

The Planning Working Group (Cllrs Dru Drury, Haywood and Spicer-Short) met with representatives from Suttles Quarries on Friday 24th March 2023.

Items discussed included the composition of the Panel which will administer the Landscape and Community Fund relating from the Swanworth Quarry extension. At present this is two nominations from Dorset Council Planning Dept, one from Natural England, one from AONB and the SE Purbeck Ward Member (Cherry Brooks). Suttles are also on the panel, but without voting rights, and have pushed for the Parish Councils (CC and Worth Matravers) to be included, but without success so far.

We raised the subject of Suttles providing stone products for projects and paths around the parish, which they are in principle happy to help with, on the understanding that they will not do something for us for free which is a statutory responsibility of Dorset Council. The discussion then progressed to the repair of stone slab pavements around the parish, and the refusal of Dorset Council to do this in stone rather than blacktop bitumen. John Suttle suggested that the PC approach the Purbeck Marblers, (of which both he and his brother Matt Suttle are committee members) who may well be in a position to help with the establishment of a 'bank' of stone slabs of various sizes which would be made available to DC operatives when pavement repairs are necessary. Contact details for the current Chairman, Abe Shaffer, would be supplied to the Clerk.