

Site Name & Reference **AS10 Moreton Plantation**

Brief Summary of Proposal

Extraction of approximately 500,000 tonnes sand and gravel over a period of 14 years

Total number of Representations received **83** Number of Representors: **80**

Were comments received from the following consultees?

Natural England Yes	Local Nature Partnership: Yes	Parish Council (Moreton) : No
English Heritage Yes	Local Enterprise Partnership: No	District Council (West Dorset) : No
Environment Agency Yes		

Other bodies making comments included:

British Driving Society	Affpuddle & Turners Puddle PC
Dorset Badger and Wildlife Consultancy	Crossways PC
	Broadmayne PC

Petitions – No petition was 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
General Issues		
Concern site will be used as landfill post extraction.	The Mineral Sites Plan is only considering mineral extraction. Where fill is used for site restoration the expectation is that this will be inert fill only.	
Sand from this site will be exported from Dorset to London and other counties.	The Mineral Planning Authority has a duty to make provision for an adequate supply of aggregates to support the economy and meet the need for aggregates. The overall aggregates requirement is set out in the newly adopted Minerals Strategy and the allocation of sites will need to ensure that this need can be met. Although aggregates generally do not travel far, some sand from Warmwell quarry is currently exported via the rail sidings at Wool. If the nominated site at Moreton is ultimately developed as a replacement	These matters will be considered in further detail.

	quarry for Warmwell, it is possible that this practice may continue.	
This site is not considered suitable for inclusion in the Mineral Sites Plan.	The Mineral Planning Authority has a duty to make provision for an adequate supply of aggregates to support the economy and meet the need for aggregates. The overall aggregates requirement is set out in the newly adopted Minerals Strategy and the allocation of sites will need to ensure that this need can be met. Further assessment of all sites will identify which of the nominated sites are most suitable.	These matters will be considered in further detail.
Cumulative Impacts: Possible cumulative impacts in association with the ongoing operation of Bovington Camp army base.	Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies, to include cumulative impacts on sites.	These matters will be considered in further detail.
Environmental Issues		
Environmental Impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposal is not compatible with the Bern Convention obligation to restore heathland. ▪ Amenities such as woodland and riverside walks, are increasingly important in a more crowded environment such as is found in Dorset ▪ There are concerns about the nominated sand and gravel extraction site at Moreton Plantation due to impacts (HGV movements, noise and dust) on TE Lawrence's cottage and its setting at Clouds Hill. ▪ This would have a detrimental impact on the natural beauty of the area. ▪ Rare and protected wildlife species will be adversely affected . ▪ Areas of heathland on site should be protected as SPA/SSSI. ▪ This site is functionally part of an integrated large scale ecosystem with the adjacent SAC/SPA sites and should not be destroyed. ▪ The area is important for the heathland linkages 	The site is not in the AONB but does affect designated habitats or their international significance. Site proposers have been contacted requesting a broad range of further assessment studies. In order to be acceptable, the development proposal would need to pass the tests in the Conservation Regulations (previously: Habitats Regulations).	These matters will be considered in further detail.

<p>identified within the Forest Design Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The loss of the site would compromise the forestry, conservation and amenity balance within the FC suite of sites. This will cause direct impact to all Purbeck heaths. ▪ The site is sloping down to Moreton village, and as such it would be hard to screen without intrusive fencing. Long views from Winfrith Heath and surrounding hills would be affected. 		
<p>Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concerns regarding the heavy lorries through Wool. ▪ It was queried whether any proposed development would lead to a possible increase of trains through Wool Train Station, and the consequent impacts to traffic through Wool. ▪ An unclassified road from Waddock Cross to Bovington Road down to Moreton Ford crosses the site and if stopped up will prevent access. ▪ The road infrastructure may well not support the volume and weight of traffic. Highway implications likely to be severe. ▪ If the proposed housing development of 1200 houses in the Crossways area goes ahead that, together with the extra 200 movements a day from this proposal, would create totally unacceptable traffic problems. ▪ Site adjacent to tank training area – conflict on public roads. 	<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>Hydrology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposals should maximise the overall wetland gains. ▪ There is a potential impact on both groundwater flow patterns, and surface water flow within the plantation. ▪ Drainage issues – site is currently well drained despite Forestry Commission planting of woodland. ▪ Importance of the wet heath /mire to the south of the site. 	<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>Historic Environment:</p>	<p>Site proposers have been contacted requesting a</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There would be a detrimental impact upon the setting of the Listed Buildings at Clouds Hill. 	<p>broad range of further assessment studies, which includes a full archaeological assessment of the impact from any development on the archaeological sites.</p>	<p>detail.</p>
<p>Restoration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No road maintenance plan contained in restoration plan. Concerned that current restoration methods would be incompatible with long-term use for forestry, nature conservation and amenity. 	<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 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>Restoration issues will be considered having regard to relevant policies in the adopted Minerals Strategy.</p>
<p>Social Issues</p>		
<p>Amenity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There could be impacts from dust and/or mud created by sand and gravel extraction. Works traffic and associated noise associated will degrade the area for both local residents and visitors. Reduced property values due to reduction in quality of life. 	<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. Similarly, conditions can be used to manage levels of dust and dirt emanating from the site, such as through appropriate design and management of the site, and the adoption of appropriate control and mitigation measures (including separation distances, landscaping, screening and spraying haul roads within the site).</p>	<p>These matters will be considered in further detail.</p>

<p>Recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern that access to the area for recreation (walking, carriage driving, horse riding) purposes will be prevented. ▪ Land is currently designated as Open Access land offering huge amenity value for walkers and riders and should remain as such. ▪ Need to consider the impact on tourism for those using the Lawrence of Arabia Walking Trail. ▪ Loss of amenity for Carriage Drivers. ▪ This area is in the heart of Hardy's Egdon Heath and the open access is enjoyed by both people and wildlife. ▪ Moreton village economy revolves around equestrian events and this would be affected by noise and traffic increase. 	<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>Economic Issues</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposal would have an adverse impact on recreation and tourism which would have a knock on effect on the economy of Purbeck. There would be no net increase in economic activity as quarry personnel would be transferred from other sites as they close to work at Moreton. 	<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>