

008/07

Novington Sandpit Residents' Committee

Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday 11^h July 2007 7.30pm, Plumpton Village Hall – Committee Room

Present: Neville Eagle; Veronica Harris; Nigel Hills; Tony Hutson; Graham Inglis; Jeanie Muddle; Richard Muirhead; Paul & Carole Nicholson; Julie Russell; John Sheeran; Sue Smyth;

Others who had expressed interest in helping/unable to attend meeting: Mr & Mrs Robin Akers; Mike & Julie Barnard; Gordon Barr; John and Sue Bonnett; John Bowden; Barbara Cheal; Kevin Cohen; Laurie Collins; Charles Dampney; Tim Davies; Jean Eagle; Jane Gane; Mr and Mrs Galletly; Jane George; Keith and Carol Gutteridge; Tom Hawthorne; John and Carol Hendry; David Holmes; Sally Huband; Tony Hutson; Rod MacLaren; Jean Scott-Moncrieff and Cornelius Medvei; Mr & Mrs Clive Mountford; John Muddle; Timothy Parmenter; Gary & Lindsey Smith; Ginny Smith; David Tetley; Jim Thornton; Teresa Wells; Dominic Williams; Katie Wride

(All of the above listed residents will receive a copy of these minutes)

1. Minutes

Those present approved the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th May.

2. Matters Arising

All will be considered as part of the meeting.

3. Pre-conditions

Paul Nicholson updated the meeting on the status of each of the pre-conditions:

3	Phased working plan	Discharged
4	Landscape scheme	Discharged
5	Progressive landscaping	Discharged
19	Dust	Discharged
20	Archaeology	Discharged
22	Wheel wash	Discharged
23	Fencing	Discharged
24	Aftercare	*
25	Ecological Survey	*

Conditions 24 and 25 have not yet been discharged as a revised Conservation Management Plan ("CMP") has been requested by ESCC.

The meeting was reminded that the outstanding conditions would not prevent Dudman from starting on site; rather they are ongoing obligations and would, along with other conditions, evolve as the site progresses through its working life.

Paul Nicholson undertook to seek further clarification from ESCC, Douglas Symes and ECOSA as to the status of the CMP.

Action: Paul Nicholson

4. Activities on Site

Paul Nicholson confirmed that little activity had been seen on site. This had been due to the continued presence of little ringed plovers, which have produced two broods on site. The chicks have now left the nest and accordingly the protected status has been lifted. Dudman is now free to commence work.

Work had been carried out on the access from Plumpton Lane, with edging setts and new tarmac. It was noted that the waste material had been left on site; the meeting was concerned that such “dumping” should not continue and Paul Nicholson would mention this to ESCC.

Action: Paul Nicholson

The only equipment now on site is the grading machine and a small lockable container.

Paul Nicholson thought that Dudman would be unlikely to “miss” a further season and anticipated activity on site at any stage now. He would discuss this with Dudman and give as much warning as possible to residents as to the likely start date.

Action: Paul Nicholson

5. Traffic

Due to the lack of activity on site there is nothing to report on traffic activity.

However, given the strong possibility of the site opening in the near future, Nigel Hills has set up a web site so that residents can log traffic incidents. The address is:

plumpton_sandpit@hotmail.com

This site should be used by any resident who notes a traffic incident – be that a near miss, speeding, damage to roadside verges, excessive emissions, inappropriate parking, engines running when stationary etc. Please use this facility – times, position, lorry number or registration plate, photograph if possible. Many thanks to Nigel as without evidence we can do little.

Action: All

John Sheeran noted that at another site in Arundel (perhaps not a Dudman site?) a sign had been erected directing site traffic in one direction. This, the meeting recalled, had been the initial drift of the planning consent but apparently was not felt to be enforceable by ESCC. Paul would discuss this further with ESCC and Dudman.

Action: Paul Nicholson

6. Ecology

The CMP had been prepared by ECOSA and Paul Nicholson and Tony Hutson had responded, incorporating comments received from residents. Nothing to date had been fed back to us although Paul had spoken to Douglas Symes who undertook to chase ECOSA for a response. In that discussion, Paul had also noted that ESCC had required a review of the CMP to include the extension to the pit. Our understanding is that the existing pit is to be left relatively unworked in this new phase of operation and so the CMP would need to concentrate on the extension.

Paul Nicholson and Tony Hutson would press for further action. Thanks here to Tony Hutson and Julie Russell for their input.

Action: Paul Nicholson/Tony Hutson

Tony had met with Jeremy Patterson of ESCC and a representative of Natural England early in June at the time when the little ringed plovers had nested. This had resulted in the delay in operations as noted above. Tony had found the meeting useful as it gave a guide as to how Natural England and ESCC regard the site. Residents agreed that the Natural England representative should be invited to the next meeting.

Action: Tony Hutson

7. Date of Next Liaison Group Meeting

Paul Nicholson undertook to contact Mr Dudman again to arrange this as soon as work recommences on site. He had also asked Meg Stroude, County Councillor, to remind Mr Dudman.

Action: Paul Nicholson

8. Any Other Business

Paul noted that Carole Nicholson, having been elected to the Parish Council, was now the pc representative on the Sandpit Residents' Committee. This would ensure that both groups acted on a consistent basis.

9. Date of next Residents' Committee Meeting

This will be held on Tuesday 25th September 2007 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room in the Village Hall.

Action: All