



Liaison Group Forum
Minutes of meeting: 24 January 2025, 11.00
Hawsker Village Hall

Present:

Matt Parsons (MP) – Anglo American (Meeting Chair)
 Heather King (HK) – Anglo American
 Phillipa Starmer (PS) – Anglo American
 Richard Adams (RA) – Anglo American
 Briony Fox (BF) – North York Moors National Park Authority
 Cllr Mike Holliday (MH) – Sneaton PC
 Cllr Linda Wild (LW) – Whitby Town Council
 Cllr David Chance (DC) – North Yorkshire Council
 Cllr Neil Swannick (NS) – North Yorkshire Council
 Cllr John Nock (JN) – Whitby Town Council

Two members of the public were in attendance.

1. Introduction

MP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Rob Smith (North York Moors National Park Authority)

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Members were satisfied that the minutes were an accurate record of the last meeting.

4. Matters Arising from previous meeting

A member of the public asked whether the minutes could be available to the public in good time before the meetings. MP assured the group this had been achieved and said the minutes would continue to be available online within a month as per the terms of reference.

A member of the public queried the state of the hedgerows around Lockwood Beck site boundary. MP will follow up with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council as despite a tidy up by the Anglo American team – it could be that the matter needs more attention going forward to ensure good visibility on the road.

5. Project Update

PS gave a presentation, including images of the different sites, covering construction progress since the last meeting including reaching halfway in the service shaft. MP reminded people of Anglo American's updated business strategy and the reasons behind the slowdown which had been taking place since May and clarified the next steps to re-accelerate the Project.

- NS asked whether the sandstone had been reached?
 - PS confirmed that they were halfway in the service shaft and currently in the sandstone over 800m.
- NS asked about the rate of the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) under the new strategy?
 - PS replied that the rate of tunnelling was significantly reduced for the slowdown period.

- A member of the public asked whether starting up again after the maintenance break had gone smoothly with the TBM?
 - PS confirmed that it went well.

ACTION 1. – MP to provide an update on North Yorkshire Council funding to increase rail services at next meeting.

- NS shared that he was Director of Esk Valley Rail Partnership.
- LW asked whether the numbers of vehicles on the local roads had changed since the slowdown?
 - MP explained that the park and ride system is still used and that numbers around Whitby were similar to before the changes as most employees come to the Woodsmith site rather than being spread out across four sites.

6. Planning update

Conditions

BF reported that NYMNPA were fully up to date with respect to the discharge of planning conditions and in close dialogue with Anglo American whilst continuing with regular monitoring. She suggested that no lighting complaints had been received. She added that the application to extend the drilling permission mentioned at the last meeting for the Woodsmith site had been withdrawn. Long term management plans for all sites are currently being discussed.

Section 106

BF provided an update on some of the recent work with respect to the Section 106 funding.

- NS enquired about funding opportunities for Parish Councils and whether it was for those within National Park Boundary.
 - BF clarified that it was.
- A member of the public asked whether the 106 monies was used for the helicopter to bring stone in for footpath maintenance in Littlebeck?
 - BF explained that it was - enhancement of the footpaths.

7. Complaints

MP reported that three complaints had been received since the last meeting. Two involved traffic through Ruswarp which were not attributed to the project following investigation and one was regarding deliveries to the Lockwood site which was rectified by postcode clarification amongst staff.

8. Community

MP reported that there was currently around 1,100 working on the project and that a social response plan has supported around 330 people who had been impacted by the slowdown to retrain or set up new businesses.

RA provided a presentation which explained the Achieve program in schools and how it fits into the wider Thriving Communities section of the business.

- NS asked how many employees who have been made redundant were still to go?
 - MP detailed that 30-40 were finishing off work packages
- LW asked what provision there is for non-disadvantaged children and asked whether staff were behind the program?
 - RA replied that HK works closely with local schools and that Anglo delivers a broader programme to raise awareness of STEM related careers, whilst the

Achieve programme is focused specifically on this particular cohort and the results so far are very promising.

- NS enquired as to how it was delivered and funded?
 - RA detailed delivery partners of the programme and explained that the Woodsmith Foundation also contributed.

9. A.O.B

MP thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.