From:

Sent: 06 September 2010 10:57

To:

Subject: High Close CA49

Plumbland Parish Council

I have been forwarded your query by and have been asked to set out the likely sequence of events relating to High Close.

Researching the history of High Close reveals that planning consent granted in 1954, gave permission in principle for quarrying to take place within a defined area and that it is a valid planning permission. The same area was included by the County Council as a dormant quarry in the first list of sites prepared under the Environment Act 1995 Minerals Review process, with an expiry date of 22 February 2042. Condition 2 of the planning permission requires the submission of full details on the working and restoration of the site and a new scheme of planning conditions would be required prior to commencement of quarrying at the site.

Thomas Armstrongs own the mineral rights and are currently considering the potential for the future development of the quarry within the consented boundary.

Initial discussions have taken place and it is acknowledged that there are constraints/considerations affecting the design including the presence of designated woodland, the existing farmhouse, an area of former landfill, a gas main and highway related issues.

The first step, to be taken by the operator, is to ascertain the depth and quality of the mineral deposit which would be achieved by carrying out a borehole survey. Sketch ideas taking into account the findings of the survey in conjunction with the broad constraints listed above would follow.

The operator would be required to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment the Scoping for which would include a round of consultations.

I cannot give an indication of a likely date for any of the above stages . If you have any further queries do not hesitate to contact me.

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