

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: Terry Burns (TB)

Also attended by Emma Simmonds (ES) (Essex County Council Ecology); Almudena Quiralte (AQ) (Essex County Council Landscape).

Visit no: 3 of 4

Date: 06/12/23

Time on site: 11:30

Time off site: 13:40

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:

- Stockpile heights to be reduced before next monitoring visit and maintained at permitted heights. **Update: As recorded at last visit "Height of main sand stockpile although reduced in height with apparent bunding on top the stockpile is at height that needs reducing. No sign of visual marker to install in stockpiling area". This is still ongoing and stockpiles in southern stockpiling area also reaching/at permitted heights .**
- Investigate potential for placement of visual height marker in stockpiling area. **Update: See above comment.**
- Soil bund by concrete plant to be rectified and regraded. Spoil material to be removed. **Update: Still not actioned.**
- 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: Still not actioned**
- Dust management on perimeter hedgerows in stocking area to be addressed to minimise contamination of the vegetation. **Update: Still not actioned. See main report as dust management issued raised concerning coating of perimeter vegetation.**

Inspection Results Summary:

- Site approach road on north bound siter was muddy with tracking up to just short of junction. MB advised there was a sweeper on call. No evidence during visit that sweeper was present.
- Flag flying at site entrance. MB advised this was not permitted.
- Site access planting appears only some successful. Tree spiral guards now brittle and collapsing and need removal off ground and from around tree stems.
- Wheelwash did not appear to be effective in clearing HGV tyres given the carry out that was observed.
- Main yard quiet limited number of cars compared to previous visits. Some dump truck tyres; lubricant plastic containers; portacabin block located within compound.
- Dump trucks parked up alongside and beneath hedgerow line tree canopy. ES advised this was too close and all hedgerows/tree lines needed standoffs as per the permitted plans.

- Haul road alongside eastern treeline and watercourse in processing plant area exhibiting building up of slurry material which has potential to encroach into watercourse. Limited bunding to separate encroachment from site activities into safeguarding areas evident across the site.
- Stockpiling area filled with various stocks of primarily gravel/stone some of which were noted as being nearing/at/permited stockpile height. TB concerned that the company continued to maintain stockpiles above the permitted levels and there was little appetite to comply with restrictions. Previous monitoring visits had been similar and similar sentiments about height being reduced had usually gone unacted.
- Concrete plant operational with two visiting mixer trucks on site.
- Previously noted mixed spoil/soil on southern bund still not cleared.
- Haul road from processing area through towards Phase 1 at watercourse crossing point noted as having infringements of material into watercourse along with encroachment of haul road base into standoff area from tree line and watercourse. MB mentioned potential for use of “Lego” blocks to demarcate road and protect verge side at this pinch point. Again, concerns about encroachment has been raised in the past with little action to rectify.
- Concerns also raised as to the ongoing ineffectiveness of the dust management system on site whereby whilst haul roads may be dampened down the coating of vegetation on the adjacent trees/hedgerows is not being addressed. This has also been raised previously with no action taken. The coating during winter period of dust/mud is still evident and the splashing from passing traffic is not helping matters with the road material being sloppy and prone to more sideways movement so widening the haul road/disturbance boundaries.
- Within Phase 1 void base building up stockpiles of imported material is well above surrounding ground levels and heights should be reduced. MB advised this is the holding area as bad weather limiting infill void access. TB stated that handling and storage in the void if this “holding” was to continue would have capacity issues and that height issues would be of concern. MB advised that the company need to handle the acceptance of material into the quarry complex accordingly.
- “Western extension land” continues to be developed outside of formal planning permission receipt. Archaeological works being completed the southern strip of the land has begun to be extracted. Water currently ponding in this area. Noted that the planning conditions relevant to this land has various pre requisite conditions as does the pending legal agreement for the complex. These have not begun to be addressed by the operator.
- Haul road leading northwards alongside the Burghley Brook course also has a “bund” of cleared road material banked up close to watercourse parts of which on the inner watercourse facing bank was falling away to the watercourse.
- Within Phases 2 and 3 large block of infilled material has been placed in central part of the void to about (MB advised) 200mm short of final surface level. Further infilling to proceed at the eastern end of the void where it is being proposed for infilling in two strips with the inner strip being started first.
- Haul road alongside similar issues here with the perimeter banking cut into exposing tree roots. Ditch behind and to the south has mounds of tipped material deposited along its length.
- Eastern end of Phase 8a batter slopes up to about a metre or less standoff from tree base. Similar situation round the corner where the western standoff for Phase 4 batter exists. Appears disregard for standoffs and survivability of the vegetation on site exists across such similar parts of the complex. ES questioned viability of

the CEMP (Construction Environment Management Plan) approved details if such actions were being replicated across the site.

- Base of Phase 4 has also a similar placement in the centre of infilled material whilst water surrounds the infill and active pumping taking place with pump located at junction of Phase 4/8a.
- Soil stripping taken place in Phase 8a and part of 8b where there is a diving bund of soil separating the Phases from Phase 10 and 11. Archaeologists working within Phase 8a/b. Also, along former hedgerow between Phase 9 and 10.

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 carry out.
- Flag removed.
- Tree planting guards removed from ground and tree bases.
- Stockpile heights to be reduced before next monitoring visit and maintained at permitted heights.
- Investigate potential for placement of visual height marker in stockpiling area.
- Soil bund by concrete plant to be rectified and regraded. Spoil material to be removed.
- 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.
- 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.
- Dust management on perimeter hedgerows alongside processing plant and in stocking area to be addressed to minimise contamination of the vegetation.
- 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.
- Compliance with the conditions listed above and in permissions/pending permissions/legal agreements.

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: 14th March 2024 @ 11:30

Report Date: 08/12/23