

**Notes from Little Paxton Liaison Meeting
Wednesday 4th October 2023**

Key points from October 2023 meeting

- Demand for products has dropped so extraction has slowed. This is likely to extend the extraction period, Planning permission goes on until 2029 but even with slowed extraction Aggregate Industries (AI) is likely to finish on site by 2025.
- All power is now from mains electrics so generators are no longer being used.
- There has been very long delays in the establishing the new rights of way around the site. It is likely that the notices about this will go up soon so hopefully the new rights of way will be in place for next summer.
- CU asked if it would be possible to have support from AI in producing maps of the area and the new paths. The Estates manager said this might well be possible. Martin Hassall District Councillor asked if this could be extended to include other villages.
- A councillor from Little Paxton raised the issue of the Ouse Valley Way. The Estates Manager said that this might be able to be looked at although it was not part of their site.
- AI have won a number of Biodiversity awards including for their work at Paxton Pits. There was an informative video shared about the biodiversity work , which will be made available to Parish Councils when it is signed off.

Below are the notes from the meeting which was held in April 2023:

Little Paxton Liaison Meeting
Notes from meeting held 26th April
10:00am Little Paxton Quarry

1. Introductions

Kirsten Cunningham	Aggregate Industries Estates/ Planning
Ian Watters	Aggregate Industries Quarry Manager
Helen Wass	Cambridgeshire County Council Planning
Caroline Underwood	Buckden Parish Council
Michael Kyriakos	Aggregate Industries Area Manager
Paul Bishop	Little Paxton Parish Council
Andrew Johnson	Thornhill Estate
Phil Jackson	Aggregate Industries
Caroline Savage	Offord PC
Martin Hassall	Huntingdon DC Councillor

Apologies for absence

Matt Hall	Huntingdon District Councillor
Debbie McKenzie	The Wildlife Trust BCN
Graham North	Natural England
Alan Marnes	Southoe and Midloe Parish Council
Beckie Lewis	Community Engagement Manager

1. Introduction

Ian Watters – New Quarry Manager

Email: ian.watters@aggregate.com

Tel: 01468 013 582.

2. Apologies for Absence

Please see above

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on the 28th September 2022

Agreed

4. Planning:

a. Application –

The Company is Compliant with our planning application. Under our ecological planning condition, we are required to provide an update assessment of the population of GCN. This work is to commence on the 15th May and will ongoing between May- August with the report submitted to the Mineral Planning Authority in September.

The site is monitored by Cambridgeshire County Council, monitoring visits have taken place on the September 2022 and February 2023, no issues raised at recent monitoring visit

As part of our s106 legal agreement the Company are to apply for a Brown Sign directing people from the A1 to the Nature Reserve. The scheme has been approved by the County Council and application submitted to National Highways. Unfortunately, the car parking facilities at the Nature Reserve (quantity of spaces) prevents the application from progressing. I proposed the s106 requirement is postponed until car parking facilities improve. Hunts DC are in conversations with the adjacent landowners (TOF) regarding potential acquiring land for additional parking.

b. Restoration Application

The Company has brought the planning application back in house, we were previously working with MG but due to the merger with Hanson we did not want any further delays to the preparation and submission. It is hoped an application will be submitted Q4 2023

5. Site Developments:

a. Existing quarrying update

The Quarry has completed Area B May 2022, and Area C November 2022 all conveyors have been removed and relocated to Area D.

Mineral extraction is taking place in Area D and shall be worked over 2 years

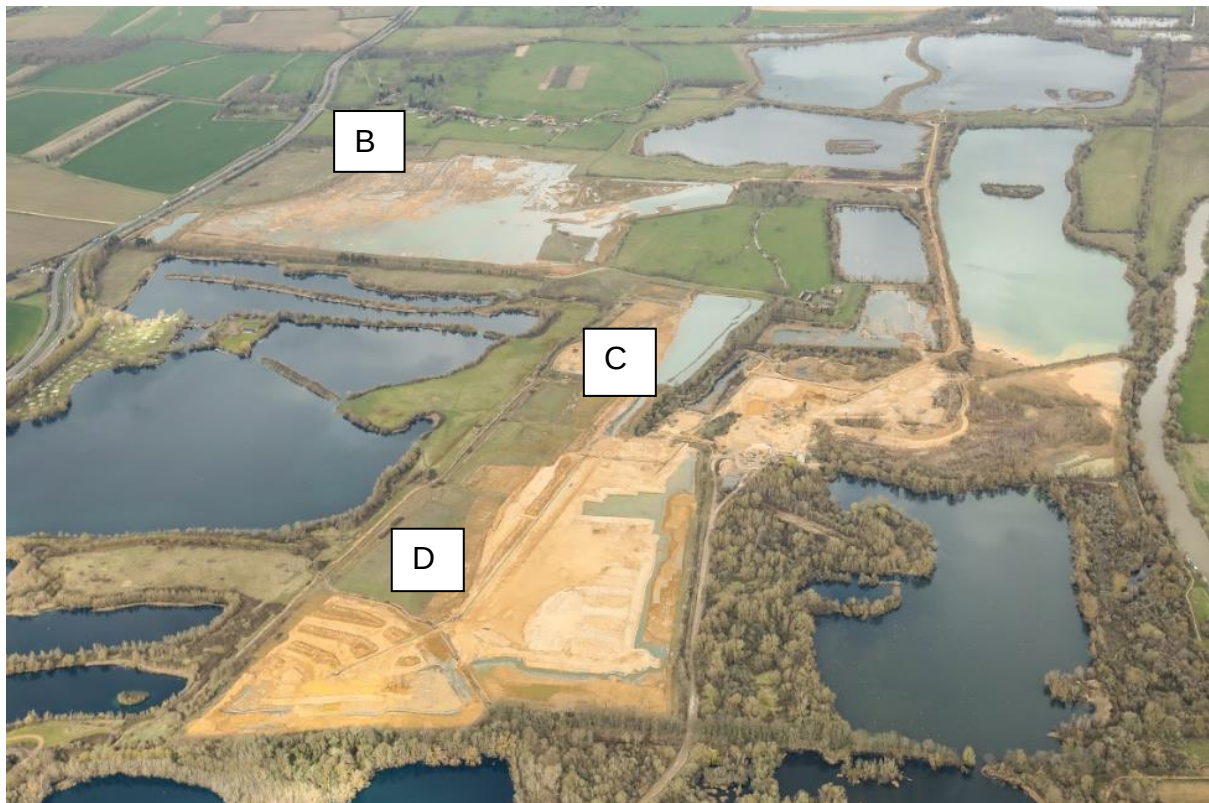
Mineral extraction is in a northerly direction from Soutoe Brook.

We produce 55% sand and 45% gravel

Has the Quarry been impacted by recent inflation and costs.

Yes the quarry has experienced higher costs associated with the removal of Red Diesel / Energy Prices.

We have increased our prices to reflect these costs approx 22%. The 40% increase costs of Asphalt has been related to significant rises in Bitumen costs.



6. Environmental Issues:

- a. Dust – No Complaints / Comments received – AI undertake dust mitigation in accordance with planning permission
- b. Noise - No Complaints / Comments received – AI undertake noise monitoring in accordance with planning permission
- c. Traffic –
Little Paxton PC - Yellow lines along Great North Road have been painted, although HGV are still parking. – Ongoing issues. Parish sending images to the Company to speak with the Drivers. ACTION- Provide Ian Watters contact details.
The Police are now enforcing vehicles caught parking along the co-op double yellow lines which is hoped will form a deterrent.
The Parish is also looking to reduce the speed limit from the A1 slip road to the co-op.

Southoe residents have raised concerns of vehicles turn onto the slip road onto the A1. All vehicles cannot turn on to the south bound exit of the A1. Webb's can as the access is on the slip road.

- d. Rights of Way – The Company has submitted the application to divert routes of 63.1 and 207.1.

The Rights of Way department have not had the resources to process the diversion application.

Thornhill are concerned if we open the new route there is no emphasis for the Rights of Way Department to process the application and local walkers will then seek to retain both routes. It is proposed the Parish Councils will write to the Rights of Way Officer to help progress our application. Caroline Underwood to draft a letter for comment.

Helen Wass will also raise the Liaison Groups concerns with the Rights of Way Department.

Restoration

Our restoration focus is Area A1 which is a GCN wetland conservation and Area B/ Diddington pit south in accordance with the approved restoration plan and environmental management plan.

The Company is progressing with restoration works associated with Phase 2 of the Nature Reserve schedule. These works include the creation of the Diddington Delta, regrading the old haul road/ conveyor route, creation of agricultural fields and installing fencing.

The legal documentation is being reviewed by Hunts DC solicitors.

The land will then be formally handed over to Hunts DC and will see the Nature Reserve expand in a northerly direction.

Area 2 agricultural aftercare is ongoing – We need to clear the scrub from the lake

Our interpretation boards have been produced we seek to install them at the following location



Archaeology – RoW near area D

Quarry Operations – Near the offices

Rights of Way – RoW near Diddington Pit lake and the Visitor centre

Ecology – Heronry Lake / River

Once the Phase 1 and 2 have been handed over to Hunts DC they are thinking of a soft opening so not to over load the site and as they have limited parking. Hunts DC are in talks with ToF regarding additional parking near the visitor centre.

Biodiversity

Meeting held on the 24th April with Friends of Paxton Pit to discuss water levels into the delta. We received a notification of Sand Martin's which we were aware of and site had banded off for protection. We are lucky our operatives have a good understanding of the ecological habitats on site and we can work with the ecological seasons.

You will notice Area B and C has water, the site has ceased dewatering to protect the faces and prevent habitats being created prior to final restoration.

The Company has obtained Biodiversity Bench Marking Award from the Wildlife Trust for a further 12 months.

Holcim our parent Company are producing a video about restoration and Little Paxton will form part of the restoration in progress element, with Ripon Quarry as complemented and Newbold Quarry as starting. We Company will share the video once issued.

7. Any Other Business

The Company has had new aerial photos and we would like to share them with the Parish Council. I will send to the liaison group

Little Paxton PC said thank you for a recent donation to the Community Hub building where we had contributed to acoustic panelling

The Company is promoting volunteering and all employees are to complete a days volunteering. If the Liaison group can think of any thing we could assist from litter picking to clearing allotments.