

12. STANTON MOOR MINERAL LIAISON GROUP AND CONSULTATION ON MINERAL PLANNING MATTERS IN THE STANTON MOOR AREA (JRS)

Introduction

In March 2014 Planning Committee resolved to establish the Stanton Moor Mineral Liaison Group (SMMLG). The group was established to operate at an arm's length and allow stakeholders (including mineral operators, parish councils, and community groups) to:

- disseminate factual information
- discuss problems relating to the mineral working and to be part of the practical response
- allow participants to understand their respective roles and responsibilities
- express and listen to each other's views
- ensure information is available to all stakeholders on a consistent and straightforward basis
- to provide an opportunity to discuss forthcoming development proposals
- to discuss day to day concerns about quarry operations and their impacts
- work to establish a better working relationship between the stakeholders
- promote the engagement of those with "protected" characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010

The Authority established the terms of operation of the Liaison Group. The Group is chaired by an independent chair, Professor Tony Crook. It is composed of representatives of the mineral companies operating on and around Stanton Moor, representatives of Stanton in Peak, Birchover and Rowsley Parish Councils, local landowners, local community group representatives and Friends of the Peak District, together with Authority Officers. Minutes are taken by an Authority officer.

Four meetings of the group have now been held, with the latest on 29 June 2015. The minutes of the first meeting held on 30 June 2014 were reported to Committee in November 2014 for information and noting, together with recommendations on the structure of the group, on future consultation arrangements on mineral planning applications in the area and endorsing the use of the Stanton Moor principles as a basis for the Liaison Group discussions.

The minutes of the three subsequent meetings (October 2014, March 2015 and June 2015) have not yet been reported to the Planning Committee, so the purpose of this report is to do this, noting that the minutes of the meeting on 29 June have been agreed by the Chair of the Group (Professor Tony Crook) and have been circulated, but they have not yet been considered by the Liaison Group. The next meeting is provisionally scheduled for October 2015.

The Director of Planning has attended 3 of the 4 meetings, whilst the Senior Minerals Planner has attended 3, missing the last one through illness. Both officers have meetings with the Chair of the Group to set the agenda and review the progress of the Group. At the last review meeting in April both the Director and the Chair agreed that the Liaison Group was serving its purpose and meeting its initial objectives. The Members of the Group endorsed this view when they met on 29 June.

RECOMMENDATION:

- i) **That the minutes of the Stanton Moor Minerals Liaison Group of October 2014, March 2015 and June 2015 are noted.**
- ii) **That the Stanton Moor Minerals Liaison Group continues to operate as constituted in 2014.**

Human Rights

Any human rights issues have been considered and addressed in the preparation of this report.

List of Background Papers (not previously published)

Minutes for Stanton Moor Mineral Liaison Group October 2014, March 2015 and June 2015:
attached as appendices