.
- **Note: The following point was added following discussion at the liaison meeting on 12th March 2026.** NH advised that the comment he made about the state of the road's was not minuted correctly, as he had stated in the meeting on 11/12/25 that the roads were covered in filthy beige fines rich water, which is clearly coming from the quarry. He added that it is more serious than a bit of murky water and is problematic for residents as cars are filthy, as are dogs, clothes, trainers etc. if you walk the road, particularly when it's been raining.
- SP explained that water cannot escape the quarry as it drains into the cattle grids; however, some dirt from departing trucks may end up on the road, which appears murky when it rains. He added that once the barrier on the wheel wash is installed, this issue should reduce, as trucks will be required to remain in the wheel wash longer for more thorough cleaning.
- NH said the ditch at the bottom of Warrens Hill, it seems when it rains the fines silt goes into the drains.
- ML noted that this issue had been raised previously and asked whether NH had contacted the council as advised by BF.
- NH said he had emailed PH and PH replied that she would chase and advise.

- NH said a resident wall had been damaged and asked if it was a truck visiting the quarry.
- SP said an artic visiting the quarry damaged a resident's wall and it had been dealt with, and the wall is being repaired.
- NH reported that a dark-coloured Audi recently reversed into the Lego blocks on Warrens Hill and provided the registration number to check whether it was a quarry visitor.
- CG confirmed that none of the staff own that type of vehicle and suggested that if CCTV footage or other details are available, they should be sent promptly to the Batts Combe email address. As the site is fully covered by CCTV, this would allow the team to review the cameras and assist with the investigation.
- **Note: The following point was added following discussion at the liaison meeting on 12th March 2026 :** NH commented that the point referring to the black Audi reversing into concrete bollards needed revising. NH added that he did not recall CG saying that it wasn't quarry staff, although he acknowledged that he may have missed her saying that. NH went on to comment that he did recall SP saying something along the lines of him having an idea who it was and to leave it with him. CG confirmed again in the meeting that the black Audi did not belong to a member of staff.
- NH asked if there was any news on the ROMP.
- BA confirmed that the notice has not yet been served so still no news. He said from the council's perspective they will prioritise sites that are non-compliant and new applications.
- NH said it was positive to hear about an increase in speed monitoring and the new process but was slightly worried about volumes increasing in the new year.
- **Note: The following point was added following discussion at the liaison meeting on 12th March 2026:** NH commented that he recalled mentioning at the meeting on 11/12/25 that the promised blast monitoring test equipment deployment hadn't happened and separately several buildings and a wall had been hit by trucks in recent months which was concerning to residents.
- CG stated that a new process has been implemented to address the issues raised previously and noted that volumes are not expected to reach the same levels as before.
- **Note: The following point was added following discussion at the liaison meeting on 12th March 2026:** NH commented that he had expressed his concern about speed monitoring levels in 2025 in the meeting on 11/12/25. He set out that with only 406 checks made in the last full year compared to 414 in the 2 months before (Sept/Oct 2024) this represented a massive drop off and it equates to only 1.6 checks on average per working day over the last year. He added that he

would like his concerns expressed about the number of agricultural tractor drivers seen on their phones while using the approach roads to the quarry to be minuted.

8. Police and school update

Police update

- No attendance

Kings of Wessex update

- SD thanked the team for attending the careers event for Years 8–13 and confirmed that work experience placements for Years 10 and 12 in June and July 2026 are already booked.
- SD mentioned that she had received a request from Fairlands School for work experience and will keep us updated on progress.
- SD noted that the government is considering increasing the duration of work experience placements from five to ten days.
- SP mentioned that two students from KOW had emailed him expressing interest in work experience or volunteering after speaking with them at the careers event. One is focused on sustainability and the other on geography and the environment. He said he would try to assist, although these areas fall under AH's department, and she is not always on site.
- SD said she was grateful for the support the quarry provides already re careers. She set out that there will be a lot of challenges next year and so will be seeking further support.

9. AOBs

- SP said once the new haulier process had been branded, he would share it with NH.

Summary of Actions

- MB to upload approved minutes from June meeting to the Batts Combe web page.
- MB to upload draft minutes from this meeting to the Batts Combe web page.
- BA to check with Martyn Ford if Somerset County Council Planning Department make the monitoring visit report public on their website.
- BA to check with Martyn Ford if the monitoring visit report can be uploaded to the Batts Combe Community Page.
- BA to pass on contact details for Holcim to MT.
- PH to chase clearing of silt in ditch at the bottom of Warrens Hill.
- SP to share new haulier process with NH.

Proposed dates for next 4 meetings

Thursday 12th March 2026

Thursday 11th June 2026

Thursday 10th September 2026

Thursday 10th December 2026

[ENDS]