



Statement of Community Involvement

Peace Wood Quarry

Naylor Industries PLC

Document Reference: 320/1—R1.1 - SCI



Minerals
Waste
Environment

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13.0. Statement of Community Involvement

13.1. This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been prepared to demonstrate the engagement that has been carried out on behalf of The Applicant in accordance with paragraphs 39 to 42 of the NPPF.

13.2. In preparation for the submission of the planning application, a period of consultation took place to enable early communication between the community, stakeholders and The Applicant.

13.3. Consultation

13.3.1. The following methods of consultation were used:

- A dedicated webpage ran from 17/02/2023 to 13/03/2023 allowing stakeholders and/or members of the public to comment on the proposals set out. The webpage provided an overview of The Site, the proposed development, a list of documents that would be submitted alongside the application, and a series of maps demonstrating the proposed working and restoration schemes. Figure 1 shows the website header.
- On the 17/02/2023 the notice in Figure 2 was published in a local newspaper (the Huddersfield Examiner), and a public notice was also posted online.
- The webpage was also advertised via an on-site banner from 16/02/2023.

14.3.2 Initially the consultation was due to run until 02/03/2023, though due to a lack of responses, this was extended to 13/03/2023, and letters were sent to houses near to the site on Huddersfield Road, informing them of the web page.

14.3.3 In addition, a search of public ('open') Facebook Groups was carried out to ensure any indirect comments / discussion were not missed. However, no such discussions were identified on Facebook.

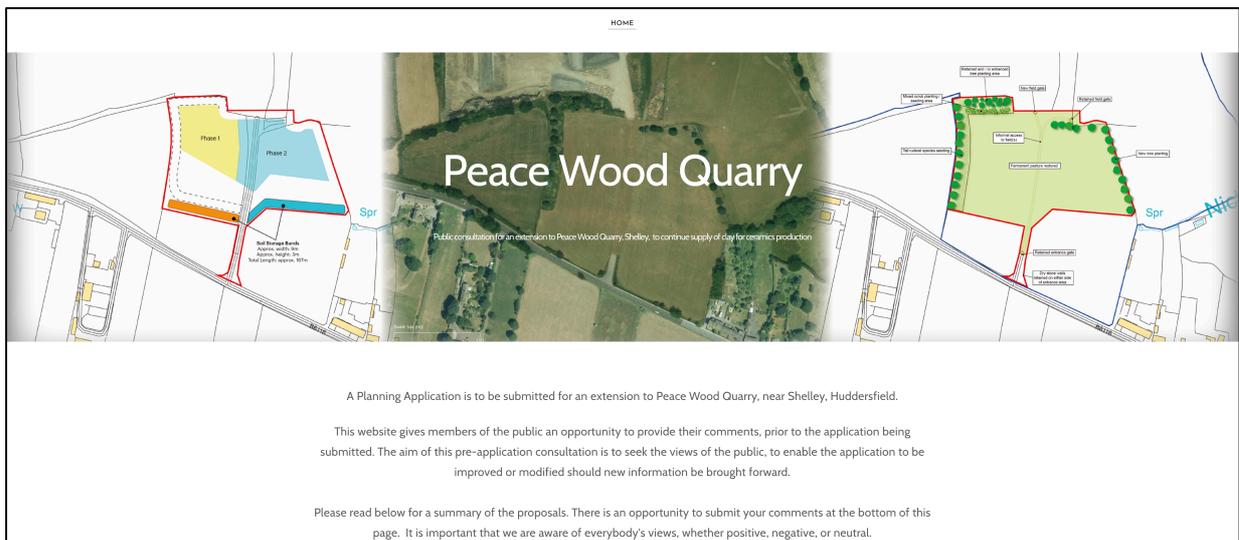


Figure 1: Dedicated consultation website



Figure 2: Newspaper advert

13.4. Public Consultation Feedback

13.4.1. The feedback form on the webpage provided The Applicant with just two responses from members of the public. The website contact form included a free

text box, and a selection of check-boxes covering matters to which the respondent's comments may relate, such as ecology, dust, and HGV movements.

13.4.2. The two comments received are summarised below:

13.5. Comment 1

13.5.1. Concerns were raised over effects on wildlife and use of farming land, and checked boxes for noise, dust, traffic, environment, and landscape.

13.6. Comment 2

13.6.1. Comment 2 discussed concerns regarding a nearby spring and the potential effects on this including changing the drainage regime and pollution. Additionally, it was raised that dust and noise had been an issue historically and that this application could exacerbate the issue. Furthermore, it was stated that lapwing had previously nested at The Site and requested information regarding the timescales of extraction and restoration.

13.7. **Public Consultation Feedback addressed in the Planning Application**

13.7.1. The feedback received from the public consultation has been addressed in the Planning Application. This section of the SCI directs readers to specific parts of the Planning Application that are particularly relevant to the main areas of discussion and discusses the elements that have been considered in the design of the proposed development.

13.8. Transport

13.8.1. It is not proposed to change the limit to HGV movements controlled under the current quarry's permission, and therefore a limit of 60 HGVs in and out per day is proposed, which would be reduced to 30 HGVs on Saturdays. There would therefore be no changes to the current volumes of traffic permitted to use the quarry each day, and there is no intention to increase the rate of working from current operations (also to be limited by planning condition).

13.9. Noise

13.9.1. Noise was raised as a concern in both comments. Initially, a larger extension was proposed, but a noise survey, commissioned early in the application process, demonstrated that noise would be unacceptable at nearby residential properties. As a result, the working area was significantly reduced, and the noise environment re-modelled to ensure noise levels would be acceptable at the nearby properties. The noise survey considered a worst-case scenario of all potential plant / machinery operating at the same time, which in reality, would be uncommon.

13.9.2. The conclusion of the noise survey was as follows:

“considering the predicted sound emissions from the proposed activities, no significant impact is expected on the most affected NSRs according to BS5228:2009.”

13.10. Air Quality (Dust)

13.10.1. Both comments also raised the issue of dust, with one noting that dust had been an issue previously, and that operations would now be closer to their property. A dust management scheme has been submitted as part of this application, and includes provision of a water bowser to ‘wet-down’ stockpiles or access road(s) where dust may be or become an issue.

13.10.2. It is also noted that the prevailing wind direction would take any mobilised dust away from the residential receptors during normal wind conditions.

13.10.3. Nevertheless, a range of mitigation measures have been proposed to ensure dust does not cause unacceptable impacts at nearby residential properties:

- 10mph speed limit for all vehicles travelling through The Site.
- Sheeting of vehicles transporting potentially dusty loads off site, and all vehicles visually inspected upon entering and leaving The Site.
- The entrance to The Site would be comprised of a sealed surface and road

sweepers will be regularly deployed.

- Site layout designed to minimise the transportation of material around The Site.
- Use of mobile bowser to damp down stockpiles; vehicle running surfaces; vehicle loads; to prevent excessive dust formations, especially during dry and windy conditions.
- Cleaning of any spillages using wet cleaning methods.
- Stockpiles will be kept to a minimum as operating conditions allow.
- Drop heights always minimised to prevent dust emissions.

13.11. Effects on Wildlife and Biodiversity

13.11.1. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) concluded that The Site had limited ecological value, being predominantly agricultural fields, but had some potential value for birds, bats, terrestrial mammals and amphibians.

13.11.2. Therefore, the restoration scheme sought to retain agricultural land once The Site had been restored, but also enhance biodiversity by delivering a net gain, through new habitat creation, particularly on the boundaries.

13.11.3. Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is calculated using the Defra Metric, which concluded that the restoration design would deliver BNG of +22.82% (habitats) and +35.01% (hedgerows).

13.11.4. The restoration scheme, as well as the fact that much of the existing fields would be retained, provides retained potential nesting areas for lapwing, as was highlighted by the commenter.

13.12. Drainage and Hydrogeology

13.12.1. A spring is located to the east of The Site. However, no proposed drainage would direct surface water to the spring or the small stream that runs away from the spring. Equally, it is not considered, based on the boreholes drilled at The Site and faces in the existing quarry, that there is significant hydrogeological continuity across the sandstone.

13.12.2. Further details of how surface water is to be managed can be found in the Surface Water Management Plan, as well as the Flood Risk Assessment.

13.13. Landscape

13.13.1. A landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) was carried out to assess potential landscape impact. The conclusions were:

“Following a review of baseline information, together with consideration of the potential landscape and visual effects arising from the proposal, it is considered that the application site is able to successfully accommodate the temporary change in land use, in landscape and visual terms, without having an unacceptable effect or loss of landscape character or visual amenity upon the wider study area.”

13.14. Timescales and Restoration

13.14.1. The proposed end-date for the operations is 31st December 2043, by which time, restoration is to have been completed. Given the small scale of The Site, it is not proposed to phase restoration, instead, it will be carried out as ‘rolling restoration’, whereby workings are infilled as extraction progresses eastwards.

13.14.2. Conditions attached to any Planning Permission granted would require a detailed restoration scheme to be submitted (which would include details such as planting techniques and specify species mixes), and an aftercare scheme, the duration of which would be determined by the requirements for each created habitat to reach its target condition.

13.14.3. Nevertheless, a schematic restoration (upon which the detailed restoration scheme would be based) is supplied alongside this Planning Application.

13.14.4. Notably, as is the case with the current quarry, working is typically carried out on a campaign basis, whereby material is extracted and left in stockpiles to weather at The Site, before being removed from The Site for sale. This means that working often does not take place continuously throughout the year.

13.15. **Conclusion**

- 13.15.1. The applicant has carried out appropriate public consultation in preparation for the submission of a Planning Application for the proposed extension to Peace Wood Quarry.
- 13.15.2. Details of the proposed submission were provided for stakeholders and/or the public to view via a dedicated webpage and were informed of the consultation through public notices in the local newspaper and on-site.
- 13.15.3. Two responses were received following the public consultation, which shared similar themes.
- 13.15.4. The topics raised in the comments have been considered in the Planning Application, and specialist, independent, studies and reports have been undertaken in order to investigate and address potential areas of concern.