

To: **Steffan Saunders**
Head of Planning and Strategic Housing

Dear Steffan,

Re: Heidelberg Minerals and Cemex Proposals for the Leathersley Lane, Quarries

Here are our concerns, questions, ideas etc, regarding the Proposed planning application from Heidelberg Minerals and Cemex

1. Currently, Scropton is protected from unlimited access to the village by HGV's due to there being '7.5T except for access' signs at the westerly end of Leathersley lane, the northerly end of Watery Lane and in Hatton at the east end of Scropton road. As the proposed entrances for both the Heidelberg and Cemex planning applications are within these weight limit constraints it would, I believe, be lawful for HGVs to use any of the 3 roads to access the proposed quarries. This *could* see a potential 200+ HGV vehicle movements through the tiny village of Scropton per day, along narrow roads that are unsuitable for such volumes. There have been promises made, during conversations with both companies, that the respective companies would require all vehicles to approach the entrance to their quarries from the A515 at the Sudbury end of Leathersley lane. This is all very well but not enforceable by law should the respective HGV drivers choose to ignore the requests of the quarry owners.

The best way to protect the village of Scropton and sections of Hatton would appear to be to re-site the 7.5T limit sign at the westerly end of Leathersley lane to a position east of the Heidelberg quarry access. This would then place both quarry entrances outside of the 7.5T limits making HGV's that access the quarries via Scropton and Hatton illegal and compliance would be enforceable by law.

Heidelberg have shown an intention to modify the current road to include a middle lane to accommodate vehicles wishing to turn right into their quarry, and they also propose making some road realignments and changing the speed limit to 40MPH. I believe these intentions are commendable and should also be required of Cemex at the entrance to their quarry.

Consideration should also be given to the fact that this a cycle route, (159) as identified by Sustrans.

Using section 234 the quarry operators should be required to upgrade the road to a standard suitable for such a large HGV volume.

Further concerns are that noise attenuation, dust suppression, and light pollution should also be strictly controlled so as to not cause a nuisance to any neighbouring dwellings/areas. Working hours should be clearly stated and not allow for operation of the sites at unsociable hours.

2. 2 An additional condition of the planning approval that a barrier of trees is planted at the Scropton end of the Heidelberg site to help reduce the visibility of the quarry for the neighbours. It will also hopefully help with reducing the negative impact from the noise, light and dust generated by the quarry.
3. 2. An additional condition of the planning approval is that the weight limit to vehicles is moved from the junction of Leathersley Lane with A515 to the point where Leathersley Lane enters the village. This is to protect the village from any possibility that the truck drivers aim to circumvent the current road regulations despite the promises of the companies to avoid traffic in the village.
4. 3. Ask the quarry companies to arrange for the villagers to visit a local quarry (such as at Barton though this is not similar to the ones here) to see how the site is managed to reduce the impact on the surrounding area.
5. 4. An additional condition of the planning approval be to provide appropriate cleaning services to the neighbouring properties impacted by the dust from the site, especially those down wind of the prevailing westerlies. I.e. washing windows, interior dust removal due to open windows especially in summer months.
6. 5. Can Heidelberg visit the neighbouring properties so that the concerned neighbours can directly address them and show them how close the quarry is to our homes I.e. see the view from our main rooms right over the quarry which is currently just a field.
7. 6. An additional condition of the planning approval that must never be overturned by anyone that only inert materials are used to refill the area once the quarrying is complete, I.e. it does not become a waste landfill site.
8. 7. An additional condition of the planning approval that must never be overturned by anyone that there is no extension to the quarry towards Scropton nor to its life.
9. 8. How do the neighbouring properties receive compensation for the loss in value of their homes and from the negative impact the quarries have on the residents of the village.

Further concerns are:

10. We believe that the 2 quarry sites between Scropton and Sudbury are being looked at as 2 separate submissions rather than one large quarry site and the impact these will have to the neighbouring villages with regards noise, dust and increased traffic.
11. Leathersley Lane is a very narrow country road which is already crumbling at the sides due current traffic and The Highways Department needs to be involved to ensure adequate measures are put in place to accommodate any additional quarry traffic. I believe it would make more sense for quarry traffic to enter any site directly from A515 rather than blocking access to Leathersley Lane.

12. Although we have been advised that quarry lorries will be diverted away from Scropton, we will still have increased traffic through the village by employees, suppliers etc. Our village has limited pavements so pedestrians have no alternative but to walk on the road and this will be a hazard.
13. The A50 is regularly closed, particularly at Sudbury roundabout due to accidents and roadworks. When this happens lorries will have no alternative but to use the narrow roads through the village and this will cause noise, dirt and danger to residents and pedestrians.
14. These quarries will impact greatly on our community and we must ensure that Highways and Environment Agencies will ensure the Quarry Owners do everything in their power to minimise impact on the local community if these plans go ahead so close to our village

Yours sincerely



Parish Clerk
Foston and Scropton Parish Council

**Foston and Scropton
Parish Council**