

# 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); Megan Cowell (ECC Landscape) and Emily Wood (ECC Arboriculture)

**Visit no:** 2 of 4

**Date:** 05/09/24

**Time on site:** 09:00

**Time off site:** 11:30

**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: HGV drivers appearing to use at time of visit. Concrete mixers bypassing the washer.**
- Wheelwash drainage to be addressed and contamination of hedgerows from off spill water to be stopped. **Update; Still not actioned. MB advised they could lower pressure and tinker with the system. ES/TB suggested a sump to then allow water to be recovered and reused.**
- Tree planting guards removed from ground and tree bases. **Update: Mostly completed.**
- Provision of visual height marker/s in stockpiling area. **Update: Still awaited**
- Stockpile heights to be reduced before next monitoring visit and maintained at permitted heights. **Update: Stockpiles at or near permitted heights.**
- 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: Partially completed. 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: Lego blocks now in place on nearest watercourse alongside processing plant.**
- Standoff from tree canopy/root protection areas of all tree/hedgerow boundaries. No parking of plant and machinery from these standoff areas. **Update: Placement of fencing free standing along stockpile side of hedgerow. AW advised fixed fence line to be provided.**
- Review is necessary on effectiveness of the CEMP plan. **Update: See report below.**
- Compliance with the conditions listed above and in permissions/pending permissions/legal agreements. **Update: Still awaited see report below.**

### **Inspection Results Summary:**

- Site approach road clean at time of visit.
- Road is however breaking up as HGV traffic turns north out of entrance way. Part of bellmouth also suffering failure on exit side.
- Site car parking and HGV parking areas now extending outside their boundaries. MB did advise that next week or two there would be transfer of staff to alternative offices so numbers of vehicles will reduce drastically. If by time of next monitoring visit the issue persists then amendments to the layout plan will be required.
- Wheelwash being used, although at time of visit as recorded above not all drivers using the wash. Also drainage from entry side of wheelwash is still covering the road and being channelled through the debris build up onto the hedgerow base where ponding was evident on the far side of the hedgerow. Recommendation to put in a sump to catch and retrieve water. **Action Point: MB to address.**
- Colleagues discuss with MB the CEMP copied to parties by operators ecologist. This document appeared to have old plans referenced and was also confusing with it referring, but not clarifying, where it was relying on previously approved schemes.

ES thought it would be a lot cleared particularly for site operatives to have one document setting out what the CEMP was containing and picking up on actual site conditions. Recommendation to have the agent and ecologist on site before next monitoring visit to talk through and discuss the CEMP and what was practical with the ongoing site activities. Such a meeting could be attended by ECC officers to assist. **Action Point: MB to arrange.**

- Standoffs from the tree/hedge lines was viewed and some metal free standing barriers and post and chain fencing as previously noted above has been placed along some hedgerows for standoff protection. The adequacy and coverage of the fencing/standoffs would be picked up more on the proposed site meeting with the ecologists/arboriculturists referred to above.
- Within southern stockpiling area the footprint occupied by sand, stone and temporary placement of imported construction rubble that awaits movement into the holding area of former Phase 1.
- Bund along southern boundary has had former tipped material on its eastern toe regraded. Bund to be grassed over.
- Concrete batching plant operational with three mixers being loaded/waiting at time of visit.
- Northern processing area has growing sand stockpiles compared to previous monitoring visit period. Perimeter bunding considered alongside the CEMP issues. MB advised possible one tree being impacted by realigned brook although use of a mini excavator could avoid tree loss as channel was not intended to be too wide.
- Watercourse crossing has lego block protection. Fencing line already addressed earlier. Ditch on eastern side still be addressed at base of bund that surrounds the silt lagoon.
- Lagoon immediately to east of hedgerow has been cleaned out; bunding regraded and clear of vegetation.
- Rumble ramp in place more to the western end of the haul road that runs through to the Phase 1 and rest of workings.
- Most if not all of the internal and perimeter bunding need weed control. Some stinging mentioned to the northern end of the site but rest also needs maintenance.
- Phase 1 busy with holding area having a platform being levelled through on its eastern side to await placement and movement of various internal stockpiles to be better positioned. Stockpile heights need to be monitored as platforms rise in level to accommodate them relative to surrounding ground level and long distance views.
- Western extension being worked through and activity now along northern boundary. Realignment channel for the brook now in place.
- Visible evidence of tree die back particularly Willow and Elm.
- Phase 7 has been opened although work ceased in this area until Western extension and Phase 5 being finished.
- Large number of ADT's operating shuttling overburden from Phase 5 round into eastern side of Phase 4. Overburden also being transported from Western Extension into Phase 4.
- Phase 2 and 3 quiet with infill placed to just below finished level. MB noted that unlikely mineral left under northern bunding would be difficult to win as breaching of the perimeter bunding would expose active quarry visually/acoustically etc.
- Base of most of Phase 5 has been levelled from its former moonscape aspect. Final mineral being removed from the southern boundary.
- Phase 8 remains soil stripped.

- Processing plant operational with stocks beneath conveyor arms and adjacent sand stock in yard growing in area/height. Front loader serving plant.
- Stockpile to east of the processing 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:

- Maintenance arrangement for addressing break up of bellmouth road exit side and public highway.
- Wheelwash use reinforced to drivers.
- Wheelwash drainage to be addressed and contamination of hedgerows from off spill water to be stopped. Provision of sump would assist.
- Provision of visual height marker/s in stockpiling area.
- 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.
- Demarcation with barriers to restrict encroachment of road material into watercourse and tree root standoffs for crossing near landfill holding area.
- Standoff from tree canopy/root protection areas of all tree/hedgerow boundaries. No parking of plant and machinery from these standoff areas.
- Review is necessary on effectiveness of the CEMP plan. Interim meeting with operators agent/ecology/arboriculturist and invite to Mineral Planning Authority representatives.
- 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: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 @ 09:00

Report Date: 05/09/24