

## Dolyhir and Gore quarries community engagement meeting 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Attendees:

S Malki – Dolyhir operations manager

N Carter – Gore operations manager

R Burden - PC

Nesta Cooke - PC

Haydn Jones - PC

Keith Morgan – PC chairman

Evan Jones – PC

SM – opened the meeting and introduced the new management team from both quarries, discussed working areas within the quarry including the NE extension. A bat house has been installed, and to accommodate the NE extension, a Stone barn will be dismantled, with the stone being donated to the church yard to allow a new wall to be constructed. As part of the NE extension, new trees have been planted, with more to follow, new fencing and visibility screening bunds are in place, with more planned. Progressive restoration scheme in place. Plan to work 1 more sinking. When SM became OM over at Dolyhir, site was in a poor condition, many improvements have been implemented, including more frequent grass cutting and general site maintenance, however, still more improvements to make. Investment has been made in new dust suppression systems with over £50K being spent, new staff have joined the site who require more educating in some areas. The 6 monthly community engagement meetings will recommence following a lapse. Demand is predicted to begin slowing down within Q4 this year and into Q1&2 next year. Dolyhir's plan is to continue the current working pattern of 05:00 -17:00 M-F, with maintenance on Saturdays, the asphalt plant operates longer hours due to demand. Historic noise complaints include a hydraulic breaker being used for secondary breakage; the hours of this operation have been adapted to cause less of an issue. Biodiversity on site includes bat surveys and new ponds being constructed.

NC – introduction and review of background, worked for Tarmac for 10 years, moved from Wellington S&G where I progressed from operator, to supervisor, then Quarry manager for the last 5 years. Have been at Gore for 5 weeks now so am still absorbing the site and familiarising myself with all operations. Hours of work at Gore are currently 05:00-0030 M-F, with maintenance activities carried out on Saturdays.

EJ – will there be lime available from Dolyhir consistently going forward?

SM – lime plant has been running all week with 800T now available, much improvement has been made to the plant which has suffered from lack of maintenance over many years, hopefully this is now in a much better condition, perhaps the champagne is on ice!!! Anticipation is to produce all year with a new bench in Strinds.

NCooke – What are the hours of work.

SM – 05:30-17:00

NCooke – Are those new rules as we did not believe the site even started that early?

SM – site is complying with planning permission and all conditions there in

NCooke – how is site going to control nuisance from orange flashing lights etc that early in mornings?

SM – many trees have been planted with suitably placed screening bunds.

All – agreed the trees are good for dust suppression and since site changed reversing beepers to white noise has been a big improvement.

SM&NC – both sites have been inspected, with any changes required being put in place.

NCooke – the public road that runs through Dolyhir quarry is very messy during wet conditions causing a safety issue, can the hedges/vegetation be cut back? Lots of vehicles drive at excessive speeds – what can be done? One particular vehicle – an egg wagon often leaves the road to try to get passed the overgrowing vegetation.

SM – hedges cannot be cut at this time of year due to it being in the middle of bird nesting season, however, a vegetation will be addressed between September-end of March. Grass cutting at the churchyard is now weekly.

NCooke – is there an emergency number available for weekends to contact site management as an issue did occur several weeks previously on a Sunday afternoon when on a walk down the road, an alarm was heard, and we only had a contact number for K Layton – who has subsequently retired. Also, the other evening we noticed excessive amounts of dust and smoke emerging from Dolyhir asphalt plant, we thought it was on fire!

SM – the bag house had improvements undertaken this week to improve this situation, we have been inspected and are within emissions limits, we shall circulate contact numbers for Dolyhir and Gore quarries, this would improve security as any issues could be reported immediately, Gore quarry suffered a break in with £30K worth of tools and equipment taken, new alarms systems and cameras have been fitted, similar improvements to be made at Dolyhir

NC – running time discussed – 05:30-00:30, with operatives on site prior to 05:30, this leaves very little time that site is unoccupied., following historic complaints at Gore, working lights were adjusted.

SM – Tarmac is very keen to support the local community, recently Tarmac donated funds to support Gladestry children's playground

NCooke – we are aware of the support, and are pleased with Tarmac, we are aware there has been some issues with new locals, however I do not have any issues with the blasting from the two sites, and I have lived next to Doyhir for many decades now.

SM – all blasts are drone filmed, we have multiple blast monitors around both sites that are recording permanently, we can confirm compliance with planning conditions.

RB – where are you working at Gore?

NC – currently L5 BurlingJobb side and L4 Walton side

EJ – Will you be reducing production?

SM – the anticipation is to continue with the status quo currently as the slowdown is only predicted, but there is potential to remove the nightshift at Gore if necessary.

RB – will there be a reduction in the number of wagons?

SM – potentially, but currently the A465 improvement works are requiring large quantities of materials.

EJ – how can local residents obtain stone from both quarries easily, we require 100T of stone but have to arrange through Radbournes or Alpha aggregates, this cannot be the easiest method?

SM – we have an upcoming sales meeting; this will be discussed.

RB – Radnor Forest is to be accredited as a dark sky; do you know of any lighting issues that could compromise this?

SM&NC, none know, all lighting is inspected regularly for defects and suitability, however, some lighting is essential for safety and security.

KM – can we have the whit lining updated please, and the sign by Griffiths transport moved?

JB – a good job was done on improving the layby – litter has reduced, and the verge is more intact.

NCooke – can any litter bins be installed in the wagon park?

SM – there is no overnight parking within either site, however they can park outside, welfare facilities are available at both sites, with showers, toilets kitchens and bins available, rubbish was everywhere, but since I joined Dolyhir, and implemented changes, the situation is improving, we can organise some litter picks if required.

KM – footpaths, are there any new signposts to be installed.

SM – yes we have some new signs that require installing, should be in place shortly

NC&SM – thank all for attending, and date for next meeting provisionally planned for 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Email to be sent to Tracey to invite councillor Edward Jones

This concludes the meeting.

This is a fair representation of the meeting.

S Malki –

N Carter –

K Morgan -