



**Liaison Group Forum**  
**Minutes of meeting: 31 July 2023, 11.00**  
**Littlebeck Village Hall**

**Present:**

Matt Parsons (MP) – Anglo American (Meeting Chair)  
 Heather King (HK) – Anglo American  
 Mark Elliot (ME) – Anglo American  
 Briony Fox (BF) – North York Moors National Park Authority  
 Rob Smith (RS) - North York Moors National Park Authority  
 Cllr Mike Holliday (MH) – Sneaton Parish Council  
 Cllr Neil Swannick (NS) – North Yorkshire Council  
 Cllr Clive Pearson (CP) – North Yorkshire Council  
 Cllr David Rowland (DR) – Hawsker cum Stainsacre Parish Council  
 Cllr Steve Kaye (SK) – Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council  
 Cllr Susan Willmington (SW) – Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council

7 members of the public were in attendance.

**1. Introduction**

MP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Cllr. Wilde and William Woods.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting**

It was agreed that minutes were an accurate reflection of the last meeting.

**4. Matters Arising from previous meeting**

Action 1: HK confirmed that there were no outstanding light issues from Hawsker Parish Council.

Action 2: MP to request a Woodsmith Foundation presentation for the next meeting.

**5. Project Update**

ME gave a presentation, including images of the site, covering construction progress since the last meeting. He reported that the shaft boring road header (SBR) had made good progress in the service shaft and production shaft which was now in steady state shaft sinking.

ME explained that the tunnel boring machine (TBM) had reached almost 24km. He reported that shaft sinking was complete at the Ladycross Plantation intermediate shaft site and shaft fit-out work was ongoing. ME then informed the meeting about the borehole remediation program which was currently underway.

- SK expressed concern about the level of funding to support community projects in the Lockwood Beck area, given its proximity to the intermediate shaft site.
  - MP responded that he would arrange a meeting with the Woodsmith Foundation, gave examples of projects that had been supported and agreed to provide a list of projects that had been funded.

**ACTION 1.** MP to action.

- A member of the public asked what type of rock the dark material was in the site image?
  - ME replied that it was mudstone, which would be covered and planted and become part of the landscaped screening on the site.
- NS asked whether the borehole remediation would impact the construction schedule?
  - ME replied that it wouldn't.
- RS asked when the Service Shaft was likely to get to 800m?
  - ME responded that it would be early next year.
- A member of the public asked about the concrete pour that had been explained at the previous meeting and whether the SBR's had been used at such depths before?
  - ME explained the purpose of the concrete pour and replied that this was the fifth and sixth shafts that shaft boring road headers had been used, and these were at similar depths.
- SK asked whether it was still the plan at the Lockwood site to reinstate the site back to grass and have an agricultural style building over the shaft with a small carpark?
  - MP confirmed that this would be the case, but that the site would be needed for the duration of construction. He explained that clarity on timescales would be available following the completion of the studies currently underway.
  - ME added that surface infrastructure, such as the temporary grout plant, would reduce over the coming year and move to the Ladycross site.

## 6. Planning update

### Conditions

RS reported that the NYMNPA were fully up to date with respect to the discharge of planning conditions and were continuing with ongoing monitoring.

### Section 106

BF provided an in-depth presentation of the work supported by Section 106 funding.

- NS commented that he was particularly interested in the rainwater retention of the Esk and would like to know more.
- SK asked whether the NYMNPA could help with parts of the Lyke Wake Walk?
- BF replied that cooperation with landowners would be required.
- SK suggested that the white horse at Sutton Bank may need repainting.
  - BF responded that it had been done last year.

## 7. Complaints

MP reported that five complaints had been received in quarter two. Two related to traffic - one about contractor parking in Hawsker and the other in relation to remediation work on the private road damaged by the incorrectly routed crane. Two complaints were noise related - one associated with Lockwood and the other with the Woodsmith site. The fifth complaint related to lighting.

## 8. Community

MP gave an update of the Woodsmith Thriving Communities programme. This included attendance at 38 educational events that had engaged 3000 young people, 16 new businesses created in Whitby as part of the start-up scheme, Skills 4 Work projects in the villages around the sites and funding a warm spaces project in Lingdale Village Hall.

## 9. A.O.B

MP thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.