



The Coal
Authority



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



RTPI
Learning Partner

200 Lichfield Lane
Berry Hill
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 4RG

Tel: 01623 637 119 (Planning Enquiries)

Email: planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk

Web: www.gov.uk/coalauthority

For the Attention of: Mr H Roberts – Case Officer
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

[By Email: planning@merthyr.gov.uk]

10 January 2022

Dear Mr Roberts

PLANNING APPLICATION: P/21/0424

Extension at Stephens & George Ltd; Stephens & George Ltd, Goat Mill Road, Dowlais, CF48 3TD

Thank you for your consultation letter of 5 January 2022 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above planning application.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, the Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority Response: Material Consideration

The application site falls within the defined Development High Risk Area; therefore within the application site and surrounding area there are mining features and hazards which need to be considered in relation to the determination of this planning application.

The Coal Authority records indicate that the site has been subject to underground ironstone mining.

The Coal Authority is not responsible for ironstone workings within the site. It is the responsibility of the landowner/developer to ensure that the site is or can be made safe and stable for the proposed development in accordance with the requirements of the planning system.

Notwithstanding the above, the Coal Authority notes the submitted Phase One Coal Mining Risk Assessment (December 2021, prepared by ESP Ltd), the content of which confirms

that previous investigations encountered a shallow coal seam. However, on the basis that this would appear contrary to the information we hold, the Coal Authority considers that it may be unreasonable to impose a planning condition to ensure the undertaking of the recommended intrusive site investigations. We therefore have **no objections** to this planning application and it will therefore be to the discretion of the developer as to whether they wish to undertake such works.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Chris MacArthur

Chris MacArthur *B.Sc.(Hons), DipTP, MRTPI*
Planning Liaison Manager

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available coal mining data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by The Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.