

Reference:- Comments relating to application 2019/0657/01, Aggregate Industries UK Ltd – Proposed lateral extension to the mineral extraction area within Croft Quarry, retention of access and ancillary development and reclamation of restoration material – Croft Quarry, Coventry Road Croft.

I apologise but I will not be available to speak at the Planning Committee on Thursday 10th June 2021 regarding the above application but wish to submit the following comments as Divisional Member for Stoney Stanton and Croft.

I write in support of the Officers recommendation to approve this application. In doing so I acknowledge the vast amount of work undertaken by all parties that have gone into the process. As members will see from reading this very detailed report that this application has gone through an extensive consultation process over several years. There have been a series of revisions and mitigation proposals suggested and put forward to try and reach the best conclusion as possible. Both for residents and the business. A comprehensive report has been produced. A part of this was the commissioning of the Independent Assessment by Wardell Armstrong which I welcome. I attend the Croft Quarry Liaison Committee and have worked with local Parish Council Members, District Councillors and the Environmental Health representatives at Blaby District Council to ensure the best possible outcome for local residents is achieved regarding this application. Members will note that requested extra conditions regarding Environmental Health aspects have been included. The Liaison Committee meets on a regular basis and provides a platform and forum for local voices to be heard. Aggregate Industries UK Ltd are a good partner to work with. The workings of the quarry as stated have been an integral part of the nearby communities for several decades and this partnership is essential. As can be seen HGV traffic is already controlled by existing S106 legal agreements and it is imperative this control continues. The quarrying (in some form since Roman times) has left an extremely massive and deep void which MUST to be filled in for Health and Safety reasons. The infill being inert material to protect the water table which floods on a regular basis. Bringing material in by rail provides a positive solution. I look forward to substantial environmental improvements as the restoration progresses, the implementation of a dedicated Right of Way and the continuing work around the nature trail which is a valuable local amenity. I would ask that the Community Fund and S106 monies is distributed fairly and weight is given in favour to the Parishes of Croft and Huncote that are and have been for many years the nearest directly impacted by the daily workings.

Thank you for allowing me to submit these comments.

Regards
Councillor Maggie Wright
Stoney Stanton & Croft Division
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