

**Machen Quarry Liaison Group Meeting on**

**Tuesday, 10 September 2024**

**Meeting Room at Machen Quarry**



## **Draft Minutes**

### **Present:**

Julian Radcliffe (Area Operations Manager, Heidelberg Materials)

Cllr Chris Morgan (Caerphilly CBC)

Cllr Amanda McConnell (Caerphilly CBC)

Joanna Pitman (Resident - Machen)

Amanda Webb (Resident - Risca)

Cllr Jon Watts (Bassaleg Ward)

Cllr Philippa Leonard (Caerphilly CBC)

### **Apologies:**

Astrid Dahl (Heidelberg Materials)

Cllr Ceri Wright (Caerphilly CBC)

Cllr John Harris (Newport CBC)

### **Introduction**

JR introduced himself and asked attendees to introduce themselves and their role on the Liaison Group. JR advised the purpose of the meeting was to engage and interact with stakeholders and the community and be a better neighbour.

Machen Quarry has been operating for 100+ years. For 4 years, the Quarry didn't operate and from 2016, production has increased massively.

JW expressed concern over the volume of traffic through Bassaleg. This has increased as production has and via rail also.

AM mentioned about the dust pile as contacted by a local resident. JR asked that the photo be sent to him and he'll further investigate. The dead trees have not yet been replaced, these will be done in the winter months.

JR confirmed that there is no plan to extend the Quarry. The boundaries are limited. However there is potential on the Risca side.

JR advised that a community website is being developed and should be live within 1-2 weeks. Liaison Group will initially meet quarterly, with the frequency of meetings being reviewed and agreed annually.

Heidelberg Materials site management and company specialists will attend meetings subject to the Agenda.

All Members agreed the following Aims:

- To provide an information exchange between Heidelberg Materials and local communities.
- To facilitate communication, share information and engage in balanced discussions.
- To provide residents and interested groups with an opportunity to discuss matters arising from site operations and future proposals.

### **Constitution & Terms of Reference provided by Heidelberg Materials**

The above was circulated and agreed by the Members.

### **Liaison Group Membership**

- Election of Chair – **Cllr Chris Morgan**
- Election of Vice-Chair – **Cllr Jon Watts**
- Election of Secretary - **Heidelberg Materials**

### **Machen Quarry update from JR**

#### Operational overview

#### Production volumes as of August 2024

- Production volumes: 808,200t
- Total sales: 849,900t
- Out of which via rail: 570,433t
- Production target full year: 949,700t

## 2024 so far

- Uskmouth project (150kt) via rail in March / April
- Usual rail volumes: Jumbo Train 5 evenings a week, 2x day trains a week, plus occasional Saturdays
- Level 11 final strip completed
- Asphalt recycling commenced in August
- Community Support: 100t of material donated to the Machen Agricultural Show, Repairs carried out to repair Machen Welfare Car Park, material donation for war memorial at BTM council offices

Discussions took place on the different levels of the Quarry when blasting. JR will provide a map showing the different levels of the Quarry at the next meeting.

The blasting is monitored at Park Farm and have in the past at various other sites both in Machen and Risca. Happy to do more if requested. AW asked if they could monitor near Dan y Graig Cemetery in Risca.

Records of complaints are kept by Machen Quarry but not specific to each Level of the Quarry Site.

JR happy to arrange a tour of the Quarry for the Members.

Meeting finished at 19:13 due to an incident with the entrance bridge and the possibility of the road being closed. JR apologized and will arrange a new meeting date.