



Highbarns Chalk Mine Remediation

Newsletter 04 – Compaction Grouting

Dear Resident,

Another busy month on site, works are progressing well.



As indicated in the last newsletter we had placed 600m³ of compaction grout in the ground by the end of March. A month later this figure stands at 1400m³: equivalent to a huge 14 double decker buses. This is in addition to the 1200m³ of bulk infilling completed previously.

We have drilled nearly 6,000m of boreholes, which has generated almost 200 tonnes of chalk spoil that has been cleared away offsite. So far, the extent of the mine model has proven to be very accurate.

Parts of the central area have been completed, with properties on Pond Rd and Highbarns also complete. We have begun the validation process to verify that the works in these areas have been successful and no further treatment is required.

Looking ahead through May, we will be undertaking more works in other parts of Pond Rd as well as spreading out from the central area and down East Green. You may also notice a slight change to our central setup and diversions as we progress.

As many of you will be aware, successfully treating the mine is taking longer than expected. This is because the chalky soil around the main mine works is much more badly broken up than previously thought and requires a higher level of treatment. Our approach is to ensure all areas have been grouted sufficiently to allow validation to commence before moving into a new area of site.

We are currently reviewing the implications of this for the programme with Hyder and Dacorum Borough Council. Further updates will be provided once we have an accurate picture - but it is clear that we will be here some weeks longer than first planned.



The good news is that we have been able to increase our grouting production to reduce the effects of these ongoing high grout takes on the programme. Hopefully the weather will continue to be kind and we can keep making good progress!

As ever please feel free to contact us via the site team, through the Community Information centre (manned at 10am and 3pm) or via the Community Phone: 07925 094833 with any comments, suggestions, questions or feedback.

Enjoy the long weekend and thank you for your continued support – BAM Ritchies

3rd May 13