

**Tytherington Quarry  
Community Liaison Group Meeting  
25<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
Meeting Room at Tytherington Quarry**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Hugh Johnson (HJ)**

**Cllr Jon Lean (JL)**

**Chris Bloor (CB)**

**James Brown (JB)  
Manager**

**Michelle Beasley (MMB)**

**Trystan Mabbitt (TM)  
Manager, Strategic Projects.**

**Mike Brown (MB)  
Manager**

**Samantha Stagg (SJS)  
PR agency)**

**Andy Duncan (AD)**

**Tytherington Parish Council**

**South Gloucestershire for Frampton Cotterell Ward**

**Thornbury Town Council**

**Heidelberg Materials, Tytherington Quarry Unit**

**Heidelberg Materials, Secretariat**

**Heidelberg Materials Consenting & Development**

**Heidelberg Materials, Southwest Area Operations**

**James Reed Public Relations (Heidelberg Materials**

**Heidelberg Materials Principal Landscape Manager**

**APOLOGIES AND MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Simon Ford (SF)  
Dept**

**Neil Higgs (NH)**

**Paul Chapman (PC)**

**Lindsay Saunders (LS)**

**Keith Spooner (KS)**

**John Graham (JG)**

**South Gloucestershire Council Planning and Minerals**

**South Gloucestershire Council (EHO)**

**Iron Acton Parish Council**

**SGC PROW Officer**

**Resident**

**Alveston Parish Council**

## **AGENDA FOR TYTHERINGTON QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING**

- 1. Welcome and introduction - Chair Jon Lean (JL)**
  - Welcome and introductions.
  - Review of minutes from the last meeting.
  - Matters arising from last minutes.
- 2. Tytherington operations – James Brown (JB) Unit Manager Tytherington Quarry.**
  - Operations and logistics including blasting.
  - Feedback received.
  - Rail update.
  - Community update.
  - Residents’ day update.
- 3. Environmental, landscape and biodiversity update – Andy Duncan (AD) Principal Landscape Manager.**
- 4. Land and mineral planning update – Trystan Mabbitt (TM) Consenting and Development Manager, Strategic Projects.**
- 5. AOBs.**
- 6. Date for future meetings.**

## MEETING MINUTES

### 1. Welcome and Chair introduction.

- JL welcomed and introduced himself to the group, and thanked MB for chairing the meetings up until now.
  - MB said he'd come to this meeting to support JB, as it was his first one as quarry manager at Tytherington.
  - MB introduced JB (no relation), he said he has been with the business for four years and started as a higher apprentice.
  - MB said a total of twelve people applied for JR's role. He said JB was working at Whatley Quarry as a supervisor, and Whatley Quarry is three times the size of Tytherington Quarry, with many more staff.
  - JL asked the group if they had read the draft minutes from the previous meeting, and if they were happy with the content.
  - The group replied they were happy with the content.
  - JL went through the actions from the last meeting.
1. MMB to upload approved minutes from last meeting.  
*MMB confirmed.*
  2. AD to get in touch with HJ to decide what trees to plant when the condemned ones around the playground are felled.  
*AD said it would be covered in the agenda.*

### 2. Tytherington operations

#### Operational and logistics overview

- JB showed the group some production volume figures year to date and said 62% of the material dispatched was being transported by rail.
- JB said work had finished sinking on level 6, but its currently inoperable due to recent weather. He said level 5 was also lost because of water but had gone back in today to start pumping. The plan would then be to open level 6 and start sinking level 7.
- JB said one plant making single sizes is now situated with the stock yard rather than in an active excavation area. This was due to operational space available within the excavation area for a plant this size.
- JB said a new wheel wash was planned for 2025 budget subject to capital expenditure approval.

- **JB said the project to electrify the pumps in Groves End was completed, and at the next meeting we can review the efficiency. Previously they were run by diesel generators.**
- **MB said electrifying the pumps in groves end, is a part of an overall plan to reduce carbon. Heidelberg Materials are already producing carbon neutral cement and is committed to being carbon neutral by 2050. By electrifying the pumps instead of using generators, there will be a financial benefit, but also will be reducing the carbon footprint of the site.**
- **CB asked how you decarbonise making cement.**
- **MB said by carbon capture, in building, design and project managing. In the UK, Heidelberg Materials is involved in a number of industry leading carbon reduction projects including:**
  - **Carbon capture and storage (CCS) at our Padeswood cement works in north Wales as part of the HyNet NorthWest consortium.**
  - **A world-first project trial demonstrating the use of hydrogen to create a net zero fuel mix at Ribblesdale cement works in Lancashire.**
- **He added that Heidelberg Materials is also looking at partnerships with universities and that the company is focused on finding the next generation of employees with the expertise needed to drive through its net zero agenda.**
- **For more information on Heidelberg Material's approach to net zero see: [www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/committed-to-reaching-net-zero-carbon](http://www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/committed-to-reaching-net-zero-carbon)**
- **JB said he had recruited two new employees, plus promoted an employee and there were plans for a higher apprentice to start in the Autumn of 2025.**
- **MB said in terms of recruiting higher apprentices, we are keen to develop contacts among the careers staff at local schools. He asked the group if anyone had anyone in mind we could approach. He said we've had great success with our Batts Combe quarry in Cheddar, developing links with the local school and are keen to do the same at Tytherington. Activity could involve attending careers fairs and hosting work experience pupils etc.**
- **BC asked what a higher apprentice is.**
- **MB said there are three routes used for. The first is we take a student direct from university into a specific role and develop them. The second is our graduate program, where the student comes into the business and does a two-year program, and a position will be found for them at the end. The third is the higher apprentice scheme, where we will take on a**

post A-levels 6<sup>th</sup> form student at the age of 18 who has reasonably good GCSE and A-level results. This is a three-year program, and the student will attain a diploma qualification when it's completed. He said we also have apprenticeships for mobile plant. Details at:

[www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/apprenticeships](http://www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/apprenticeships)

- **MB said we've recently employed a mobile plant apprentice, he's an 18-year-old who is from a farming background and is already familiar with large machinery. We've also taken on an electrical apprentice at Whatley quarry.**
- **JB said one of the first things he looked at in his new role as unit manager is enhancing dust suppression. He said he had already instigated the installation of a water sprinkler jet along the road into the quarry to keep the dust down and reduce the use of the bowser.**
- **JB said at the site he had come from, Whatley quarry, they had set up a blast notification service, and it's something that is planned for Tytherington quarry. He said the service will see a weekly text being sent to those who are registered, notifying them of blasting times, and then another warning text 30 minutes before the blast. Currently we are ringing around on the day of the blast to a list of people who want the information. This new blast notification service will mean we can communicate better with residents.**
- **TM said the feedback from Whatley is good. Phoning is not always a great way to communicate as people could be out for example and so are missed.**
- **SS said there is a planned letter drop in the coming two weeks, with details of how people can sign up.**
- **HJ said before Tytherington quarry was mothballed, the siren for blasting was on the north face gate, and it used to run for two minutes, then it would stop and within seconds you would hear the shot. Now there is no siren.**
- **JB said there still is a siren, it's at the entrance of the tunnel at Woodleaze.**
- **HJ said if there is, it can no longer be heard. Maybe if it was put up higher it could be heard.**
- **MB said it is standard practice at all my sites to have warning sirens, and sentries that stop pedestrians entering the blast area, but we can have a look into why it can no longer be heard by residents.**
- **HJ said we can hear the operator on nightshift at the asphalt plant, telling the lorries to come under the plant.**

- **MB asked JB if he could investigate it.**
- **MB said we could get our colleague in asphalt to attend the next meeting to provide information about the asphalt production process.**
- **JL said it would be interesting and would like for it to be organised.**

### Quarry Blasting

- **JB advised of currently blasting on levels 1-5 with a total of 14 blasts since the last meeting.**
- **JB also said that since the last meeting, another offsite monitoring location has been added. A lime Kiln Court property now has a vibrograph in placed.**
- **JB said two complaints had been received regarding blasting since the last meeting. One at The Slad, where the highest Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) recorded for that blast was 8.7mm/s, and the other at West Street where the highest Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) was 8.05mm/s. He said the blasting contractor predicted the PPV at West Street as 2.5mm/s PPV, but it was 8.05mm/s PPV.**
- **JB said the blasting contractor has since carried out a seed hole analysis, the results of which the results will be discussed.**
- **MB said, we'll get all the technical data and use it to inform the designs of future blasts to reduce the vibration. He said although the results shown are higher than normal, they are still well within the planning conditions.**
- **CB asked if the higher level of vibration recorded be because it's been so wet.**
- **MB said there is a level of water getting into the holes, rather than wet rock.**
- **JB said that if you lose a hole at the front due to water, you have to put more explosive in the hole behind.**

#### **The Slad**

25 January – 23 April 2024

Highest: 8.7 mm/s  
Lowest: 0.8 mm/s  
Average: 3.2 mm/s

AOP

Highest: 126 dB  
Lowest: 113 dB  
Average: 121 dB

#### **West Street**

25 January – 23 April 2024

Highest: 8.05 mm/s  
Lowest: 1.1 mm/s  
Average: 2.9 mm/s

AOP

Highest: 128 dB  
Lowest: 106 dB  
Average: 124 dB

#### **Lime Kiln Court**

From 14 March 2024 -

Highest: 0.7 mm/s  
Lowest: 0.55 mm/s  
Average: 0.6 mm/s

AOP

Highest: 112 dB  
Lowest: 98 dB  
Average: 105 dB

- **JB said he had received two complaints about dust since the last meeting, and this is one of the reasons he has increased the dust suppression measures on site.**

#### **Rail update**

- **JB said there were currently fifteen trains a week running, three per night, with no change to this expected.**
- **JB said daytime trains will be restarting in June, and the current plan is for up to 22 a week.**
- **JB said the Network Rail works are ongoing, however all speed restrictions have now been lifted.**
- **JB said he'd received a complaint about the rail line from a resident. He said he put them in touch with Network Rail who came and inspected the rail line, but he had not had any further feedback.**
- **JL said he'd not received any other complaints from residents recently about rail.**
- **HJ asked if anything was held up with the tree that came down.**
- **JB said yes it did, and the event has resulted in Network Rail reviewing all the trees close to houses and the track.**

#### **Community update**

- **JB said material donated to the Alveston pump track equated to 655 tonnes of aggregates and 124 tonnes of asphalt.**
- **JB said the official open day for the pump track was Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**
- **JL asked if that was a firm date and was it ok to tell people about it.**
- **SS said she would find out.**
- **AD said they are going to plant some wildflower seeds and plug plants on the banks surrounding the pump track in the hope they will explode into colour by the open day on 18<sup>th</sup> May.**
- **JB said the residents' days is now planned for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024.**
- **MB said it will be by invitation only, with limited numbers available. He said a letter drop would happen soon with details on how to apply for tickets. It will be open to residents and stakeholders.**

- JL asked if this information was confidential.
- MB replied no, it's OK if you want to tell people.

### 3. Environmental, landscape and biodiversity update

- AD said re Ash dieback tree management, Heidelberg Materials and Tytherington PC were to share respective tree reports and agree timing/approach as well as new species to be planted. He said our survey says the trees around the playground have signs of Ash die disease back and they must be removed within 12 months. He said to HJ he would be interested to see what Tytherington PC's survey revealed.
- HJ said he would pass on details of the person to speak to, but from memory he was aware some will need to come down, but they wanted to leave as many as possible.
- AD said we need to avoid felling in bird nesting season.
- HJ said there was a tree on Tytherington Hill that had to come down, which we'd previously decided to leave.
- MB said it was highly likely due to the risk of harming a person or property.
- AD said as a company we take a safety-first approach. If a consultant advises felling in 6-12 months, we can't ignore the advice.
- MB said as a part of the process, we prioritise work to be carried out near footpaths, bridle ways, and playgrounds etc. He said we also have to consider climate change, like storms.
- A discussion followed about Ash dieback and the need to coordinate approaches to tree felling with the parish council.
- AD added that Heidelberg Materials will be looking to start felling in autumn after the bird nesting season is over.
- CB asked why has there been clearing of the ivy.
- AD said because of dead Hawthorne. He said there was more ivy than tree, and it was pulling down the Hawthorne. He said we have shrubs growing on the beds around.
- AD said the ivy doesn't strangle the trees, but does compete with the tree for water and nutrients such that if the tree is already in poor health, it can be the last straw, or the ivy canopy can cause the tree to blow over in high winds.
- CB asked if there will be any hedge maintenance.



- AD responded saying that the site will be laying hedges, and we have already done some trimming following on from comments received at the consultation meeting.
- CB said he's been trying to find a contractor to trim hedges for Thornbury TC.
- HJ said ask Cllr Matthew Lipton of Tytherington PC. He said Tytherington PC has someone who trains people to lay hedges.
- AD said tree planting on the bank at the weighbridge was about to commence.
- AD said Itchington Road hedges had been trimmed. (Pylon corner)
- AD said there were hedge laying plans for autumn 2024 from the rail bridge to pylon corner.
- AD said soil from the store was to be used to dress off slopes beside the badger haul road, when the earthworks gang are next available.
- AD said they were using surplus soils to dress the slope adjacent to the M5 Groves End tip, to enhance the orchid strip.

**Palisade Fence**



**Hawthorns & ivy**



**Tip**

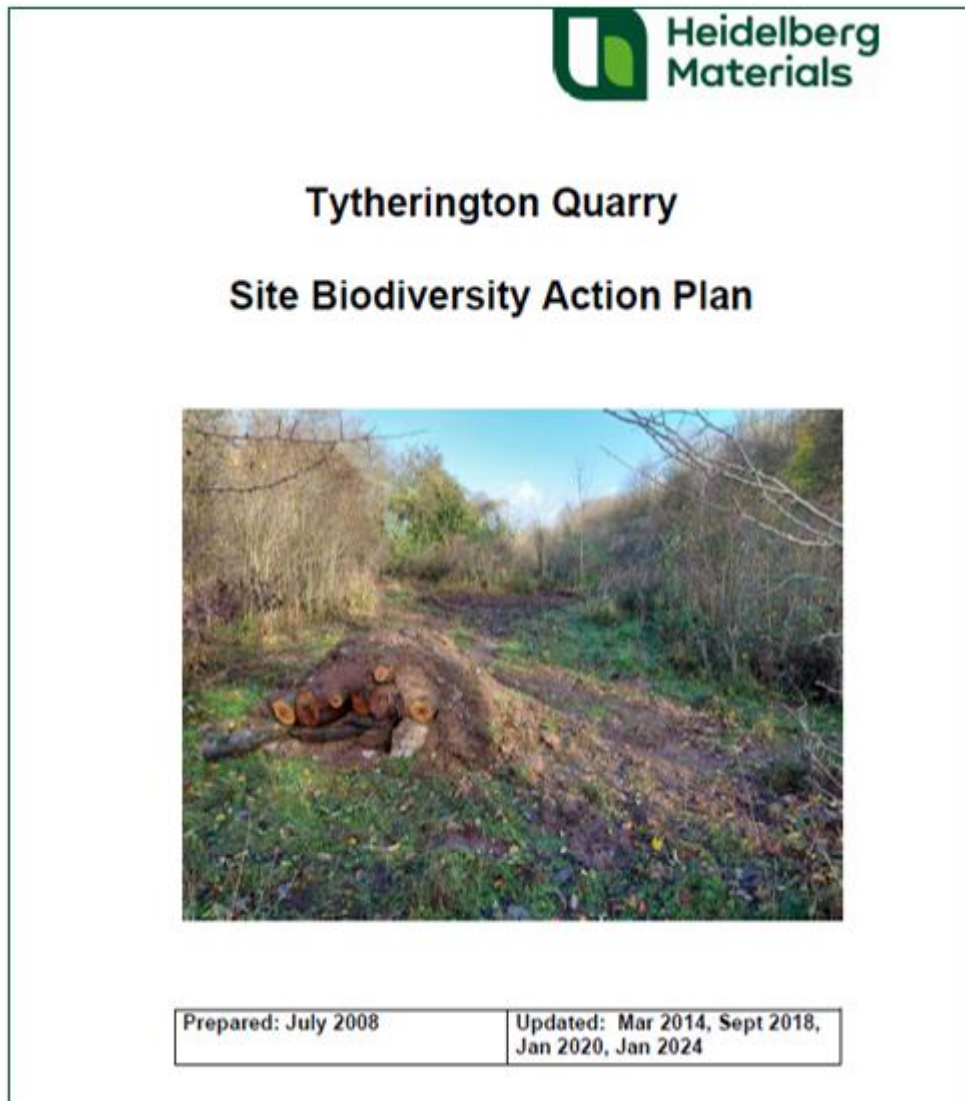


### **Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)**

- AD said the BAP had been reviewed and would be uploaded to the Tytherington quarry community page imminently.
- AD said included in the changes is a new hedge laying target.
- AD said we could liaise with the council to contribute to its Biodiversity Action Plan.
- MB outlined the Quarry Life Awards. He said it is a scientific and educational competition which takes place every three years and runs simultaneously at

national and international levels. It also has a community stream. Its aim is to raise the awareness of the ecological value of extraction sites and sharing new best practices. Currently, biodiversity projects are carried out in our quarries around the world. See:

[www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/socialvalue/climate/quarry-life-awards](http://www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/socialvalue/climate/quarry-life-awards)



- **CB said Thornbury TC were trying for a Tiny Forest.**
  - **HJ said we were against HM's previous suggestions for a Tiny Forest as the only place suitable to put it would have been on the green, which is already being used as a public space, and we already have one on Itchington Hill.**
4. **Land and mineral planning update**
- **TM said there was no updates since the last meeting.**

- **TM said feedback from the consultation meeting was very constructive. He said we've been through the feedback, and it's helped to inform amendments to the proposals.**
- **TM said the planning application solely concentrating on the soil store (area 1) and deepening the quarry, both within the quarry boundary.**
- **TM said summarising the feedback will form part of the final draft which is likely to be submitted by the end of May.**
- **TM said one of the concerns raised by residents was lights on at night in the quarry. We believe this is coming from the rail siding, and we will be doing some work on this.**
- **MB said JB had started work reviewing this. Lighting was increased previously in the rail yard due to an ADT overturn.**



- **TM said another issue raised was the traffic lights, with traffic backing up and lorries, causing queues. He asked if anyone could suggest a contact in Highways that we could speak to about changing the phasing of the traffic lights.**
- **JL said Leigh James at SGC would be the person to speak to.**
- **TM thanked JL and said he'd contact Leigh.**
- **TM said mud on the road was also raised as an issue.**
- **JB said there was more water being put on the quarry road to keep it clean, and next year installing a new wheel wash. Plus, we've increased**

the road sweeper from 3 days a week to 5 days a week. This should improve the situation.

- **TM said we also had a query about fly tipping and asked about CCTV. This is something we will be unable to do, but quarry operatives will keep an eye out. He said these was also queries about job opportunities, we direct them to Heidelberg Materials Careers page.**
- **JB said we also have permanent contractors on site, who often have vacancies.**
- **MB said the percentage of people due to retire in the next ten years is a significant number, and we need to attract young people.**

#### **5. AOB**

- **None**

#### **Contact details.**

**Email: [tytheringtonquarryenquiries@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com](mailto:tytheringtonquarryenquiries@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com) or call us on our freephone number 0800 160 1321**

**Tytherington Community Web page is [www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/tytherington-quarry](http://www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/tytherington-quarry)**

**Heidelberg Careers [www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en](http://www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en)**

#### **Summary of Actions**

- 1. MMB to upload approved minutes from previous to community page.**
- 2. MMB to upload draft minutes from this meeting to the community page and circulate to members.**
- 3. JB to review the efficiency of the pumps in Grove End and share the data at the next meeting electric v diesel.**
- 4. JB to investigate why residents no longer hear the blast siren. It was located on the North Face gate when it was last heard.**
- 5. JB to investigate why residents can hear the asphalt plant operator on the night shift talking to lorry drivers.**
- 6. MB to invite asphalt to attend the next meeting to show the group the process.**
- 7. AD to speak to Jill at Tytherington PC reference its tree survey.**

**Proposed dates for next 4 meetings**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 17:30**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 17:30**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 17:30**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 17:30**

**[ENDS]**

DRAFT