

**BESTHORPE & GIRTON QUARRIES
LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
13th SEPTEMBER 2017**

ATTENDEES

Cllr M Dobson – Notts County Council
Mr M Hankin – Planning Officer, Notts County Council
Mr T Deal – Estates Manager, Tarmac
Mr T Bendall – Quarry Manager, Tarmac
Ms E Holden – Graduate Estate Surveyor, Tarmac
Cllr K Rice – Vice Chairman Girton Parish Council
Cllr M Davis – Collingham Parish Council
Ms J Bradley – Notts Wildlife Trust
Mr S Gorin – Besthorpe Meeting

APOLOGIES

Cllr R Scott – Collingham Parish Council
Mr A Hindmarsh – Collingham Resident/
Notts Wildlife Trust
Mr D Coote – Production Manager, Tarmac

1. Introductions

- 1.1 Cllr Dobson chaired the meeting.
- 1.2 Members introduced themselves.
- 1.3 Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- 2.1 None Reported.

3. Company Update on Besthorpe Quarry - Operations

- 3.1 Mr Bendall advised that the quarry is still busy with production forecast of 145,000 t until the end of the year, 20,000 t up from last year. He suggested this could be a result of the South Yorkshire sites closing.
- 3.2 Cllr Dobson enquired about the South Yorkshire sites, Mr Deal replied that Finningley will be closing next year. Whisby, Besthorpe and Stirton will be working to cover the production in the area.
- 3.3 The next raised dig and mineral haul campaign is scheduled for the end of September/early October, with restoration works to be completed soon after.
- 3.4 Recently an employee has left and the site are looking to replace him. Mr Deal commented that it is a positive sign that the company are planning for future operations.
- 3.5 Mr Bendall gave an update on the complaint of a driver going through the village; the driver has been given a suspension for a week. Mr Bendall asked if there have been any others driving through the village, members were not aware of any incidents.

4. Update on Besthorpe Quarry – Planning / Restoration Matters

- 4.1 Ms Bradley asks about the progression of the restoration scheme, Mr Hankin confirmed that he is waiting for the resubmission of the document from Tarmac in

order to review it. Ms Bradley confirmed Notts Wildlife Trust would like a more detailed schedule to make sure critical windows for work are not missed. Mr Hankin confirmed that a more detailed restoration scheme is needed. Mr Deal assured that the Restoration Assistant Manager would revise and resubmit the scheme.

5. Update on Besthorpe Quarry – Eastern Extension Planning Proposal

- 5.1 Mr Deal stated that the extension is shown in the Nottingham Mineral Plan and Tarmac is intending to submit a planning application Spring 2018 to provide production continuity. There are still some reserves in Phases B and C of the existing permission however a footpath diversion is needed and B contains a large water body.
- 5.2 Mr Deal gave an update on the progression of the preparation for the extension. Tarmac is drilling to prove the extent and quality of the sand and gravel, and to install groundwater monitoring boreholes. Current estimate for the depth of the mineral is up to 13m but this will vary throughout the site. This would equate to an estimated 2 million tonnes lasting 10-11 years at current rates.
- 5.3 The scoping report is currently being written with environmental, archaeological, ecological, geophysical, dust, visual impact, hydrology and hydrogeology assessments to be done. Cllr Davis asks about the archaeology in the extension area as there is a Roman site in close proximity. Mr Deal stated he expects some archaeology to be found. Traffic movements are not expected to change.
- 5.4 For the concept restoration of the extension Mr Deal explained that due to the thickness of the deposit and lack of restoration material available the scheme will have large water bodies. Cllr Dobson highlighted the preference for more land to be restored. Mr Deal and Mr Bendall discussed the options for having deeper water bodies in some areas to allow restoration material to be used to best effect.
- 5.5 Ms Bradley asked if any material could be brought in for restoration. Cllr Dobson considered the possibility of infill as long as it did not increase traffic. Mr Hankin asked Tarmac to include infill options in the scoping report whilst acknowledging the scarcity of inert material in the area.
- 5.6 As part of the application Tarmac will hold a public exhibition around January 2018 and consultation information will be distributed in advance. The Community hall in Collingham was considered a suitable exhibition venue.

6. Company Update on Girton Quarry – Old Site and New (Mothballed Site)

- 6.1 Mr Deal confirmed that the wharf has been removed and is still monitored by the County Council as part of the aftercare.
- 6.2 Cllr Rice noted that the fencing and gate which was reported to be replaced in the previous minutes has been successful at deterring trespassers. However there are concerns about access from the A1133 to the fishing lake which is now being used as a way in. Mr Bendall will raise the issue with Mr Coote.

7. Update on Girton Quarry Planning – Extension of time application

- 7.1 Mr Deal stated that he is awaiting the section 106 Agreement draft, Mr Hankin reported that it is progressing and will chase it up with the Council legal department.
- 7.2 Mr Deal highlighted the likely role that Girton Quarry will play in the medium/long term as sand and gravel reserves decline in the Doncaster/West Yorkshire market.

8. Update on Nottinghamshire Mineral Local Plan

- 8.1 Mr Hankin reported that the new County Council members have decided to re-do the Mineral Local Plan as there have been concerns that too many sites have been allocated. There will be an 'Issues and Options' consultation on 17th November 2017. After the consultation there will be a call for sites. The new draft plan is expected by June 2018; it will then be examined and implemented by 2019.
- 8.2 Cllr Dobson reported that she voted to abort the plan as there was a general feeling of too much sand and gravel extraction in the area and traffic issues associated with it.
- 8.3 Mr Hankin stated that production has decreased in Nottinghamshire and that the new plan would have less sites allocated.
- 8.4 Mr Deal suggested thinking about the impact of neighbouring counties, as Leicestershire has sand and gravel resource problems and they may look to Nottinghamshire to help supply mineral. There will need to be clear cross county co-operation.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 Mr Gorin asked when the Sustrans route will go through the site. Mr Deal confirmed that the route will connect three Tarmac quarries: Besthorpe, Langford and Girton.
- 9.2 Cllr Davis asked if there could be a site visit and all agreed, Mr Bendall agreed to host the visit. Following some discussion it was decided the most appropriate day will be in October which will provide context to the public exhibition for the eastern extension exhibition in January. Mr Bendall is to liaise with the Terri Mason to send out an invitation.
- 9.3 Cllr Rice enquires about potholes in the roadway to the Old Girton Quarry plant site towards the fishing lake. Mr Deal will look into whose responsibility the maintenance of the road is and look to fill the potholes.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- 10.1 Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 2pm at Trinity Hall, Besthorpe Village.