

**INAUGURAL BRADLEY SURFACE MINE  
LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held on Thursday 22 February 2018 at 6.30pm in Dipton Jubilee Centre.

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Lewis Stokes	Banks Group
Carol Rocke	Resident
Andrew Heron	Banks Group
David Marrs	Dipton Partnership
Christine Hogarth	Banks Group
Keith Wardle	Police
Fiona Maddick	Police
Daniel Young	Police
Cllr Ivan Jewell	Durham County Council
Andy Plant	Leadgate Partnership
Steven Hanlon	Banks Group
Claire Teasdale	Durham County Council Planning
Cllr Alan Shield	Durham County Council
Fr John Bagnall	Brooms Church
Paul McNally	Resident
David English	Medomsley Ward Partnership

**APOLOGIES:**

Mike Tweddle	Durham County Council Officer
Pam Forster	Burnhope Community Partnership
Julia Trivlon	Resident

**ACTION / DATE**

A round of introductions took place.

**1 Review of Draft Constitution.**

1.1 The group discussed the revised draft Constitution which L Stokes had circulated. Several comments and amendments were made and L Stokes agreed to circulate the agreed, final document with the Minutes.

**AP1 – L STOKES**

1.2 I Jewell asked if a newsletter could be produced to support the discussions the group held in the meetings to ensure that accurate information was available for everyone in the community. C Hogarth replied that copies of the various presentations made at subsequent meetings could be distributed with the Minutes. L Stokes also replied that if it was felt by the group that a newsletter was required then this could be done periodically. L Stokes also commented that

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the members of the committee should share the Minutes with their respective organisations and that they were able to share these on their webpages and social media if required. L Stokes added that they could be placed on Banks website if needed also.

- 1.3 C Teasdale also added that the approved Minutes could be placed on the Bradley application (reference CMA/1/137) on the Durham County Council (DCC) website.

## **2 Appoint Chair and Vice Chair**

- 2.1 It was agreed that Cllr Alan Shield would Chair the committee and that Cllr Ivan Jewell would be Vice-Chair.
- 2.2 It was also agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair would swap after one year.
- 2.3 L Stokes thanked the Councillors for agreeing to take the two roles.

## **3 Site Update by Banks Mining Staff**

- 3.1 A Heron gave an update on the work that Banks had done on the Bradley site. Test drilling had been carried out on the site through November and December 2017 after securing the necessary land rights.
- 3.2 Banks are working to tight timescales but are committed to bringing the site forward and are confident that they can make the timescales work.
- 3.3 The first noticeable works will be the works in the public highway to create the new access to the site from the A692. This work will create the dedicated right hand turn as agreed in the Section 106. These works will begin late March and require traffic management on the road for approximately six weeks. Cllr Shield asked what dimensions that right hand turn was being built to as traffic standing on that busy road could be a huge issue. A Heron replied that these will be built to the specifications agreed with DCC which would be adequate to deal with the number of traffic movements from the site (averaging no more than 64 (32 in and 32 out) Monday to Friday when calculated over any four week working period (Mondays to Fridays) and 30 (15 in and 15 out) on Saturdays) and agreed to send the plans to committee members when the S278 works had been signed off by DCC.
- 3.4 After the road works, the site establishment works will commence including things like fencing, clearing works, compound set up and plan mobilisation. Cllr Shield asked if the compound would be visible from the A692. A Heron

**AP2 – A HERON**

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replied that the compound would be built in the south west corner of the site, as agreed in the planning conditions.

- 3.5 Following those works, soil stripping will commence in accordance with and to the specifications agreed with UK Coal, then coal will be extracted and removed from site.
- 3.6 A Heron have an overview of the ecological works that had taken place recently. These included newt surveys during the summer of 2017. No newts were identified by the licenced ecologist including from the DNA survey. As no evidence of any newts was found, the licenced ecologist consulted with Natural England and additional surveys were carried out for an additional 10 week period. The ecologist was local to the area and was able to regularly visit the site.
- 3.7 Nesting bird (including ground nesting bird) checking surveys are to be carried out as required but all other ecological surveys are now complete or well on the way to completion.
- 3.8 An archaeological written scheme of investigation has been agreed and Banks are close to appointing a consultant to carry out the works. Four weeks of investigation will be carried out on site which will include excavations and trenches being dug. Community dig days will be available for interested residents and groups to witness the work on site. L Stokes will notify the liaison committee of these days when they are agreed.
- 3.9 D English asked if the group could be provided with a site layout plan. L Stokes agreed to send one out with the Minutes.
- 3.10 Cllr Shield suggested that several laminated A3 site layout plans should be brought to the next meeting to be left in community buildings. L Stokes agreed to bring these to the next meeting.
- 3.11 K Wardle asked what road cleaning measures were planned. S Hanlon replied that all Banks sites have a wheel wash on site that HGV's must pass through before leaving site and that the internal roads are also cleaned which reduce the risk of any material being deposited onto the public highway.
- 3.12 Cllr Shield commented that although the footpath along the A692 isn't terribly well used, it is important to ensure that pedestrians are able to use that safely when the new access has been created. A Heron agreed that this would be done and would be able to discuss in greater detail at the next meeting.

**AP3 – L STOKES**

**AP4 – L STOKES**

**AP5 – L STOKES**

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- 3.13 D Marrs asked what driver policies are in place as the local villages regularly experience speeding HGV vehicles. S Hanlon replied that Banks drivers are subject to several tests, training and policies to adhere to. All Banks HGV's benefit from satellite monitoring so that checks can be made at any time. If contractor HGV's are used then they will be subject to the same strict policies and requirements. S Hanlon also commented that a 'control of vehicle movement checklist' is issued to all drivers detailing the strict rules, regulations and approved route details (to and from the site). C Teasdale added that the haulage route has been specified on the agreed plan and the S106 includes provision to penalise for not sticking to the route.
- 3.14 J Lomax ran through the various planning requirements of the site and that Banks had submitted the information required to discharge the pre-development conditions. Banks have carried out their due diligence and although picking up a site agreed by a different operator was new to them, were committed to working to the agreed conditions. C Teasdale added that the information has been submitted, and all pre-development conditions would need to be discharged before work starting.
- 3.15 J Lomax confirmed that the planning allowed coal extraction over a 27 month period and then a further one year for restoration. Banks were committed to progressive restoration too which meant that restoration would begin soon after coal extraction in an area of the site is complete.
- 3.16 J Lomax said that the restoration would include a mix of woodland, species rich grassland and hay meadow, scrub, water features and agriculture which benefit from a 15 year aftercare period. L Stokes added that Banks had proudly worked and restored over 110 sites in their 40 year history and that they had secured contracts to restore other sites across Scotland. J Lomax commented that 20 hectares is to be gifted to a local wildlife body but stressed that conversations and agreements were yet to be made on who this would be.
- 3.17 C Teasdale mentioned that the S106 included requirements for the site restoration financial guarantee to be agreed and in place prior to work commencing and that these discussions were being held. C Teasdale reiterated that the permission sets out strict controls for this which would be strictly monitored and controlled.
- 3.18 Cllr Shield asked about blasting and what controls were in place for that. J Lomax replied that the planning conditions allowed for up to two blasts per day but it was unlikely that this would be needed for the duration. A notification procedure would be agreed to ensure any disruption would

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be kept to a minimum for local residents and Brooms church. C Hogarth added that times for blasting are also restricted. Coal extraction working times on site are restricted to 7am – 7pm Mon – Fri and 7am – 6pm on a Saturday however maintenance to plant and machinery can be carried out outside of these times.

- 3.19 D Marrs asked if Banks had applied to change any of the restoration conditions which both J Lomax and C Teasdale replied no. The proposed restoration plans would be submitted later this year in line with the relevant planning condition, but no significant changes were expected to be requested. The liaison committee would be consulted on any details relating to the restoration and these would need to be agreed within six months of the start date on site.
- 3.20 D Marrs also asked about the public rights of way (PROW) across the site and stressed that the community would need to be kept informed about what was happening with the many footpaths in and around the site. J Lomax confirmed that several PROW diversions were agreed and would be implemented.

#### **4 Views of members of the Advisory Group**

- 4.1 L Stokes commented that this was the opportunity for committee members to give comments to the meeting received from their respective organisations.
- 4.2 Cllr Shield asked again if the community benefits fund could be increased from the 10p per tonne amount. L Stokes replied that this is a requirement through the S106 and that he thought this was unlikely to be amended but that he would ask the question and report back.
- 4.3 Cllr Shield also asked how the community could be sure that they would receive the full amount. L Stokes replied that the amount had been agreed at a minimum £52,000.
- 4.4 Father John Bagnall commented that he wanted to make sure that the noise was monitored for services, funerals and weddings at the church. L Stokes said that a process would be agreed to ensure details of any services was passed to the site team.
- 4.5 C Teasdale said that they were looking closely at all details and the planning monitoring officer from DCC would be regularly visiting the site.
- 4.6 Cllr Jewell commented that Banks had given the impression that they wanted to work with the community and hoped this would continue however they would ensure they were held

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to account at every stage and if the site had to happen then he would want it to be done right.

- 4.7 D Marrs queried one of the mounds closest to Douglas Terrace as this allowed a clear view into the site from some of the properties. C Teasdale replied that the second inquiry had included plans to move the site away slightly from Douglas Terrace however the mounds had all been agreed and that is what Banks would be working to.
- 4.8 K Wardle commented that he was pleased that the police were part of the liaison committee.
- 4.9 Cllr Shield said that he was surprised that Brooms Farm were not on the committee. L Stokes replied that he had spoken with Mrs Davison but that her agent would be the point of contact going forward if required.

## 5 Any Other Business

- 5.1 Cllr Shield asked if Banks had spoken with the resident at Redhill Farm. A Heron replied that they had been communicating with them through their agent.
- 5.2 Cllr Shield asked that the next meeting be held in Leadgate and that he had agreed that a room in Leadgate Methodist Chapel had been made available for us. Cllr Shield to pass L Stokes contact details to Hazel Graham to arrange booking.

AP6 – A SHIELD

## 6 Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 16 April 2018 at 6.30pm in Leadgate Methodist Chapel** (subject to the room being available). Food will be provided.

Minuted by Lewis Stokes  
22 February 2018

## **FINAL CONSTITUTION OF THE BRADLEY SURFACE COAL MINE LIAISON COMMITTEE**

### **FILE NOTE CM/N/4000/COMM-1**

- 1 This Liaison Committee has been established for the purpose of discussing any relevant issues that arise out of the operation and restoration of the Bradley surface coal mine that may have an effect on people living or working in nearby property or enjoying nearby land. It will endeavour to foresee and overcome problems and strive to minimise any conflict between the preparation of and the operation of the surface mine and the local community.
- 2 The aim of the Committee is to act as a forum for the exchange of information on progress of work at the surface mine and for the company to listen to any views of local residents relating to the proposals. The company will also look for opportunities to bring forward benefits for the local community.
- 3 The Liaison Committee will normally meet every twelve weeks or a period to be determined at a local venue to be agreed by the liaison committee members.
  - 3.1 The following parties will be invited by the company to attend meetings of the Liaison Committee. It should be noted that they will not be open public meetings.
  - 3.2 Two elected representatives from Durham County Council - one of which should be the local Councillor from Burnopfield and Dipton Division and one from Leadgate and Medomsley Division
  - 3.3 One representative from Medomsley Village Residents Association
  - 3.4 One representative from Burnopfield Community Partnership
  - 3.5 One representative from Medomsley Ward Partnership
  - 3.6 A representative from Leadgate Area Partnership
  - 3.7 One representative from Dipton Community Partnership
  - 3.8 One representative from Our Lady & Saint Joseph Catholic Church
  - 3.9 Technical officers from Durham County Council i.e. Planning Department, Environmental Health, Highways, etc
  - 3.10 A representative from the Environment Agency
  - 3.11 Neighbourhood Policing Team
  - 3.12 One nominated representative from each of the residential areas surrounding the development:
    - a) Pont Lane
    - b) Leadgate & Medomsley

- c) Douglas Terrace & Hedley Terrace
  - d) Dipton
- 3.13 Representatives of H J Banks & Company Limited
- 3.14 Representatives from local businesses in the area including the Jolly Drivers PH
- 4 Representatives set out above shall be determined by the relevant organisation. Non-attendance shall not disqualify from attending any meeting anyone entitled to attend by virtue of 3 above. Any new or replacement members will need to be agreed by the liaison committee.
- 5 Meetings should be undertaken in a constructive, polite and non-adversarial manner at all times.
- 6 H J Banks & Company Limited will be responsible for arranging meetings of the Liaison Committee, taking and circulating minutes and inviting attendance to each meeting.
- 7 A Chair and Vice Chair will be appointed on an annual basis. They will be elected Members from Durham County Council.
- 8 The agenda of a Liaison Committee can vary, but will normally include the following:
- 8.1 Apologies for absence
  - 8.2 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
  - 8.3 Matters arising including action points
  - 8.4 A report on the progress of the development
  - 8.5 Highways issues
  - 8.6 Environmental issues
  - 8.7 Planning issues
  - 8.8 Policing issues
  - 8.9 Views of local residents
  - 8.10 Community Benefits Fund Committee Update
  - 8.11 Any other business
  - 8.12 Date of next meeting
- 9 No views of the Liaison Committee shall be binding upon:
- 9.1 H J Banks & Company Ltd;
  - 9.2 Durham County Council,
  - 9.3 Environment Agency;

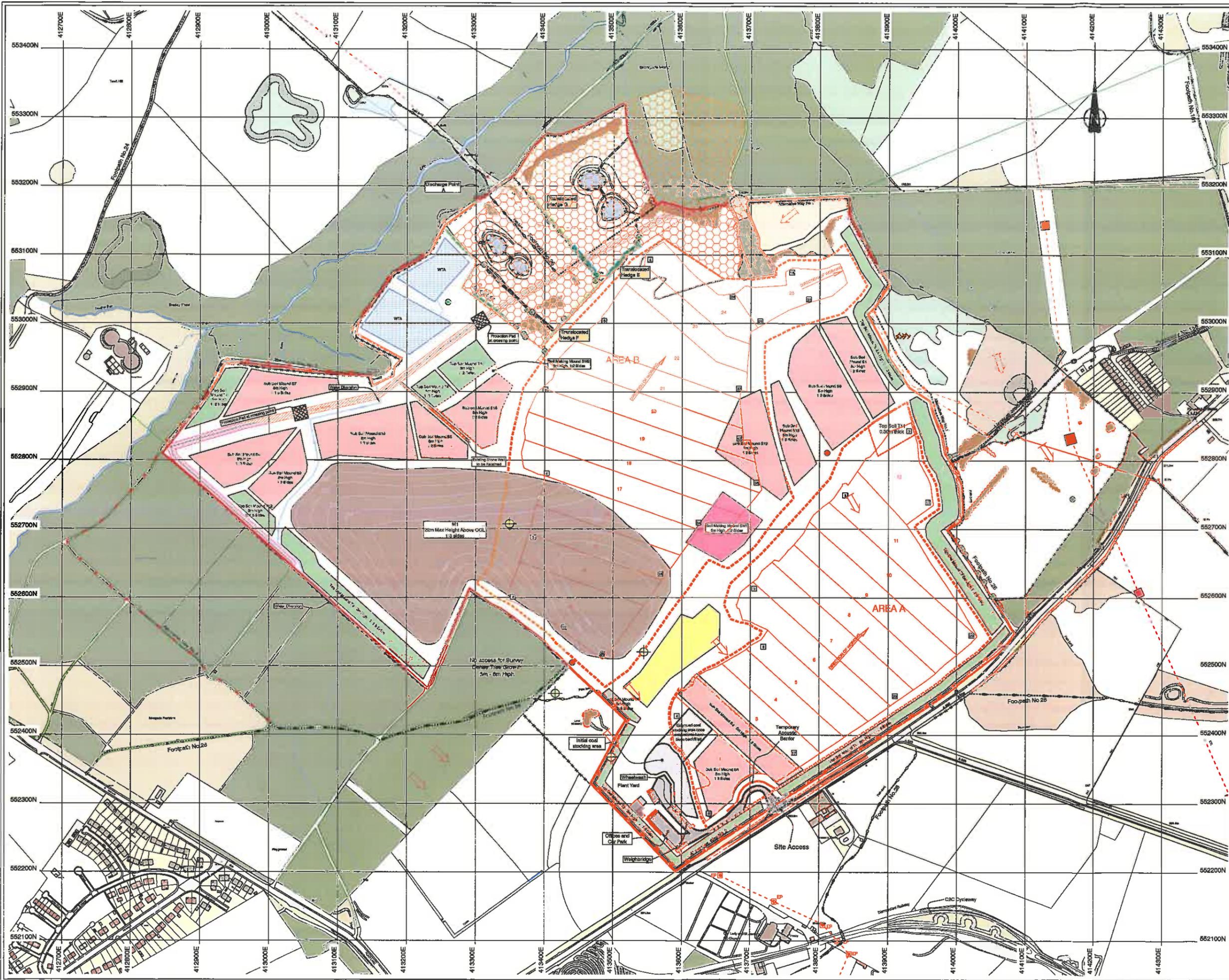
9.4 Residents/Residents Association members.

10 The media will **NOT** be invited to attend meetings of the Liaison Committee.

**NOTE**

Liaison meetings can be preceded by a site visit whenever necessary and environmental audit to which all members of the committee will be invited.

LS/DK  
22 February 2018



- ### Legend
- Site Boundary
  - Limit of Excavation
  - Overburden Mound
  - Subsoil Mound
  - Topsoil Mound
  - Soil Making Mound
  - Water Treatment Area
  - Undisturbed Area
  - SNCI (land formerly designated as SNCI)
  - Temporary Storage Area
  - Preserved Grassland
  - Scrub Planting
  - Cuts
  - Depths
  - Special Soils
  - Gas Protection Zone
  - Protection Pad
  - Foliage
  - Additional Fencing
  - Fence
  - Footpath
  - Footpath Diversion
  - Bridleway
  - Hedge
  - Translocated Hedges
  - Hedge Surveyed
  - Wall
  - Gate
  - Stile
  - Tree
  - Shaft Position
  - Drift
  - Marsh
- ### General Features
- Woodland
  - Scrub
  - Grassland
  - Building
  - Heath
  - Inland Water
  - Multi Use Surface
  - Road \ Manmade Track
  - Road Side Natural
  - Road Side Manmade
  - Track - Natural Surface
  - Footpath or Track Edge (unofficial)
  - Slope
- ### Services
- Electricity Overhead NON Verified
  - Electricity Underground Verified
  - Electricity Proposed Diversion
  - Gas Main NON Verified
  - Gas Main Verified
  - Water Diversion

**UK COAL** UK COAL SURFACE MINES LTD.  
HARWORTH PARK, BLYTH ROAD, HARWORTH,  
DONCASTER, S. YORKS. DN11 8DB

Site Name: **Bradley**

Title: **Site Plan**

Drawn By: **MRH**  
Checked By: **RC**

Date: **09-07-14** Scale: **1-2500**

Drawing: **176 D02e/1** Layout: **-**