

AGENDA ITEM No. 4.1

PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

SPECIAL AUTHORITY MEETING

18 SEPTEMBER 2009

STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

PART A

FULL APPLICATION - EXTRACTION OF FLUORSPAR ORE AND ASSOCIATED VEIN MINERAL BY OPEN PIT METHODS FROM AN EXTENSION TO THE WORKINGS AT TEARSALL, SOUTH DARLEY (NP/DDD/0208/0104, MIN10213, 30/01/08, 426201/360188)

The following letters of objection to the application have been received and were not reported in the initial Report.

Friends of the Peak District - Letter dated 8 September 2009 states that objections were raised previously, and these concerns still exist. The letter states that insufficient use is being made of permitted reserves at Milldam Mine, and still seeks an undertaking that Glebe would source a high proportion of ore from Milldam as a condition of a permission at Tearsall. The Friends aim is to ensure that, in the future, fluorspar is extracted only by underground working. The Friends state that they recognise the value of the offer not to work Peak Pasture, but view those as limited and unproven reserves. The letter reiterates that although the Court of Appeal has set a limestone: fluorspar ratio of 2:1 at Longstone Edge, this will still cause considerable damage to a large area. As a result the Friends view that judgement as having a marginal effect on the value of the planning agreement. The Friends state that Peak Pasture and adjoining unworked areas are very sensitive in terms of landscape, ecology, culture and amenity, and protecting this area is a high priority. The letter states that planning agreements that will protect Longstone Edge are welcomed and, in principle, are in the public interests, although must be balanced against the negative impact of extraction at Tearsall. However the Friends believe that this application would only remove the threat of working Peak Pasture for a relatively short period and a much longer moratorium on working that area, or a permanent relinquishment is preferable.

Tony Symes, Parish Councillor, South Darley Parish Council - E-Mail received 2 September 2009 stating that his original objections still apply and there is now very little planning gain and what there would be would be only temporary.

A resident of Wensley - E-mail sent to Members 15 September 2009 stating that the buyout option was not pressed in the January report, nor at the Authority meeting. Furthermore he states that Bleaklow Industries Ltd, not just Glebe, have a legal right over the 1952 area. He believes that officers are bending over backwards to support this application, and this is "moving the goalposts". He draws attention to the doubt over fluorspar reserves at Longstone Edge, especially the fact that there is less ore at Longstone Edge and the

extraction costs are probably more. Therefore he believes that the 1952 area is not financially valuable, borne out by the delay in extraction there. He points out that Glebe own Milldam mine which has 2.2 million tons of fluorspar. He states that the USA have relied on imported and manufactured fluorspar. He also believes that the impact on the jobs at Cavendish Mill has been overstated as this application has been subject to 8 months delay already. He considers that the application should be refused.