

Stanton Moor Mineral Liaison Group (SMMLG)

Draft minutes of meeting held on Monday 29th June 2015

Members Present

Prof Tony Crook – Chair

Sue Fogg – Stanton in Peak Parish Council (SF), in place of Paul Morris (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)

Andrew Prince - Birchover Parish Council (BE)

In attendance

John Scott – PDNPA Director of Planning (JRS)

Clare Wilkins – PDNPA Policy Planning Support Officer (acting as minutes clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from the following:

Jane Newman - PDNPA Senior Minerals Planner (JN)

The following members did not attend:

Haddon Estates

Cllr Kath Potter – The Chair confirmed that the Clerk of Rowsley Parish Council had written to confirm that Cllr Kath Potter is still the representative of Rowsley P. C. It was **noted** that Cllr Potter has only attended the first meeting of the Group and it was **agreed** to seek advice from the Authority's Democratic Services Officer about the continuing membership of Authority committees and groups if members missed three or more meetings.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair **reported** that he had met with JRS in April and that JRS believed that the Group was achieving its objectives and making good progress in keeping members informed about planning policy and planning decisions and about the operations of the quarries. The Planning Committee had agreed to keep the group going and to confirm the appointment of the current Chair. The Chair had received a copy of the Planning

Inspectorate's recent appeal decision on Dale View Quarry (see later in agenda). He had also met Jane Newman for an update meeting and to agree the agenda for this meeting.

4. Approval of minutes of last meeting (9th March 2015)

HG had not received a copy of these minutes until 2.30pm that day, nor had any correspondence regarding the meeting been received. JRS apologised, but in JN's unexpected absence through illness he had stepped into the meeting at the last minute and was not sure what had gone out due to JN's absence. SF queried whether there was an official timescale for issuing minutes? The Chair explained that there had been delays in him receiving a draft of the last minutes and even though he had submitted amendments to JRS by return these had not been actioned for a number of weeks. He asked that there should be no such delays in the future. . JRS **agreed** to get the minutes issued as soon as possible and apologised for the previous delays

SF queried where the minutes were published? JRS advised that they go to the Planning Committee and are therefore published on the committee section of the website. SF could only find October 2014 minutes on here. The Chair would like the draft unapproved minutes to go to the Planning Committee, but the Chair of Planning Committee preferred only the approved minutes to be reported to that committee Previous discussion had taken place regarding this at the last meeting of the Group and it had been agreed that the minutes agreed by the chair would go to the subsequent committee noting that they had not yet been approved by the Group..

JRS advised that if the March 2015 minutes could be agreed today then they could go to the next Planning Committee.

Andy Tickle (AT) clarified with reference to point 4 of the minutes that he had queried whether there was an option to have notification of amendments in the form of a weekly list. It was **agreed** to change this minute to reflect this point.

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

5. Matters Arising

- Further to AT's point regarding whether there was an option to get additional information onto a weekly list of amendments, JRS **reported** that he would look into how best to do this, but he confirmed his view that the weekly list was not the best way to do this. He advised that consultees and third parties (including FoPD) should be notified of any significant changes to proposals, so he would repeat this instruction to the Planning Service.
- It was noted in the last minutes (point 5) that the report agreed by Planning Committee on 14th November 2014 regarding which parishes would be consulted on mineral related proposals would be circulated. JRS apologised that this had not been done and would action this point.
- SF gave an update on Highways matters in the absence of Paul Morris. The road sign survey had been done 17th June 2015. The next step was for a meeting with County Highways to discuss all signage around Stanton Moor. There had been

numerous incidents with Enthoven lorries recently. Once Paul Morris returns he will contact Highways. SB noted that the lorry incidents had a knock on effect on the quarries. SF advised that Highways were not forthcoming on this matter. The Chair queried whether it would be helpful if he wrote to them. It was **agreed** that this would be useful. SF advised that the police are not interested unless there is an accident, so the Parish Council are currently logging incidents with Trading Standards.

6. Dale View Quarry

6a) – Appeal: JRS advised that the first opportunity Planning Committee will have to discuss this is on 10th July 2015. JRS has circulated the decision to members with a summary, as is his normal practice. JRS made it clear in his summary that the decision in this appeal was specific to this area due to the tranquillity of the moor. SB queried why there were pop concerts here if noise was a problem (the recent solstice and Exile concert). JRS advised that PDNPA have no control over unplanned events or events that do not require planning permission. The 28 day rule allows certain activities to happen without planning permission, even in a National Park. Environmental Health can regulate but the assessment is different to judging planning applications. It was established that the Exile concert was outside of the national park.

6b) Amendment to planning permission NP/DDD/0606/0316; SF noted that this planning reference was incorrect, and that it should end with 0613. In JN's absence JRS was not familiar with the detail of this planning application, but he advised that it had been approved by Planning Committee in 2014 and was awaiting a section 106 agreement. It was not a new permission, but a variation of an existing one. It was **agreed** that that JN would give an update on her return and contact members. JRS noted that the removal of conditions was not a relaxation of the permission, but were being removed as they were out of date. GH noted that a number of the conditions were to be implemented within two years but had not been done. The Chair asked if a list of conditions could be compiled noting which had been complied with. The Chair advised that he would ask JN to issue a note, which he would like to see first. *(NB. Post meeting note: please see attached Planning Committee report, which dealt with the application).*

6c) The following update was reported by SB:

- Finished landscaping at tip and finished soil. Next was the outer rim restoration on the front and area in front to be tidied up.
- 3 sample colours have been painted on panels. Anyone is free to have a look. SB wondered whether it would be best to go back to original colour. JRS advised that if in doubt it was best to use a darker colour as this fades over time. JRS agreed that original colour (dark brown) might be the best.
- SB asked that the walls on Lees Road be looked at for repair.
- GH asked that now appeal had been lost, when was the unauthorised development relating to the saws to be removed? SB advised that he wasn't sure what the company decision was on this. JRS advised that PDNPA would also be looking into this and that Stancliffe Stone should advise PDNPA what they think their alternative options are, other than removal. JRS advised that the unlawful structures would not be classed as an enforcement priority at the moment because work had ceased when instructed by the PDNPA and they are not readily visible

from outside the site; however, he would not expect them to remain without permission. GH raised concerns about this. ADT also noted that a further planning application could be submitted with regards to the saws. The Chair stated that the Group's minutes would record that some members had emphasised that enforcement action for the removal of the base should be prioritised by PDNPA.

7. Stanton Moor/New Pilhough

7a) - Prohibition Order: It was noted at the last meeting that PDNPA had hoped for a resolution May/June 2015 but this is still outstanding. JRS advised that he had a meeting with legal advisers arranged for tomorrow and would then meet with AG and his team. JRS thinks PDNPA may now have enough information for the ROMP to progress so that recommendations could go to Planning Committee in 3-4 months, but he needs a discussion with legal advisers and AG first. ADT queried why so much more information was being requested when there was enough information in 2013. JRS advised that the PDNPA must have sufficient information to defend a legally sound decision. If it is agreed there is a workable quantity in the ground then a swap could be considered, in accordance with the Stanton Moor Principles. Currently the geotechnical consultants employed by Blockstone and the PDNPA disagree on the amount of reserves. The Chair concluded that it is desirable for all parties involved if a decision is made as soon as possible. HG stated that when a decision is issued it would have to be made clear what is involved in any report on the PDNPA's website.

The following update was reported by AG:

- Operations were continuing as normal
- Minor works to the tip had taken place
- Proceeding with ROMP

8. Birchover Quarry

The following update was reported by RC:

- They had now received two planning permissions, one for the extension of the quarry and one for the reduction of the tip. They are working on the conditions required;
- Acoustic consultants had been employed to improve noise insulation in existing and approved stone sheds;
- Ecologists were working on additional surveys and restoration, enhancing and landscaping. They had found nesting birds on the tip which may affect timing.
- Highways – had done what they can regarding traffic management. The advice note to contractors had been amended. Highways have informally agreed signs. They are waiting on Highways to look at condition of access and traffic management for the tip to Dungeon site.
- Archaeological consultants – watching brief drafted. Consulted with PDNPA, submission relatively soon.

The Group thanked RC for the report and the progress being made in terms of planning requirements and the timescales involved.

The Chair queried whether it was usual to give contractors information on routes. This is common practice but the problems created by lorries are not those related to the quarries but with Enthoven.

HG was pleased to hear that the acoustic work was taking place as there is a certain amount of noise and the doors tend to be open. RC advised that the main saws will stay in the existing shed and smaller equipment will be moved. As far as possible the doors were kept closed when there was no movement. ADT queried whether the noise had been raised as an issue. RC recalled a complaint from campers 3 years ago. HG said there was some lack of understanding over who to complain to. JRS confirmed if the complaint related to a planning condition then complaints should go to PDNPA, otherwise if it was from long established use complaints should go to Derbyshire Dales EHO.

9. AOB

JRS raised the Barn Farm, Barton Hill, Birchover campsite appeal decision – this can be circulated/viewed if anyone was interested (APP/M9496/W/15/3005019).

The Chair closed the meeting at 1915. It was agreed to hold the next meeting in October 2015.