

## **Minutes of the Banavie Quarry Liaison Group Meeting August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Banavie Quarry – 7.15pm**

### **Attendees –**

Duncan McInnes KCC

Tony Whitelocke – Resident

Russell Leaper – Resident

Barbara Gillies – Resident

Dafydd Jones – Highland Council, Planning Department

Jim Tolmie – Highland Council, TEC Services

Bob Gordon – Ennstone Thistle Ltd – Director

Colin Morrison – Ennstone Thistle Ltd – Area Production Manager

### 1 Apologies

Councillor Clark

Gerald McIntyre

Allan Todd

### 2 Minutes of the last meeting

Any points were to be picked up during meeting.

Bob Gordon advised that Allan Todd from Highland Council Planning Dept., has taken up a promoted post within the Council and that his replacement would be Dafydd Jones from the Fort William Office.

Bob Gordon also introduced John MacKenzie, Ennstone Thistle newly appointed West Operations Director. It was proposed that John be appointed Chairman of the Liaison group replacing Colin Morrison. This was agreed

### 3 Quarry Up-date

- a) Road Improvements – Bob Gordon had advised that the road improvements to the quarry access road would be carried out within the next 3-4 weeks, subject to the council approving the works and the company acquiring the relevant road consent forms. Jim Tolmie advised that approval was imminent subject to more details on the drainage but in principal the proposed works were acceptable

Road improvements to the B8004 would be timed to follow on when the Council road resurfacing works were concluded. Jim

Tolmie reminded the group that the proposed works included speed limit enhancement signage and markers using yellow backing to signs, countdown markers, red zebra flex surface treatment, intermittent road colouring at intervals with 30 markings to reinforce the speed limit and road marking to identify an extension of a continuous pedestrian facility on the southern edge of the B8004 to the 30 mph zone in the Gairlochy direction.

- b) Environmental measures: Bob Gordon advised that the mechanical measures to reduce noise had been carried out on the asphalt plant had been completed and the additional bunding and screen fencing was with the council for their approval. Once approved it would be hoped that the works would be completed within 6 months.
- c) Concrete plant: Bob Gordon advised that the planning application for the proposed concrete plant had been approved. The location of the plant had been altered so as to limit the view of the plant from Gairlochy Road and in conjunction with increased bunding and tree planting the plan would be unobtrusive as possible. The timing of the operation of the concrete plant would be September this year and once the works to the quarry access road was completed.
- d) Quarry Development: Bob Gordon advised that the restoration of the top faces were all but complete and that the hydromulching would be carried out in the spring time. This was in compliance with planning conditions.

Bob Gordon also advised that following the last meeting that the quarry floor development would commence but the key hole opening would now be carried out at the earliest in a year time. As there was already an established face in the quarry floor access to this face would at present be gained from within the existing quarry floor level until sufficient space had been created to store quarry materials and then the key hole opening would be developed.

- e) Future Quarry Work Load: John MacKenzie advised that the road works on the Laggan Road was completed and the operations at the quarry out with normal working hours had been successful. John further advised that at present there was nor future works in the pipe line that would require the quarry to apply to work out with normal working hours.

4 Review of complaints rec'd: Colin Morrison had recorded 8 comments, 4 of which were raised by Ennstone Thistle staff. The comments were in the main contradictions to the Code of Practice for the quarry access road. One comment had lead to a haulage company receiving a letter of

warning that any further breaches of the code would lead to the Company banning them from the quarry.

John Mackenzie also advised that he had been to discuss with Ronnie MacLean, Locheil Crescent, and his concerns of HGV breaking the Code of Practice. John advised that to make the code of practice a success the involvement of the community is essential and that they should report concerns to the quarry so that actions can be taken.

5 Comments from the community: Comments passed that there seemed to be an improvement in the reduction of noise from the plant.

Concerned raised over the issue of cement run off from the site. Bob Gordon advised that the cement water situation would be contained within the quarry on a recycle basis and there was no reason as to why any cement/water run off should occur.

6 Comments from Highland Council: Jim Tolmie requested if some one could attend a meeting with their operatives to give a presentation on the Code of Practice to make the Council operative aware of the working practices of the quarry so as to assist in the operation of the site. This was agreed and welcomed.

6 AOB: No other matters raised.

Date of next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005, Banavie Quarry, 7.15pm.