

# Site monitoring report

Please find detailed below the report for the site monitoring undertaken. If you should have any queries or require any photographs taken on site, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Site Name:** Colemans Farm, Little Braxted Lane, Rivenhall End, WITHAM, CM8 3EX

**File Ref:** 12. 421.36

**Operator:** Brice Aggregates Limited

**Site Representative:** Matthew Ball (MB)

**Essex County Council (ECC):** Terry Burns (TB)

Also accompanied by Emma Simmonds (ECC Ecology); Hannah Coutts (ECC Ecology); Alumdena Quaralte (ECC Landscape) and Emily Wood (ECC Arboriculture)

**Visit no:** 1 of 4

**Date:** 13/06/24

**Time on site:** 09:00

**Time off site:** 12:10

**Monitoring Officer:** T Burns                      Tel No: 03330136440

**Site Co-ordinator:** As above                      Tel No:

**Permission no's:**

**ESS/65/17/BTE: Change of Use of land for Stockpiling**

**ESS/40/18/BTE: Continuation of Use of Mineral Extraction**

**ESS/11/20/COL: Ready Mix Concrete Plant**

**Constraints:**

● Weather:                      **Dry/ Windy / Rain / Snow**

● Noise

(officer perception) :                      **Acceptable/ Not acceptable / N/A**

● Approach road:                      **Combination of Dry / Dusty / Wet / Muddy / Flooded**

(Highway)

- Ground: **Combination / Dry / Dusty / Wet / Damp / Muddy / Flooded**
- Access: **Obstructed / Not Obstructed / Mud on Road / Ice / Slippery**
- Wheel cleaning: **Washer / Spinner / Sweeper / none N/A**
- Hose: **In use / Not in Use / N/A**
- Machinery: **Working / Not working**
- In correct position: **Yes / No / N/A**
- Stockpiles: **Height above permitted height/Acceptable**
- Bunds: **Profiled / Grassed / Weeds / NA**

### **Actions from last site visit:**

- Approach roads cleared of site debris carry out. **Update: Entrance clean at time of visit.**
- Wheelwash use enforced on site with drivers using the wheelwash correctly. **Update: Whilst wheelwash being used, MB did confirm that drivers not using the wash approach or drive through technique correctly. This was observed at the time of the vits occurring.**
- Haul road after wheelwash towards exit gate to be kept clean to avoid ponding and collection of debris falling from HGV wheels. **Update: Exit of wheelwash had been cleared however drainage at entrance to wheelwash is overspilling onto hedgerow with dirty wash water. Silt building up on track and base of hedgerows.**
- Tree planting guards removed from ground and tree bases. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Stockpile heights to be reduced before next monitoring visit and maintained at permitted heights. **Update: Stockpiles at or near permitted heights.**
- Investigate potential for placement of visual height marker in stockpiling area. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Soil bund by concrete plant to be rectified and regraded. Spoil material to be removed. **Update: Partial clearance.**
- Soil bund situated alongside watercourse to the east of the processing plant to be pulled back from watercourse line to ensure slippages do not enter watercourse. **Update: Situation worse than last monitoring visit. See report below.**
- Haul road crossing of watercourse by processing plant to be demarcated with barriers to restrict encroachment of road material into watercourse and tree root standoffs. **Update: Still awaited and see report below.**
- Standoff from tree canopy/root protection areas of all tree/hedgerow boundaries. No parking of plant and machinery from these standoff areas. **Update: Some removal of parked plant however demarcation still awaited and see report below.**
- Review is necessary on effectiveness of the CEMP plan. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Compliance with the conditions listed above and in permissions/pending permissions/legal agreements. **Update: Still awaited see report below.**
- Phasing work needs to be back on track with correct working of Phases.
- Dust management on perimeter hedgerows in stocking area to be addressed to minimise contamination of the vegetation. **Update: Still awaited.**

### **Inspection Results Summary:**

- Site approach road clean at time of visit.
- Wheelwash being used, although at time of visit as recorded above not all drivers using the wash correctly. Also drainage from entry side of wheelwash is ponding and silt building up under adjacent hedgerow line. **Action Point: MB to reinforce advice on use to drivers and address drainage.**
- Highway verges have recently been strimmed by Local Authority. Within site entrance the site bunding is weed infested. Hedgerow planting needs attention with tree guards. Other transplants appear to have been lost. Little evidence to landscape management.

- Colleagues discuss with MB the lack of standoffs from the tree/hedge lines where previous parking of vehicles beneath the canopies on the western side of the processing plant footprint had been observed. The spread of the access tracks both here and around the site is impinging on tree root protection areas and watercourses. Discussions during the visit concerning ways to standoff and physically demarcate buffer strips. **Action Point: MB. Demarcation provision to be provided through site by end of June 2024.**
- Within southern stockpiling area the footprint now occupied by gravel/stone stocks which are in places at or near permitted height. No evidence of any recycleate being stored. MB confirmed
- Concrete batching plant operational with one mixer being loaded at time of visit.
- Northern processing area now virtually empty of sand stock. What little remains is situated in a few small stockpiles around the perimeter of the stocking area with heights up to around 3 metres high.
- Watercourse has considerable silt deposit particularly at the road crossing points. Ingress of mud/silt from the haul road evident. Height of stockpile in northern processing area as well as the berm of road material cobbles adjacent the watercourse are prejudicing the root protection areas as well as the watercourse integrity. **Action Point: MB to pull back stockpiles from around surrounding perimeter trees/hedgerows and watercourses.**
- Lagoon on southern side of site next to freshwater lagoon has now had an access track pushed through soil bund. Creation of the access track has crossed internal drainage ditch and a channel created into the watercourse mentioned above. This channelling which is also a source of silt going into the watercourse.
- MB advised that desilting to take place as the newer lagoon adjacent Phase 1 now full.
- At eastern end of the soil bund formed along the northern boundary of the silt lagoon a cut has been made to create a level platform to accommodate a rumble strip. MB advised this is unauthorised. MD confirmed that as at previous meeting the location for the rumble strip which had then been in a dismantled form and lying in pieces along the haul road was to have been installed on the haul road itself north of the silt lagoons. Its location now was contrary to that advice.
- Soil bunding, as with rest of bunding on site was weed infested.
- Haul road link was now dual carriageway wide compared to how it has been established. Silt and road creep has infringed onto soil bund toe.
- Within Phase 1 the recycling activities of storage and delivery of inerts continue. 3 to 4 HGV's queuing at a time to reverse into void and unload. Dozer working in void and 2 no Excavators loading fleet of some three to four articulated dumptrucks hauling inerts from Phase 1 through to Phase 3 A and B as the operator refers to the infilling schedule in this Phase. MB advised that some 150 loads per day being received.
- Western extension being worked through. Clay band running across Phase in an east to west direction is being monitored by archaeologists. MB considered there to be some 4 to 5 months working left.
- Clay base visible on the southern side and deposit quite shallow, appears some 6-8 metres.
- Visible evidence of tree die back particularly Willow and Elm.
- New access track created off main site haul road into the recycling area breaching the tree line.

- 2 no dozers working grading infill within the Phase 3 area. This infill now over three quarters tipped in. MB considered some 6 to 8 weeks to reach 300mm below final level.
- Phase 4 now has significant quantity of backfill placed in its centre. Pumping of perimeter water being undertaken. Access track down into the Phase 4 and 5 void as previously recorded has infringed into tree root protection area, tree roots showing through excavated face. Trees above showing stress.
- North of Phase 4 a stockpile of soils lies between the phase and A12. This mound presently covered in daisy type flowers.
- Phase 5 remains as previous visit with worked out void and moonscape appearance of the basal clay lying in varying mounds, water bodies and sand/overburden piled up in various shaped mounds.
- Part of old Phase 6 partially worked with face alongside the reservoir.
- Phase 8 remains soil stripped.
- Processing plant operational although stocks beneath conveyor arms not too high. Front loader serving plant.
- Stockpile to east of the plant already picked up on earlier is considerably closer to the perimeter vegetation.

### **Compliance with Conditions:**

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 1

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Notification Dates

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 9

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Ecological Surveys

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 10

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Ecological Surveys CEMP

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 21

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Archaeological fieldwork post excavation report

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 29

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic noise monitoring

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 38

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Site Lighting

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/40/18/BTE Condition 57

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Aftercare scheme

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/65/17/BTE Condition 21

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic Noise Monitoring

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/11/20/BTE Condition 7

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Site Lighting

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/11/20/BTE Condition 15

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Noise Monitoring

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/11/20/BTE Condition 18

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Dust Management

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 5

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Tree Protection Scheme

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to Soil Stripping

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 6

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Ecological Requirements

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to Soil Stripping

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 7

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: CEMP

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to Soil Stripping

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 9

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Biodiversity Enhancement Plan

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 10 months of permission date.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 10

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Skylark Mitigation

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil stripping.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 11

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Landscaping

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 5 years of permission.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 12; 13 and 14

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Archaeology

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to development.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 15; 16 and 17

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Archaeology

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Post excavation assessment/ Fieldwork Visit/Within 4 months of completion of fieldwork phase.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 19

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Dust

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil strip.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 21

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Soil Handling

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil strip.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 30

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Revised Restoration

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 years.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/36/21/BTE Condition 31

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Aftercare

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil replacement.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 10; 12

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Ecological Requirements

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to commencement/Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 13

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Biodiversity Enhancement Plan



Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 10 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 23

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Archaeology

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 6 months of completion in each phase.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 32

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Noise Monitoring

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 35

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Dust

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/51/21/BTE Condition 60

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Aftercare

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil replacement.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 10

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Ecological Requirements

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil strip.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 11

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: CEMP

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 13

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Biodiversity

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 10 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 23

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Archaeology

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 6 months of fieldwork phasing.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 31

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Noise Monitoring

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 34

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Dust

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 months.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 58

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Revised Restoration

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Within 2 years.

Pending Permission/Condition No: ESS/98/21/BTE Condition 59

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Aftercare

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Prior to soil replacement.

Actions to be taken before next site visit:

- Approach roads cleared of site debris carry out.
- Wheelwash use reinforced to drivers.
- Wheelwash drainage to be addressed and contamination of hedgerows from off spill water to be stopped.
- Tree planting guards removed from ground and tree bases.
- Provision of visual height marker/s in stockpiling area.
- Soil bund by concrete plant to be rectified and regraded. Spoil material to be removed.
- Soil bund/stockpiles alongside watercourse to the east of the processing plant to be pulled back from watercourse line to ensure slippages do not enter watercourse.
- Haul road crossing of watercourse by processing plant to be demarcated with barriers to restrict encroachment of road material into watercourse and tree root standoffs.
- Standoff from tree canopy/root protection areas of all tree/hedgerow boundaries. No parking of plant and machinery from these standoff areas. To be carried out by end of June 2024.
- Review is necessary on effectiveness of the CEMP plan.
- As above programme of landscape management to be implemented.
- Compliance with the conditions listed above and in permissions/pending permissions/legal agreements.
- Arrangement for site ecologist to be present at next monitoring visit to discuss site progress/actions being undertaken.

**Note: The actions noted in this report are required in order to ensure adequate progress is made and to avoid potential enforcement action against a breach of planning control.**

Date of Next Meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 @ 09:00

Report Date: 14/06/24