

West Deeping Quarries Liaison Meeting

Thursday 10th April 2025

Attendees

Lewis Williams (LW) Breedon
Gary Bannister (GB) Breedon
Tom Griffiths (TG) Breedon
Ashley Baxter (AB) Cllr - SKDC
Maggie Ashcroft (MA) West Deeping Heritage
Glenn Fuller (GF) West Deeping Parish Council
Jason Halsey (JH) Greatford Parish Council
Gavin Herrick (GH) Cemex
Phil McComb (PM) Cemex
Eloise Shieber (ES) Lincolnshire County Council

Apologies

Andrew Patrick Barton
Phillip Britton

Introductions

The meeting commenced with introductions.

Quarry Operational Update

GH provided an update on Cemex operations. Anglian Excavations had started with Phase 2 of southern extension. Restoration of Phase 9 to commence. Cemex will be removing concrete pad with potential for re-use. Mineral underneath the concrete pad will be worked as part of Phase 10.

GB provided an update on Breedon operations. Stand-offs and main haul route remain for extraction. Likely the mineral will be exhausted in 2026. Restoration works to take place the following year.

AB queried the restoration proposals asking whether wildlife meadow was proposed. GB indicated that land to the east of the quarry formed and largely returned to agriculture. GB provided a general overview of the restoration scheme.

AB indicated that he had had discussions with the Land Dyke Trust and suggested that the south-eastern lake and Crown Farm building could be used as a visitors centre. Given proximity to Greatford Cut it could be used for flood alleviation at times of high water.

LW indicated that Breedon were obligated to restore the site as per the approved restoration scheme, but once aftercare obligations had been fulfilled the land would be returned the Landlords. At that point an alternative scheme / land use could be pursued.

Planning Update

LW provided a planning update for Breedon. He indicated that Breedon were still considering the responses from the planning exhibition for the southern extension which took place last year. At this point there was little to update.

GF queried the nature of what was being considered in terms of timings for submission, raising Environmental Agency comments and progress of the Minerals Plans. LW indicated these matters formed part of the wider consideration in respect of the planning application.

Mineral Planning Authority Update

ES indicated that the Council were reviewing over 3,000 responses to the Preferred Option consultation. Once collated work would move to the Submission Draft of the Minerals Plan.

ES added that a Section 73 planning application in respect of the permitted quarry at Greatford had been refused at planning committee.

The Thetford Farm planning application was still ongoing. A Regulation 25 Request had been issued to Cemex for further environmental information. The deadline for response was the end of the month.

ES added that Council elections were approaching and the next planning committee would be in June.

Parish Council Updates West Deeping PC

GF – no update.

AB queried how responses to the comments on the West Deeping southern extension would be provided. ES indicated that the Minerals Plan would not provide individual responses. LW indicated that as part of the planning application Breedon would likely include a report detailing pre-application engagement, which would highlight comments received and how these had been considered.

Greatford PC

JH – raised flood issues and indicated work with Environment Agency and the Internal Drainage Board. Work was being undertaken on the ditch network. The Council had inspected ditches. JH thanked Breedon for providing sand bags. GB and JH discussed storing sand bags at West Deeping Quarry for future flood events.

Community Engagement

GH raised that there had been two recent incidents of trespassing at Cemex. He stressed getting the message out about the dangers of quarries, especially as the weather was improving. There was general discussion about posting on social media or in local newsletters.

GB highlighted that Breedon had donated a reading shelter to Linchfield Primary School.

MA thanked both Breedon and Cemex for the archaeology visits, noting there had been 349 visitors to a recent event. She highlighted liaison with Ian Meadows regarding summer visits to Breedon's West Deeping Quarry.

AOB

AB highlighted that investigations were ongoing in respect of Tallington Lakes, but difficult to get access. LW highlighted that he would pass this on to agent at Tarmac, given proximity to their landholding.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 9th October 1pm at West Deeping Quarry Offices.