

Minutes of the Banavie Quarry Liaison Group Meeting 9th June 2009, Banavie Quarry – 6.00pm

Introduction

Bob Gordon introduced Andreas Back as the new quarry supervisor for Banavie Quarry

Attendees –

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

Ronnie Maclean – Resident

Gerald McIntyre – Resident

Chris Strong – Highland Council – TEC Services

Neil Forbes – Ennstone Thistle – General Manager - Operations

Andreas Back – Quarry Supervisor – Ennstone Thistle Ltd

1 Apologies -

Colin Morrison – Ennstone Thistle – Regional Production Manager

Jim Tolmie - Highland Council, TEC Services

Councillor Bill Clark

Barbara Gillies – Resident

Stephen Fair – Highland Council, Planning Department

Charlie Anderson – Ennstone Thistle – Commercial Director

Russell Leaper – Resident

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes agreed.

3 Quarry Up-date

a) Environmental Works – Bob Gordon advised that at present there are no outstanding issues to be complied with.

c) Future work load – There are no large contracts planned in the immediate future. Highland Council having completed their surface dressing programme now has asphalt works to be carried out but nothing of any great significance.

d) Quarry Development – Due to the continued slow down in economy there had been little progress on the quarry development front. There has been no blasting since the last liaison meeting and the next blast is not due till Aug/Sept this year. Note from previous minutes that an additional blast monitor would be placed Russell Leaper's neighbour property. The mobile crushing unit will be returning to Banavie in approximately 6 – 8 weeks. Say around the end of July beginning of August but residents will be informed nearer the time of arrival.

4 Review of complaints rec'd:

Ongoing concern re adherence to the Code of Practice in particular with regard to speed of vehicles and the Companies monitoring of the code of practice.

ACTION – From the minutes of the last meeting ET was to liaise with Highland Council Roads Engineer to investigate possible additional measures to control speed on the access road. Neil Forbes had a meeting with Chris Strong of the Council to look at what could be improved. Company agreed to the suggestion to carry out a survey on the road incorporating a survey box that will record time/speed/type of vehicle. The liaison group agreed to this and two locations were chosen on the access road to gather the information. This information to be analysed along with weighbridge despatch information and form the basis of any actions to be taken by the Company against offenders of the COP. ET had also reinforced its COP to Ennstone Fleet and regular customers. Bob Gordon advised that Fort William Tyres had been suspended from entering the quarry re-speeding on the quarry access road recently.

Barbara raised the point that a neighbour had contacted her re concerns over dust escaping over the boundary of the site 2/3 months previous and wondered if we had received any notification. This with noted and that the Company was not aware of the concern.

ACTION – ET to contact SEPA to discuss - No action from SEPA

5 Comments from the Community

Gerald McIntyre wished it noted that the Banavie Floral Improvement group wanted to thank the quarry for its assistance recently.

6 Comments from Highland Council:

No Comments to add

7 AOB:

In Russell Leaper's absence Russell advised that he had struggled to get a key for the notice board in Banavie to post the minutes of the liaison meeting.

ACTION – Bob Gordon contacted Duncan McInnes and he has the key for the notice board

Barbara requested some information on the community funding re the monies raised from the quarries aggregate levy operated by the Government. Bob Gordon notified that the Government had changed its format re the funding and it is now called the 'Climate Challenge Fund'. Bob Gordon checked with the Quarry Products Association and as far as they are aware, to date, there have been no awards to communities affected by quarry operations.

8 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 8th Sept 2009 - 6.00pm at Banavie Quarry