GEORGE GREEN, SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Brett Aggregates Limited is proposing to submit a planning application for the extraction and on-site processing of sand and gravel near George Green. The proposed restoration to original levels and return to agricultural afteruse includes backfilling with inert materials.



An exhibition is to be held at the **Harvey Memorial Hall, George Green Road, George Green on Wednesday 18th April 2012 between 9am and 8pm** when representatives from Brett will be available to explain the proposals and take note of the views of local people. Following the consultation, Brett will review the comments made and, where possible, address issues and incorporate changes into the proposed planning application.

If you are unable to visit the exhibition but would like to make comments or ask questions, please email Brett on **george.green@brett.co.uk**



The site lies in South Bucks District immediately adjacent to the boundary with the Borough of Slough. Buckinghamshire County Council have identified George Green as a preferred mineral extraction area.

The site is a large agricultural field immediately to the east of the A412 (Uxbridge Road). There are residential areas of Slough to the west and south-west, greenhouses and a plant nursery to the south, paddocks and stables to the south-east and east and residential properties in George Green to the north-east.



The field (24.7ha) is almost entirely enclosed by the existing vegetation. There is a mature, well maintained hedge (approximately 2m high) along the A412 (Uxbridge Road), a hedge and mature trees on the boundary and in some of the gardens of the properties to the north, and a slightly 'gappy' hedge along the eastern edge enclosing the public footpath (WEX/9/1). There is no planting on the boundary to the nursery and only a few groups of trees and shrubs along the edge of the public open space in south-western corner.

- The reserve of 1.1 milion tonnes of mineral which is to be extracted over circa 7 years;
- The processing and bagging of extracted material in the plant site located in the south-eastern part of the site;
- Transporting material out of the site using a new access onto an existing dual carriageway;



- Restoration to current existing agricultural use and to existing ground levels by importing inert fill materials and replacing overburden stored over the duration of the extraction works;
- No loss of existing vegetation, except a temporary loss of a small section of the hedge along the western boundary where the access to the site is proposed;
- The proposals would not result in any permanent changes to the site;

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The application will be subject to a formal Environmental Assessment with a full range of potential topics examined.

The key issues are considered to be as follows:

Visual: The visibility into/ out of the site is limited and restricted to properties located in close proximity to the site. Steps will be taken to screen the site from outside views.

Ecology and Nature Conservation: The proposed development will consider any local ecology.

Noise: On the basis of predicted noise levels and measured existing background noise levels, it is concluded that no part of the development will give rise to noise nuisance at properties adjacent to the site. Proposed mitigation measures include significant stand-off distances to residential housing from the extraction area and the development of profiled screening mounds established prior to extraction commencing.

Air Quality and Public Health: With the implementation of mitigation measures, the site can be worked without significant air pollution of the surrounding area. Much of the mineral to be worked lies beneath the water table and will therefore be damp. All topsoil stores will be seeded to grass and maintained as such until required to complete the restoration scheme. Measures will include the use of a mobile spray bowser; a stand-off from the extraction area and the development of profiled screening mounds prior to extraction commencing.

Traffic: A new traffic light controlled access is to be created onto the A412; an established dual carriageway, at the existing traffic controlled junction at The Frithe.

Other environmental issues to also be considered include: archaeology and cultural heritage; drainage and flood risk; hydrology and hydro geology; and soils and land use. Adoption of appropriate mitigation measures will ensure no nuisance to the environment and local residents.