

# 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, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Site Name:** Highwood Quarry, Stortford Road, Little Canfield

**File Ref:** 11 421 33

**Operator:** SRC

**Site Representative:** Jonathan Hayward SRC.

**Visit no:** 3 of 4 (no visit in first quarter)

**Date:** 17 March 2025

**Time on site:** 14:00

**Time off site:** 14:45

**Monitoring Officer:** Claire Tomalin      Tel No: 03330136821

**Site Co-ordinator:** As above

## **Permission no's:**

ESS/16/20/UTT – (original permission ESS/65/06/UTT) – Main mineral landfill permission (S106 attached)

ESS/17/20/UTT – (original permission) – Aggregate recycling and add importation (s106 attached)

ESS/77/12/UTT – Bagging plant

ESS/51/13/UTT – Bund 7 revised location/extension

ESS/11/15/UTT – Office accommodation and link corridor to B Lodge

ESS/11/17/UTT – Office extension and link corridor to existing office accommodation (not implemented)

ESS/47/16/UTT – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor site office and additional parking

### Constraints:

- Weather: **Dry/** Windy / Rain / Snow
- Noise: **Acceptable/** Not acceptable / N/A
- Approach roads: Dry / Dusty / **Wet / Muddy** / Flooded
- Ground: 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 OK
- Bunds: Profiled / Grassed / **Weeds** / NA

### Inspection Results Summary:

#### Access road

The cattle grid at the site entrance was fall JH said it had been emptied – this should be jet washed out regularly, as the last measure to prevent mud on the road.

JH advised that the road is now being ore regularly swept using contracted road sweeper.

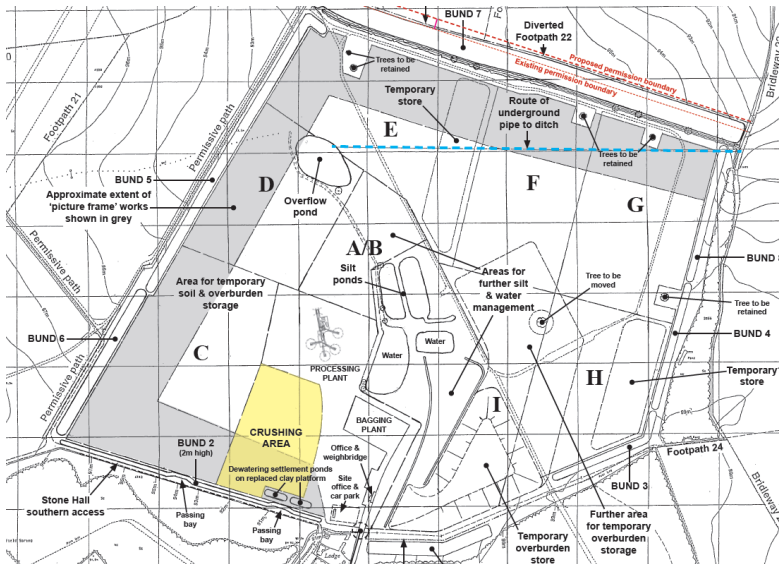
#### Extraction/Landfilling area progress

Extracting now largely in Phase H with landfilling in Phase F, G and H.

Phase E and F north part has been restored previously and the grass had been cut, but large concrete lumps need to be removed. JH explained restoration of remaining area of D and part of E planned for summer 2025, with relocation o Trembath track. Hopefully an area big enough to be managed as arable can be achieved for autumn 2025.

Stone Hall remains unoccupied. It will be necessary to reinstate 3m high bunds around phase C or ensure screening of plant and extraction areas from Stone Hall if the property is reoccupied.

While the large bunds (east and north of site) are well maintained the western boundary is a mass of weeds, the seeds are likely to drift onto the restored area and agricultural land beyond – it essential they are strimmed to reduce weeds and improve appearance. This has been raised many times, formal action will be considered if this matter is not addressed this summer.



## Restoration of Phases C & D

It is understood the area has been seeded with winter wheat.

## Processing Area

In respect of other operations on site, the processing plant and weighbridge; bagging plant; and inert recycling facility were all operational at the time of visit. Stockpiles were contained within the site and generally in approved locations. Stockpile heights were acceptable.

A new silt lagoon had been dug.

## **Compliance with Conditions:**

Permission/Condition No: ESS/16/20/UTT Condition 27 Seasonal ponds - details expected to be submitted shortly.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/16/20/UTT Condition 56 Restoration Scheme - details expected to be submitted shortly.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/16/20/UTT Condition 57 Aftercare scheme – details expected to be submitted shortly.

## **Actions From Previous visit:**

### Cattle grid/rumble grid – needs emptying.

Comment: It did appear it might have been emptied, but was nearly full to the top again, making it completely ineffective at stopping deer exiting from the site entrance, which was its original main purpose. It does also provide a last line of protection at stopping mud/debris being carried out onto the public highway. The fact below the grid is full is evidence it does capture some material. It is essential the collection area below the grid is emptied and maintained so that it is effective.

Planting: Access road hedges and planting – needs weed management and standards planted.

Comment: The southern hedge on the access had been trimmed. No progress on introducing standard trees which were required in the planting mix.

Guards on hedge along north edge adjacent bund 7 to be removed.

Comment: No progress

#### Screening bunds

Screening bund on the western boundary to be maintained, weeds trimmed and then treated to suppress weeds.

Comment: No progress, formal action will be considered if no progress is made in summer 2025.

#### Restoration and aftercare details

MPA has liaised with planning agent and submission in respect of all types of restoration i.e. agricultural, woodland, grassland seasonal pond (conditions, 56, 57 and 27) is expected before April 2025.

#### Single storey office ESS/11/17/UTT

This office is no longer occupied by SRC staff, having moved to Colchester. The office building and link are required to be removed if no longer in use in association with the quarry/landfill ESS/11/1/UTT. No progress. If a timetable for removal is not submitted, then formal enforcement action will be considered.

#### **Actions from this visit**

See above those highlighted, disappointing that they remain outstanding.

The felled oak tree needs to be relocated to the position agreed as part of the felling i.e. adjacent to High Wood.

**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.**