



Statement of Community Involvement  
Horn Crag Quarry  
A.D. Calvert Architectural Stone Supplies Ltd.



Minerals  
Waste  
Environment

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**Approved by:** CH Director

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## Statement of Community Involvement

### 1.0. Introduction

- 1.1. This statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been produced on behalf of A. D. Calvert Architectural Stone Supplies Ltd. (The Applicants) for a planning application for the reopening of a dimension stone quarry at Horn Crag Quarry ('The Site'), near Silsden at grid ref: SE 05303 47994. The Site is a historic quarry, last worked in the 1980s).
- 1.2. The SCI has been prepared to demonstrate the engagement that has been carried out on behalf of The Applicants in accordance with the advice contained within the NPPF (paragraphs 39 to 42).
- 1.3. In preparation for the planning application submission, the consultation listed in section 2 took place to enable early communication between the community and The Applicants.

### 2.0. Consultation

- 2.1. Table 1 details when consultation on the planning application was published and when the consultation was held.

*Table 1: Timeline of advertisement of consultation and consultation*

Advert / Consultation	When the adverts and consultation was available (date relates to the start of the week)				
	17/01/2022	24/01/2022	31/01/2022	07/02/2022	14/02/2022
Craven Herald website	20/01/2022 – 26/01/2022				
Craven Herald published	20/01/2022				
Telegraph and Argus website	20/01/2022 – 19/02/2022				
Telegraph and Argus published	19/01/2022				
Advert sign at Site entrance		27/01/2022 – 11/02/2022			
Consultation website live		28/01/2022 – 08/02/2022			

2.2. In late January 2022, the following notice (Figure 1) was published in the Craven Herald to notify stakeholders of the consultation webpage.



Figure 1: Notice of consultation webpage in the Craven Herald with other notices blanked out. The same notice was used throughout the entire time consultation was advertised in the Craven Herald.

2.3. In late January 2022, the following notice (Figure 2) was published in the Telegraph and Argus to notify stakeholders of the consultation webpage.

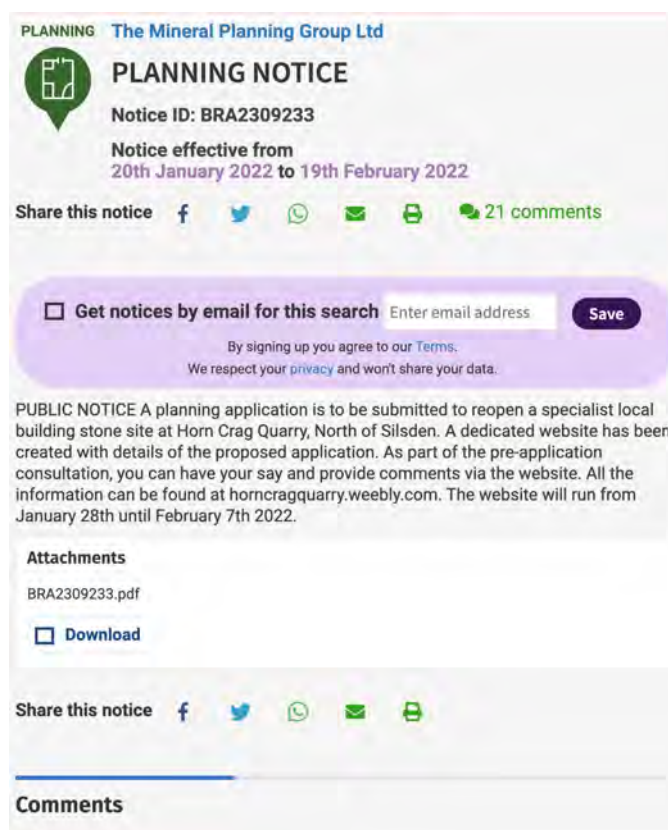
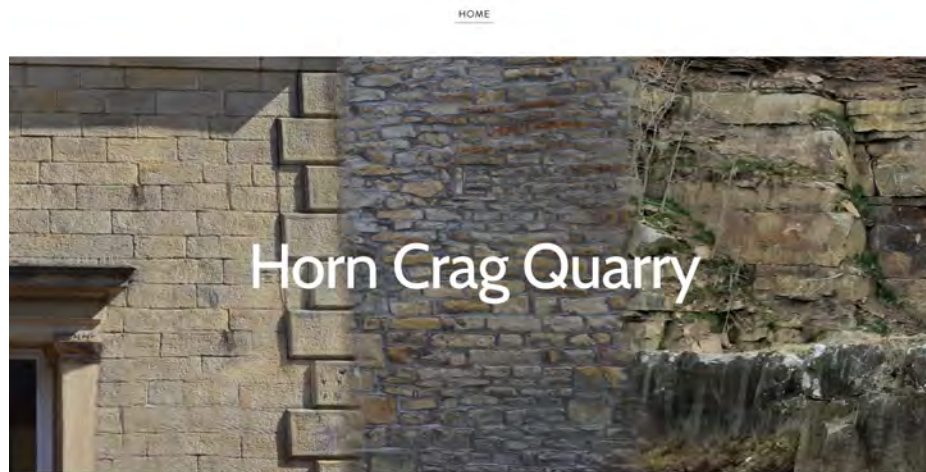


Figure 2: Notice of consultation webpage in the Telegraph & Argus with other notices blanked out. The same notice was used throughout the entire time consultation was advertised in the Telegraph & Argus.

2.4. On the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the dedicated webpage went live providing information on The Site, the proposal, the Planning Application and accompanying supporting statement ([horncragquarry.weebly.com](http://horncragquarry.weebly.com) – see Figure 3). The website also invited stakeholders to provide their comments and feedback on the proposals. A copy of the whole consultation website is included in Appendix A.



Re-opening Horn Crag Quarry would provide a source of local masonry products which could be used to restore heritage assets and construct new development in a traditional character befitting the local area. Post-extraction Horn Crag Quarry would be restored and enhanced into a thriving biodiverse landscape.

Read on below for a summary of the Planning Application and an opportunity to add your comments at the bottom of this page.

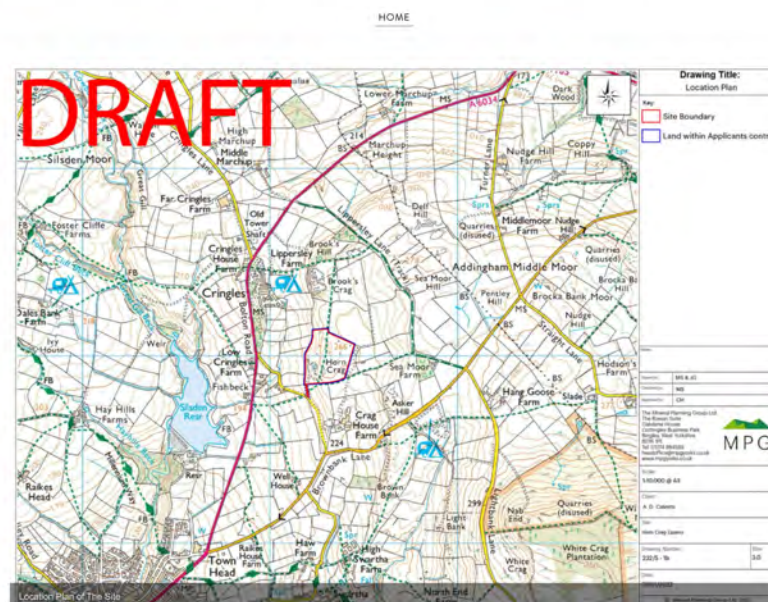


Figure 3: Screenshot of the top of the consultation webpage.

### 3.0. Public Consultation Feedback

3.1. The feedback form on the webpage provided The Applicant with 31 responses from stakeholders, both in support and against the proposals. The comments are summarised in the chart below (Figure 4) which highlights the main areas of discussion.

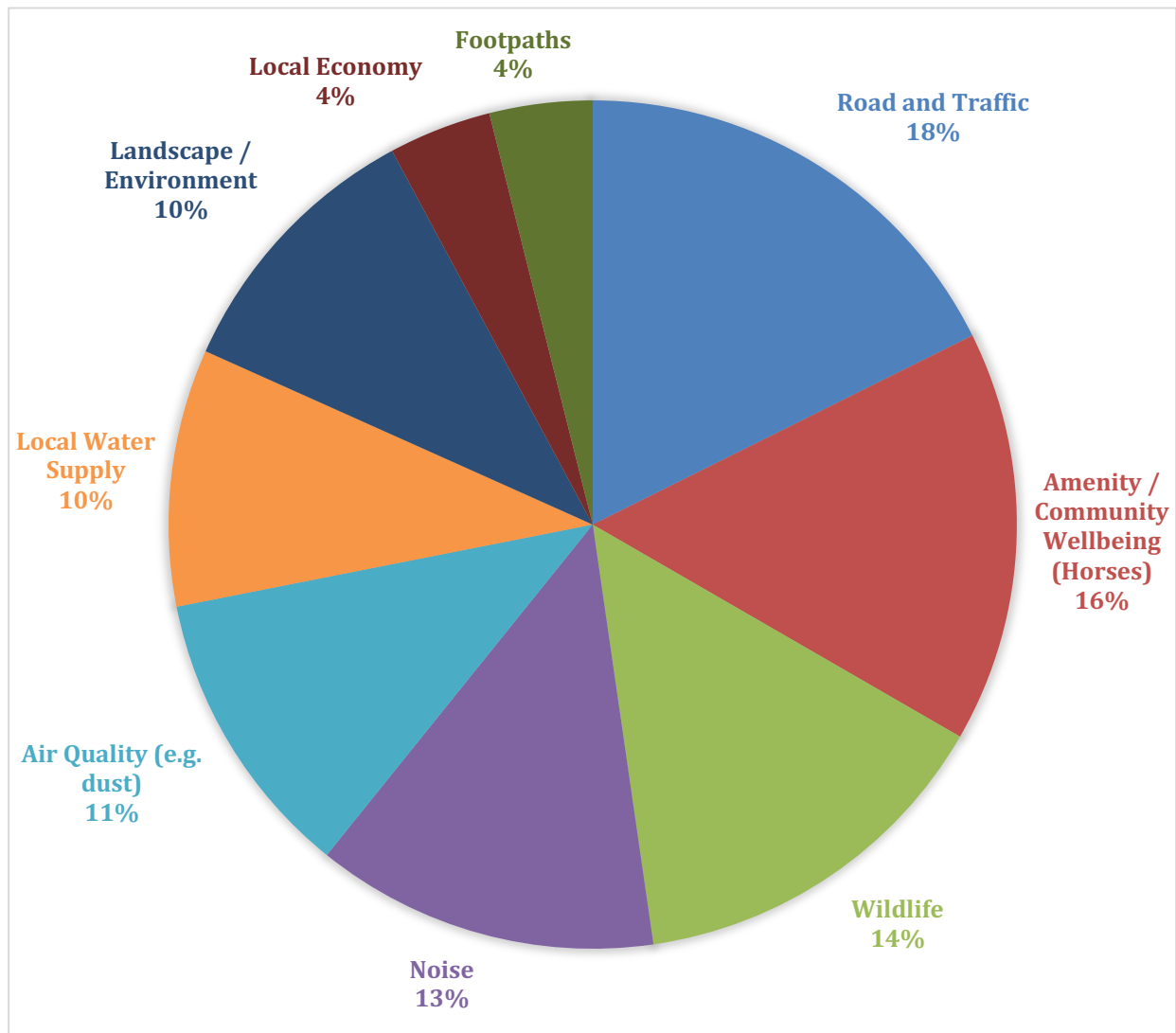


Figure 4: Public consultation feedback summary (responses from the consultation form on the dedicated website and comments on the notice in the Telegraph and Argus)

3.2. A selection of summarised quotes are included below showcasing the range of responses received from the feedback form and comments from the Telegraph

and Argus notice are shown below:

*"The road network is totally inadequate for the purpose of quarry traffic. There would be unacceptable difficulties and dangers for quarry traffic on these narrow country roads."*

*"[I am] concerned about the lorries exiting Brown Bank Lane to turn north. Why not just go down Fishbeck Lane directly to the main road?"*

*"This planning application would directly impact on the welfare of my horses and animals"*

*"[Horn Crag Quarry] has always been a lovely place to be and has supported our mental health and well being on a daily basis for years."*

*"I think it would be a great scar on the landscape and a loss of natural habitat for extensive wildlife in and around the quarry"*

*"The residents of brown bank caravan park would be exposed to noise and dust pollution"*

*"The wind, which at times is very strong in this location, would carry dust and debris across the fields to our home"*

*"I am aware of the proposal of a borehole suggested by mpg which I have no interest in as the natural spring water is of high quality and free, whereas a borehole as confirmed by my neighbour is of great annual servicing cost as the water is high in iron and requires regular servicing and filter changes."*

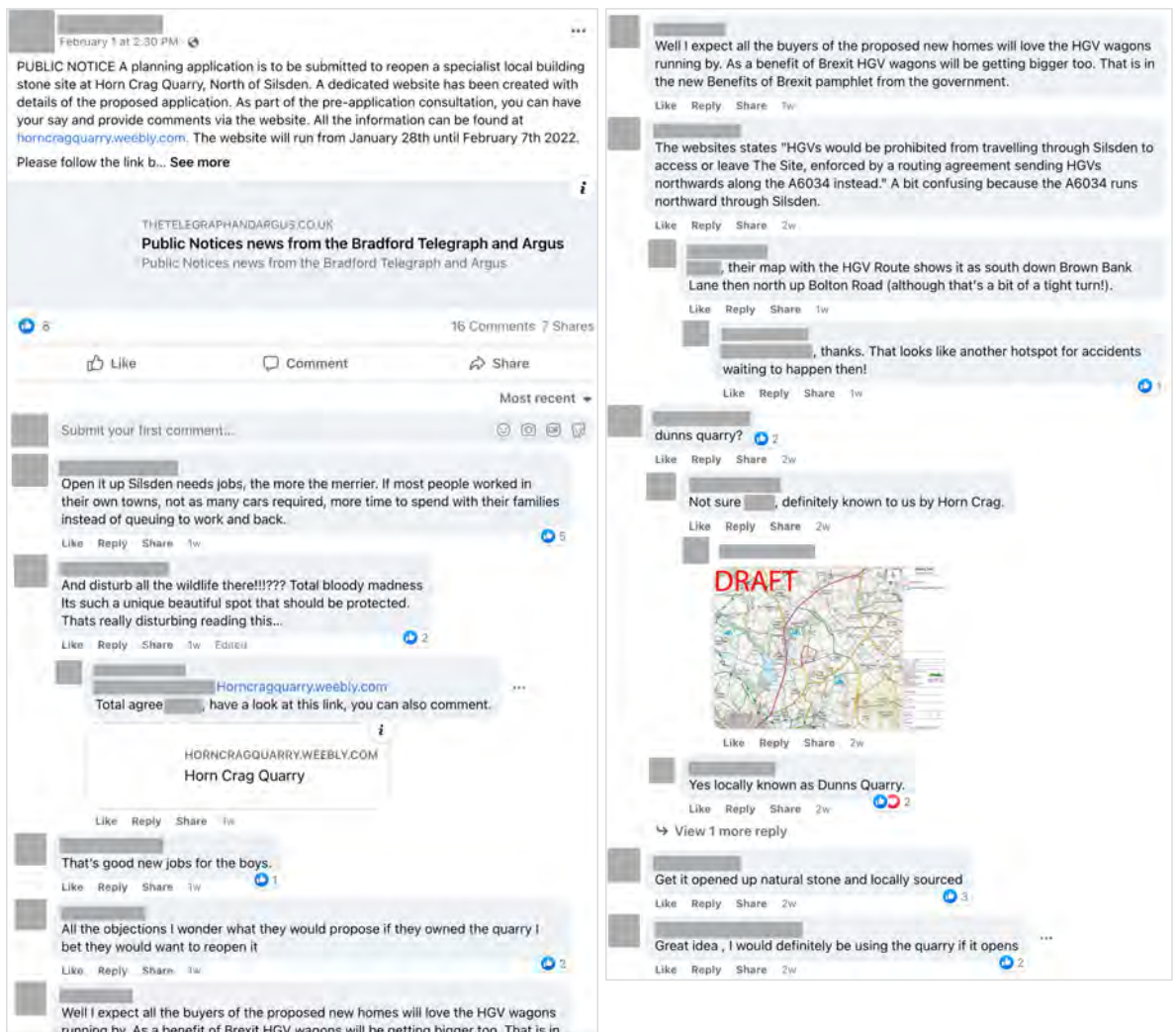
*"There would be a negative visual impact on the surrounding hills and open countryside."*

*"The immediate area supports tourism and the blot of a quarry and associated noise and dust doesn't help the local economy in any way."*

*"This and the protected wildlife habitats of the site would be greatly adversely affected and the Silsden public footpath no.18 would be very much*

*compromised."*

- 3.3. We were anecdotally informed of a Facebook thread started by an objector on Silsden Buzz, a local community Facebook page with 15,000 members. We have included screenshots of the Facebook thread with personal information redacted (Figure 5).



*Figure 5: Screenshots of the Facebook thread on the Silsden Buzz discussing the proposed development with personal information redacted*

#### 4.0. Public Consultation Feedback addressed in the Planning Application

- 4.1. The feedback received from the public consultation has been addressed in the Planning Application. This section of the SCI directs readers to specific parts of



the Planning Application that are particularly relevant to the main areas of discussion. It is recommended that interested parties read the Non-Technical Summary in order to establish a general understanding of the whole Planning Application before reading the technical sections of the Supporting Statement.

#### 4.2. Road and Traffic

4.2.1. One of the areas of most concern was the potential impact the proposals could have on the local road network. Details of the proposed traffic movements are included in the Operational Details (Chapter 3) of the Supporting Statement. An independent Traffic Assessment was carried out and is included in the Planning Application in Chapter 11. The conclusions of this Traffic Assessment are quoted below

*“The site will generate 10 two-way HGV trips (5 in and 5 out) per day and 8 two-way staff trips (4 in and 4 out) per day. Therefore, the trip generation from the development will not have a material impact on the operation of the local highway network in the vicinity of the site.*

*It has been demonstrated that the adjacent highway network is operating safely and the additional increase in traffic is so small that the network will continue to operate safely with the quarry in operation.*

*It has been deemed unnecessary to provide a passing place on Fishbeck Lane as it is extremely unlikely that two vehicles will meet each other on Fishbeck Lane.*

*It is therefore concluded that there is no justifiable reason to refuse the planning application on highways grounds.”*

#### 4.3. Amenity / Community Wellbeing

4.3.1. Responses classed as amenity or community wellbeing largely concerned stabled horses nearby and horse-riding local to The Site. In general, equine comments were related to traffic or noise concerns which are discussed in sections 4.2 and 4.5 of this document respectively.

#### 4.4. Wildlife

4.4.1. The potential impact of the proposals on the wildlife of The Site is one of the areas of concern for the public. Several independent surveys of The Site have been carried out by a suitably qualified, independent ecological consultant. Initially, a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was carried out, this is included in Chapter 7 of the Supporting Statement. Subsequently, a suite of further surveys were carried out as recommended in the PEA. These surveys included Breeding Bird Survey (Chapter 14), SPA Bird Foraging Survey (Chapter 15), Bat Activity Survey (Chapter 17), Bat Emergence Survey Report (Chapter 18), Reptile Survey (Chapter 19) and an Arboricultural (Tree) Survey (Chapter 20).

4.4.2. The conclusions of the PEA are summarised below:

- Additional surveys required.
- Produce a quarry design which minimises loss of biodiversity.
- Engage an ecologist to advise on the production of the restoration plan to maximise the available Biodiversity Units on site.
- Engage an ecologist to quantify the biodiversity net gain / loss of the final scheme prior to submission of the Planning Application.
- Produce a Construction Ecological Management Plan (CEMP) prior to operations commencing
- Produce a Biodiversity Management Plan specifying how Biodiversity Net Gain will be achieved upon restoration.
- Produce a nesting bird management plan if not included in the CEMP.

4.4.3. The conclusions of the Breeding Bird Survey have been summarised below:

*" Analysis of breeding bird distribution on site found that, in general, most species were restricted to areas along the western edge of the Site, where trees and mixed scrub have established naturally. This includes all the red and all but one of the amber-listed species which were found to exhibit breeding behaviour. The only breeding species on-site not associated with areas of scrub was meadow pipit, which was nesting amongst heather in the north and east of the Site."*

Whilst the proposed re-opening of Horn Crag Quarry would result in the local loss of habitat for breeding and foraging for red and amber listed birds of conservation concern, mitigations have been proposed, including:

- Retaining the existing trees and areas of scrubland.
- Incorporating and retaining “wild areas” of un-managed vegetation including areas of heather and heathland plants
- Carry out site clearance works only between the months of September and February, including unavoidable removal of trees, scrub and vegetation, to avoid the breeding bird season from 1st March to 31st August. Should any of these works be undertaken after February, a site breeding bird check should be made by a qualified ornithologist to ensure that no active nests of breeding birds are present before works commence. Dense areas of scrub present on the Site are likely to require supervised clearance.
- The proposed restoration of The Site has included elements that would encourage greater numbers of red and amber listed species to use the Site for breeding and foraging.

4.4.4. The conclusions of the SPA Bird Foraging Survey are quoted below:

*“Given the lack of active foraging seen within the ecological zone of influence of the site it is possible to conclude that recommencement of quarrying would not lead to any noticeable effect on curlews [the only SPA assemblage bird encountered at The Site] specifically or the North and South Pennine Moors qualifying interests.”*

4.4.5. The conclusions of the Bat Activity Survey are quoted below:

*“The data collected show that the western portion of the Site is of highest value to bats, especially for foraging and commuting during the spring, with much lower levels of use across summer and autumn. However, activity levels seen can still be considered to be low when compared with other sites.”*

*Habitat favoured during the activity surveys should be retained where possible, particularly scattered trees and scrub within the western side of the Site, to maintain the Site's current value to local bat populations. Any loss of these habitats should be suitably mitigated for.*

*Lighting should be a consideration in these areas, as light spill from the quarry face and access road will reduce the suitability of retained habitats for foraging bats; a sensitive lighting plan should be produced to limit light spill into the retained area."*

4.4.6. The conclusions of the Bat Emergence Survey are quoted below:

*"Survey has confirmed the likely absence of roosting within the quarry during the summer."*

It is anticipated that a pre-commencement planning condition would be applied to the site in order to secure the monitoring of faces during the winter months, should it transpire that extraction commences during the winter.

4.5. Noise

4.5.1. Concern was raised regarding the potential for the proposed development to cause an unacceptable noise impact. An independent noise impact assessment was commissioned to accompany this Planning Application and is included in Chapter 9 of the Supporting Statement. The conclusions of this noise impact assessment are quoted below:

*"The results show that the ambient noise levels are predicted to increase by approximately 7.0 dB and 4.1 dB for NSRs 1 and 2 respectively. This is classed as a 'Substantial' impact at NSR1 and 'Slight/Moderate' at NSR2. Whilst this level of impact is high at NSR1, due to the temporary nature of the activities, it is deemed to be acceptable in accordance with BS5228:2009. It should also be noted that the assessment has been undertaken assuming all machinery at the site is operating continuously and simultaneously which is not likely the case. Given this, the impact is likely lower than stated in the IANL Assessment above."*

4.6. Air quality

4.6.1. The potential for the proposed development to produce dust was one of the areas of concern raised by the public. A dust management plan is included in the Supporting Statement in Chapter 6. The summary of this dust management plan is quoted below:

*“It is considered that the mitigation measures described within this [dust management plan] document [such as wetting down haul roads, stockpiles and working areas, suspending operations and a 10mph speed limit across The Site] would allow Horn Crag Quarry to operate without causing an unacceptable adverse impact due to dust.”*

4.7. Local water supply

4.7.1. Concern was raised about the potential for the operations of the proposed quarry to impact groundwater and as a result the water supplies to some local properties. A Hydrogeological Impact Assessment was carried out by an independent consultant to accompany the Planning Application and is included in Chapter 8 of the Supporting Statement. The conclusions of this Hydrogeological Impact Assessment are quoted below:

*“It is concluded that the proposed works will not impact adversely upon the wider water environment and the continued viability of the spring collector water supply located to the west of the site.”*

4.8. Landscape

4.8.1. One of the areas with some concern was the potential impact of the proposals on the landscape. A Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) was carried out by an independent consultant and is included in Chapter 10 of the Supporting Statement. The conclusions of the LVA are quoted below:

*“Following a review of baseline information, together with consideration of the potential landscape and visual effects arising from the proposal to work the application site at Horn Crag Quarry, Silsden, as a dimension stone quarry, with*

*the extracted block to be taken by road to the applicant's processing facilities, it is considered that the application site and wider landscape is able to successfully accommodate the proposals, in landscape and visual terms, without having an unacceptable effect or loss of landscape character or visual amenity.*

*It is recommended that the self set trees, scrub and succession vegetation which are emerging to the west of the application site, at a lower elevation than the crag, are retained and protected from extraction operations, wherever practically possible, as they provide a green screen, filtering views of the existing quarry face in views from the west. In views from the east and south east, the existing quarry face is concealed beneath the crag and is not visible. If the direction of operations continues to work from west to east, with vegetation retained beneath the crag, operations could be visually less sensitive than if the direction of extraction is east to west.*

*The dry stone walls which define the application site should be maintained in good order and repaired as necessary, to strengthen landscape character."*

#### 4.9. Local economy

4.9.1. A few consultation responses expressed worries that the proposals would potentially negatively impact the local economy, largely relating to the caravan park to the northwest of The Site. The policy review included in Chapter 4 of the Supporting Statement discusses the importance of minerals to the economy at both a local and National level. National and local policy to this effect is presented in the paragraphs below.

4.9.2. Paragraph 211 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is quoted below:

*"When determining planning applications, great weight should be given to the benefits of mineral extraction, including to the economy."*

4.9.3. Similar policies are included in Bradford's Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) as quoted below

Paragraph 5.5.1 of the DPD states, *"Maintaining a steady and adequate supply of*

*minerals is essential to the economy.”*

Paragraph 5.5.2 of the DPD states, *“Supporting new investment in minerals extraction is both a responsibility, in terms of Bradford playing its part in supplying the raw materials necessary for economic growth,”*

4.9.4. Bradford’s Emerging Local Plan also discusses this topic:

Paragraph 3.12.4 of the Emerging Local Plan states *“There are a number of mineral resources present within the district including sandstone, sand and gravel, coal and clay. Sandstone is the most prevalent and most important to the local economy. Due to its quality and properties, it is in demand as a resource for building, roofing and paving stone.”*

Furthermore, the planning application’s suite of supporting studies consider the potential impacts of the Site upon the nearest sensitive receptors. None of the reports indicate that there will be an unacceptable impact upon amenity as a result of the proposals, it can be stated that this extends to the aforementioned caravan park too.

4.10. Footpaths

4.10.1. Some concern was raised that the proposed development would impact footpaths Silsden 18 and 19. An application for the appropriate diversions of these footpaths would be made prior to the commencement of any operations at The Site. The proposed diversions of footpaths Silsden 18 and 19 have been produced in consultation with Bradford Council’s Footpath officer.

5.0. **Conclusion**

5.1. A. D. Calvert Architectural Stone Supplies Ltd. carried out public consultation in preparation for the submission of a Planning Application for a dimension stone quarry at Horn Crag Quarry, to the north of Silsden, Bradford.

5.2. Stakeholders were provided with details of the proposed submission via a dedicated webpage and were informed of the consultation through public

notices in the local newspapers and on Site.

- 5.3. Thirty-one responses were received against the proposals from the form on the webpage. Anecdotal discussion on a Facebook thread included some positive conversation regarding the proposed development. The feedback covered a wide range of topics which were all reviewed and considered by The Applicant and their consultant. The Planning Application submission has endeavoured to respond to the issues raised by the stakeholders during the consultation process and provide reassurance and clarity on any areas of misunderstanding.
- 5.4. Specialist, independent, studies and reports have been undertaken in order to investigate and address potential areas of concern, including, but not limited to:
- Flood Risk Assessment
  - Dust and Air Quality
  - Hydrogeological Risk Assessment
  - Noise Impact Assessment
  - Landscape Assessment and Photomontage
  - Transport Statement
  - Heritage Stone Survey
  - Preliminary Ecological Appraisal
  - Breeding Bird Survey
  - SPA Bird Foraging Survey
  - Bat Activity Survey
  - Bat Emergence Survey Report
  - Reptile Survey
  - Arboricultural Survey



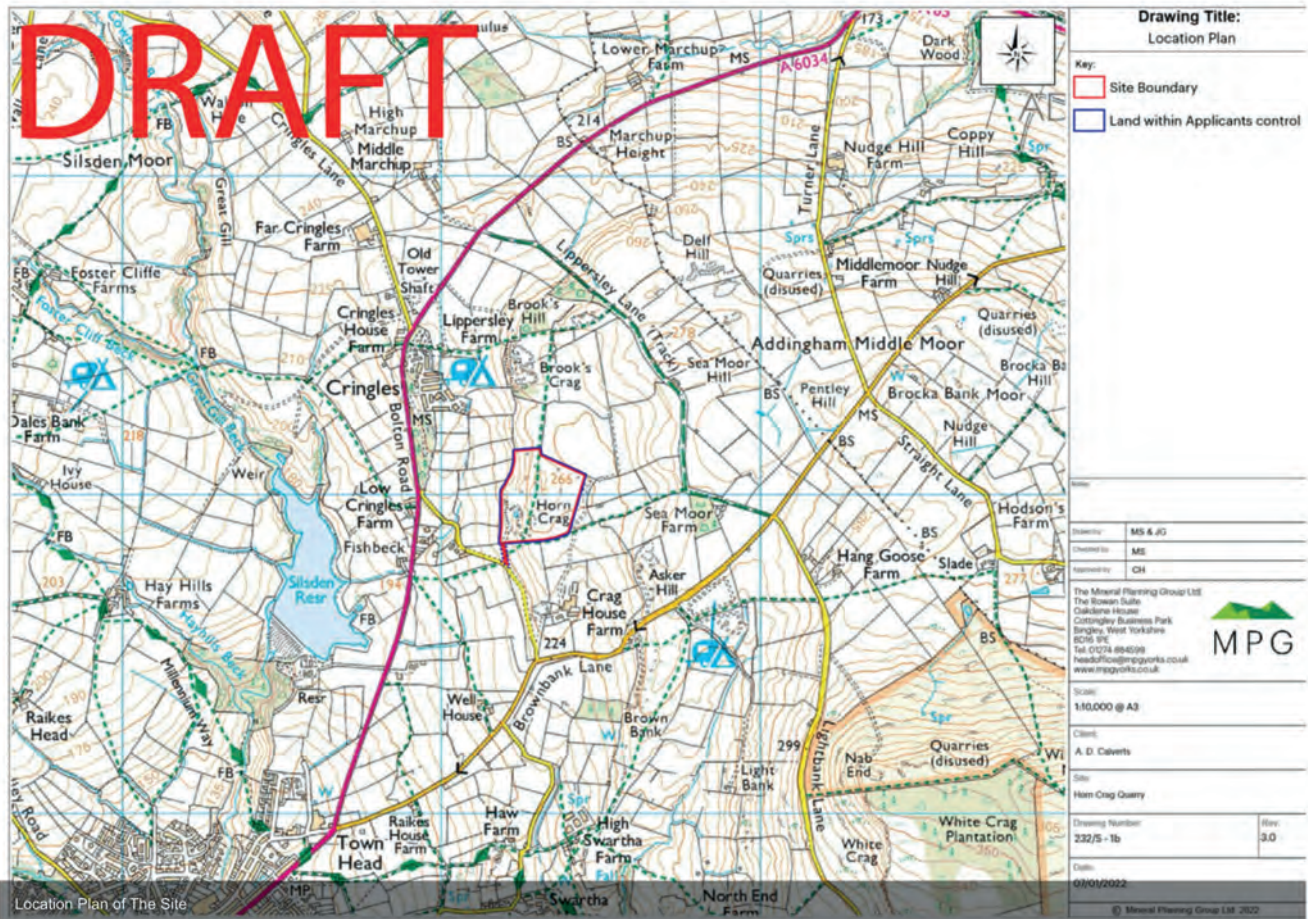


## Appendix A

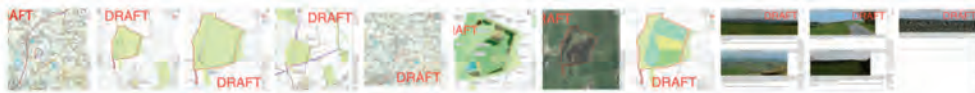
# Horn Crag Quarry

Re-opening Horn Crag Quarry would provide a source of local masonry products which could be used to restore heritage assets and construct new development in a traditional character befitting the local area. Post-extraction Horn Crag Quarry would be restored and enhanced into a thriving biodiverse landscape.

Read on below for a summary of the Planning Application and an opportunity to add your comments at the bottom of this page.



Location Plan of the Site



A planning application is to be submitted to Bradford Metropolitan District Council (BMDC) to re-open a dimension stone quarry at a site known locally as Horn Crag Quarry ('The Site') to the north of Silsden, West Yorkshire.

The Site would release approximately 500 tonnes of high-grade dimension stone a week until 2042. The stone quarried at Horn Crag would provide a local source of traditional construction materials that could be used to maintain and enhance the landscape character of the area without a reliance on imports or poorly matched stone. The careful design of The Site will ensure that it blends into its surroundings to the greatest possible extent and retain areas of existing biodiversity throughout extraction. The proposed restoration of The Site is ecologically focussed, creating an enhanced habitat which links The Site with the wider biodiversity landscape.

Dimension stone extraction is a low intensity activity, with peaks and troughs in demands for products. Therefore, the HGV restrictions proposed would be low; no more than 5 in and 5 out a day, as well as a maximum of 20 in and 20 out in per week. **HGVs would be prohibited from travelling through Silsden to access or leave The Site**, enforced by a routing agreement sending HGVs northwards along the A6034 instead. The extracted block and mineral suitable for dimension stone would be transported to the operator's processing yard to be cut into dimension stone products. The Site will be worked and restored in phases to minimise the extent of quarry operations at any one time.

The Site currently consists of several historic quarry faces, heathland areas and gorse scrub, acid grassland (used for agriculture) and areas of self-seeded trees / scrub. The Site has been worked, intermittently, for local stone products since at least 1853.

A series of, independent, specialist, assessments have been undertaken to accompany this planning application to assess the proposal's potential impact on flood risk, dust and air quality, hydrogeology, noise, landscape, transport and ecology. Each assessment concluded that the proposals would not cause any unacceptable impacts. Additionally, any recommendations or mitigation measures suggested in the assessments carried out have been included in the operational design for The Site.

The Planning Application will include the following:

- Site Description
- Operational Details
- Policy Review and Alternatives Assessment
- Flood Risk Assessment
- Dust Management Plan
- Restoration Scheme
- Hydrogeological Impact Assessment
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
- Transport Statement
- Heritage Stone Survey
- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal
- Breeding Bird Survey
- SPA Bird Foraging Survey
- Bat Activity Survey
- Bat Emergence Survey Report
- Reptile Survey
- Arboricultural Survey

Please take time to view the plans available on this web page and if you have any comments on the proposal, please use the form at the bottom of this page to submit them in order for them to be considered prior to submission of the application.

The comment form below will be closed at 23:59 on Monday 7th February 2022. All comments will be reviewed and considered before the submission of the planning application though individual comments will not be replied to. However, once the planning application has been submitted you will still be able to formally comment through the Bradford Metropolitan District Council's planning portal.

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Your name and email address will not be disclosed in the Planning Application or to anyone outside of the Mineral Planning Group Ltd. If you wish to have your personal details removed from our email database after making a comment, please contact us or request this in your comment.

## Comment on the Application

\* INDICATES REQUIRED FIELD

EMAIL \*

NAME \*

COMMENT \*

SUBMIT

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