

Minutes of the Stonecastle Liaison meeting held on Wednesday 13th February 2019

In attendance:

Councillor Charles Mackonochie - Chairman
Councillor Nick Collins - Vice Chairman
Alan Everard – Tarmac Head of Estates
Dave Brown – Tarmac Kent Production Manager
Mike Pendock - Tarmac Strategic Planning Manager
Keith Legg - Tarmac Area Operations Manager
Daniel Daniels - Tarmac Community Engagement
Peter Miller - Local resident
Councillor Mick Barton - East Peckham Parish Council
Stewart Gledhill - Local resident
Councillor Mick Barton - East Peckham Parish Council
James Hockey - East Peckham Parish Council
Alan Chilvers - Local resident
Linda Daka - Local resident
Councillor Ed Bright - Hadlow Parish Council
Sarah Rayfield - BHS
Chris Salter - Local resident
Councillor Carol Mackonochie - Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Councillor Maggie Fenton – Capel Parish Council
Councillor Howard Rogers - Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Apologies: Apologies were received from: Councillor Sarah Hamilton, David Fallon, Rachel Godfrey, Greg Clark MP, Councillor Hugh Patterson, Andy Bate, Anne Willingale.

3. The minutes of the meeting of 30th November 2018 were confirmed as a true record.

4. Tarmac update:

Mike Pendock has taken over duties from Mark Heeley; An update was given on activities from the last meeting including: submission

to KCC about operations and plant layout, work on noise monitoring (using Kingsnorth Quarry as a yardstick); Local Ecology (SLR) consultants have been appointed.

Questions were raised about the wet and dry process of quarrying. Tarmac confirmed that the Stonecastle site would be worked wet ie no dewatering.

5. Tarmac update on increased public access to wildlife areas of the site:

Tarmac is not keen to develop a public car park near the extraction area. The company is in active discussion with The Kent Wildlife Trust on the best way forward both for current and future restored areas that will leave a long term legacy for improved public access. Tarmac is also in discussion with KWT re identifying permissive paths at the Lagoon area that might involve local clubs (local fishing club for example).

It was noted that cyclists and horse riders also need to be considered in any proposals.

6. Tarmac update on possibilities of relocating processing plant:

The company has spent a lot of time looking at this and it has concluded that the existing planned location, specified in the planning consent, is still the best option for a variety of reasons. The Processing Plant needs to be situated in a place where loading of road haulage can easily take place otherwise road haulage would need to travel far further into new areas and this would require further road construction works as opposed to the existing area which would not require any. It was stated that the new Plant will be far lower modular design. (example was shown). Other points raised by Tarmac included no access for road haulage to the West, no planning consent and siting the plant to the west may involve more disruption to ecology.

A 2 metre high screening bund of the southern area was also discussed. Residents questioned if the screening would be high enough to block out the hoppers, and sought reassurance on stockpiling and dust. Tarmac discussed the strict guidelines that the company has to abide by and that they would be guided by the Ecology Consultant as to screening heights Tarmac would comply

with noise limits and have sound testing equipment in place; Kingsnorth also has sound testing.

7. Visit to Kingsnorth Quarry: Around 10 people expressed an interest to be taken on a tour of the quarry; this has the same plant as that proposed at Stonecastle. Date suggested is 3rd April at 2pm

8. The Liaison Group went through each of the "List of issues raised by residents of local parishes" document and answers were given in writing and verbally to all questions raised.

Comments to be added to Tarmac replies are:

B2 – "20 lorries per day"

B6 – "Mitigation for wildlife"

E – add "Access and Egress" in the title

F2 – add at the end of the sentence after EA ", Upper Medway Drainage Board and Capel and other Parish Councils' Flood Committees"

G3 – add "It was noted that Kissing Gates or other gates that cause Horse Riders to dismount are not suitable"

It was felt that a walk around the site in the Spring would be very useful.

9. Sub Committee: Public Access and Wildlife Areas: this should also cover the topics of footpaths, bridleways, disabled access and gates. Sarah Rayfield and Peter Miller expressed an interest to be part of the Committee. CM to circulate date of first meeting.

10. Any other business:

a) PM asked whether "Madam Hoopers" lagoon (15 acres) could be opened up to join **(is that correct?- believe so)** old Stonecastle Quarry for public Access. AE said that Tarmac is working with KWT concerning the whole site.

b) Future topics to discuss include: lessons learned, Top soil, Capital structure of company (this was raised, discussed and concluded at this meeting)

c) Stewart Gledhill circulating a document for Tarmac to consider a proposal that all existing material to be transported directly to the

clubhouse site at East Peckham for processing. Tarmac to consider and report back.

11. Date of next meeting: To be confirmed

Below requested to be kept on distribution list:

Greg Clark MP

Rachel Godfrey

Councillor Sarah Hamilton - Tunbridge Wells Borough Council & KCC

Karen Bell – East Peckham PC, Clerk

Councillor David Carey – Hadlow PC

Joanna Greenwood

Annette Sealey – Nature Reserve and Bridleway

David Thornwell-

Paul Tovey -

Ann Willingale -

Councillor Hugh Patterson (Capel Parish Council)

David Carey

James Hockey

David Fallon (local resident)

Councillor Colin Silver

Quentin Knowles

Sharon Thompson (KCC Planning)

Alice Short (KCC Planning)

Stephen Baughen - Head of Planning, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Eryl Davies