

Minutes of the Banavie Quarry Liaison Group Meeting March 20th 2007, Banavie Quarry – 6.00pm

Attendees –

John Mackenzie – Ennstone Thistle – Regional Director
Colin Morrison – Ennstone Thistle – Regional Production Manager
Bob Gordon – Ennstone Thistle – Support Services Director
Gerald McIntyre – Resident
Tony Whitelock – Resident
Barbara Gillies – Resident
Duncan McInnes - KCC
Stephen Fair – Highland Council, Planning Department
Chris Whyte - Highland Council, TEC Services

1 Apologies

Councillor Clark
Russell Leaper – Resident

2 Minutes of the last meeting

All points to be picked up during the meeting.

3 Quarry Up-date

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

- 1 – The remainder of the old asphalt plant is now scheduled to be removed during the Easter break
- 2 – Tree planting on the bund has been organised to be planted by end April in conjunction with the Hydromulching of the quarry back faces. Scottish Woodlands have been appointed to carry out the works

c) Future work load – John Mackenzie provided an update on anticipated future programme advising that despite a quite first quarter we now see a busier second quarter. Some of the larger contracts that Ennstone will be supplying are:

- Quarry fill material to Kinlochleven school – 15 – 20000t over the next 5 months
- Surfacing of the new health centre due in mid April

Highland Council road contracts to start rolling through
The Mallaig road improvements have been awarded to Morrison
Construction and Ennstone will be supplying asphalt to the scheme
over the next 2 years. First asphalt requirement due approx October
this year

Easter holiday shut down – 2nd April to 9th April

d) Quarry Development - The quarry sinking has been delayed until
the second half of 2007.

Blasting and crushing at the quarry to return Sept/Oct

4 Review of complaints rec'd:

Concern raised from near neighbour regarding a blast in January. Colin Morrison visited concerned party to explain blast results etc. This was received well from the resident and no further concern raised at the following two blasts.

Barabara Gillies lodged a complaint via email stating that an increase in quarry dust was evident during late summer and a similar complaint was raised by R Maclean who specified a period of approximately one week during October. The coating plant was closed down for a period of five days whilst bag filters were replaced and repaired and an industrial vacuum was employed to clean out the plant and avoid any recurrence. Barbara Gillies confirmed that since that date she has not been advised of any other concerns.

General speeding complaints received from Mr R McLean who feels that the speed limit is too low. This was discussed fully by all concerned and agreed to have the existing speed limit remain as it was felt that this would possibly give the wrong impression to drivers where the emphasis was to make drivers slow down and be more vigilant.

5 Comments from the Community

Tony Whitelocke raised the point with regard to people's perception of blasting and their concerns and wondered if they could get a presentation to explain some of the myths of blasting. This was agreed to be a good idea and Ennstone to organise such a presentation by their blasting contractor for the next liaison group meeting

6 Comments from Highland Council:

No Comments

7 AOB:

Bob Gordon advised the group about the funding available from the Scottish Executive from monies received from the Governments aggregate levy charges. There is £1.5million available to be spent on community projects affected by quarrying activities within a 5 mile radius of the quarry. Bob Gordon to circulate the information amongst group and to John Ireland of the CC for more information. Monies from the government to be spent within the financial year 07/08

8 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 3rd July 2007, Banavie Quarry 6.00pm