

Site Name & Reference**AS06 Great Plantation****Brief Summary of Proposal**

Extraction of 1.5 million tonnes of gravel and 4 million tonnes of sand over a period of 18 years.

Total number of Representations received: **29**Number of Representors: **26****Were comments received from the following consultees?**Natural England **Yes**Environment Agency **Yes**English Heritage **Yes****Other bodies making comments included:**

East Dorset Friends of the Earth

CPRE

Urban Heaths Partnership

Dorset Wildlife Trust

RSPB (South West)

Dorset Butterfly Records Office

Dorset Butterfly Conservation

Dorset AONB

Broadmayne Parish Council

Local Nature Partnership **Yes**Local Enterprise Partnership: **No**District Council (Purbeck DC): **No**Parish Council (East Stoke CP): **Yes****Petitions** – None received for this site.**Site Issues – the following is a summary of the main issues that have been raised by stakeholders.**

Summary of Issue	Officer Initial Response	Actions & Further Information Requirements
General Issues		
Cumulative impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cumulative impacts with other sites on Puddletown Road and wind farm. ▪ Considered that extraction on this site and the Puddletown Road site (Hyde) should not overlap. 	An assessment of the cumulative impact of this site and other minerals and waste uses together with any other major developments will be an important consideration when decisions are made on which site to take forward as preferred sites. This work will be done through the sustainability appraisal and habitats regulations assessment.	These matters will be considered in further detail.
Consultation process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation did not highlight the areas for consideration to the Parishes concerned; expecting them to extract relevant information from a large document. 	Maps were provided in the document and accompanying summary leaflet to aid consultation. However, this point can be taken on board for the next consultation.	The MPA will increase the level of consultation about proposed sites, including greater detail of nominated sites, at the next consultation stage.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Notice placed at the entrance to Hethfelton Wood inviting comment coincided with a period of minimal public use due to forestry works being carried out. 	<p>The county council cannot unfortunately plan consultations around external events. It is considered that an extensive range of issues regarding this site through a good number of responses has been raised through this consultation.</p> <p>It is accepted that people have raised concerns that the consultation could have better publicised the sites for local people. Future consultation can include greater levels of detail to assist consultees, together with an enhanced notification procedures for those sites which are proposed in the plan.</p>	
Environmental Issues		
<p>Historic Environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site contains a number of nationally important Bronze Age barrows – unlikely that substantial harm to their significance can be avoided. ▪ Hethfelton Wood forms part of Thomas Hardy’s Egdon Heath – of literary and historical importance to Dorset. 	<p>Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies, which includes a full archaeological assessment of the impact from any development on the archaeological sites</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail</p>
<p>Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposal would have a significant landscape level impact, due to scale of operations and southerly orientation of slope ▪ Extraction would be visible from Purbeck Hills and A352 and therefore development may have adverse effects on AONB, including cumulatively with other sites. ▪ Screening of long distance views from the Purbeck Hills is necessary. 	<p>It is agreed that the site could extend the potential visibility of quarries in this area to a wide area of landscape to the south, including the AONB.</p> <p>If this site were to be progressed to the next stage of the plan further work will need to be undertaken on landscape impact, with advice from the Dorset AONB Management team. It is considered that the developer should consider modifying the proposals to ensure they do not result in significant harm to views from the Purbeck Hills.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>

<p>Environmental Impact</p> <p><u>Direct impacts on designated sites</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site includes two areas of the Dorset Heaths SAC/Dorset Heathland Ramsar sites: Direct effects would impact on their integrity, and mitigation may not be successful in preventing impacts on integrity. <p><u>Indirect impacts on designated sites</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Displacement of recreation putting pressure on more sensitive sites ▪ Species using the wider heath/forest area ▪ Proximity depending on areas worked. ▪ Site is functionally part of an integrated large scale ecosystem with adjacent SPA/SACs and work in this area would have significant risk and likely impact on the adjacent designated sites ▪ Potential impact on wet heath and mire if SSSI pockets are isolated. ▪ Impact on forest, which includes diverse mycoflora and areas of broadleaf woodland ▪ Site especially important for heathland habitat due to ongoing mineral extraction in the area and restoration not matching rate of loss. ▪ Consideration of heathland restoration potential of the site without mineral working ▪ Significant populations of protected bird and reptile species exist within the site and would be adversely impacted by development. ▪ Detrimental impacts on habitat management, such SSSI for sand lizards, and heathland linkages. ▪ Loss of woodland ▪ Impact on Butterfly Transect Walk located within site 	<p>Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies.</p> <p>In order to be acceptable, the development proposal would need to pass the tests in the Conservation Regulations (previously: Habitats Regulations).</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>
<p>Restoration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restoration approaches not compatible with long term use for forestry, nature conservation or amenity. ▪ Potential loss of public access if restoration to heathland. ▪ Lack of confidence in restoration due to adjoining sites ▪ Need for detail and timescale of restoration proposals 	<p>The adopted Minerals Strategy sets out policies relating to restoration as well as general development management policies which cover the identified issues. It will be a matter for the planning application stage to consider suitable conditions relating to detailed restoration programmes. At this stage site proposers</p>	<p>Restoration issues will be considered having regard to relevant policies in the adopted Minerals Strategy.</p>

	<p>have been contacted requesting further information about their sites which will inform our understanding of restoration issues and the MPA will also liaise with relevant experts such as Natural England and the Environment Agency. This information will form part of the overall assessment of the suitability of the site to go forward in the site selection process.</p>	
<p>Hydrology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential for damage to watercourses running through the site and impact on drainage. ▪ Increased flooding – due to loss of trees acting as natural flood water absorption. 	<p>Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies. The Environment Agency is consulted as a matter of course on such matters.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>
<p>Social Issues</p>		
<p>Impact on recreation</p> <p>Site is open access land and used for public recreational purposes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walking ▪ Dog walking ▪ Running ▪ Cycling ▪ Horse riding ▪ Orienteering ▪ Occasional motorcross events. ▪ Disagree with area being remote from Wool and Wareham (as stated in C1); site much used by residents of Wool. ▪ Forestry in public ownership and people reasonably expect public access. 	<p>Should the site be considered for inclusion in the plan the MPA would need to take account of recreation opportunities which might be secured both during extraction and post-restoration.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>
<p>Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Traffic impacts particularly on A352 and cumulatively with other sites, new wind farm and Monkey World. Potential for hazards on roads ▪ Visual impact at access points into A352. ▪ Use of single track Binnegar Lane currently by HGVs is an issue which may be exacerbated 	<p>The Highway Authority, which considers matters of highway safety, is consulted at every stage in the plan's preparation.</p> <p>Any planning application would need to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment (TA) study.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>

<p>Amenity: Adverse effect on residents of cottages due to noise of quarry workings.</p>	<p>If this development were to be allocated and permitted, planning conditions attached to any planning consent can be used to minimise adverse impacts upon amenity. Mitigation may include restrictions on hours of working, screening bunds and use of appropriate equipment to reduce noise.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>
<p>Economic Issues</p>		
<p>Impact on tourism</p>	<p>The Mineral Planning Authority has a statutory duty to make provision for an adequate level of aggregate supply and minerals also play an important economic role, being essential for the construction industry. This will also need to be considered when the MPA looks at the overall supply of minerals. Any adverse impact on tourism would need to be balanced with the need for aggregate.</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>