

Site Name & Reference**PS01 Bowers Mine extension****Brief Summary of Proposal**

Extraction of approximately 34,000 tonnes Portland Dimension stone over a period of 10 years

Total number of Representations received: **9**Number of Representors: **9****Were comments received from the following consultees?**Natural England **No**Local Nature Partnership **No**Town Council (Portland) : **No**English Heritage **Yes**Local Enterprise Partnership **No**

District Council (West Dorset and Weymouth

Environment Agency **Yes**& Portland Councils) : **Yes****Other bodies making comments included:**

CPRE

Petitions – None received to 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
Environmental Issues		
Environmental Impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity enhancements are expected for stone extraction sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies. 	These matters will be considered in further detail.
Hydrology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetland restoration opportunities should be maximised. Water Framework Assessments (WFD) should be undertaken, which will contribute to the relevant River Basin Plan objectives; and Proposals should maximise the overall wetland gains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	These matters will be considered in further detail.
Historic Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a clear and serious potential for a direct impact on the significance of these affected heritage assets and their setting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	These matters will be considered in further detail.

Social Issues		
<p>Quarry working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is considered that it is not morally correct to permit mining under the Cemetery. However, if permission were to be granted, the future upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery should be paid for by the mining company. ▪ Not considered appropriate to mine stone under the cemetery. Some of the graves are sinking: assurances needed that the graves would not be disturbed if this site were permitted. ▪ Support for mining operations rather than open cast quarrying which leaves huge holes in the grounds; requires the closure of footpaths; and creates dust and noise from blasting. ▪ Mining the stone causes much less interference with the countryside and much less damage to the environment than open-cast quarrying and is supported, provided that it is a long way below the level where there could be any possible disturbance to the cemetery itself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The concerns of residents regarding mining under the Cemetery are understood. Before any permissions were granted, the Mineral Planning Authority would need to be satisfied that no adverse impacts would be caused by the operations. The site proposers will be expected to make available sufficient evidence by way of assessment studies so that ground stability can be determined. ▪ The Mineral Planning Authority has a statutory duty to make provision for an adequate level of stone supply. Further, minerals also play an important economic role, being essential for the construction industry. ▪ Portland Stone working can only take place on Portland, and it is important to the area's character. Thus a balance needs to be drawn between amenity issues and stone working; these are important considerations in any planning application. ▪ The adopted Minerals Strategy sets out policies relating to mining of Portland Stone as way forwards in the extraction of this mineral. 	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>
Economic Issues		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None identified. 		