

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 [enter site name here], please do not hesitate to contact me.

Site Name: Sandon Quarry, Southend Road, Chelmsford.

File Ref: 23 421 03

Operator: Robert Brett and Sons Ltd

Site Representative: Karol Podkomorzy (KP) – Brett.

Also attended by Emma Simmonds (Essex Ecology Officer)

Visit no: 2 of 4

Date: 24/09/24

Time on site: 12:30

Time off site: 14:30

Monitoring Officer: T Burns Tel No: 03330136440

Site Co-ordinator: As above Tel No:

Permission no's:

ESS/08/16/CHL: Northern quarry void and plant site including the restoration of the Northern quarry void using inert materials (superceded by ESS/114/22/CHL) .

ESS/40/17/CHL: The continuation of the infilling with inert waste to allow an extension in time for completion of restoration by 31 December 2026 in the southern quarry void.

ESS/41/17/CHL: Installation and operation of an inert waste recycling facility to produce secondary aggregate in the southern quarry void.

ESS/49/17/CHL: Retention of site office.

ESS/15/19/CHL 43.2m x 2m high fence along the haul route.

ESS/114/22/CHL – Infilling and relocation of site offices. Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

Constraints:

- Weather: **Dry**/ Negligent wind/Windy / Rain/Snow
- Noise
(Officer perception): **Acceptable**/ Not acceptable / N/A
- Approach roads: **Dry** / Dusty /Damp/ / Wet / Muddy/ Flooded
- Ground: **Mix of: Dry** / Dusty / Wet / **Damp** / Muddy in places / Flooded
- Access: Obstructed / Not Obstructed / Mud on Road / Ice / Slippery
(See inspection report below)
- 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 = **Acceptable**
- Bunds: **Profiled** / Grassed /**Weeds** / NA

Actions from last site visit: **Actions remain open**

- Clarity on actions taken to achieve adjustments to be undertaken to ensure wheel wash effectiveness and elimination of carry out to remove further need for sweeping and washing of the haul road. **Update: Still awaited**
- Maintain vigilance on sheeting of vehicles. **For monitoring by site operator.**
- State of haul road integrity to be monitored. **For monitoring by site operator.**
- Clarity on management and maintenance programme for landscaping. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Outstanding Conditions need addressing immediately. **Update: Operator has been addressing these.**
- No further work in northern void until southern void restored as per planning conditions. **For noting by site operator.**
- Ensure all permissions and schemes held in both site offices for quarry and recycling operators. **For noting by site operator**

Inspection Results Summary:

- Haul road from site entrance through to office clean. Frequent flow of HGV's visiting principally Bushcade livery. One artic also noted at time of visit entering site.
- Compensation area walked and ES will be liaising with Bioscan on management aspects. Two lower pond areas were damp at the most. Surrounding land had a lot of

thatch; ragwort now in seed and broom developing across the site. Management to be addressed and discussion between ES and Bioscan.

- Within southern void levels have been brought up to just below topsoil level along western side. Final marker pegs about 0.5 ish short of final level. Some temporary soil bunding created along western perimeter and this is to be graded across land along with the southern perimeter soil storage bund. Parts of the void have been graded with subsoil. Final levels will await suitable imported soils to complete the restoration.
- Strimming along reptile exclusion fencing has taken place across the site.
- Approach to bridge continues to have metal fencing to filter pedestrians past bridge entrance and along public right of way. Further steel fencing runs either side of the bridge between it and the surrounding vegetation. Skip remains positioned near bridge and since last visit it appears to have been emptied.
- Within recycling area an excavator and front loaded were active and visiting HGV's being loaded with remaining stockpiles of former operators products. One crusher (green coloured) parked up within the footprint on north eastern corner but not active. KP advised Brett now taken on board the stocks and were running these down. Future operating arrangements of the recycling area still to be clarified. Previous operators site offices now removed. One portacabin and three ISO containers remain.
- Two of the previously developed scrapes which had been plastic lined and then covered with soils were damp on base and one of these did have some water holding following recent rains. Water was holding in some harder compacted ground comprising the trackway alongside one of the scrapes.
- A number of low mounds about 1 -1.5 metres high of what appears to be vegetation and top layer scrap material located north of the former processing plant footprint appear to now have been left insitu. It was reported last time that this material was likely to be lifted and repositioned and used as cover for the hibernaculams located immediately behind the stockpiles and comprising stock of branches and roots to house wildlife. This work to be carried out by onsite staff.
- The two short sections of insitu concrete paving along the old processing plant haul road still remain and await covering over and being used for reptiles.
- Larger crescent shaped pond area within the more wooded conservation area had no water holding presence.
- KP advised that use of soils from alongside northern void had been transported into southern void. The extraction of this soil had uncovered a concreted access track running from the bailey bridge northwards for about 100 metres. TB advised this would need to be lifted and the land restored as part of the northern voids restoration works.
- Dozer grading out infill within base of the void on its north central side with infilling pushing southwards. Water in void still being maintained at present level and KP advised there was a recharge channel running from the western slope base below an exposure of gravel to enable water movement.
- Within the northern land, again thatch present. No sheep/cattle in field. Most recent of the Newt ponds holding water although this was down and the pond divided into two by the higher ridge of ground now exposed.

- Older newt ponds visible with some water being held but surrounding vegetation obscuring views. Appears Bioscan not wanting strimming in these areas.
- Tree planting areas need some strimming of the grass growth within the fenced areas as well as across the wider field.

Compliance with Conditions:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/114/22/CHL

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Condition 11 – Ecological Interest

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: No ground disturbance until scheme approved.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/114/22/CHL

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Condition 12 – Construction Environment Management Plan

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: No ground disturbance until scheme approved. Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/114/22/CHL

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Condition 13 – Wildlife Sensitive Lighting Design

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: No site preparation works. Operator unlikely to require.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/114/22/CHL

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Condition 17 – Processing Plant

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: No processing plant on site until redundant plant removed.

Permission under 2017 EIA regulations?:

- Yes / **No**

Actions to be taken before next site visit:

- Clarity on actions taken to achieve adjustments to be undertaken to ensure wheel wash effectiveness and elimination of carry out to remove further need for sweeping and washing of the haul road.
- Maintain vigilance on sheeting of vehicles.
- State of haul road integrity to be monitored.
- **Clarity on management and maintenance programme for landscaping.**
- Outstanding Conditions need addressing immediately.
- Ensure all permissions and schemes held in both site offices for quarry and recycling operators.

Report Date: 24/09/24

Date of Next Meeting: 18th December @ 09:00

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.