

HIGHBARNES CHALK MINES  
COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY GROUP – UPDATE

---

<b>Overview</b>	
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2009
<b>Attendees:</b>	David Martin, Louise Manders, Joy Tompkins (Minutes) DBC Mark Skittrall – Hyder Consulting Richard & Jennifer Taylor, Lisa Bayley, Rodney Berkeley Highbarns and Pond Road Residents Dave Bowman, Herts Highways Lesley Kirkpatrick – Herts Police Geoff Doole – Nash Mills Parish Council
<b>Apologies:</b>	John Clarke, Mike Peters, DBC Nik Pringle – Herts Police Linda Sutton, Clerk of Nash Mills Parish Council

<b>Welcome</b>	Dave Martin welcomed everyone to meeting
<b>Issues Arising from Public Meeting</b>	<p>DM enquired as to whether there had been any feedback from local residents following the Public Meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009.</p> <p>Richard Taylor stated that he believed most people were understanding of the processes taking place and had received no negativity. Geoff Doole queried the request for history of the incident, he was under impression this would be obtained from previous discussions and reports. DM said that not a huge amount of information had been received in the past. Mark Skittrall said that previous information submitted would be looked at. Lisa Bayley felt that the time span for hopeful completion of the project could cause concern to some residents.</p> <p>There were no other reports of feedback from attendees of the meeting.</p>
<b>Project Manager/Property Surveys</b>	<p><b>Dave Martin and Hyder Consulting</b></p> <p>DM reported that moves were in place for the funding report to be put to Cabinet imminently. Work will be completed as fast as possible to get evidence to satisfy funding arrangements from HCA.</p> <p>DM stressed the need to get the order right from the geophysical side. MS stated this work is not intrusive but will enable a complete picture of what we are up against, it gives a good idea of what is underground without actually have to go underground. He then gave a brief description of the how the equipment operates: Hyder believe this to be very successful. Unfortunately they are unable to say how long the process will take as they do not know exactly what they are looking at. Researching the history of the mines will determine the type of mine ie industrial or agricultural (industrial mines generally bigger) and also the era will help greatly. This information helps build a picture of how many</p>

HIGHBARNES CHALK MINES  
COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY GROUP – UPDATE

---

	<p>shafts and layers we are looking at.</p> <p>RB enquired as to how intensive is the work to be undertaken. MS stated that there will be the least disruption as possible and is based on health and safety grounds. Risk assessments will be carried out and situations monitored. Residents will not be required to move out. LB asked if this would be covered by the funding or insurance. DM said the incidents at No. 5 Highbarnes and 5 Pond Road were dealt with under household insurance.</p> <p>MS said they need as much information as possible on the history of the properties. Mention was made of the information previously submitted to Building Control that has not been followed up. DM said Hyder will be looking at this information but need to have as much detail as possible. In time they will get to the stage of being just specific properties that need structural surveys but until that time every possible source of information is required to build up investigations. The surveys carried out by Building Control will be passed to Hyder and door to door surveys will take place. Along with the geophysical survey, Hyder will be looking for cracks in pavements, depressions in road, structural distress, any signs that will help piece the information together.</p> <p>Hyder will write to residents advising when they will be visiting the area to carry out investigations. Research will be made into how far out of the area will need to be covered by the investigation. It was suggested that residents could work together to make the properties available for inspection, ie leaving keys with neighbours. It was noted that it would be beneficial to do as much as possible in a day. A police presence was suggested as there has been some crime activity in the area and residents are wary of any unusual activity. LF agreed this would be helpful. LB suggested the process of investigation be detailed in the forthcoming newsletter.</p>
<b>AOB</b>	<p>DB reported that they had applications for dropped kerbs which are being looked into.</p> <p>RT requested that equipment left behind from previous work be removed. DB said he will look into this.</p> <p>LB raised the subject of Bunkers Lane, where there is a traffic danger spot. DB said the installation of a barrier on this section is some way off and mentioned that this road does have a lorry ban. DB will look into signage being displayed. The idea of width barriers at each end of Bunkers Lane was suggested.</p> <p>RB mentioned that possible Red Book Valuations could be</p>

HIGHBARNES CHALK MINES  
COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY GROUP – UPDATE

---

	<p>made as it would be good to know values of land. Residents are keen to see how the property recently advertised for sale progresses.</p> <p>LB raised concern over the Sappi site. She believes this will cause massive havoc and congestion on the roads. DM stated that in respect of the developers and land owners, it is their responsibility to satisfy themselves as to the quality of the land.</p> <p>LB reported problems with youths and children playing in the streets causing problems for residents driving in area. It was suggested that the local schools should be made aware of the problems and highlight these to their pupils through the medium of newsletters and school assemblies.</p>
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	Date of next meeting agreed as Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December at 18:00 hrs, subject to information supplied by Hyder.
	Meeting closed at 19.35 hrs