

Stanton Moor Mineral Liaison Group (SMMLG)

Draft minutes of meeting held on Monday 22 February 2016

Members Present

Paul Morris – Stanton in Peak Parish Council (PM)
Andy Tickle – Friends of the Peak District (AT)
Howard Griffith – Stanton against the destruction of our environment (SADE) (HG)
Geoffrey Henson – Stanton Lees Action Group (SLAG) (GH)
Andrew Gregory – Blockstone Ltd (AG)
Steve Boam - Stancliffe Stone Ltd (SB)
Adrian Davie -Thornhill – Thornhill Settlement (ADT)
Roger Caisley - Birchover Stone Ltd (RC)
Kath Potter – Rowsley Parish Council
Jane Newman – PDNPA Acting Mineral Team Manager (JEN)

In attendance

John Scott – PDNPA Director of Conservation and Planning (JRS) – Chair

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from the following:

The following members did not attend:

Haddon Estates
Birchover Parish Council

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

3. Chair's Report

John Scott explained that since the last meeting the Chair of the group, Professor Tony Crook, had resigned as he was in dispute with the Authority over a planning matter relating to his property. As a result he felt that it was not possible for him to continue in his role as Chair. As there had not been sufficient time since the last meeting to approach and appoint a new chair so John Scott asked the Group if they were happy for him to chair this meeting. There was agreement to this.

4. Approval of minutes of last meeting (29 June 2015)

Subject to the comments below, the minutes were **agreed** as an accurate record.

5. Matters Arising

- HG explained that the change of email address was not a recent change, having been his email address for the last 18 months.
- 6 (a) - HG said that the letter had not been circulated. JEN explained that this was now in the public domain.
- 7 – HG requested full consultation on any new applications. JEN explained that there was an existing application has been held in abeyance since 2012, pending consideration of a ROMP.
- PM asked if the SMMLG can agree the minutes before they are reported to Planning Committee. JEN said that we can take any issues arising when necessary, and saw no reason why we could not to take minutes already agreed in principle by the liaison group to Planning Committee if that was the Group's preference.

6. Dale View Quarry

a. Wire Saw Bases

SB explained that PM had come to look at the site after the last meeting – the company's intention is to render the stands unusable and remove the steelwork.

PM said he had taken up the invitation and agreed that removing all the concrete work was not necessary as it would create further noise and vehicle movements. Could also move the diesel tanks to a less obvious position. Overall balance of advantage is to retain with modifications and some covering up of bases.

JEN – this would need planning permission.

HG – this is a personal view of PM, not the community view. PM accepted this. HG also said that the building should be moved under the permission. JEN agreed that the current permission says this, but the new permission will not. HG questioned this and was referred to committee papers by JEN.

SB – acknowledged the reputation issues for the company and that mistakes had been made; he explained that there had been a management restructure

PM asked what steps the Authority could take to remove the bases. JEN said we could take enforcement action if considered to be “expedient” – this is discretionary.

b. Amendment to Planning Permission NP/DDD/0606/0316

JEN explained that this is the application being referred to in 6a. The decision notice and section 106 agreement are drafted and ready to go, following a meeting with the company next week. She had intended to share the draft with HG and GH, but thought she should agree it with the company first.

HG said that in June 2015 he had asked for a report on which conditions were being changed (see last minutes). JRS stated that the Committee report in 2013 had explained what was proposed and that this with the draft conditions when available would provide HG with the information he sought.

c. Unauthorised stocking at Rowsley Wood Yard

JEN reported that officers had met with the company in October 2015, who were trying to resolve this matter (storage use of wood yard for stone, without planning permission).

In response to HG question, SB explained traffic movements from DVQ and how these related to the Rowsley Wood Yard use. Steve Boam outlined that the yard had been used to allow Stancliffe to sort stone to meet the specifications of the Bloomberg contract, and that the use was associated with this contract which was coming to an end. HG queried whether stone output figures at DVQ are monitored. JEN advised they are, but are commercially sensitive and therefore not public info, but that no breach has occurred.

JRS said that the company need to resolve this as soon as possible.

HG asked questions about stockpiling, which SB and JEN answered and said the company are not in breach of forthcoming conditions at Dale View Quarry in this respect.

Other matters arising: JEN explained that the NPA proposes to give statutory consultees including Parish Councils an extension of 7 days to respond to an application, taking the period to 28 days for consultation, rather than the 21 days or unspecified extension period currently set out in regulations.

7. Stanton Moor Quarry/New Pilhough Quarry

JEN explained that the 2012 application for NPQ was still in abeyance, but she now has some draft plans which would be used to “restart” the application. Further plans and information had also been received on the SMQ ROMP, which had bene publicised.

PM asked for an explanation of the relationship between the various applications/ROMP. JEN and JRS explained this. The 2011 application was for a swap of SMQ permission for 120,000 tonnes at NPQ – this was refused and was the subject of the now withdrawn appeal. In 2012 a further application for a 90,000 tonne exchange was submitted – this is in abeyance pending the ROMP determination and is now likely to be revised to a tonnage of 50,000 tonnes

HG asked for a written summary from officers in order to provide some clarity.

JEN explained the situation by referring to a plan of the sites on Stanton Moor. She is currently assessing the draft revised application and considers that as it is a reduced scheme, the Environmental Statement is still largely relevant, though a landscape assessment of the revised scheme would be necessary. .

KP LEFT THE MEETING AT 18:55.

AG explained the Company's position on the volume of stone in SMQ.

HG asked whether the company could work SMQ if the exchange is refused. JEN said that the NPA has an independent report which shows that there is a reserve of stone which would be viable and realistic for extraction.

AG gave a brief update on the restoration of NPQ

JRS agreed that when consulting on the forthcoming revised information and working plans at New Pilhough a letter to all consultees needs to set out the situation in more detail than the standard letters. JRS added that all people who had made a representation would be contacted to advise them of the revised information.

HG expressed surprise and disappointment that AG/IK (at the last meeting) hadn't mentioned the HSE fine from the face slippage incident and the failure to carry out a geological survey.

AG explained that there is a disagreement on how often they should be carried out and that this was the first time this had happened in the 55-60 year history of the company.

JEN explained NPA were aware of this case.

PM said the Parish Council were made aware of the incident by the company when they visited the site, but not of the fine.

HG asked if HSE will be consulted on the application. JEN confirmed that they would.

8. Birchover Quarry

An up-date from Chris Drury (Senior Minerals Planner dealing with this site) was given by JEN:

- The top of the tip has been removed. Tip material gone to Barton Hill, regrading now suspended because of winter.
- Complaint received about noise – now working with the doors shut, as required.

RC gave a further up-date

- Section 73 application to cover new building design submitted, with JRS for signing off.
- Installed 6 nesting boxes

Highways – PM explained that he had had a meeting with Highways on the location of the access and referred to “bureaucratic nonsense” of moving restriction sign – asked if NPA can put any pressure on DCC on this.

AT asked about amended plan for a stile – RC said they have not done this as the company is uneasy about making it a gate because the land beyond is uneven.

JEN explained that it will remain a stile because the land it accesses can only be accessed by stile.

HG asked about new planting in Stanton Lees direction. RC explained that the plan is for it to revert back to heather heath, getting rid of vegetation in preparation for heather brash.

AOB: JRS announced that Jane Newman has been appointed as Acting Minerals Manager following the retirement of David Bent. The appointment is to 1 October, pending a review of the structure of the Directorate.

The Chair closed the meeting at 19.25.