

**Case Officer:** Bob Neville

**Recommendation:** Observations

**Applicant:** Mary Hudson

**Proposal:** Request for Scoping Opinion for the modification of the Approved Restoration Scheme through Importation of Inert Soil Material - MW.0029/21

**Expiry Date:** 6 April 2021

**Extension of Time:**

### **1. APPLICATION SITE AND LOCALITY**

- 1.1. This consultation relates to scoping opinion being considered by Oxfordshire County Council. The application relates to Alkerton Quarry sitting in open countryside some 750m east of the village of Alkerton.

### **2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

- 2.1. The consultation seeks to determine the scope of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) connected to the proposed modification of the approved Restoration Scheme through Importation of Inert Soil Material. It is not a planning application, and simply seeks the topics that Cherwell District Council would like to be addressed in the EIA.

### **3. RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY**

- 3.1. The following planning history is considered relevant to the current proposal:

**Application: 97/00430/CM** Permitted 01 February 1999

Review of Mineral Planning Permissions.

**Application: 01/01478/CM** No objections 13 August 2001

Non-compliance with conditions No. 5, No. 98 and No. 101 of Planning Determination ref.: 97/00430/CM and variation of Working Plan approved under condition No. 105.

**Application: 12/01365/CM** Application permitted 20 November 2012

Application to vary conditions 35, 40, 41, 98 & 99 of planning permission Ref 12/00056/CM; to create restoration contours the allow for effective drainage (OCC ref. MW.0113/12)

**Application: 13/01257/CM** No objections 04 September 2013

Section 73 application to vary condition 109 of planning application 12/01365/CM to allow the implementation of an updated restoration

**Application: 19/00407/CM** Observations 25 April 2019

Section 73 application to vary condition 99 of planning permission ref

12/01365/CM (MW.0113/12); to relocate the ephemeral pond at Alkerton Quarry (OCC ref MW.0020/19)

#### **4. PRE-APPLICATION DISCUSSIONS**

- 4.1. No pre-application discussions have taken place with Cherwell District Council with regard to this proposal.

#### **5. RESPONSE TO PUBLICITY**

- 5.1. This Cherwell District Council is a consultee only and the application has not been publicised.

#### **6. RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION**

- 6.1. Consultation has been carried out with Cherwell District Council consultees only. External bodies (e.g. Parish Council) should have been consulted separately by Oxfordshire County Council as part of the request.
- 6.2. CDC BUILDING CONTROL: Consideration of potential risk of aquifer contamination is required and it is essential that the Environment Agency is consulted to input substantively to the Scoping Opinion.
- 6.3. CDC ECOLOGY: No comments received at time of writing.
- 6.4. CDC ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: Potential issues from the proposed development include noise and dust.
- 6.5. Section 1.7 of the of the Scoping Report outlines the Environmental Issues that will be considered in the EIA, which includes a noise assessment. The potential impact of dust from the proposed development should also be considered.
- 6.6. CDC LANDSCAPE SERVICES: No comments received at time of writing.

#### **7. APPRAISAL**

- 7.1. The key issues for consideration in this case are the implications of the proposed works on this district and particularly the interests of this Council, and to identify if any key issues have been omitted in the submitted EIA Scoping Report.
- 7.2. From reading the scoping report, the only omission which Cherwell District Council would like to highlight at this time is the lack of consideration of potential impacts of dust arising from the development.
- 7.3. The Council's Building Control Manager advises that the site is shown to be in an area where there are instances of high surface water flood risk. This indicates there may be pathways to local underground receptors and a risk of aquifer contamination; and it is essential that the Environment Agency are consulted to input substantively to the Scoping Opinion. Consideration of hydrology is included within the submitted report and it is expected that appropriate consideration and consultation will be undertaken on such matters going forward.
- 7.4. Subject to the above the Council is confident that Oxfordshire County Council will carry out the necessary and appropriate consultations in order to ascertain if there are likely to be any additional areas of concern to be covered by a future Environmental Statement for the proposed works.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATION**

Cherwell District Council considers the proposed scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment to largely be sufficient but would request that the potential impact of

dust arising from the proposed development should also be considered within any subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment and further that appropriate consultation is carried out with the Environment Agency with regards to potential risk of aquifer contamination.

Case Officer: Bob Neville

DATE: 07/04/2021

Checked By: Nathanael Stock

DATE: 12.04.2021

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