

**Hingston Down quarry
Community Liaison Group Meeting
8th February 2024
Meeting Room at Hingston Down quarry**

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

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| David Adams (DA) | Gunnislake Community Matters |
| Cllr Alex Polglase (AP) | Calstock Parish Council |
| Cllr Richard Newton-Chance (RNC) | Calstock Parish Council |
| Gill Court (GC) | Calstock Parish Council |
| David Jenkins (DJ) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Hingston Down quarry Unit Manager |
| Matt Carver (MC) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Hingston Down quarry Asphalt Production Manager |
| James Hynes (JH) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Estates Surveyor, Land & Minerals South |
| Michelle Beasley (MMB) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Secretariat |
| Mike Brown (MB) (CHAIR) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Southwest Area Operations Manager |

APOLOGIES AND MEMBERS ABSENT:

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| Joanne Addeems (JA) | Calstock Police Community Support Officer |
| Ed Davis (ED) | Callington Community College |
| Alexandra Hemming (AH) | Heidelberg Materials UK, Senior Landscape Architect |

AGENDA FOR HINGSTON DOWN QUARRY COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING

1. Welcome and introduction - Chair Mike Brown.

- **Welcome and chair introductions.**
- **Apologies.**
- **Agree Terms of Reference.**
- **Matters arising from the last meeting.**

2. Asphalt Production – Matt Carver, Asphalt Production Manager.

3. Hingston Down update – David Jenkins, Unit Manager, Hingston Down quarry.

- **Operations overview.**
- **Logistics.**
- **Feedback received (complaints).**
- **Environmental (including updates re blasting).**

4. Community update.

- **Community giving.**

5. Land and mineral planning update – James Hynes, Estates Surveyor, Land & Minerals South.

- **Planning update.**

6. AOBs.

7. Date for future meetings.

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Chair introduction.

- **MB introduced himself to the members and asked each member to introduce themselves.**
- **MB explained the agenda would cover the same topics for each meeting and would like to agree the terms of reference with the group before commencing the meeting. He said it was originally thought the meeting would take place quarterly but was decided amongst the group that every 4 months would be suffice.**
- **MB read through the Heidelberg Materials UK Terms of Reference. He asked the group if there was anyone else they could think of, that should be invited to the meetings in the future.**
- **MB said he would be a temporary chair and would like to elect someone from the group to take over in the future. He said the draft minutes from each meeting will be circulated, and at the next meeting the group will make changes/agree approved minutes.**
- **MB said there is a new email address for Hingston Down quarry, which will always be monitored, rather than email addresses for individuals that responses could be delayed due to annual leave/sick leave etc. The email address is hingstondownquarry@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com.**
- **MB asked the group if they agreed with the Terms of Reference, to which they all did. MB asked MMB to circulate the agreed Terms of Reference with the minutes.**

2. Asphalt Production

- **MC showed a video of the basic process of how Asphalt is produced.**
- **RNC asked about the gases that discharge from the unit, he said the smell must be associated with it. How do you monitor what is released into the atmosphere and how toxic is it?**
- **MC said the primary source of the smell is Bitumen. He said to store it, it is kept at an ambient temperature, but when getting ready to mix with aggregate to lay on a road, it's at an elevated temperature. At this higher temperature, light oils are released. These are not classed as toxic. If someone was exposed on a high level, it may cause issues, but in this case the smell only occurs when being loaded on to lorries, which is not harmful.**

- **RNC asked if there is any filtering in the process.**
- **MC said yes and no. He said when it's in the tower, there is extraction on mixing, but when being loaded on to a lorry for transportation, some will go into the open air.**
- **MB added that it is monitored.**
- **MC said if you experience smells, it will be from loading trucks. The other source of the smell is when discharging from tankers into our bitumen storage silos.**
- **MB asked how frequently you have deliveries of Bitumen.**
- **MC said once a day. He went on to say the weather can have an effect on the smell. For instance, if there is low pressure and a south easterly wind, the smell may be worse.**
- **MB said the mixing is all done enclosed and with filtering.**
- **RNC asked what is it that is coming out of the chimney, is that steam?**
- **MC confirmed it was steam.**
- **MB asked what temperature the burner was running at.**
- **MC said 180 degrees.**
- **GC said obviously gaseous and turns back to oil.**
- **MC said omit small amounts, will get the data for you.**
- **RNC asked where the aggregate came from, was it from Hingston Down quarry.**
- **MC said 90% of the aggregates come from Hingston Down quarry but some is brought in subject to the road surface specification.**
- **RNC asked if the EA monitored the discharge.**
- **MC said not the EA, but the Environmental Health do. He said dust and discharge are capped. We have annual testing, and quarterly servicing where the emissions are also tested. MC said he can provide data on the emissions.**
- **MB said the EA issues the permit, the EHO monitors.**
- **DNC asked what COSHH says.**

- **MC says the grades in severity, about 100. He said he could get COSHH data sheets to share.**
- **MB asked how far afield we are supplying to the end customer.**
- **MC said once mixed we have four hours to get it laid.**
- **DJ said within the quarry, he is limited to the times he can operate, whereas the asphalt operation can operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.**
- **RNC asked how often you do operate out of hours.**
- **MC said 40-50 nights in 2023. It's mainly for road resurfacing works for the council.**
- **GC asked if the business was expanding with its contracts.**
- **MC said last year it was, but statistics this year depends on the government.**
- **MB said volume is government-led with road infrastructure.**
- **GC asked if the works came in from Highways or the council.**
- **MC replied both, but the overnight work is normally National Highways.**
- **MB said Heidelberg Materials UK was creating zero carbon cement and said reducing the carbon emissions associated with asphalt production will also be looked at.**
- **MC said that products that mix at low temperatures, with fewer fumes is being driven by councils and central government. Steps are being made to improve but it takes time. He said he would also get a COSHH data sheet for fumes.**

3. Hingston Down quarry update

Operational and logistics overview

- **DJ said the material produced from the quarry was a micro granite, which is abrasive and hard. It's not polished and is used in pavements etc. The processing plant produces aggregate at 200 tonnes an hour, loaded at the rock face with a 53-tonne excavator and then delivered to the primary crusher by two x 50-tonne dumper trucks.**
- **DJ said development had increased on the eastern side of "Lawrence Land".**
- **DJ said there was a new water discharge pump in lower level 4, to allow for "Horseshoe" reserve removal on level 3.**



- **DJ said the level 5 benches on the southern side were to be developed.**
- **DJ said there was a plan in place to improve and raise standards on our operational efficiencies.**
- **DJ pointed out on the photo of the quarry which sections of land belongs to who.**
- **RNC asked, are you planning to get rid of the bench with the concrete plant sat on it.**
- **DJ said yes, eventually. We're working out to the east.**
- **DJ said there was a capital project investment for structural works and wash plant development.**
- **MB said a mobile wash plant will be installed on the land known as "Lawrence Land" on the eastern side of the workings. It will produce 150 tonnes an hour, which will be fed with a loading shovel. Materials will be moved backwards and forwards with either road lorries or a dumper truck.**

- MB said Hingston Down is the only granite quarry in the southwest. The others are mostly limestone with one quarry being sand and gravel.
- RNC said there are a lot of copper mines in this area, does mineral deposits like copper affect the quality of the material.
- DJ said it doesn't cause an issue with the quality of the material, but it does cause havoc with the metal detectors on the plant. The detectors are to stop metal dropping into the crusher and causing damage.
- DJ said he would continue to make contacts and get more involved with local stakeholders.

Blasting

- DJ said he was currently blasting on levels 1-5.
- DJ said blasting in the quarry in 2023 was done 12 times over the whole year.
- DJ said of the 12 blasts shot in 2023, 4 complaints were received.
- DJ went on to explain how blasts were monitored. He said vibration, which is measured as Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) in millimetres per second. (mm/s), and Air Over Pressure (AOP) which is recorded in decibel (Linear) or (dBL) scale.
- DJ said Hingston Down quarry has planning permission for blasting, which has a limit for vibrations of 12mm/s, where 95% of the blasts must be below 8mm/s to remain compliant.



2023
PPV
 Highest: 6.40 mm/s
 (on the Eastern side monitoring device, no complaints registered)
AOP
 Highest: 125 dBL
 (on the Western side monitoring device, no complaints registered)
 These 2 readings were not linked. Being in April and July.

- DJ said every blast has a minimum of two vibrographs for monitoring, these are always placed in the same two properties. East and West of the main extraction area.
- MB said both the EHO and the local authority's mineral planning team ensure we comply with the planning conditions. He said blasting is highly regulated and each blast is designed to a specification, which is very detailed. He said we have to notify the HSE immediately if there was a misfire or any other non-compliant occurrence, but it happens very rarely in the UK quarrying sector.
- DJ said the first blast this year was on 15th January, providing 35,877 tonnes of rock.
- DJ said the second blast of the year was planned for Thursday 15th February and will provide an estimated 25,000 tonnes of rock.
- DJ said he could notify residents that would like to know blasting dates and times if he could get a list.

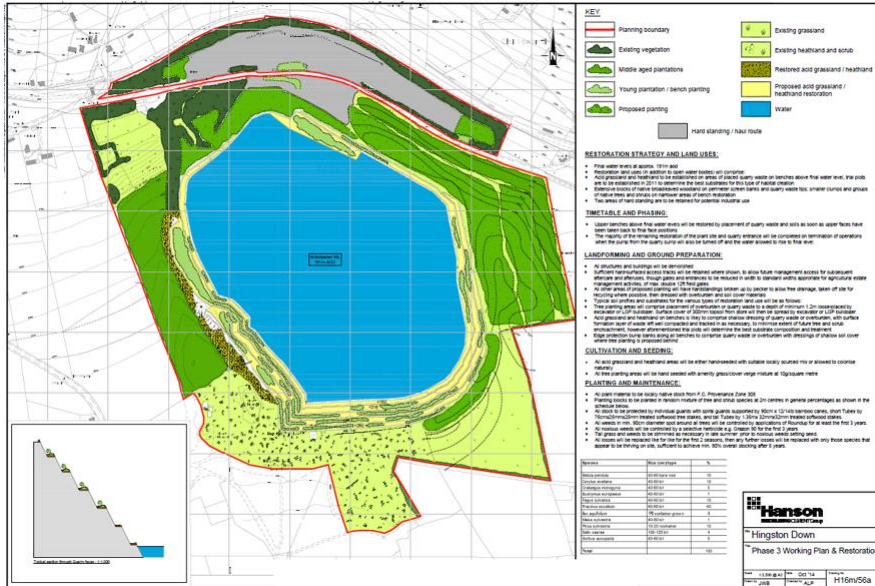
Feedback received (complaints)

- DJ showed the group a list of 6 complaints received since the last liaison meeting. There were 4 complaints about noise, 1 about water and 1 about lorries travelling too fast.
- MB said without more information on speeding lorries, it was difficult to identify them and speak with them and their managers. Registration numbers would be ideal, but failing that the date, time, and description of the lorry would help.
- MB asked the group if they are aware of anything that may be happening to highlight it, and in the future send an email to the Hingston Down quarry mailbox.
- RNC said the lights are left on regularly at night, there's a lot of light pollution from the tower.
- MB said DJ and MC would investigate and thanked RNC for raising.

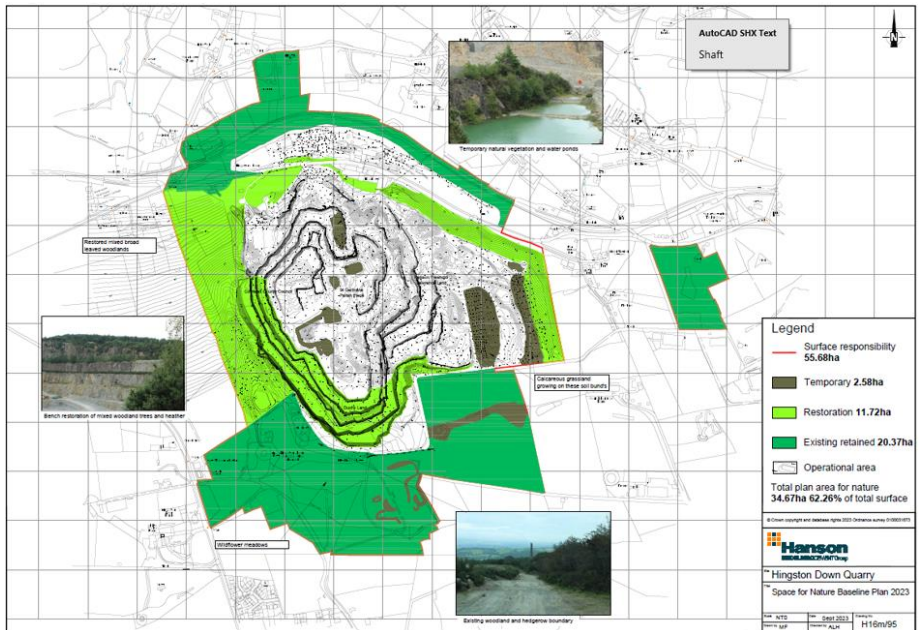
Environmental update

- JH showed the group the approved restoration designed for the quarry, that comprises habitat creation to woodland, acid grassland and heathland, and a water body as we work beneath the water table.
- JH said the finished restoration plan shows water levels to be at 190 asl (metres above average sea level)
- RNC asked how deep it will be when all quarrying is finished.

- JH said he would check the plans and advise.
- MB said planning doesn't get granted unless you have an "end plan".
- JH agreed with MB and said the planning process from start to finish takes into consideration lots of things, including the environment.



- MB said in six months, an amendment to the original planning application would be submitted because the scale of the area that was going to be the tip, will not have to be as large due the increased sale of the materials that were envisaged to be tipped. He said we'll go into more detail at the next meeting.
- JH said a "Space for Nature" plan had been produced for Hingston Down quarry, documenting that 62.6% of the surface responsibility is dedicated to nature either through retained land, restored land or temporary habitat e.g., water lagoons.



- **JH said the plans had been produced of the back of Heidelberg Materials UK sustainability targets that every operational, extractive site has at least 15% of its surface area dedicated to nature. He said the plans will be updated every three years.**



**Hingston Down Quarry
Site Biodiversity Action Plan**



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| Prepared: November 2009 | Updated: 1 st October 2013 9 th January 2019 2 nd January 2024 |
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Site Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

- **JH said the BAP aims to identify, enhance, and expand target habitats for the benefit of nature. At Hingston Down quarry the BAP focuses on:**
 - 1. The maintenance of existing heathland pockets as well as the creation of such habitats through restoration.**
 - 2. Improving and enhancing the woodland habitats on site as well as the creation of new woodland through quarry restoration.**
 - 3. Control of non- native invasive species i.e. Japanese knotweed and Himalayan Balsam.**
- **JH said a biennial aftercare report is produced every 2 years for submission to CCC that documents work carried out as part of restoration and biodiversity and land management works. (last submitted 2023)**
- **MB said the Site Biodiversity Action Plan can be found on Hingston Down quarry's web page.**
- **JH said as of 2023 we have successfully eradicated the non-native invasive species, Himalayan balsam. This annual weed grows prolifically and especially alongside waterways and is a serious threat to our native habitats as it swamps areas of grassland and woodland. It has taken 10 years to achieve this at a cost of c. £20k.**
- **JH said in 2022 we restored level 5 bench with soils and in 2023 we set up a series of bench restoration trial plots to look at the best way of establishing woodland and acid grassland/ heathland restoration. We've used active planting with 625 native trees and shrubs (including field maple, sweet chestnut, dogwood, hazel, hawthorn, spindle, beech, holly, crab apple, oak, cherry, and rowan) and wildflower seeding, natural regeneration as a control and we will be adding heather brashings collected on site this autumn to some of the trial plots.**



4. Community

- **DJ said in 2023, Hingston Down quarry had supported the community on several occasions. He said Calstock in Bloom received a financial donation towards their Mediterranean Garden, a donation towards Chilsworthy Defibrillator Appeal and for the Latchley Chilsworthy & Cox Park Show programme.**
- **DJ said as well as financial donations, he was currently working with Gunnislake Cricket Club to possibly provide them with a material donation in 2024, had organised for members of the liaison meeting to visit the quarry and watch a blast and also supported Gunnislake Community matters by fulfilling their requested of a quarry tour and watch a blast as a prize for their Christmas draw to raise funds.**

- **MB said as well as monetary and material donations, we can also offer help with our staff as each one gets volunteering days.**
- **RNC said it was possible he would require support for a skate park.**
- **MB said RNC was welcome to come and see DJ to discuss. He said we can't make any promises but can open a conversation about the possibility.**
- **AP said she was dealing with the skate park and would call in to discuss with DJ.**



5. Land and mineral planning update

ROMP (review of mineral planning) PA11/06672 – dated 5th March 2023.

- **JH explained to the group that the ROMP (review of mineral planning) is not Heidelberg Materials UK applying for a new planning permission, it's just checking the conditions are current and up to date of the planning permission in place.**
- **JH said under the Environment Act 1995 Heidelberg Materials submitted an application to determine the conditions relating to Hingston Down quarry. He said the aim of this submission and the aim of the ROMP procedure was to establish a modern set of operating planning conditions to govern future development of the quarry.**

- JH said this permission consolidated four previous permissions; two of which were originally Interim Development Orders (IDO). He said the ROMP Reviews are done periodically every 15 years. Next periodic review at Hingston Down quarry will be in 2028.

Consented hours of operation

- JH advised the group of consented operating hours for Hingston Down quarry, he said mineral working hours of production and dispatch: 6am – 6pm Mon – Fri & 6am – 1pm Sat, and Asphalt production & dispatch is 24 hours per day.

Future Planning

- JH said an application would be made seeking a temporary five year permission to relocate the wash plant from the quarry void to the eastern tip.
- MB said this application is an amendment to the current planning and not a new application.

6. AOB

- None

7. Proposed dates for next meetings

- Thursday 13th June 2024 16:30
- Thursday 14th November 2024 16:30
- MB asked the group if they were ok with the proposed dates, to which they replied yes, he also reminded them to pass on details of anyone else they could think of that should be invited to this meeting.

Contact details.

Email: hingstondownquarry@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com

Hingston Down Community Web page

www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en//Hanson-Aggregates-Hingston-Quarry

Heidelberg Careers Web page

www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en

Summary of Actions

- 1. MMB to upload draft minutes to community page.**
- 2. MMB to send out agreed Terms of Reference with minutes.**
- 3. MC to provide data on emissions that omit.**
- 4. MC to provide COSHH data sheet for Bitumen.**
- 5. MC to clarify chemical makeup of any light oils that may be released in the air.**
- 6. DJ to collate a list of residents who would like to know when blasting.**
- 7. DJ & MC to investigate lights being left on.**
- 8. JH to get details on how deep the water will be when the quarrying is finished and fully restored.**
- 9. MB more detail on planning for the tip for the next meeting.**

[ENDS]