

Minutes of the Banavie Quarry Liaison Group Meeting 2nd September 2008, Banavie Quarry – 6.00pm

Attendees –

Bob Gordon – Ennstone Thistle – Support Services Director (Chairperson of the Liaison Committee)

Colin Morrison – Ennstone Thistle – Regional Production Manager

Martin Anderson – Ennstone Thistle – West Area Director

Gerald McIntyre – Resident

Russell Leaper – Resident

Duncan McInnes - KCC

Stephen Fair – Highland Council, Planning Department

Ronnie Maclean – Resident

John Martin – Ennstone Thistle – Quarry Supervisor

1 Apologies

Jim Tolmie - Highland Council, TEC Services

Councillor Bill Clark

Barbara Gillies – Resident

Chris Strong – Highland Council – TEC Services

2 Minutes of the last meeting

All points to be picked up during the meeting.

3 Quarry Up-date

a) Environmental Works – Bob Gordon gave an update on the status of the on going environmental improvements as follows:-

1 –The hydromulching of the quarry back faces is now planned for to be carried out in the next two to three weeks

c) Future work load – Martin Anderson advised that the Mallaig contract was still ongoing and remained the main contract that the company had on its books. It now looks as these works will continue until the beginning of 2009 but it was envisaged that there was no heavy work load periods during this time.

Martin Anderson advised that the Company had been approached about supplying 400m³ of concrete on a night shift to the proposed works at Corran slipway. If this was an option the company would contact the community to see if this was acceptable before pursuing the matter with the planning department in seeking any dispensation on the present operational hours

d) Quarry Development – Since the last liaison meeting there have been two blasts carried out at the quarry. Both blasts vibration limits were below the permitted limit which includes the first of the development blasts in the quarry floor sinking. The next blast at the quarry is anticipated to be in 2009.

Colin Morrison, from the previous meeting request to advise neighbours of any impending blast a day earlier, was carried out and advised that this was more acceptable and that this will now be adopted as normal practice.

The mobile crushing equipment has been and gone from the quarry, again with minimal disruption

4 Review of complaints rec'd:

Ronnie Maclean advised that although positive steps had been taken by the Company to ensure that hauliers and road users adhered to the Code of Practice with regard to the access road to the quarry there is still an element that forgets to follow the agreed set up. Martin Anderson to review these points with Ronnie and discuss with the road users. It was agreed that this will be an ongoing process to maintain high standards and that the quarry will endeavour to continue to keep on top of it. The company was also considering installing CCTV cameras in a bid to monitor the situation more closely

The previous point raised about lighting on the asphalt plant has improved but with the dark nights starting soon John Martin tasked to keep an eye on the situation

Barbara Gillies had reported, in her absence, that there had been a smell of diesel reported to her about 3 – 4 weeks ago. Colin reported that there were concerns with the burner of the asphalt and an engineer had been called to service the burner and no further complaints had been received since.

There was also a concern raised about a noise coming from the asphalt plant. This came from the new dust suppression filter unit and a silencer had been fitted since to resolve the problem.

5 Comments from the Community

No further comments to add

6 Comments from Highland Council:

No Comments to add

7 AOB:

Following the resignation of Tony Whitelock from the committee a position remains open for a resident to become a member. Ronnie Maclean expressed an interest to become a member while it was also agreed to send out a flyer to the near residents to see if anyone else wished to express an interest. Bob Gordon agreed to carry this out.

Discussion also took place re the posting of the minutes of the liaison meeting to advise residents of what was happening. It was agreed to link the minutes to the CC minutes as an attachment and they would also be posted on the KCC web site. Bob Gordon to organise this.

8 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 2nd December 2008, 6.00pm at Banavie Quarry