

## Swanworth Quarry visit Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022

The Clerk and 2 councillors visited Swanworth Quarry on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July. The quarry's original planning application, made over 2 years ago, has been altered again and they are resubmitting the new version next month after further consultation with Dorset County. They are hopeful that this application will be accepted.

They are no longer blasting at the present site (last blast was in December) and are now infilling and tidying the area up (see photo below).



Infilling at the site

They are still collecting rubble to crush but their current stocks of aggregate are low.



Remaining piles of assorted aggregate

At present, if similar stone is required it will have to come from Portland or The Mendips.  
New stuff:

- They will leave a strip of grassland (scrub) between the present site and the field belonging to Compact Farm and create some ponds.
- Strips of grassland will be left either side of the new site.

- A suggestion has been made that £250,000 be put in a pot to benefit the area. AONB wish to oversee this. Swanworth would rather they and various parish councils are involved. This is still at a discussion stage. Nothing agreed yet.
- If the planning application is passed (they hope by October), Swanworth will have to look after the new site for 30 years from the end of extraction. The old site only has a 5-year agreement on it.
- Swanworth have also agreed that they will return the new site to exactly the same contours as at present. The old site, which was originally a sloping hill down to the Purbeck Way, will not be returned to its original condition partly because the company who owned it before, did not agree this.



OS map surveyed 1886 published 1887 of the quarry site.

Annex A: The proposed new plan for the new quarry. Nothing has been agreed so this is not written in stone!

Louise Haywood