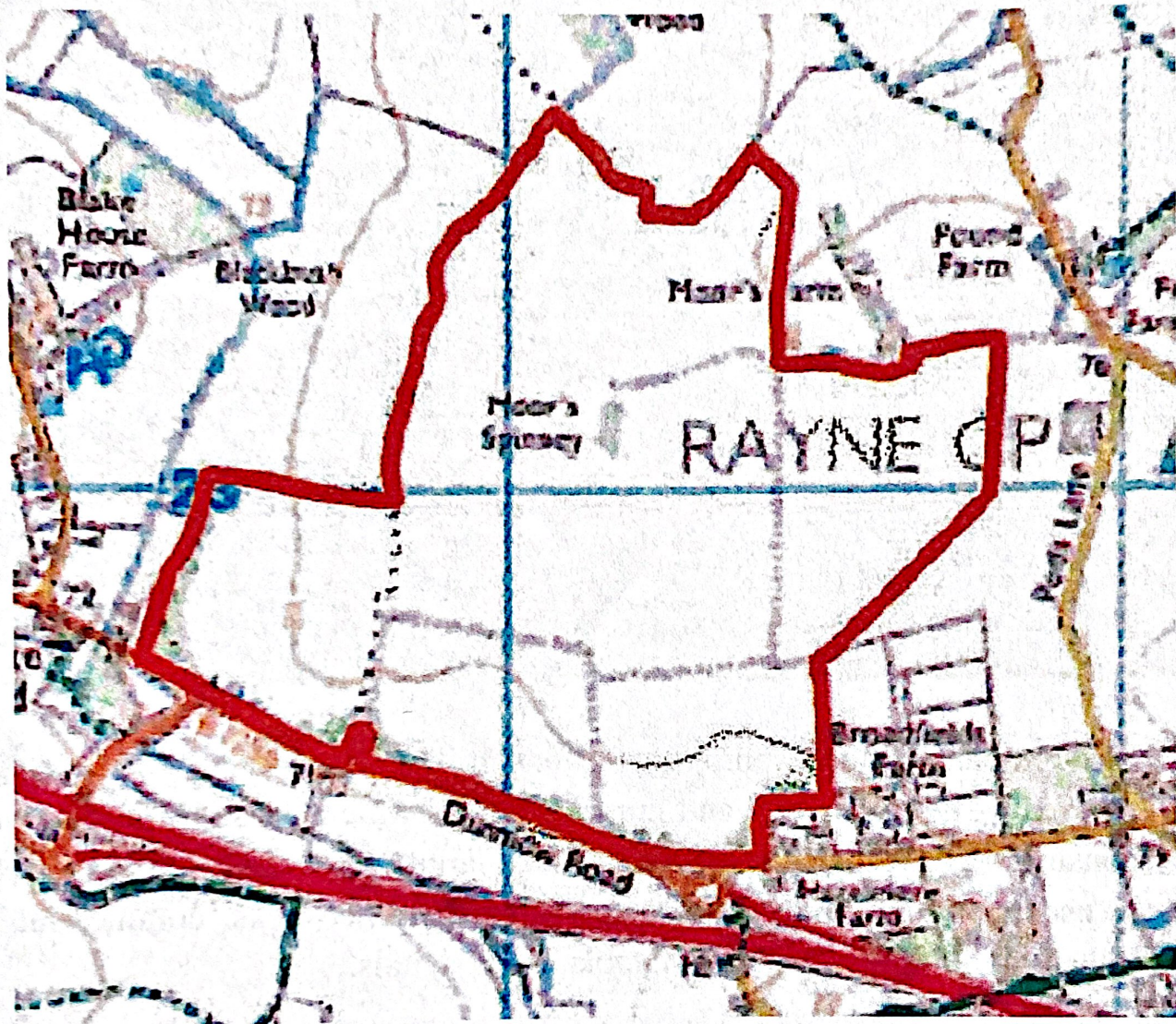


# INFORMATION SHEET

## RAYNE QUARRY

Location: DUNMOW ROAD, RAYNE, BRAINTREE, ESSEX



### PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT

*'A new sand and gravel quarry at Broadfield Farm, to the west of Rayne, near Braintree, comprising the phased extraction of some 3.66m tonnes of sand and gravel; the installation of processing plant and ancillary buildings and infrastructure; the construction of a permanent screening landform; the construction of temporary screen mounds in defined locations around the perimeter of the quarry; the phased restoration of the extraction area using indigenous soils; overburden and clay from within the application site to a land use mixture of arable agriculture, lowland acid grassland, lowland meadow, woodland, lake and reedbeds; and public access via proposed rights of way.'*

Contact: Victoria Harris – [VictoriaHarris@ingrebournevalley.co.uk](mailto:VictoriaHarris@ingrebournevalley.co.uk) – 01279 216209



- Since 1993 Ingrebourne Valley Ltd (IVL) has grown to become one of the largest mineral extraction and restoration companies in the south-east of England.
- The company extracts approximately one million tonnes of primary aggregate per year – typically sand and gravel products which are sold into the wider construction and concrete manufacturing markets. The majority of the output is used in improving housing stock, transport networks, commercial and industrial buildings, utilities, schools and hospitals.
- By working in partnership with private landowners and public organisations, IVL has been able to transform thousands of acres of damaged and contaminated brownfield land into sustainable sites, giving them a new lease of life for agriculture, wildlife conservation or community leisure.

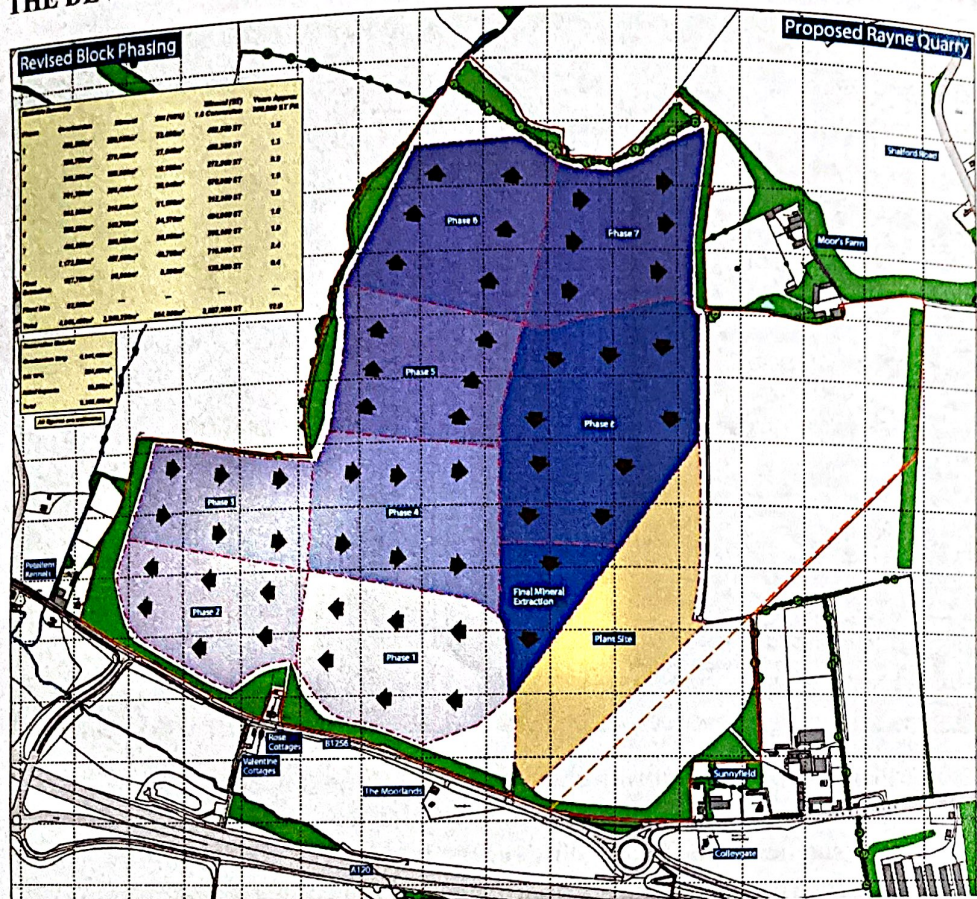
For more information please visit [www.ingrebournevalley.co.uk](http://www.ingrebournevalley.co.uk)

## THE SITE



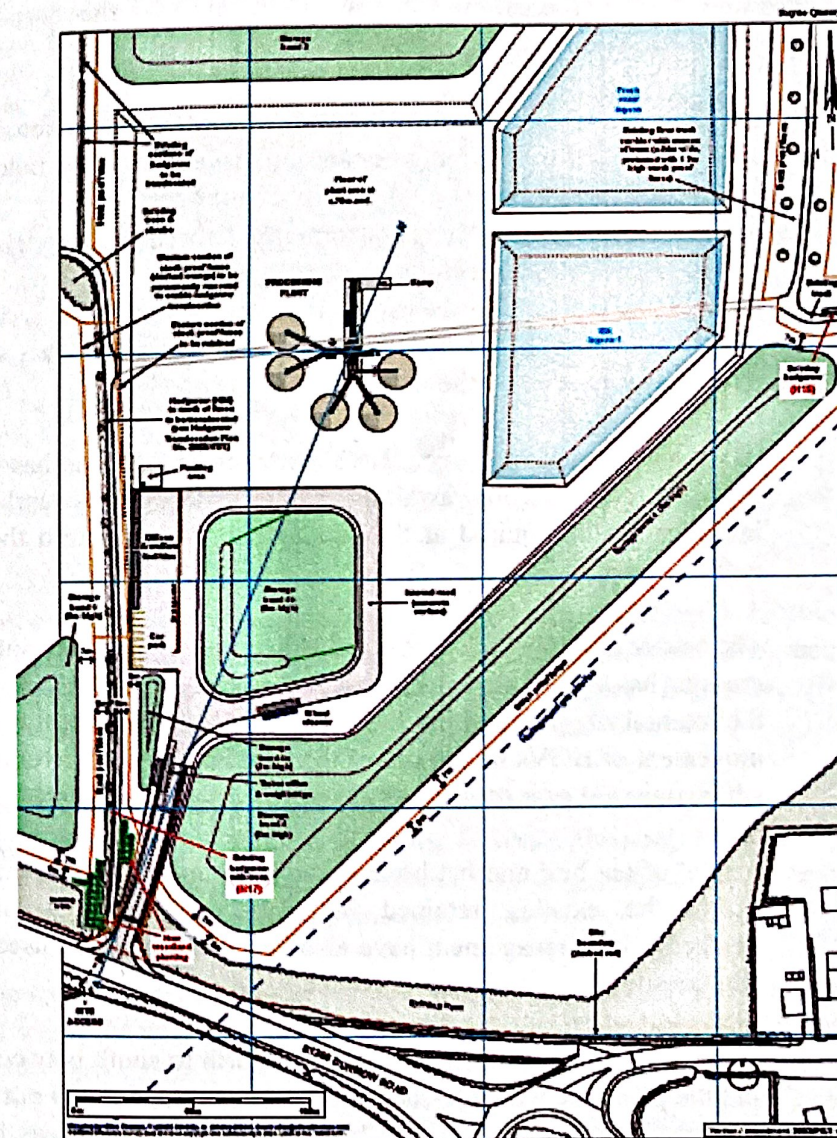
- Planning permission was granted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019 for a new sand and gravel quarry at Broadfield Farm, located to the east of Rayne, near Braintree. The site lies immediately north of the former A129 Dunmow Road, now the B1256. The site extends to approximately 90 hectares in size.
- The site was identified in the Mineral Site Restoration for Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (Essex County Council, 2016) as one of the five 'Flagship Schemes' considered to offer the greatest opportunities to deliver biodiversity after-use.
- Prior to operations, the site was predominantly open, arable land consisting of five large fields and separated by open tracks and occasional hedgerows. The site was considered to be of low ecological value.
- Prior to IVL taking over management of the site, Tarmac Ltd worked with the owner of the land to plant trees around the site boundaries. The trees have now established and provide effective screening from local residences and public vantage points.

## THE DEVELOPMENT



- The scheme has been designed as an eight phase operation, commencing in the south-east and progressing clockwise through the defined extraction area. Whilst the site extends to approximately 90 hectares, the net extraction area is confined to some 56 hectares within the central and western areas of the site.
- Mineral extraction will not take place within the far eastern field; instead, a permanent screening landform will be constructed to re-enforce the segregation and screening between the operational area and Rayne. This landform will cover an area of some ten hectares with shallow gradients and a maximum height of five metres.

- The site will be restored progressively and in accordance with the phased operations to prevent large areas of the site from all being disturbed at the same time. The restoration proposals do not involve the importation of materials to the site. All the restoration works will utilise existing on-site materials (soils and clays) in the profiling of the final landscape.



## CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Over the last couple of years, the company have been working on discharging all conditions required under the planning permission.
- Following approval of the pre-commencement conditions, the Mineral Planning Authority confirmed the site start date (for the purpose of the planning permission) as the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- Details of the initial and post-commencement works undertaken at the site, since the granting of the planning permission, have been listed below:
  - A six metre standoff margin (formally known as the 'Biodiversity Protection Zone') has been implemented around the areas designated for Phase 1, the plant site and eastern landform. The standoff is demarcated with livestock-proof fencing to ensure the boundary habitats will not be physically impacted by the works.
  - All relevant working areas have been cleared of archaeology (the company are currently awaiting reports). No further archaeological investigation is required at the site until prior entry into the Phase 2 working area.
  - The new access is being constructed along the B1256, a new internal road crossing has been constructed between the plant site and eastern landform, the internal ring road within the plant site (designed to allow clockwise movement of HGVs in and out of the site) has been constructed and the silt lagoons are near completion.
  - A total of ten bird and bat boxes have been installed upon mature trees within the existing retained boundary woodland. Arisings from tree/hedgerow management have also been collected and used to create hibernacula piles within the woodland.
  - The hedgerow that was once positioned north to south between Phase 1 and the plant site has been successfully translocated to the north-west of the site. In addition, over one hundred young native trees have been planted along the northern perimeter boundary and immediately west of the new access.

## RESTORATION SCHEME



- The concept restoration proposals aim to utilise the site's location and physical attributes to create a landform and land uses which both assimilate into their local setting and create new wildlife habitat to promote diversity whilst promoting amenity value and wellbeing to residents.
- In line with the SPG's site design aims, the restoration proposals involve the creation of priority habitats including lowland meadow, lowland dry acid grassland, lowland grazing marsh (including fen), waterbodies, broadleaved woodland, and species-rich hedgerows.
- The southern area of the site will be restored to agricultural (arable) farmland, reflecting the good quality agricultural land and soil resource currently present in this area.

- The existing wildlife at the site will be protected throughout works. The successful establishment and management of new habitats will aim to increase the biodiversity value of the site for these species.
- The scheme also involves the introduction of permissive rights of way, linking with existing public rights of way. This would provide additional amenity and the opportunity to gain views of the restored site and land uses. A bird hide will also be installed along the permissive route with the intention of being used by path users.

