

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

**NORTH PARK QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOMS AT BLETCHINGLEY VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2010**

P R E S E N T

Cllr Marian Myland (MM)	Tandridge District Council (TDC) (Chair)
Mike Hurley (MH)	Sibelco UK
Keith Harrod (KH)	Sibelco UK
Tony Pidgeon (TP)	Sibelco UK
Jason Young (JY)	Sibelco UK
Ian Richards (IR)	Sibelco UK
Alan Stones (AS)	SCC CPA
John Phillips (JP)	TDC Planning Dept.
Cllr Gill Black (GB)	TDC
Ann Butler (EAB)	Bletchingley Parish Council (BPC)
Keith Knox (KK)	Godstone Parish Council (GPC)
Len Lelliott (LL)	Godstone Village Association (GVA)
Ralph Jones (RJ)	Quarry Observation Group (QOG)
Angela Balfour (AB)	QOG
David Balfour (DB)	QOG
Ed Muller (EM)	Bletchingley Historical and Conservation Society
Tim Johns (TJ)	The Hawthorns School
Kim Wantling (KW)	Secretary

12/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Action

Apologies were received from Tony Elias and Simon Terry

13/10 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING held on 20th January 2010.

2.1 DB stated that in minute 03/10, page 2, 2nd last paragraph there was a reference to “100m” as a standoff. It was felt that this should have read “200m”. Following a discussion during which no written record was found to be available to cross check

IT WAS AGREED THAT this would be changed to read “200m”. The minutes were then approved and signed by the Chair.

2.2 There were no matters arising.

14/10 REPORT OF THE DUST SUB-COMMITTEE

KH would report back after the next meeting scheduled for 19/05/10 when actions from previous meetings would be reported.

15/10 QUARRY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

4.1 Quarry Plan for 2010 – TP talked briefly about the plans. In the area of the archaeological dig there was to be no more stripping of the topsoil until later in 2010. The three small soil/sub-soil mounds are planned to be re-profiled later in the year so that the quarry is less visible from the bridleway 148. The top layer of sand which had to be removed to gain access to the required quality sand has been temporarily placed near the sand extraction area but this will be removed to the quarry floor area for restoration material. Further archaeological inspection is required in the only remaining area to the east of the bridleway 148 which has not been previously assessed. This is planned to be undertaken later in the year. TP would report back to the Dust Sub Committee on appropriate actions for the uncovered face of the archaeological dig area.

TP

RJ noted that mobile plant reversing alarms have been noticeable recently. KH said that adjustments can be made so as to link closer to the background noise level and this would be investigated. TP would report back on this issue at the next meeting.

TP

RJ asked if there were any plans to use dump trucks to move sand from the quarry face to the plant site. KH said that backactors and front end loaders would continue to be used.

RJ expressed concern at the apparent lack of restoration undertaken on the site, including the Northern part of the site. RJ acknowledged that some areas of the quarry floor have been covered with clay overburden but these were not greened up. AB stated that the restoration phases appeared to have fallen behind plan. KH stated that considerable areas of tree planting has taken place, material is placed back in the quarry in several areas and as much as possible has been grass seeded. There was however remediation work to be done to some of the northern slopes. MH confirmed that this would not be undertaken until it was clear that no further slippage on this slope was likely. In the meantime the northern area is not a source of dust generation.

RJ asked to see a copy of plans showing what has been restored. MH agreed to put some figures/plans together and would report back.

MH

AB referred to the application made for quarry extension in 2000 (Place Farm area) when the bridleway diversion (BW 148) was agreed and queried whether the bridleway diversion was temporary or would be put back to its original location. AS confirmed that SCC would require the bridleway to be reinstated to its original position upon completion and that permission was only for a temporary diversion under the Planning Act. MH noted that the recent approval of the further diversion of BW 148 was also temporary and the original route would need to be re-instated to coincide with the expiry of the planning consent (the current consent expires 31.12.2015).

MH confirmed that whilst Sibelco would prefer the diversion to be permanent, what is sought in an application is not always what is subsequently granted. Sibelco would however act in accordance with the Local Liaison Committee TOR to “.... seek the permanent diversion of Bridleway 148”

AS did state that it would be possible to make an application to divert the bridleway permanently. EAB enquired whether the Parish Council could write a letter in support of a permanent diversion. Following some discussion, MH confirmed that

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

Sibelco would be happy to make a permanent diversion but SCC may not agree with it and it would have to be supported by residents and bridleway users. JP confirmed that if an application was to be made it would need to be done under the Highways Act and go through a full consultation process.

16/10 PLANNING UPDATE

5.1 Plant site planning scheme – MH confirmed there were 3 schemes outstanding for the plant site, namely (i) the Biodiversity plan which was specific for the plant site – this was currently being redrafted; (ii) Dust Scheme – this was currently being redrafted; and (iii) a re-submission of the archaeology report for the pipeline route originally submitted to SCC in 2005.

Issues had been raised by the Dust Consultant in relation to the types of monitoring equipment required by the Council. MH stated that he needed to speak with SCC and the Dust Consultant to clarify various points before the scheme submission can be finalised. MH reassured members that even though a formal scheme is not stamped and approved, the Company continues to implement all monitoring and mitigation in accordance with the internal Dust Control Plan and all results and issues are thoroughly discussed at the Dust Sub-Committee. It was hoped that a meeting between Sibelco, SCC and the Council dust consultant would take place in May to ensure that all interpretations and conditions were clarified.

In relation to a query about how long the dust scheme could remain without formal approval, AS confirmed that SCC had to be satisfied with the scheme and how the measures put forward would achieve an appropriate level of control. Depending on the submission date by the Company it was possible that the scheme could go to the July Committee. Although the schemes will be formally sent out by SCC for consultation, the submissions will be circulated to all liaison committee members by the Company at the same time as they are submitted to SCC.

5.2. County Council Monitoring Reports – The site visit had taken place on the 21/01/10. The report noted that the site was well managed in terms of housekeeping. Some minor issues were raised. These were:

Three small overburden mounds adjacent to Bridleway 148 were not shown on approved plans. (The Company has responded by submitting a plan to re-profile and regarded these into a low seeded and grassed screen mound – a response is awaited. The mounds are however currently grassed over and not causing a dust issue therefore the Company would not propose re-profiling until later in the year).

All data relating to noise, water monitoring records and site topographical surveys would need to be available. (These have been provided)

A planting maintenance schedule needed to be provided. (The Company has responded to SCC on this matter).

5.3 Bridleways 148 and 142 diversions – Formal approval had been received and the section of BW 142 was scheduled for closure on the 13/5/10. The diversion of BW 148 is still to be implemented and is now likely to be during 2011. Members will be advised well in advance of any site works.

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

In response to a question, MH advised that the low green plastic fencing recently installed was reptile fencing put up on the advice of the company ecologist to keep planned future working areas ready for development.

17/10 PENDELL EXTENSION AND PLANT SITE TIME EXTENSION UPDATE

Sibelco had now received all consultation responses and was working on providing the relevant information requested by SCC in one document. This information related to items such as: airport safeguarding; soils; hydrology; geotechnics; structures; development options; landscape; AONB and need. MH showed some new plans, which will be included in the pending submission.

DB commented on the line of trees planted north of The Hawthorns school and noted that they were recently planted. MH acknowledged that this particular tree belt was only about 2 years old but would develop into a suitable screen over time. There was a discussion about the distances of the proposed workings, screening mounds and bunds to various parts of the Hawthorns School grounds. MH noted that the application boundary was closer to the school grounds but no activity will take place in the extreme south of the application area, this is merely an ownership line. MH to provide a plan with distances to various points/features. It was suggested by some members that 200 metres may be an appropriate stand-off between proposed development area and Hawthorns School land.

TJ said that he and colleagues have been speaking to Sibelco for some time about the proposed quarry extension and whilst he had no concerns relating to health issues, he is concerned about the potential for nuisance dust. There are still concerns and issues over nuisance dust at North Park Quarry and TJ would expect an open line of communication with the site and the Company should the extension be approved.

Members noted that standoff distances are one way of providing dust control. KK asked whether it was possible to obtain real time and dust data and would additional monitoring take place should the extension be granted. MH said that he was not aware of any real time monitors for dust flux or dustfall. In terms of monitoring, the Council requirements would come through any scheme required to be agreed and additional monitoring may be required.

AS noted that whilst dust monitoring results did need time to be analysed and reported, the findings will inform future operational procedures and drive improvements. It was acknowledged that a CCTV system monitors at the plant site and this gives a subjective view.

AS noted that health concerns in relation to fine particulates was relevant for people who work on a site in confined and concentrated spaces. Companies must take precautions for the workplace situations. Larger particles are classed as a nuisance dust not as a health risk. In terms of dust monitoring and reporting, SCC would be guided by John Pullen, the Council Dust Consultant.

KK reaffirmed the need for improved monitoring near the school and TJ stated that he expected to see continued close consultation on a regular basis with Sibelco. TJ also acknowledged the fact that Sibelco did take on board all comments raised by The Hawthorns and that from an education point of view, the availability of the

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

quarry for school site visits etc was seen as positive.

In relation to the last May bank holiday, which saw high winds and resulting dust blowing onto the bridleway, some members felt that the dust suppression system did not work adequately. KH confirmed that the dust suppression systems in use at North Park Quarry react to wind speed and are fully automated but there is room for improvement and since last year sprays have been installed in the quarry area. The site is now examining the possibility of improving the range of the sprays to reach the top of the sand face. Also, as noted above in 4.1, the three small soil/sub-soil mounds are planned to be re-profiled so that the quarry is less visible from the bridleway 148. The top layer of sand which had to be removed to gain access to the required quality sand has been temporarily placed near the sand extraction area and could be a dust source in its current location but this will be removed to the quarry floor area for restoration material.

AS confirmed that the monitoring results relating to the dust levels would be available to the full committee for discussion. There was a request for the dust monitoring results to be made available to the full liaison membership on a more frequent, perhaps quarterly, basis. AS stated that through robust control methods there would be improvement over time. Moves made by Sibelco at this site were significant compared with others company's and while SCC will not hold data indefinitely it is likely that historical data will be available from Sibelco.

TJ, RJ and EM left the meeting.

18/10 ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

7.1. Complaints/Concerns register review – Between 10-12 April only 3 complaints had been received, 2 from Place Farm area and 1 from Bletchingley. At this time there had been a moderate NE with intermittent strong winds. Staff had been called out to the site at the weekend and communication had taken place with the one of the local residents. The Plant sprays had been operational and it was found that the dust was actually coming from the edge protection bunds near the working face. Sibelco acknowledged that they needed to look at this more closely. The Company reacts to monitoring results, events and complaints and is trying to take measures to reduce future episodes. AB acknowledged that Sibelco were trying to control the dust but believed that the only way to control this was by larger standoffs.

MH said that a response had been made to the resident in Bletchingley. Sibelco only has an e-mail address for the individual but has offered to speak/meet at any time. EAB said that some residents may not be comfortable meeting the Company. EAB said that some discussion was had at a WI meeting. IR confirmed that the Company would always meet residents and address any concerns and meet with any local organisation who may wish to have a member of Sibelco attend to talk about the Quarry workings. The regular continuation of discussion and dialogue was important.

7.2. Noise & Hydrology Results – The noise results were those undertaken on 16/12/09 and reported at the last meeting. Noise monitoring is undertaken

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

every 6 months in accordance with planning conditions. All noise results are well within permitted limits. All other water monitoring results are within the limits with only expected seasonal variations in groundwater levels.

In relation to Spynes Mere, it was reported that the silt has created a beach area at the point of input. MH said that information on Spynes Mere would accompany the submission of further information in relation to the planning application. A depth survey has been undertaken and the Company proposes to direct silt to the east of the lake to take up available space there before moving the inlet pipe to the west into deeper water. The silt beach does not appear to be getting larger and it would be expected that some silt would build up above water level at the input location. The Company is aware of the need to provide 2 metre of water over the silt in due course and this can be largely achieved by ensuring as high a final water level as possible. It should also be possible to remove some of the silt build up around inlet points at a later date.

19/10 COMMUNICATION

The next Dust Sub Committee meeting was scheduled for 19 May 2010.

20/10 COMMUNITY MATTERS/NEWS

MH updated on recent meetings between Tony Green of Sibelco and Kim Wantling on behalf of Bletchingley in Bloom who had requested some assistance with landscaping at Grange Meadow. Sibelco has confirmed that subject to TDC approval, they were happy to assist and a work programme will be agreed with KW.

Work was also being undertaken with Godstone school with a pond and the adoption of a hedgehog.

22/10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AB thanked Sibelco (JY) for clearing the rubbish mound reported at the last meeting. Footpath 149 required some vegetation clearance and Sibelco would look into this.

The recent Hawthorns school visits to North Park Quarry had been well received and the children had enjoyed looking at the process from start to finish. Thank you letters and posters had been completed by the pupils.

23/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Provisionally booked for 28 July 2010 at 6.30pm in the Community Centre. KW to KW confirm the availability of the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.