

THREE KINGS QUARRY SITE LIAISON GROUP MEETING

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 30 MAY 2011
AT THE THREE KINGS SCHOOL HALL
COMMENCING AT 7PM**

PRESENT:

Winstone Aggregates Attendees:

Andrea Cave, Tony Carpenter, Bernie Chote, Chris Edmonds, Mike Harris

Elected Representative Attendees:

Jackie Blue, MP
Peseta Sam Lotu-iga, MP
Cathy Casey, Councillor
Christine Fletcher, Councillor
Nigel Turnbull, Puketapapa Local Board
Michael Wood, Puketapapa Local Board

Residents and Interested Parties:

Austen Bell, Three Kings United Group
Dianne Hill, Three Kings United Group
Prof. Dick Bellamy, South Epsom Planning Group

B.A. Bartley, Alan Bigelow, G Broadfoot, Alison & Michael Brown, Garry Bryant, Lloyd Cairns, Joel Cayford, Douglas Chandler, Jie Deng, Robin Duke, Ellis Fell, Christine Fletcher, Veronica Friedlander, Annette & Les Graham, Garth Houltham, Len Hill, Summer Ioelu, Jim Jackson, Jasmine & John, Jeff King, Sam Latu-iga, O.M. Lichtnecker, Ian Lilly, Peter McConnel, Gary McSweeney, Tim Millard, Pip Mules, Graeme Mulholland, Catherine Penny, Dean Saunders, Linda Shaw, John Subritzky, F. & J. Swallow, Ilaise & Tafu Totua, Steve & Julie Tarrant, Dawn Taylor, Hugh & Trish Thomson, Alisa Warburton, Ann Weaver, John & May Ann White, Liz & Gerry Wright

Greg McKeown (Chairperson/Facilitator)
Sandra Kelly (Minute Taker)

A.1 WELCOME BY CHAIR

Greg McKeown called the meeting to order, advising he was “on trial” chairing the meeting. He welcomed Councillor Christine Fletcher (former Mayor of Auckland), Councillor Cathy Casey, MP Jackie Blue, Local Board Members Nigel Turner and Michael Wood, along with former Councillor Graeme Mulholland and former Councillor Joel Cayford.

Andrea Cave then introduced herself, followed by other Winstone Aggregates Attendees Bernie Chote, Chris Edmonds, Mike Harris and Tony Carpenter.

Greg showed the Auckland Unleashed Plan booklet to attendees. He advised it was a draft spatial plan on which the Council is seeking feedback and that a 10-year Financial Plan will back this up. Page 139 of Auckland UnLeashed included a map which showed what could be main development centres, # 63 being Three Kings, designated an 'emergent area'. Greg said that the discussion around the vision for the area including future development of the quarry will be discussed at a different meeting, and that this Site Liaison Group Meeting is about operational aspects of the quarry.

Greg said that it had been noted from the last meeting to decide on the framework of future meetings. He had prepared a draft agenda but attendees were welcome to come up with new ideas so this can be modified for future meetings.

Three Kings Stakeholder Group – June 13th 2011.

A.2 THREE KINGS UNITED GROUP

Dianne Hill addressed the meeting in her capacity as President of the Three Kings United Group. She outlined the history of the group, and previous concerns such as dewatering, measuring ground movement, and now filling the quarry. She feels that from today onwards meetings will be more informative etc.

A.3 SOUTH EPSOM PLANNING GROUP

Professor Dick Bellamy, South Epsom Planning Group, then addressed the meeting, advising that the group has been involved in planning issues in the neighbourhood since 1972, which were largely centred around the St Andrews Road area. Now concerned about the nature and end use / operation of the quarry site and aquifers in particular. He then commented on a document containing Section 7 Quarry Zone (City of Auckland – District Plan – Isthmus Section) regarding blasting etc.

A.4 PUKETAPAPA LOCAL BOARD

Nigel Turnbull stated that, as a Local Board member, he would be very active with issues in the community. Their priority has been identified as the quarry - to get tangible and practical commitments to outcomes in the future. We will negotiate with Councillors and the Mayor on these issues. Looking towards fantastic outcomes for our community, in particular for our youth. Encourage people to attend the Three Kings Area Stakeholder Group meeting to get a positive result for the community. We will look at our outcomes for the future and how we do this. Endeavouring to get Officers of Council to attend the next meeting. Mr Turnbull said he will undertake to take questions to Council so that we can have answers at the next meeting.

A.5 VERONICA FRIEDLANDER

Veronica Friedlander then addressed the meeting. She stated she was amazed and dismayed that Winstone Aggregates plan to blast again twice a week for a year. Have Winstone Aggregates not taken enough and made enough money to stop at this point? There is the prospect of a vast number of trucks in the area over the next 20 years. She is also concerned about the contamination of the aquifer under the quarry. Cleanfill is o.k., but mixed-equals-dirty fill which is highly undesirable and completely unacceptable.

B. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: B. Chote, THAT the Minutes of the Committee Meeting dated 31 May 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Meeting. Seconded: D. Hill. Carried

C. MATTERS ARISING

None.

D. SITE MONITORING REPORT

Mike Harris introduced himself, and presented the Site Monitoring Report covering the past 12 months (a copy of which is located on the company's website).

Mr McKeown thanked everyone for their patience while Mr Harris presented his Report, as it was quite technical.

D. Taylor asked what the date of the last precise level survey was – Mr Harris replied February/March 2011. She then asked if residents were advised of the subsidence in Budock Road. Mr Harris replied that 1 in 4,000 is only the first stage of the triggers and therefore it did not need to be reported.

She further advised she had noticed uncovered trucks. Mr Harris said Mr Edmonds or Mr Carpenter could answer that question later in the meeting. V. Friedlander spoke about dust and Mr Harris said dust is controlled by air discharge permit.

Prof. Bellamy queried the trend graph, asking where the drawdown is stabilised at RL34m. If the groundwater level is lowered, more boreholes would have to be drilled to meet further Consent requirements. At the moment the intention is to fill the hole in. Mr Chote added that if Winstone Aggregates obtain Consent to fill, the groundwater level will stay as is at RL34m.

Are Winstone Aggregates obliged to do any testing on the quality of the water going into the Manukau Harbour? Winstone Aggregates do not undertake this at present as at the moment. However, monitoring of this will come into effect when the quarry is filled. Jim Jackson also spoke on the quality of the water going into the Manukau Harbour. Mr Harris reiterated that Winstone would have to monitor the quality of the discharged water.

Summer loelu advised that she caught 15 rodents on Barrister Avenue. Mr Harris advised quite a few had been caught at the quarry in the past, however not lately, so they may have repopulated in the area. Traps were set on the southern and eastern side of the quarry, with the most success behind the Café. Therefore, Winstone Aggregates can start setting traps again. Prof. Bellamy suggested that the feeding stations be at 50 metre intervals as per DOC requirements for rats. Company to take DOC's advice on board when dealing with trapping rats and possums, and also talk to Council on this matter.

Hugh Thompson said that bringing fill into the site may cause problems with pests already present in the rubble etc. Mr Harris then advised on the type of fill which would be accepted.

E. QUARRY OPERATIONS AND FEEDBACK

Tony Carpenter, Quarry Manager, presented his report to the meeting. He showed on a map of the site where the scoria and basalt will be taken from in the future. He then gave a slideshow of plantings in the area and along the fence line, pictures from the Open Day held on 7 May, drilling rig, Red Bull display, Doug the Digger etc. Much positive feedback was received about the day itself.

No complaints received since the last site Liaison Meeting 12 months ago.

Question – what happens in the quarry at 10 pm on a Sunday evening? Mr Carpenter informed residents that it was most probably lights from the maintenance crew working on the crushing plant.

F. UPDATE ON FILL APPLICATION / MANAGEMENT PLANS

Andrea Cave provided an update on the Consent issued on 23 May 2011, a copy of which is also on the company's website. Winstone Aggregates have 30 days to answer queries on the Consent. She then provided some background on the activities which are permitted at the site. These are also listed on the company's website.

She then displayed scoria and basalt samples. Winstones cannot use a rock breaker on site to remove the basalt due to noise restrictions, therefore they are considering a drill and blast programme. This would be carried out by Red Bull, an outside independent contractor. Andrea outlined examples of their recent projects. The Blasting Performance and Standards document was distributed at the meeting, and was also available on the company's website.

Blasting times will be between 9:00am – 12:30pm Monday to Friday and will be restricted to two times per day except where necessary for emergency or safety reasons. The two times for blasting during the day will be set at approximately 10:15am and 12:15pm.

A mock-up sign containing blasting details was displayed for consideration. These signs would also be placed in public areas, with a larger sign at the quarry entrance. Also seek residents' input regarding sirens detailed in the Draft Blasting Sirens Procedure which was also handed out at the meeting.

A letterbox drop would also be undertaken advising the community on details of sirens, blasting, timings etc., as well as blasting information updated on the website, and other methods of communication are being investigated such as fax, text messages, Facebook etc. Please let Andrea know the best way you think would be in getting the information across to residents.

Members of the Site Liaison Group are invited to watch the first blast. After that, Winstone Aggregates can hold a feedback session to see how the communications etc. were received in the community. Date of blast to be advised.

Andrea then detailed how information would be distributed in the future, mainly on the company's website.

Winstone Aggregates would like to get the basalt out of the site as this is a valuable resource, and this would allow an even quarry floor level for settlement purposes prior to filling.

Andrea added that the Quarry Management Plan outlines the mitigation plans in place for blasting. Vibration is controlled by regulations which the company has to meet. This is also monitored with the results sent to Council. The vibration is measured at the boundary of the property. The Vibration Report would be available at the next meeting.

Mr Chote answered a question regarding how the vibration would feel. Winstone Aggregates would design blasts targeting a velocity of 2.5 mm per second.

D. Hill asked how far would the vibration fan out? Mr Chote replied there is ground vibration, plus an air blast which is monitored. Winstone Aggregates will have a variety of points around the site with vibration and airblast monitors to measure these, and also has the capacity to have mobile monitors installed.

May Ann White asked – how does the blasting compare with the 750 truck numbers proposed? Judge Smith has issued a Consent with conditions requiring input from various Groups which are to be answered within a certain timeframe. Background level of noise is 62 dBA on the road. 120 dBA for the blast which will take place over 3 to 4 seconds. The last blast carried out at the site was 15 or 16 years ago, and the technology has changed since then.

G. Bryant asked what about vibration going down, and damage to the aquifer? Mr Chote replied it is held within the volcanic cone. Mr Bryant then queried the removal of the basalt. Mr Chote advised that it is best to remove the hard plugs and start off with a flat surface for filling the quarry so we avoid differing settlement in the future.

Prof. Bellamy said his Group would acknowledge that there is a right for the company to blast under the District Plan. Average blast of 50 kgs – how does this compare with the corner at Khyber Pass Road? Significantly less used at Khyber Pass advised Mr Chote, but the people who have these skills (Red Bull) will be doing the same work for us. Prof. Bellamy further questioned the 50 kg explosion, the vibration, size of the blast, dBA, fly rock etc. Mr Chote said fly rock is a problem when you have the wrong people doing the wrong things, but we have experts in the field to carry out the blasting. He said he is happy to state that there will be no fly rock outside of the quarry boundary.

If there is any damage to properties, how will this be handled? Mr Chote advised Winstone Aggregates would be liable. John White queried the effects of blasting in the hollow areas/fissures. Mr Chote said if people wish, he can get representatives from Red Bull to explain the procedures to residents.

Prof. Bellamy said you know the volume of the volcanic plug etc., so how many explosions will be required to remove the material? Chris Edmonds replied one blast a week for 12 to 18 months. Every blast will also be filmed; some of which can be shown at a future meeting. Results of the first blast will also be available at the first meeting after the blast, and it was reiterated that residents were welcome to watch the first blast.

D. Taylor then asked whether the company held public liability insurance, to which Mr Chote replied yes, it does. She then complained about dust on her house. All Winstone Aggregates trucks are covered when they leave the site, however the company cannot direct others to cover their loads as they leave. They are covered by the Transport Act when they leave the site. There is a wheel wash near the exit, and a new one will be installed for the cleanfill operation.

Councillor Casey suggested just filling over the uneven surface. Mr Chote advised again that it is better if we start with a flat surface to ensure the fill in the future will behave differently. It will be very different to the Hunters fill as Winstone Aggregates standards are much higher.

The question then arose – what will the surface be used for in the future when the site has been filled? There are five different options in the Quarry Management Plan for the future end use of the site once it has been filled. It would also include rezoning of the area. A different meeting would address this, which Mr Turnbull said would be held on 13 June, venue yet to be decided but possibly in the Three Kings School Hall.

G. Bryant asked if Winstone Aggregates were quarrying where Animates, the Café etc. were located. The reply was no. He then said previous General Managers have advised that they would never blast again, so what else will Winstone Aggregates do which previous General Managers have said would not happen? Mr Chote said he cannot comment on what previous General Managers have said; adding that he has held the current General Manager's role for the past five years.

The company do not anticipate filling until at least July 2012 as many actions have to be put in place with management plans, traffic plans etc., and a review of the Quarry Management Plan would also have to be undertaken. The original application to the Council was for a separate entrance, but that will not proceed.

Is it likely that blasting will damage homes in the area? Mr Chote replied that the company has no concerns regarding damage.

Doug commented that many shift workers lived in the area, so how will the sirens and blasts affect them? Winstone Aggregates are looking at revisiting these two areas so that the noise is only audible in the quarry itself.

Mr Chote added that it was not anticipated that there would be any affect on property values in the area.

Signage will be put up on the day of each blast, in the local park etc., to advise people.

The Court determines, under the Consent conditions, the contents of the Fill Management Plan.

D. Hill then asked if the blasting would affect unstable rock due to dewatering, to which Mr Chote advised it doesn't make any difference.

Each hole would contain approximately 2 kg of explosive which would go off sequentially instead of one bigger blast.

The fill would come from all over the Auckland area, e.g. possibly some from the Waterview Extension, but as that tunnel is a 24-7 operation, it is not suited to the Three Kings site hours of operation.

R. Duke stated that some of the areas to be blasted seem very close to the boundary, and Mr Chote reiterated the process carried out in the Khyber Pass Road area – the same company Red Bull will be handling the blasting at the quarry so are very experienced working in confined areas.

In view of the fact that the quarry has come to an end, would Winstone Aggregates wish to develop the Fyvie Road area? Mr Chote does not think that anyone would want to quarry that land.

How long will it take to fill the quarry? Mr Chote said it is correlated to the construction activity in the area so he would think around 12 years or so. Winstone Aggregates are very happy to discuss whether various pieces of land can be released earlier rather than later; not only Winstone Aggregates land but also Council land.

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

Where can people email Mr Turnbull regarding items to be discussed at the meeting on 13 June? Contact the Puketapapa Local Board Secretary, Sue Blainey, as follows:

Sue.blainey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Tel: 624 4941

Prof. Bellamy asked the Councillors about the small tipping area near the quarry on Council land, and if they could close down the activity which the Parks Department run? There was a fire in the area recently. Mr Turnbull advised that he will be taking this matter further. The Council are to be contacted regarding the organic rubbish.

Greg then thanked the MPs, Councillors, past Councillors, Local Board Members and residents for coming along to the meeting, listening to the technical reports, and participating in the meeting in a productive way.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

H. NEXT MEETING

Monday 29th August 2011, 7pm, venue to be advised

For more information visit the Winstone Aggregates website www.winstoneaggregates.co.nz
Select <Quarries><Auckland><Three Kings> or go straight to
www.winstoneaggregates.co.nz/Auckland.php?location=Three%20Kings