

Development Control Committee
Meeting to be held on 21 January 2015

Electoral Division affected:
Chorley Rural East

Chorley Borough: application number. LCC/2014/0170
Quarry extension at Brinscall Quarry, Twist Moor Lane, Withnell, Chorley.

Contact for further information:
Robert Hope, 01772 534159, Environment Directorate
DevCon@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

Application – Quarry extension at Brinscall Quarry, Twist Moor Lane, Withnell, Chorley.

The application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement and Non-Technical Summary for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011.

Recommendation – Summary

That the Development Control Committee visits the site before determining the application.

Applicant's Proposal

Planning permission is sought for a 1.85 hectare extension to the west of the existing Brinscall Quarry (also known as Withnell Quarry but here on referred to as Brinscall Quarry).

Description and Location of Site

Brinscall Quarry is an active sandstone quarry located on the northern scarp of Withnell Moor overlooking the villages of Withnell and Brinscall, in the district of Chorley. The site boundary extends from the edge of the villages, where the land rises onto open moorland to the south. Access to the site is gained from Twist Moor Lane. The nearest residential properties to the proposed extension are situated approximately 80m away at Butterworth Brow Cottages. Brinscall Quarry is located within Green Belt. The extension area falls within the Withnell and Wheelton Moors and White Coppice Biological Heritage Site (BHS) and on the West Pennine Moors moorland fringe. Public Footpaths 57 and 58, Chorley skirt close to the northern and western boundary of the proposed extension.

Background

History

Brinscall Quarry appears on historic maps dating from 1845. However, the first recorded planning consent was issued in 1948 under the provisions of the General Interim Development Order 1933 for the working of minerals at the site (ref. 5/4/ID18).

Planning permissions were granted for quarry extensions in 1953 (ref 5/4/47) and 1967 (ref. 5/4/484).

In 1975 planning permission was refused for a southern extension to the quarry (ref. 9/74/165).

Under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995 modern working and restoration conditions to permissions 5/4/47 and 5/4/484 were approved in 1998 (ref. 09/97/0520). The operator at the time appealed clauses (i) and (ii) of condition 3 of permission 09/97/0520 relating to depth of mineral extraction and this appeal was allowed by the Secretary of State of the Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR) following recommendations made by the Planning Inspector in a report dated 29 August 2000. A complete revised list of conditions was provided in a decision letter prepared on behalf of the Secretary of State for DTLR, dated 22 August 2001.

Advice

The application is for a significant extension of the quarry and it is considered that a site visit would provide the Committee with a clearer understanding of the development proposal, any issues raised, and the relationship of the site to the surrounding area before the application is determined.

Recommendation

That the Development Control Committee visits the site before determining the application.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact /Directorate/ Ext
LCC/2014/0170	Jan 2015	R Hope/Env/34159

Reason for Inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A