

Whitecleave Liaison Group Meeting

9th July 2015

Attendees:	Stuart Barker (SB)	Devon County Council
	Mike Deaton (MD)	Devon County Council
	Charlie Dennis (CD)	Teignbridge District Council / Ashburton Town Council
	John Nutley (JN)	Teignbridge District Council / Ashburton Town Council
	Janet Jones (JJ)	Buckfastleigh Town Council
	Mark Maish (MM)	Councillor
	Kit Buckley (KB)	Buckfastleigh Community Forum
	Kathryn Hughes (KH)	Buckfastleigh Community Forum
	Georgina Gilpin (GG)	Gilpin Demolition Ltd
	Chloe Pavely (CP)	Gilpin Demolition Ltd

Agenda:	Item 1 - Welcome and introductions
	Item 2 - Minutes of last meeting
	Item 3 - Operations Update
	Item 4 - Complaints Update
	Item 5 - Append terms of reference
	Item 6 - Asbestos Trailers
	Item 7 - Condition 10 Planning Update
	Item 8 - Communications with wider public
	Item 9 - Open Day for Bats Sunday 9 th August – any issues?
	Item 10 - Actions
	Item 11 - AOB
	Item 12 - Next meeting date and location

Item 1 - Welcome and introduction

All current and new members to the Liaison Group were introduced and gave a brief introduction. No apologies received. Attendees had a copy of last meeting's minutes and this meeting's agenda.

Item 2 – Minutes of Last Meeting

KH commented that item 5 on the previous minutes (Complaints Received) it notes that KH considered that the complaint about vehicles about vehicles parking on the quarry roadways had not been answered to her satisfaction. At the previous meeting KH had read out Section 171A of the Town and Country Planning Act which sets out expressions used in connection with enforcement and asked for this to be included in the minutes. Section 171A says:

171A Expressions used in connection with enforcement.

(1) For the purposes of this Act—

(a) carrying out development without the required planning permission; or

(b) failing to comply with any condition or limitation subject to which planning permission has been granted, constitutes a breach of planning control.

Once that statement was added to minutes from 20th May 2015 then they could be accepted by all members.

Item 3 – Operations Update/Procedures

GG stated that the raptors have fledged and that quarrying in Block D could resume when an appropriate scheme for monitoring noise is agreed with DCC.

MM raised noise concerns for residents of Buckfastleigh, stating that last time the noise levels were monitored we exceeded the limit of 55 decibels by 0.5. MM also mentioned that he would like to arrange for permanent noise monitoring stations in the town.

MD advised that a qualified noise expert should be involved in the development of the scheme. It is believed that static monitors in the town would not be a standard method for monitoring noise. It was understood by all that a testing period would be required to evidence the scheme and then and only if the noise levels can be maintained at below the condition in planning would extraction take place. GG stated that stone extraction is done in campaigns lasting one to two weeks every two to three months and that there would be no Saturday working as agreed previously.

SB has requested that we develop a scheme and residents are made aware that works will be starting in advance. GG requested we discuss Item 8 next.

Item 8 - Communications with Wider Public

After the group discussion it was agreed that Buckfastleigh Town Council keep their website and the notice board updated with any news and minutes of the LLC for all members of the public to read as they wish. Notice boards could be put on the Gilpin Demolition gates for anyone to read monthly updates and Gilpins will keep their website updated. DCC indicated that LLC minutes and monitoring reports should soon be available on their website.

MM has requested that we hold a public meeting at the town hall for the LLC. This was rejected by GG as the purpose of the membership of the LLC is to be the voice of those they represent. Should any issue arise that the group feel necessary to air with the public this could be arranged on an ad hoc basis.

GG requested that if BCF is a voice of the community then perhaps allowing Gilpins communication access via their Facebook Page would improve things as it is currently closed to them. KH said she was not aware of this.

Item 4 – Complaints Update

MD gave a review of the weekly complaints log that DCC have made available and public. The noise complaint is addressed by the agreement for an expert to develop a scheme. Other such complaints with lights in the weighbridge and parking are not enforceable issues and the council states no breach of conditions.

KH recalled a complaint in the meeting claiming that Gilpin Demolition has been storing scrap metal at the site. GG explained that this is the metal store and items are utilised in the

repair of plant and equipment. We are not storing scrap metal on our site in Buckfastleigh as we have a scrap yard in Heathfield.

Item 5 – Append Terms of Reference

KH submitted revised Terms of Reference (TofR) for the group to discuss. GG did not agree to any changes other than that detailed below as some were felt to be a repetition of those existing and others not appropriate. Most specifically not to allow the public access to the LLC although should a member of the public have a specific desire to represent themselves the current TofR allowed for members to invite them to a meeting.

Changes agreed were under:

Item 3 Membership of the group will compromise: change to (f) Officer of Teignbridge District Council noted previously as planning will now be environmental health and change/deletion to (g) An officer of the Environment Agency as they have declined to attend.

Change/addition (g) a member of Buckfastleigh Community Forum.

KH has temporarily accepted the Term of Reference and will see how future meetings work.

Item 6 – Asbestos Trailers

KH wanted to know what equipment and waste bins that are relevant to asbestos is kept on site and if contains any asbestos and asked about the Asbestos Decontamination units that are kept on the site.

GG explained that the asbestos industry is heavily legislated and the company adheres to these at all times. Under the Health & Safety at Work act we have a strict duty of care to protect our employees which is also adhered to at all times. The HSE and the EA are very happy with our operation, methodology and working practice. The company has not had any improvement, prohibition or prosecutions to date. To have an asbestos licence there are very strict rules and regulations that must be met – we meet them. Under no circumstances is any asbestos from sites being held or stored at the Quarry we have a cradle to grave process of waste removal from our working sites that does not allow for this. We may store the empty units/containers on site but any hazardous materials would have been taken to a licensed disposal site. Asbestos is double bagged and taped on site under controlled conditions and or disposed of in sealed bins. The units are not cleaned at the quarry site and there is categorically no risk to the watercourse from our operations. Asbestos removal is an intrinsic part of demolition and many companies like ourselves conduct both operations.

SB commented that for KH to continue to insinuate that asbestos is stored on site would be misleading. KH stated that she was satisfied with the answer.

Item 7 - Condition 10 Planning Update

GG stated that a visual impact survey was required for submission with the recent application to vary condition 10. SB mentioned the next planning meeting at DCC would be in September. MD confirmed that there wasn't a strict time limit on Gilpins getting this to

DCC. GG commented that the recent confusion with this application had done little to bolster relations with the operator and some members of the community.

Item 9 - Open Day for Bats Sun 9th August- Any Issues?

GG has planned an open day for a small group of the public to visit the quarry for a bat walk and talk. Ecologists will be on site to talk about the commute of the bats. So far approx 20-25 people confirmed they would like to attend the event. Event will start at 7:30pm.

KH has advised that GG communicates/advertises with Buckfastleigh town so they are aware that activity in the quarry is for this event and not quarrying.

GG agreed to notify the Town Council and get some posters in the town.

No objections made for this event.

Item 10 – Actions

Group agreement that Gilpins is to alert residents in advance of operations on Block D and the dates for the noise trial using the Town Council website, notice board and notice in the monthly newsletter to look at those locations for any information.

Complaints, should any arise, can continue to be made to Georgi Gilpin for a direct answer rather than waiting until the next LLC meeting.

Item 11 – AOB

KH commented that the site visit held 15/05/2015 raised three different concerns for her. Last year's summary for the Bat Lane identified slightly less bats using the lane, no bats had been identified using the Weighbridge building and that the variety of species identified had reduced by three species. GG commented that to her knowledge bat numbers overall had increased year on year but for comprehensive response to her query then the experts should be consulted. The summary reports are sent to DCC each year for review and comment and they have not raised any issues thus far. To clarify matters GG offered to invite Ecologist Peter Nuttall to the next LLC and to raise comment from the DCC Ecologist Sarah Jennings prior to the next Liaison Meeting to discuss the bats. This was welcomed and agreed by the group.

GG asked KH for information on the Buckfastleigh Community Forum - GG wanted to know exactly who the chair people were and who were the officers of the group. KH was not able to confirm any members. KH stated that given Neil Smith's resignation she was looking for another co chair. GG wanted to establish how the community aired their concerns to BCF and whether this was recorded in minutes or letters. KH said it was informal when they met and no minutes were taken only notes. GG is concerned how BCF evidences its public and community status when membership is not clear. It is not detailed on the website or Facebook. GG asked how the community knew of meetings and KH explained that they

meet informally. Notes are taken but not published so members of the public are not able to view these notes. GG would like further clarity on membership and terms of reference.

MM asked if Gilpin Demolition could arrange a date for a site visit so he is able to view the quarry himself. JJ suggested this was with the council members as a whole and would bring it up at the next meeting. GG agreed and we are currently awaiting a date proposal from Buckfastleigh Town Council.

Item 12 – Next Meeting Date and Location

Next meeting was proposed for Wednesday 7th October 2015 at 10:00am to be held at Whitecleave Quarry. All attendees agreed this date.

DRAFT