

Downton Manor Farm Community Liaison Group

Notes of Meeting at Milford-on-Sea 21st May 2010

Present:

Mr. John Hatchard – Chairman.
Mr. Martin Affleck – Downton Caravan Park.
Cllr. Bob Bishop – Milford PC
Ms. Rosemary Box – HCC Minerals Planning
Mr. Steve Burton – DAMAGE
Mr. Darren Hazell – NMSB
Mrs. Angela Meads – HERITAGE
Cllr. Michael Pemberton – NFDC
Mr. Simon Pollock – Shorefield Country Park.
Mrs Julia Poole – Milford Environment Group
Mr. Trevor Poole – NMSB
Cllr. Jim Read – Milford PC
Mr. J Salmon – Land & Mineral Management Ltd (NMSB Consultant).

Non Attendees:

Cllr A Rice & Cllr M Kendal.

Apologies:

None received.

Agenda Items Covered:-

1 Terms of Reference

- (i) It was agreed that relevant issues concerning the Quarry Monitoring Reports, prepared by HCC following regular site visits, would be included in an Agenda Report by HCC (Rosemary Box) to the Group at each meeting.
- (ii) Rosemary Box will also endeavour to put monitoring reports on HCC's website. Other expert's reports may be displayed on the website if relevant.
- (iii) It was noted that whilst the meetings will not be held in public, the outcomes are not confidential.

2 Future Attendance

- (i) It was agreed that the **Milford Wildlife Recording Group** (Keith Metcalf) should be invited to attend.
- (ii) It was noted that the **Milford Environment Group** would continue to be represented by Julia Poole.

3 Frequency of Meetings

- (i) This Group meeting will take place at reasonable intervals (3 months minimum, 12 months maximum).
- (ii) Meeting frequency of this Group will be flexible depending on activity on site and the need to meet. The next meeting, a site visit, will be arranged for a date in October 2010.

4. Update On Quarry Development Progress

- (i) Following grant of planning permission various “schemes” have been prepared by consultants to satisfy planning conditions. These are being processed by HCC and are expected to be approved by 9th June.
- (ii) NMSB will shortly build an artificial badger sett and remove the existing seasonal sett under licence from Natural England.
- (iii) Construction of the access will commence in September/ October.
- (iv) Preparation work on Phase 1, including stripping of the soils and construction of the soil bunds and stores will also commence around that time.
- (v) Questions were asked about noise:-
 - (a) Apart from any bund construction, which would continue for 6 to 10 weeks, noise of activity on site would be limited to an excavator, a bulldozer and HGV lorries, which are limited by planning condition to 30 per day.
 - (b) No processing plant will be used on site, gravel will be washed at the existing Caird Avenue, New Milton site.
 - (c) All lorries will be under the direct control of NMSB, these will consist of Articulated and 8 wheeled/6 wheeled fixed axle tippers. They will all leave the site sheeted.
 - (d) Re-assurance was given that sufficient monitoring points exist to safeguard Shorefield Country Park.
 - (e) If it is thought necessary to increase the height of the noise bund, this will be subject to a further planning application.
 - (f) Any concerns relating to noise when the quarry is operational should be addressed to Rosemary Box.

- (g) Questions were asked about the location of dust monitoring stations, there being only one down-wind of the prevailing south-west air flow. These fixed stations will all be in use at any time. The Consultant, Dustscan, will be asked to confirm whether the numbers and locations of sites are sufficient to protect the residents of Everton and Hordle and the answer will be emailed to Group members.
- (h) The six year life of the deposit was questioned. Trevor Poole explained that with the need to conserve primary resources, NMSB has developed recycling to the point where recycled materials can replace some virgin sand and gravel. This is good for the environment and a lower output will reduce lorry and site activity but conversely the life of the operation will be proportionately extended. Before any decisions are reached to extend the life or change any part of the agreed development programme a planning application would be made. Future applications will be reported to the Liaison Group in advance.
- (i) Water management was questioned. There is concern that either the water table will dry up north of the Blackbush Stream or flood events would be exacerbated south of the Blackbush Stream. Trevor Poole explained that the water management scheme was designed by professional hydrologists to replicate the existing regime and not cause any change. It was agreed that at a future meeting of the Group (not the site meeting) the hydrologist would be asked to attend to explain how it works.
- (j) Martin Affleck questioned whether the new access could be used to gain access to Shorefield or Downton parks. The access is specifically designed for the gravel traffic and will not be suitable whilst the development is operational. The matter might be considered when the development is completed.

5 Appointment of Chairman

John Hatchard agreed to carry on acting as Chairman – this was received with grateful thanks by all Group Members.

6 Other business

NMSB agreed to provide a handout to each member containing plans and the planning consent for the site. HCC will also put these on the website.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will be a site visit and this will take place in October 2010 on a date to be notified.