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39-43 Bridge Street  
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**BY E-MAIL**

Our Ref: F1/HOO/03/WW

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Taylor

Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, Barnsley  
Shaft Investigation Results

In accordance with our commission, we attended site following the topsoil strip to investigate the possible presence of four unrecorded mine entries (F1, F2, F3 and F4) noted during the strip. These potential mine entries are not known to the Coal Authority or conjectured to be on site. Further details are provided below.

### **Background**

The Coal Authority records, and the CMRA report for the site, dated 12 October 2020, indicate that there is one mine entry within 20m of the site, beneath the A635, and is recorded as treated. During the site strip, undertaken by Hooper Homes, four potential mine entries were identified across the site, ARP were then instructed to investigate these features, in the development area, and conduct a visual inspection. The four features covered by this validation are F1, F2, F3 and F4, as shown on the enclosed plan.

### **Shaft Investigations**

The shape and dimensions of the features were recorded at the surface by an ARP engineer. The ground overlying each feature was subsequently excavated down to competent bedrock using an excavator in the presence of an engineer from ARP, and the shape and dimensions of the feature recorded. ARP then subsequently excavated several meters into the feature to prove it was not a shallow surface feature. Details are provided below.

#### Mine Entry 'F1' (445045.18, 404320.19)

At surface, the expression of the anomaly was circular in shape and comprised densely compacted made ground. The anomaly was visible due to a colour variation between the natural strata (Dark grey in colour) compared to a light greyish brown colour.

Excavation and stripping of the surface revealed a circular patch backfilled with made ground, easily distinguished by a colour variation from the natural greyish brown coloured siltstone to a dark grey colour. The made ground was predominantly reworked natural materials such as

mudstone, coal and clay. The depth to competent rock head was approximately 1.2m BGL, at a level of 36.0m AOD. The aperture at rock head was measured to be 2.2m in diameter. The excavation into the middle of the feature, indicated that the feature extended at least a further 2.5m, 3.7m bgl in total. From this, it is concluded that this feature is a mine shaft. The excavation was taken to 1.2m depth to assess the quality of the rock for founding a cap. This showed that the rockhead comprised siltstone, suitable for cap founding.



**Photo 1 and 2:** Mine Entry F1 at surface (Top) and at rockhead (Bottom)

Mine Entry 'F2' (445030.83, 404259.73)

At surface, the expression of the anomaly was oval in shape and comprised densely compacted made ground. The anomaly was visible due to a colour variation between the natural strata (Dark grey in colour) compared to a light greyish brown colour.

Excavation and stripping of the surface revealed an oval patch backfilled with made ground, easily distinguished by a colour variation from the natural greyish brown coloured siltstone to a dark grey colour. The made ground was predominantly reworked natural materials such as mudstone, coal and clay. The depth to competent rock head was approximately 1.2m BGL, at a level of 36.5m AOD. The aperture at rock head was measured to be 2.5m by 1.6m. The excavation into the middle of the feature, indicated that the feature extended at least a further 2.5m, 3.7m bgl in total. From this, it is concluded that this feature is a mine shaft. The excavation was taken to 1.2m depth to assess the quality of the rock for founding a cap. This showed that the rockhead comprised siltstone, suitable for cap founding.



**Photo 3 and 4:** Mine entry F2 at surface (Top) and at rockhead (Bottom)

Mine Entry 'F3' (445066.09, 404232.54)

At surface, the expression of the anomaly was circular in shape, and comprised densely compacted and backfilled mine spoil.

Excavation and stripping of the surface revealed a circular patch, backfilled with made ground, easily distinguished by a colour variation from the natural greyish brown coloured siltstone to a dark grey colour. The made ground was predominantly backfilled mine spoil such as mudstone, coal and clay. The depth to competent rock head was approximately 1.2m BGL, at a level of 38.5m AOD. The aperture at rock head was measured to be 2.5m by 2.1m. The excavation into the middle of the feature, indicated that the feature extended at least a further 1.5m, 2.7m bgl in total. From this, it is concluded that this feature is a mine shaft. The excavation was taken to 1.2m depth to assess the quality of the rock for founding a cap. This showed that the rockhead comprised siltstone, suitable for cap founding.



**Photo 5 and 6:** Mine entry F3 at surface (Top) and at rockhead (Bottom)

Mine Entry 'F4' (445069.36, 404276.69)

At surface, the expression of the anomaly was circular in shape, and comprised densely compacted and backfilled mine spoil.

Excavation and stripping of the surface revealed a circular patch, backfilled with made ground, easily distinguished by a colour variation from the natural greyish brown coloured siltstone to a dark grey colour. The made ground was predominantly backfilled mine spoil such as mudstone, coal and clay. The depth to competent rock head was approximately 0.8m BGL, at a level of 37.9m AOD. The aperture at rock head was measured to be a maximum of 2.4m in diameter. The excavation into the middle of the feature, indicated that the feature extended at least a further 2.0m, 2.8m bgl in total. From this, it is concluded that this feature is a mine shaft. The excavation was taken to 0.8m depth to assess the quality of the rock for founding a cap. This showed that the rockhead comprised siltstone, suitable for cap founding.



**Photo 7 and 8:** Mine entry F4 at surface (Top) and at rockhead (Bottom)



### Reinstatement

After completing the inspection of each feature, all excavations were backfilled with arisings and compacted with the excavator bucket. With a marker placed above the centre of the feature upon completion for future site reference.

### **Conclusions**

Based on stripping, and excavating down into the features it is concluded that the four features are mine shafts. It is recommended that the shafts are capped, founding on rockhead, with the cap extending the length of the radius of the shaft past the opening at rockhead (i.e. the cap will be twice the shaft diameter), the ground above the cap shall then be backfilled and a building exclusion for founding imposed, such that no building loading is placed directly on the cap.

It is also recommended that a 45 degree angle extending from the edge of the cap, in cross section, is used to define the depth of any foundations. It is recommended that the depths of the foundations are extended below the confining 45 degree line so that no residual strain is transferred onto the cap.

The findings of this shaft investigation and recommendations for treatment are subject to regulatory approval. Where mine shafts are located within the influence of adoptable highways, these loadings should be taken account of during the mine shaft cap design. The adopting authority will need to approve the proposed treatment/cap design.

We trust the above, and attachments, are acceptable, but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely  
for ARP GEOTECHNICAL LTD

W Watkins

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Watkins". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Encs

