

**Ringstead Grange Quarry Liaison Group Meeting**

**Ringstead Village Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**MINUTES**

**Attendees;**

**CH (Chairman)** – Cliff Harris, Ringstead Parish Council  
**HM** – Harry Mayes, Great Addington Parish Council  
**MD** – Many Dennis, Environmental Health Officer  
**DG** – Darren Griffiths, Mick George Ltd  
**JG** – John Gough, Planning Director, Mick George Ltd  
**CS** – Charlotte Spry, Planning Assistant, Mick George Ltd

**1) Introductions and Apologies**

Apologies received from Sue Kitchener (Stanwick Parish Council), Cllr Bob Tyman (Raunds Town Council), Northamptonshire County Council and Cllr Guy Slack (Ringstead Parish Council).

No responses received from Cllr Dave Munday (Stanwick Parish Council), Elliott Barry (Environment Agency), Cllr Sylvia Hughes and Cllr Dudley Hughes.

Richard Phillips and Jeff Hornsey advised of their resignations from Ringstead Parish Council.

**2) Reflection of previous minutes**

No comments on previous minutes.

**3) MGL report on quarry progress and summary of any complaints received**

**DG** – Advised that no complaints have been received since the previous meeting. Phases 1-3 of the quarry have been restored. The farmer intends to sow a crop on these areas to put nutrients back into the soil. Phases 5, 6 and part of Phase 7 are currently under restoration and are being backfilled with imported materials. Phases 8 and 9 are the current extraction areas. DG advised the quality of the mineral has varied across the phases with some areas including a significant quantity of clay. The farmer has a crop growing on Phase 11 and topsoils have been stripped from Phase 10. DG estimated that topsoil would be stripped within the southern part of the site (Phase 14) by the middle of next year. The early restoration areas consist of Chinese grass and calcareous grassland which is now being managed by the farmer.

**MD** – Asked whether the quarry was progressing as quickly as envisaged.

**DG** – Advised that in terms of extraction, the site has progressed as envisaged given the varying quality of the mineral. The trommel has not be used on site this year given the volume of clay and the size of the mineral. Material with a large quantity of clay (2m deep in some areas) is being left in the void.

**JG** – Advised that the overburden is thicker within the southern phases.

**MD** – Asked whether the night-time tipping consent had been utilised.

**JG** – Confirmed that the consent has not been utilised but is in place as a contingency measure should MGL tender for a local highways project which are usually completed during the night-time period.

**HM** – Advised that he had notified Great Addington Parish Council that this was the case.

**MD** – Advised that works to re-align Chowns Mill roundabout (A6/A45) are scheduled to commence in early 2020.

#### **4) Planning Officer's Comments**

No Planning Officer present.

**MD** – Asked if any new applications were pending.

**JG** – Advised not at present. As a side note, the planning application at Irchester had been refused.

**MD** – Advised that the new structure of the Unitary Authority has not yet been announced and elections would not be undertaken until 2021 or later.

#### **5) Environmental Protection Officer's Comments**

**MD** – Confirmed not a single phone call or enquiry had been received since the last meeting.

#### **6) Environment Agency Comments**

No representative of the Environment Agency present, although JG advised that there have been no issues that MGL are aware of.

#### **7) Councillor Comments**

**7a) County Councillor Comments** – none present

**7b) District Councillor Comments** – none present

**7c) Parish/Town Councils;**

**HM** – No issues to report from Great Addington Parish Council

**CH** – Advised that there appears to be a machine on site without a white noise reversing alarm which is heard during the early morning.

**MD** – Noted the noise could be from the building work at Wharf Park or possibly the new Enterprise centre.

**HM** – Also noted there was a strong south-westerly wind earlier that day.

**CH** – Advised the noise appeared to be too close. It is usually heard at 7am and 11am for approximately 5-10 minutes.

**DG** - Advised that he would investigate.\*

\*Update – Source of the noise was an item of hired plant which has now been removed from site.

#### **8) Any other business**

**JG** - Suggested that given the limited attendance to the meeting and the lack of issues raised, the meeting continues to be held on an annual basis.

**HM** – Suggested that a meeting is not arranged until there is something to add to the agenda.

**9) Date of next meeting**

All members agreed, following a vote, the next meeting to be arranged when it is considered there is a need to hold a meeting.

Meeting closed – 14:20

