

EMAIL QUESTIONS RECEIVED JUNE 2021
TO: MR O'DOWD, QUARRY OWNER – EAST, WEST & PARBOLD QUARRIES.

The following comments and questions have been extracted from the emails received by the Parish Council, for your attention, comments and responses.

When is the quarry being emptied?

As I would like my grandchildren to play safely in my garden throughout the summer without projectile s being thrown over the wall.

As you are aware these people are not local they come to swim and cause havoc.

We understand your frustration and can assure you that, it is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

It is not fair that you should be concerned for the wellbeing of your grandchildren due to nefarious behaviour of those coming into the village to use the quarry, as soon as we can remove the water from the quarry we remove the attraction and the havoc caused stops. We are therefore doing everything we can to get the process of dewatering underway.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

When is the quarry in Appley Bridge going to be emptied?

I am disgusted about the abusive and anti social behaviour, not to mention the verbal abuse, we receive from the outsiders wishing to visit these quarries for swimming and leisure activities, throughout the summer months. Appley Bridge used to be a quaint and friendly village, which we were proud to call our home, but no more. This behaviour is totally unacceptable and we demand an end to it. It's simple, these quarries must be emptied, filled in, or whatever to stop this intolerable life we of Appley Bridge have to now endure. Please take action.

We understand your frustration and can assure you that we are doing everything we can to get the draining works underway as soon as possible. We agree with your comments, the only way to get rid of this antisocial behaviour is to remove the water from the quarry.

While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water we await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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Question 1 to Peter O'Dowd, Maybrook Developments

"There are rumours that Maybrook Developments intend to build houses or other buildings on the road frontage opposite Northern Diver. I presume Mr. O'Dowd realises that West Quarry and the land to the North is greenbelt under the existing West Lancashire Local Plan 2012- 2027. "

Question 2

"Mr. O'Dowd has personally informed residents adjacent to West Quarry that the land comprising West Quarry is to be used for farming. Is this true or a complete fabrication? Why did he purchase West Quarry."

Thank you for your questions. I understand that there has been a lot of conjecture around the intentions for the land and we are grateful for the opportunity to provide some clarity.

Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

Maybrook's aspirations are shown in the drawing below, which include:

- *Community Centre*
- *Car park*
- *Local shops*
- *Green public spaces*
- *Residential development*
- *Agricultural land (West Quarry)*
- *Allotments*
- *Relocating the industrial units*



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Children have died from drowning in this quarry for over 50 years! Please put a stop to this. When will the quarry be emptied?

The antisocial behaviour the local residents have to put up with from the people travelling to use the quarry is appalling. They are rude, foul-mouthed, some are drunk and a lot smoke cannabis.

They also litter the paths with cans and bottles they discard on the way for their swim.

We have had our cars vandalised, 5 on Appley Lane North only yesterday.

Please, will you put a stop to this by emptying the quarry?

Who is paying for the extra police presence that is required?

This would not be necessary if the quarry was emptied and their precious time used more productively.

Are you going to fulfil your promise and build a car park to help with the parking problem we have with the rail commuters?

We all look forward to the day the quarry is emptied.

We agree that the quarry needs to be emptied as soon as possible and we're doing everything we can to get this works started as quickly as possible.

We are awaiting planning permission for a new access ramp which is required by health and safety laws ahead of the commencement of the draining works.

We have the permit in place from the Environmental Agency to start the dewatering and look forward to the day we can turn on the pumps, initially for a 12 week period.

We too are appalled by the behaviour of these people travelling into the village to use the quarry and will continue to work with the authorities to police the area.

In terms of our aspirations for the land, a car park is certainly part of the plan that we presented first in 2019.

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When will you start draining the quarry at Appley Bridge, the sooner the better as every summer we get more and more anti-social behaviour, vandalism and theft from youths attracted by the water?

A very concerned local resident

Thank you for your question, we echo your concerns and agree that the sooner the quarry is drained the better.

We understand your frustration and can assure you that, it is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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When are you going to empty or fill the Appley Bridge Quarry?

It is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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It has come to my attention as a local in Appley Bridge that I can ask a question regarding the drainage of the quarry.

I have lived in Appley Bridge all my life and so has the rest of my family! We are sick to death of the issues caused by people travelling to the quarry!

My question is

“When is the quarry going to be drained and filled in as proposed?”

At the minute I'm having youths coming in to my property asking about the quarry and even throwing glass bottles in the garden where my daughters play! I won't tolerate it anymore!

Thank you for your question. We are grateful to the parish council for facilitating this process and giving us the opportunity to answer your questions.

It is wholly unfair that you should have to worry about your daughters' safety while playing the garden. We believe the only way to get rid of this antisocial behaviour is to remove the water from the quarry and can assure you that we are doing everything we can to get the draining works started as soon as possible.

While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water we await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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Another year with trouble all because of kids coming up to swim it's out of order when you live in such a beautiful place and get abuse from them, I'm fuming to be honest, it's disgusting that we need to have security on the local shop because of them, I went to the shop yesterday and couldn't believe how rude these children are something needs to be done, and quick, it's not fair what's it going to take before action is taken I was going to say does someone has to die but I was told that kids have in the past, enough is enough now you need to do your job that's what your here for, every year we have trouble with kids not even our kids from around here please, please, please will you have a look into this, I know who I won't be voting for again

Thank you for your question. We are appalled by the behaviour of those visiting the quarry, it is a disgrace that residents and businesses should be suffering in this way.

We understand your frustration and can assure you that we are doing everything we can to get the draining works underway as soon as possible. The only way to get rid of this antisocial behaviour is to remove the water from the quarry.

While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water we await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be able to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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Why has he not made the quarry secure? We have walked past a gate that is regularly accessed by trespassers which has not been padlocked or secured since the death of Miracle Godson. It is not acceptable that basic security is not being carried out which will inevitably increase anti social behaviour as it is so easily accessible. Why has he not got security patrolling when the weather is seasonal so as to deter trespassing. It is not the responsibility of the police!

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings. Apart from these patrols, physical security on the site is not feasible. There have been days when more than two hundred trespassers have been on the quarry, only the police have the powers to disperse such crowds.

The gates had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. The Police and Maybrook urge local residents and businesses to report all criminal offences such as; racial abuse, theft, criminal damage, drug use, anti-social behaviour. The more often the police receive reports the greater resource they can allocate to the area.

In addition, Maybrook are in discussion with the train operator to see if they can put in preventative measures on the train and the station to prevent the quarry visitors from alighting at Appley Bridge.

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I would like to know if the quarry is drained, how long will it take to fill it with waste. Plus what do you class as inert waste.

The fill time will vary greatly depending on method of importing the materials to site and will be balanced against the impact on the local area. Further consultation will take place on this matter. We are hoping to be in a position to deliver by rail in which case it could be filled in just 2 years, if however the material is delivered by road, depending on the frequency it could be 8-10years.

The material used to fill the quarry will be inert and conform to Landfill Directive 1993/33/EC "Inert Waste" means waste that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations. Inert Waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health. Examples of inert waste include, concrete, bricks, soil and stones.

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At an open meeting some time ago with MayBrook Ltd with the Wrightington Parish Council, Mr O'Dowd explained his aspirations for the area surrounding East Quarry and also West Quarry As a couple of years have elapsed since then can I ask

1. Will Maybrook still be considering the building of a car park for the users of the Railway Station in order to alleviate the ongoing parking problems on Appley Lane North?
2. Will Maybrook still consider the building of a new Community Centre as part of the reconstruction of the area following the East quarry draining and filling?
3. Will Maybrook support the introduction of Traffic calming and safety measures on Appley Lane North particularly allowing easier passage for children attending All Saints Primary School and boarding and alighting from buses taking them to Secondary School?

As you noted Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support and does include a car park for rail users and a new community centre. The impact that works will have on the local highways is of paramount importance in the planning process. Maybrook Group will provide traffic calming and safety measures as required.

In addition to the facilities, you mentioned there are several initiatives which we feel would enhance the village.

Maybrook's aspirations are shown in the drawing below, which include:

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In the Lancs Live article dated 26th June 2020, you stated that you wanted to stop future fatalities at East Quarry, Appley Bridge. If this is the case, why don't you put security on your private land on warm days? The recent activity from large groups of youths has proved that your fencing is not secure enough and the gate on the footpath by Fayle's yard was recently unlocked for well over a month. It would be a simple solution to a very big problem.

The quarry has become a local hazard and a blight on local residents and businesses due to the ongoing anti-social behaviour related issues, Maybrook is working closely with the local police to ensure that everything that can be done is being done.

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

It is true to say the gates adjacent to Fayle's yard had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

There is no reluctance on Maybrook's part to prosecute, unfortunately Maybrook have been advised that trespass is, in most cases a civil rather than criminal offence, apart from using dispersal orders the police can only observe and intervene in the event of criminal activity.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. The Police and Maybrook urge local residents and businesses to report all criminal offences such as; racial abuse, theft, criminal damage, drug use, anti-social behaviour. The more often the police receive reports the greater resource they can allocate to the area.

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I previously forwarded pictures to show the wrongful - indeed illegal pumping of water into Calico Brook during a Bank Holiday weekend and from the quarry?

I have questions I wish posed to the quarry owner and additionally some for the Parish Council

I regularly walk along Calico Brook and I have also been impacted by the anti social behaviours caused by the young people arriving from out of area and causing problems for residents here

I have attached my questions and would appreciate the receipt of minutes by email.

I am a resident of Appley Bridge. I have some serious concerns about the recent failures in preventing trespass and dangerous misuse of the quarry. Additionally, I am very concerned about the severe and detrimental impact the proposed change of use will have upon our local environment in terms of long term pollution, adherence to environmental controls, traffic congestion, noise etc.

Questions to the Quarry owner

1. I am told that trees have been brought down, the boundaries have not been maintained and that an illegal entrance has been made to access the quarry. How can this give confidence that the quarry benefits from responsible ownership?
2. The antisocial behaviour endured by residents has a huge cost to the public purse in terms of policing as well as the extra security other businesses have been required to pay to secure their premises. The recent hot weather and easing of lockdown restrictions made this highly predictable. What additional measures did you arrange during this time?
3. Damage to the path and bank of Calico Brook was caused by the dispersal of water via a pump and with water cascading down a steep bank beyond your property. This was against regulations and caused a danger as well as damage. How can we as residents come to trust that your intentions are not to ride roughshod over the Environment Agency, Council and the interests of local residents.
4. I am concerned about potentially huge numbers of lorries bringing waste to the area, causing traffic obstructions to our narrow country roads, smells and noise and vermin. I am also concerned about the observance of environmental regulations and safety. For how many years will Appley Bridge and Shevington residents have to endure this loss of amenity to our daily lives?
5. I am very, concerned about the correct procedures being in place when waste is managed. It is a very lucrative undertaking for quarry owners but for residents there is a worrying concern about long term health and catastrophic impacts and dangers to our environment. What assurances in terms of experience of such management does the owner bring?

Thank you for your questions. We are grateful to the parish council for giving us the opportunity to provide some clarity.

- 1) *Maybrook have not installed a new drop kerb or new entry. The entrance which has been opened up has always been in existence which is clear from any Site Inspection. Maybrook have consulted with the council's Arborist who accepts that the works that have been carried out were required.*
- 2) *Maybrook takes its obligation to provide an "efficient and properly maintained barrier" very seriously. Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. The Police and Maybrook urge local residents and businesses to report all criminal offences such as; racial abuse, theft, criminal damage, drug use, anti-social behaviour. The more often the police receive reports the greater resource they can allocate to the area. West Lancashire Police in support of a recent application to build an access ramp have stated "The sooner the quarry is drained, the better"*
- 3) *The pumps have, to date, been active on just 2 occasions; firstly, when Maybrook installed and commissioned and secondly when the office was broken into; the pipes were blocked and the pumps turned on in what appeared to be an attempt to sabotage the equipment. There has been no activity that has been "against regulations" in terms of your perception of trust all we can do is continue to be open and transparent, answer the questions posed by the community and provide information in a clear way, you will make your own mind up whether or not you trust Maybrook. There is no question of riding "roughshod over the Environment Agency" we are working very closely with the EA to ensure that everything is done to ensure a smooth operation.*
- 4) *We understand your concerns, however the impact that the works will have on the local highways is of paramount importance in the planning process. Maybrook Group will provide traffic calming and safety measures as required. The dust emissions and noise will all be regulated under the permit conditions. Levels of noise and disruption would be minimal, and any dust would be controlled by damping during the works. The material used to fill the quarry will*

be inert and conform to Landfill Directive 1993/33/EC "Inert Waste" means waste that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations. Inert Waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health. Examples of inert waste include: concrete, bricks, soil and stones. As such there will be no smells or vermin as you have suggested.

5) Maybrook will operate the site in strict accordance with its permits.

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Appley Bridge is gaining a reputation as a hotbed for illegal activity with drug consumption, repeated thefts at local shops with racial and verbal abuse of the staff who work there. In addition to this, there is intimidation and threats of violence to locals who happen across individuals accessing the quarry. Appley Bridge is now synonymous with anti social behaviour.

The security around East Quarry is wholly inadequate. I regularly walk my dog past Fayle's yard where the quarry can be accessed through a gate opposite. This gate has been left wide open at least a dozen times since the onset of warm weather at the end of April.

You refuse to report incidents of trespassing to the police or prosecute offenders. You see yourself as blameless in this, yet the escalation in trespassing and anti social behaviour is a direct result of your inaction. Even if you had permission to fully drain the quarry (which you don't) the problem of trespassing would still remain, only it would become a year round problem rather than a seasonal one.

What do you plan to do to rectify the lack of security?

We agree the quarry has become a local hazard and a blight on local residents and businesses due to the ongoing anti-social behaviour related issues, the overwhelming majority of local community desire to put an end to these issues by removing the water.

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

As you have observed the gates by Fayle's yard had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

There is no refusal to report incidents or reluctance on Maybrook's part to prosecute, unfortunately Maybrook have been advised that trespass is, in most cases a civil rather than criminal offence, apart from using dispersal orders the police can only observe and intervene in the event of criminal activity.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. The Police and Maybrook urge local residents and businesses to report all criminal offences such as; racial abuse, theft, criminal damage, drug use, anti-social behaviour. The more often the police receive reports the greater resource they can allocate to the area.

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I am writing to you to air my view on the quarry situation. I am thoroughly disgusted with all the anti social behaviour that is happening now and is going worse each year. I want this quarry drained and filled in. This is the only option to the present and future for the residents of Appley Bridge. If not there will be continuing problems for residents and further loss of life.

When will we be able to view the proposed development plans?

We understand your frustration, we too are disgusted with all the antisocial behaviour that is happening and can assure you that, it is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible.

It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

In terms of the proposed development plans; Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

Maybrook's aspirations are shown in the drawing below, which include:

- *Community Centre*
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May I ask has Mr O'Dowd got planning approved to fill in the quarry, thank you?

At this time Maybrook do not have planning approval to fill the quarry. We are focusing our efforts on removing the water in the first instance however as soon as the drainage works start Maybrook will submit their application to fill in the quarry.

In terms of the proposed development plans; Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

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In your proposals what are you going to do for the village going forward?
What if anything are you going to do about the parking problem on Appley Lane North?
How long is it going to be before the quarry is emptied?
What is going to happen to Appley Bridge Scouts? The hall was built for them nearly 50 years ago by the then owner of the quarries. Will you be replacing the Scout hall?
In the short term how do you intend to address the anti social behaviour in relation to the quarry?
What will happen if the quarry is not emptied?

Thank you for your questions. We have answered each point individually to ensure we don't miss anything.

Q. "In your proposals what are you going to do for the village going forward?"

Please see below a drawing showing Maybrook's aspirations for the land, we hope you agree that the development will enhance the village.

Q. "What if anything are you going to do about the parking problem on Appley Lane North?"

As part of our aspirations for the land we have proposed a new car park for rail users which will alleviate the parking problem on Appley Lane North. (see drawing below)

Q. "How long is it going to be before the quarry is emptied?"

It is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly.

As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially. During this 12 week period a further permit will be applied for to remove the balance of the water, the Environment Agency will determine when this can happen.

Q. "What is going to happen to Appley Bridge Scouts? The hall was built for them nearly 50 years ago by the then owner of the quarries. Will you be replacing the Scout hall?"

It is part of our aspirations to provide a new facility for the community including the scouts please see below.

Q. "In the short term how do you intend to address the anti social behaviour in relation to the quarry?"

We are working with the police to ensure everything that can be done is being done to discourage the visitors to the quarry and therefore eliminate the antisocial behaviour. The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

Q. "What will happen if the quarry is not emptied?"

If the quarry is not emptied Maybrook will continue to provide an appropriate well maintained perimeter fence, however it is predicted that the antisocial behaviour and illegal activity will continue to get worse each year, which potentially will have a negative impact on the desirability of the area. We are genuinely trying to improve the village and believe that our future plans will have a positive impact.

In terms of the proposed development plans; Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

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Firstly, I would like to say that I'm fully behind having the quarry drained, if one young life list isn't enough justification to have it drained and made safe then I don't know what is?

Also it would deter the influx of anti-social behaviour that seems to be happening of late when the sun comes out and everyone decides to take a trip to the quarry for a swim!

The corner shop having to provide security, cars vandalised, people hurling abuse at you and litter thrown in gardens - suddenly Appley Bridge becomes no longer the quaint and beautiful village that everyone knows.

My questions are as follows

1. I imagine the quarry will take years for it to be drained fully, will there be any form of security around the site whilst it is being drained? How do you propose to make it safer?
2. Once drained will it be filled in? And what materials will it be filled in with?
3. Will there be any development on the land once filled in? If so will it be houses or will there be plans for something other than houses that will benefit the community?

We are pleased that you are supporting our efforts to drain the quarry and agree that this is the very best way to get rid of the influx of anti-social behaviour that is affected local businesses and residents.

You are correct that the infill will take a number of years once the quarry is drained. Once the draining starts the security and policing of the working site will change. We are in consultation with the local police to ensure that any obligations beyond providing an appropriate and well-maintained perimeter are adhered to.

Once drained it is the intention of Maybrook to infill the quarry subject to planning approval.

The material used to fill the quarry will be inert and conform to Landfill Directive 1993/33/EC "Inert Waste" means waste that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations. Inert Waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health. Examples of inert waste include: concrete, bricks, soil and stones. As such there will be no smells associated with the operation to the fill the quarry.

Finally In terms of the proposed development plans; Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

Maybrook's aspirations are shown in the drawing below, which include:

- Community Centre
- Car park
- Local shops
- Green public spaces
- Residential development
- Agricultural land (West Quarry)
- Allotments
- Relocating the industrial units



If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

Could I have an update on West Quarry with the methane gas and have you any plans for the future development of it. Could you give any time scale for emptying the East Quarry and when you will be starting please?

West Quarry: Maybrook undertake continual inspections and monitoring of all boreholes in accordance with the existing permit and the records are submitted to the EA quarterly and available on the public register. The Site, in fact, no longer produces sufficient levels of methane and/or other gases to even light a flame. The plans for development of the site are part of the larger scheme including the East Quarry site. We have included Maybrook's aspirations for both sites below.

East Quarry: It is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary access ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly.

As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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I work in the local Spar shop and am very concerned about the number of children visiting Appley Bridge from Liverpool and surrounding areas to go to the quarry.

I have experienced first-hand verbal abuse and thefts whilst working in store. I am worried for myself and colleagues working in store because these children do not care what problems they are causing and I feel it won't be long before a situation arises where someone will get hurt.

I feel that the best way to resolve this situation is to fill in the quarry because it will stop the kids from coming and in the long term prevent further deaths of which there have been a few over the years.

Have the owners got any long term plans and if so could you please let us know. It is important as a community that we look after each other.

We too are appalled by the behaviour of those visiting the quarry, it is a disgrace that local residents and businesses should be suffering in this way, you should not have to tolerate this kind of abuse at work.

We agree the best way to eliminate this problem is to take away the water and therefore make the quarry much less attractive to the crowds of young people that travel to the village. Maybrook can assure you that we are doing everything we can to get the draining works underway as soon as possible.

While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water we await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

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Residents and Councillors have witnessed a vast number of young adults and teenagers (and on occasion even younger children) trespassing inside East Quarry over the last three summers. How many have been successfully prosecuted to date?

In order for the community to share the 'big picture' of the proposed development of this site, please could timescales be provided for the following:-

How long do you envisage it taking to empty 70% of the water from East Quarry?

Then, how long do you envisage it taking to empty 30% of the water from East Quarry?

Have you got the relevant in place to fill the Quarry? If not, how long will this take to acquire these permissions?

How long do you envisage it taking to fill the entire quarry safely?

What time frame is required for the 'waste' to settle once it is filled?

What is the timescale for the restoration of the quarry and the surrounding area?

The number of people visiting the quarry and trespassing is alarming. We are not aware of the numbers of arrests and prosecutions, the police will no doubt be able to provide these statistics, often the police interactions occur outside the site in and around the local area and shops. There is certainly no reluctance on Maybrook's part to prosecute, unfortunately Maybrook have been advised that trespass is, in most cases a civil rather than criminal offence, apart from using dispersal orders the police can only observe and intervene in the event of criminal activity. Private prosecutions in the civil courts brought by Maybrook against young adults would be an exercise in futility.

The 70% figure quoted is Maybrook's estimate based on how much water can be extracted in the initial 12 week period that the permit covers. As advised by the Environment Agency, once the pumping has commenced Maybrook will make applications to vary the existing water transfer licence and an application will be made for a discharge permit that will be required for further drainage. The time taken to pump the balance will be pro rata to the volume pumped in the first 12 week period. Ultimately the Environmental Agency will determine when consent is given to fully dewater the quarry. Once the dewatering is underway Maybrook will submit the application to infill the site.

The time taken to fill the quarry safely will be totally dependent upon the rate at which the material is delivered to site and the level to which the site is to be filled. The rate at which the fill is delivered is dependent upon whether the material being delivered comes by road or rail.

The worse cased scenario of 8-10 years is based on all fill materials being delivered by road, however we will continue to work with Network Rail to establish rail delivery to minimise the period.

No settlement will be required as this is an engineered fill, as such the materials will be tested in layers by an independent body to ensure that it is compliant with the relevant regulations.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

-
1. Mr O'Dowd has personally removed large sections of the boundary fence to West Quarry for no apparent reason. Our understanding was that the fence was erected to provide a safe working environment and to stop unauthorised persons from accessing the site. We are not aware of any change to this condition. Could you ask Mr O'Dowd to confirm whether he has done this without permission and why?
 2. The area of land immediately to the west of the residential properties on Appley Lane North has been bulldozed and levelled including the removal of mature trees, which initially were to provide a screen from the landfill site. Why have these now been removed and was this necessary?
 3. Mr O'Dowd has opened up access to the site to West Quarry, opposite Northern Diver on Appley Lane North. This is an entirely new access which would seem to have no positive purpose, unless the site were to be developed in some way. Could you enquire what his intentions are and confirm whether or not planning permission has been granted for this access?
Again many trees have been bulldozed to make this access.
 4. Regarding East Quarry, the unlawful activities, which largely surround swimmers are well documents and still ongoing. There would appear to be little or no attempt to provide a secure boundary fence and we understand that at one point there is an access gate which is left open, which would seem to almost invite people to trespass. Could you ask Mr O'Dowd when he is going to secure the site and help to improve the amenity of the area for local residents? After all, in essence, we are his neighbours.

The West Quarry site has not been maintained for 11 years prior to Maybrook taking ownership. The works currently being undertaken is to uncover the existing pipes for maintenance. Maybrook have not created a new entrance rather cleared the vegetation to open access, nor have we installed a new drop kerb or new entry. The fence that has been erected has been fixed to original gate posts.

The entrance which has been opened up has always been in existence which is clear from any Site Inspection. Maybrook have consulted with the council's Arborist who accepts that the works that have been carried out were required.

Maybrook share your concerns about the ongoing and increasing unlawful behaviour in and around the quarry site.

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

The gates had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. The Police and Maybrook urge local residents and businesses to report all criminal offences such as; racial abuse, theft, criminal damage, drug use, anti-social behaviour. The more often the police receive reports the greater resource they can allocate to the area.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

Could you also confirm with Mr O'Dowd his plans for West Quarry, as he told us he was going to turn it into agricultural land. Could you ask him to confirm this.

The plans for West Quarry are to return it to agricultural land. The entire site is part of the larger scheme including East Quarry.

In terms of the proposed development plans; Maybrook presented their aspirations for both East & West Quarry to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

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On the morning of 1 Jun 2020, the pipe that leads from the pump in East Quarry into The Slacks where Calico Brook runs, burst, following the activation of the pump. The Environment Agency and Lancashire County Council could not get hold of you to instruct you to switch the pump off until the early evening, all the while a torrent of water ran for several hours across the public footpath making the area impassable and dangerous. You claimed it was the act of a saboteur and that someone broke into your offices and switched the pump on (presumably someone with prior knowledge of how to operate a pump and circumvent security).

What was the result of the police investigation?
Was this perpetrator caught?
Can you please provide the Crime Reference Number?

Thank you for your question and for bringing into the public record this act of vandalism.

Indeed, as you stated on June 1st 2020 the office was broken into, bars removed from the windows and the pumps were turned on and in an attempt to maximise the damage, the internal door was screwed shut from the inside. The police attended the scene, as far as we are aware no perpetrator has been caught in relation to this incident. The damage to the building was minimal and the only significant damage was to the existing outfall pipe which is in fact redundant. There was no insurance claim made given the limited damage and as such no crime reference number was sort.

In addition to this act there have been multiple thefts from West Quarry and recently fires at East Quarry.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

Please find attached a list of questions I have for Mr O'Dowd, in relation to the most immediate short term concerns. Obviously there are further concerns about his intention to landfill the site and ultimate objectives, but as the current dewatering licence only allows for extraction of 70% of the water these further intentions are currently unachievable whilst 30% of the water remains in situ. Therefore I would anticipate that there will be ongoing dialogue as things progress (or hopefully don't!) and if/when the water level has been dropped further meetings will take place and residents will be kept fully informed and abreast of developments. Maybe this is also something that can be clarified with him.

Bales on West Quarry - Can you confirm when the EA order to remove the bales of waste, of unknown origin and form, which should have been complied with no later than 15th November 2020 will be adhered to and this waste removed? Why was it not complied with, by the specified date as it was issued on 15th September, therefore giving 2 months for it to be dealt with, and 9 months later it has still not been actioned? If it has been removed before the Parish Council meeting, please ask when it was removed, and the reason for delay. As of April 2021 it had not been removed. Where will it be/has been removed to?

Missing planning applications - We have been informed by local planners that planning consent is required to remove the trees from the buffer zone on West Quarry and to install the drop kerb and new entry. I cannot see any record of these applications having been submitted even though this work has taken place. Have these actions been taken without the required planning consent, or can you provide written evidence of the required permissions having been granted?

Likewise does the same apply to the removal of trees and extension of the ramp to East Quarry which should also have a planning application and consent?

What permissions have been granted for the tipping/landfill that has already been seen to have taken place from this ramp into East Quarry?

Intentions once dewatering in accordance with current licence has taken place - The current dewatering licence limits the removal to 70% of the water. This obviously means that 30% will remain. This does not therefore achieve your stated objective of draining completely to remove the attraction to swimmers and the inherent dangers to them being in this location. What are your intentions once the 90 days of dewatering activity has expired or the water level reaches 30%, whichever comes first?

How will leaving this quantity of water in the quarry eliminate the appeal to swimmers to come to the area, as currently you cannot drain completely, so cannot use the argument of getting rid of the water completely to get rid of the problem?

How can you guarantee that reducing the water level will not increase the dangers and/or attraction to swimmers? There will be more exposed rock faces for them to congregate on and unknown hazards/ledge levels in the water will be nearer the surface than they are currently.

When do you intend to start dewatering, will this be before the schools finish for summer in Mid July and visitor numbers tend to increase?

Security - Prior to the issue of the dewatering licence West Lancashire Borough Council were responsible for ensuring that adequate barriers were in place to prevent any person accidentally falling into the quarry under s151 of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954. They have confirmed that when they contacted you, you told them you make daily checks of the fence and repair damage. Can you explain how, if daily inspections take place, the gate along path identified as Apple Lane has been open repeatedly for days on end, consecutive days? This is therefore providing no barrier at all, but instead literally an open opportunity for anyone wanting to gain access. Why has this not been secured within 24 hours of first being seen to be open?

Skelmersdale Police's facebook page now categorises the Quarry as a working quarry. As such your responsibility as the landowner/employer for safety on the site are increased. What additional measures have been put in place since the issue of the dewatering licence on 8th January 2021?

If your objective is to make the site safer, and remove the anti-social behaviour that local residents have to suffer when these "swimmers" travel en masse to the area why have you not started dewatering as soon as possible in January, before another summer season was upon us?

Likewise, If your objective is to make the site safer, and remove the anti-social behaviour that local residents have to suffer when these "swimmers" travel en masse to the area why are you not supporting the police, and instead refuse to

prosecute any trespassers? Therefore you are leaving the Police powerless to deal with the issue, not providing any disincentive for these people to carry on with their behaviour and are not supporting the local residents at all.

Do you have any idea how many Police man hours, and therefore tax payers money has been spent in policing this issue, which is ultimately your responsibility?

The West Quarry site has not been maintained for 11 years prior to Maybrook taking ownership. The works currently being undertaken is to uncover the existing pipes for maintenance. Maybrook have not installed a new drop kerb or new entry. The entrance which has been opened up has always been in existence which is clear from any Site Inspection. Maybrook have consulted with the council's Arborist who accepts that the works that have been carried out were required.

Maybrook are in continual communications with the Environment Agency in relation to the removal and processing of the materials on site. The existing waste material comprises, waste left by the previous Owner of West Quarry and materials that were temporarily stored on Site by a former, and now unfortunately insolvent, Tenant. Maybrook has accepted responsibility as Landowner for the ultimate disposal of these materials, as there has been and is unlikely to be any input from the former Tenant.

Maybrook had commenced removal of the materials to an EA approved Landfill Site but had temporarily paused this operation to explore the possibility that the materials may be suitable for repurposing /recycling rather than sending it to landfill which Maybrook feel should only be the last resort.

At East Quarry, as you are aware the existing permit allows Maybrook to pump the water for a 12 week period. As advised by the Environment Agency, during this period we will make applications to vary the existing water transfer licence and an application will be made for a discharge permit that will be required for further drainage.

The considerable reduction in the water will make the site much less attractive to swimmers, the risk will not be fully removed until the quarry is fully drained and we are doing everything we can to work towards that. During the dewatering, we will continue to work in partnership with the local police to secure the perimeter.

You have questioned the security provisions on site and refer to the gates being unlocked. As stated, the site is patrolled daily and any damage to perimeter fencing repaired straight away, it is also correct that the gates had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

There is no reluctance on Maybrook's part to prosecute, unfortunately Maybrook have been advised that trespass is, in most cases a civil rather than criminal offence, apart from using dispersal orders the police can only observe and intervene in the event of criminal activity.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police.

Finally in answer to your question, why haven't Maybrook started draining yet - It is now and always has been the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary emergency ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council expect approval shortly.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

It was reported on the Appley Bridge Community News Facebook page that one of the administrators spoke to you in person this week to find out what was happening at East Quarry. This person stated on the group chat you told him you have permission to drain the quarry following "vigorous testing of the water quality, wildlife and other legal factor".

According to the Environment Agency, you are currently permitted to drain only 70% of the water, as the full Water Abstraction Licence has not been granted due to the absence of a comprehensive Environmental Impact Survey. The water quality cannot possibly be fully established until drainage commences where you are required to provide samples every 5 metres down. So the information you have shared with the wider community is incorrect. In accordance with this permit conditions for this site or indeed any site where a large body of water is being drained. The water quality is constantly sampled as the water level reduces in this case every 5 metres.

In addition to this, you have stated on a number of occasions the driving force behind draining the quarry is to make it safe and to prevent further fatalities. If this is true, why have you not invested in throw ropes and life jackets, let alone adequately secured the area by not leaving gates with direct access to the quarry open?

It is unscrupulous and unethical to deliberately mislead the people of this community. Surely as a businessman your reputation is of paramount importance? Were you hoping no one would notice when you stopped draining 10 metres from the basin?

*Maybrook agree that misleading the community would indeed be unscrupulous and unethical. We have only ever been fully transparent hence our participation in this consultation process.
To deal with your specific questions.*

- 1. All required ecological surveys had to be carried out prior to the issue of the existing permit. From the studies that have already been undertaken there are no contaminants in the water and it is in fact potable. However it will be retested prior to commencement of pumping and retested every 5 metres as per the permit conditions. You are correct that the existing permit allows pumping initially for a period of 12 weeks which will equate to in the region of 70% of the quarry being drained.*
- 2. The driving force behind the draining of the quarry is indeed to remove the health and safety risk and the antisocial behaviour that it attracts. The site is secured, and the gates are locked. There was a period when the gate was unlocked, when the police removed the lock in order to access the site and provide a safe egress for the trespassers, the police did not replace the lock as agreed, however Maybrook have locked the gates and given keys to the police and the contractor they used to remove the previous lock. Maybrook patrol the site daily and repair any damaged perimeter fencing daily. Maybrook are working closely with the police and fire service, as an example today in anticipation of a hot and sunny weekend Maybrook, West Lancs Police and Lancashire Fire & Rescue surveyed the perimeter fencing and agreed a strategy for policing the site. Maybrook have been advised by West Lancashire Police that it would not be appropriate for to site throw ropes and life jackets in the area.*

Should you require any further information or wish to discuss your concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch, we would be delighted to meet with you at the offices. Please email, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk to arrange.

It has been widely reported in the local written media by Mr O'Dowd himself (in interviews and articles) that he wishes to drain the East Quarry in order to stop the anti-social behaviour and remove the risk of anyone being injured or dying in the East Quarry.

The gate leading to the East Quarry from Apple Lane has continuously been left unlocked and wide open for days at a time thus allowing easy unrestricted access to the quarry for the purposes of trespass and anti-social behaviour. This has been documented by residents along with photographs (time and dated).

With that in mind why has Mr O'Dowd continuously failed to properly secure East Quarry to prevent such trespass and anti-social behaviour?

Is Mr O'Dowd and his company deliberately permitting trespass and anti-social behaviour in order to fuel his case to drain East Quarry?

I have spoken to the police of various ranks regarding the trespassing and lack of police action on East Quarry and have been informed by the police that they cannot enter East Quarry to deal with the trespassers without Mr O'Dowd's permission. The police have informed myself that Mr O'Dowd has repeatedly refused to grant them official access to East Quarry to arrest or remove these trespassers, furthermore he has refused to prosecute or press charges against any trespassers.

I would like to ask why has Mr O'Dowd and his company repeatedly refused police access to East Quarry to remove the anti-social trespassers and furthermore why has he refused to prosecute said trespassers?

Maybrook's priority is to drain the quarry, which will remove the attractiveness of the site, stop the antisocial behaviour and remove the risk of further fatalities.

The gates had been unlocked for a period following the removal of the locks by local police, their own health and safety procedures require that they could access the site and provide a safe exit route for the trespassers. The Police were due to replace the locks that they had burned off however Maybrook have provided new locks and given keys to both the local police and the contractor that the police used to remove the original locks.

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

Under Maybrook's ownership there has never been a refusal to allow police access to the quarry, On the contrary, the police have the keys and codes to access and egress as required.

There is no reluctance on Maybrook's part to prosecute, unfortunately Maybrook have been advised that trespass is, in most cases a civil rather than criminal offence, apart from using dispersal orders the police can only observe and intervene in the event of criminal activity.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

- When is the work to drain the quarry to 30%, as per the Environment Agency's abstraction licence likely to start?
- What additional precautions/ safety/ security measures will be put in place to ensure that trespassers don't access the site over the summer? Either before/ after the draining project?
- When will the public have the chance to see what is planned for the East Quarry site? There seem to have been a lot of rumours circulating (some from people who claim to have seen the plans) and I would rather see what is planned for myself to be able to make an informed judgement about the potential impact on our family.
- If the quarry is to be infilled with inert materials, what support/ measures will be taken to protect local residents from dust emissions, noise and disruption (especially those within 100m of the site - from research 95% of the dust emissions will fall within this distance)? We live around 75m from the edge of the Quarry and have significant concerns about the health impacts on our family and also damage to our property/ belongings but want to try and understand if these impacts are to be mitigated and that reasonable care will be taken to protect local residents.
- How long will the quarry take to fill? And how will the materials be transported into the village?
- What legacy/ improvements are you planning on making to the village to balance out the potential disruption and inconvenience to local residents?
- What safety measures will be taken on Appley Lane North and other narrow local roads (Skull House Lane, Back Lane etc) with the additional traffic to and from the site?..... The traffic around All Saints School is already treacherous at the best of times and the amount of double parking all the way up ALN and congestion even with the current level of traffic is concerning.
- Have any alternative development plans been considered for the East Quarry site that would preserve the current habitat but make it a safer/ more usable site? For example, quarries in Cornwall have been turned into outdoor pursuit sites (with blow up assault courses etc) or it could be used as a boating/ leisure lake with more legal use of the site, making it less attractive to those seeking opportunities for anti-social behaviour.
- Please can the large metal dispersal fitting that was fitted to the original pipework when pumping was trialled in 2019 into Calico Brook be removed?

It is the intention of Maybrook Group to start the draining works as soon as possible. It is however essential that all the appropriate licences and permissions are in place before works can start. While Maybrook have been granted an abstraction licence by the Environmental Agency to start draining the water they await planning permission for the construction of a necessary access ramp. Maybrook Group have submitted the required planning application to Lancashire County Council and expect approval shortly. As soon as the ramp is complete, Maybrook will be in a position to start the draining works. Once the pumping commences it will continue for a period of 12 weeks initially.

The site is patrolled daily by Maybrook and visited frequently by West Lancashire and Greater Manchester Police. The police have had mobile units stationed at the quarry, drones on the site and have used powers under dispersal orders to prevent large gatherings.

Maybrook are focusing their efforts on accelerating the process to remove the risk. In the meantime, they have increased the visibility of the signage, patrol site daily, make repairs to the perimeter fence daily and continue to work with the local police. As an example, in anticipation of a hot and sunny weekend Maybrook have had meetings with local police as well as fire and rescue to ensure that there is an adequate action plan in the place.

In terms of the future aspirations for both East & West Quarry, these were presented to the Parish Council in 2019. The proposal remains the same but is of course subject to planning applications and consent and continued local support.

Maybrook's aspirations are shown in the drawing below, which include:

- *Community Centre*
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The dust emissions and noise will all be regulated under the permit conditions. Levels of noise and disruption would be minimal, and any dust would be controlled by damping during the works.

The time taken to the fill the quarry will vary greatly depending on how the materials are delivered and how quickly.

Maybrook's preferred method of delivery to infill the quarry is by rail, however given that we do not yet have an agreement with Network Rail in place we will not quote a misleading figure to the community as such we must consider the "worst-case scenario" of all the fill materials being delivered by road. In our experience, 10 trucks per hour is a good balance between productivity and minimising local disruption, which would take approximately 8 years 10 months to infill. We remain committed to improving upon this and reducing the time taken and disruption caused and we will continue to update the community as we make progress.

The legacy of the Maybrook's involvement in Appley Bridge, should be overwhelmingly positive. The facilities proposed within our aspirations should provide a hub for the village. However, they are subject to consent and local support so at this stage we are not in a position to make any promises. If you have any ideas for enhancing the village then we would be delighted to hear then and include them as part of the consultation process.

The impact that the infill works will have on the local highways is of paramount importance in the planning process. Part of Maybrook's proposal is to provide a car park, which should alleviate much of the parking issues along Appley Lane North. Maybrook Group will also provide traffic calming and safety measures as required.

Finally, any redundant materials will be removed from the site when we commence pumping.

If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk

The Google satellite image taken of the West Quarry Railway Sidings and including East Quarry shows the two locations whilst owned by Maybrook.

The Pumping Pontoon visible in East Quarry was installed by Maybrook on 28th March 2019, which provides the necessary evidence of their ownership.

The Railway Sidings however contain less than half of the 2000+ Bales of Combustible Waste in storage there today.

The image proves that the unpermitted waste was brought into Appley Bridge for storage at West Quarry Railway Sidings by Maybrook.

Question One

What was the purpose of bringing the huge amount of Combustible Waste to West Quarry, in the middle of a densely populated area?

Question Two

Why was neither Planning Permission for the waste obtained from Lancashire County Council, nor an Environmental Permit obtained from the Environment Agency for the storage of the waste?

Question Three

The Environment Agency have issued an Enforcement Notice for the total removal of the waste by 15 November 2020. The total waste still remains. There is No Fire Provision On Site. The EA are informed by the owner that the Site is only attended two days per week.

Why has the waste not been removed now over six months later?



Further to your questions raised with the Parish Council we are pleased to have the opportunity to offer some clarity and transparency.

Maybrook are in continual communications with the Environment Agency in relation to the removal and processing of the materials on site. The existing waste material comprises, waste left by the previous Owner of West Quarry and materials that were temporarily stored on Site by a former, and now unfortunately insolvent, Tenant.

Maybrook has accepted responsibility as Landowner for the ultimate disposal of these materials, as there has been and is unlikely to be any input from the former Tenant.

Maybrook had commenced removal of the materials to an EA approved Landfill Site but had temporarily paused this operation to explore the possibility that the materials may be suitable for repurposing / recycling rather than sending it to landfill which Maybrook feel should only be the last resort. If you have any further questions or concerns, if you would like to arrange to visit the office to view and discuss our plans then please don't hesitate to get in touch, enquiries@maybrookgroup.co.uk
