**TGPC Quarry Working Party Progress Report February 2021**

Comments from TGPC have been submitted for the three quarries (Naunton, Oathill and Guiting). If all approved the result would see a continuation of activities at Naunton and up to a 50% increase in quarrying activity across the area. This was also illustrated in the TGPC draft report on Transport.

We have engaged with both CCB and CPRE who have both submitted comments on these applications. The CCB have also provided additional comments on the GCC Transport Plan.

A key focus of all of the comments submitted has been the need for a **cumulative impact assessment (CIA).** This is a key policy in the GCC Minerals Local Plan. Although definitions in UK planning may differ, in simple terms it can occur due an interaction between adjacent quarries (such as noise or dust) or the additive effect of activities such as HGV movements.

The next step we expect will be a review by GCC Planning Committee as the applications have various deadlines form end of Jan until mid Feb.  Nigel Moor was seeking to set up a meeting with head of planning (GCC) + TGPC working party before the end of January but this has been postponed pending submission of comments from CCB and CPRE.

We expect that a CIA would look at a wide range of factors across the area, not just in TGPC. We also expect it will include a local survey and some environmental monitoring. A potential flowchart of the stages to the process is attached. At the end of the process there will be some key decisions that GCC Planning will need to make.

There are things that could potentially be done that would help reduce the impact quarrying has on the area without the need for quarries to change current production such as; implementation of a traffic managed area, consistency of working hours and even a 5-day week. Depending on the assessment there may need to be a cap on the total production or a progressive reduction over time.

The TGPC Working Party has been actively developing a deeper understanding of the topics associated with CIA process including issues like tranquillity and surveys. Ideally this would have been done as part of the wider group that met at Toddington. It is still hoped that this will recommence at some point this year.

It is two years ago that TGPC shared a position statement with the Minerals Planning Authority. Nothing has changed from the vision we had then. Some of the steps along the way have more definition.

A special note of thanks is needed for the quarry working party members and the Parish Clerk for their hard work over the last couple of months. Their efforts have been noted by GCC, CCB and CPRE.

**29 January 2021**

