

# SIMON GUDGEON

## REBUTTAL STATEMENT

Moreton Estates response to Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Site Plan Inspector's MIQ's Session 19 MIQ 135 needs to be addressed as the assessment is flawed.

### **Inspector's MIQ 135**

*Has the potential impact on "Sculpture by the Lakes", been taken into account? I understand that this is a cultural heritage site, which is also a Nature Improvement Area, adjacent to the allocation, and is an important arts venue for the county that relies on tranquil surroundings.*

### **Moreton Estates Written Response -**

*MIQ no.135 - Sculpture by the Lakes is not a cultural heritage site but a restored former sand and gravel working that the current owner has chosen as base for his sculpture manufacturing business established around 2006/7. The restored lakes happen to make it an attractive setting for the display and sale of sculptures.*

### **Sculpture by the Lakes Response**

Moreton Estate is a neighbour and for them to be unaware of the true nature of Sculpture by the Lakes exceeds the limits of belief.

So I would contend that either -

Halletec's response on behalf of Moreton Estate is fraudulent in that it is deliberately portraying an inaccurate description of Sculpture by the Lakes to gain a financial advantage by progressing the quarry.

Or -

They have been grossly negligent as they have not undertaken due diligence in researching Sculpture by the Lakes and assessing the impact on it.

In either case their response is so flawed it brings into question the veracity of any of their statements in relation to this enquiry. A simple visit to our website would have shown them what Sculpture by the Lakes is. [www.sculpturebythelakes.co.uk](http://www.sculpturebythelakes.co.uk)

### **Woodsford Farms Response -**

*The setting effect on the paying public's ability to appreciate and enjoy this cultural attraction would be considered as part of a planning application and assessed through EIA procedures. Any potential effects are likely capable of full mitigation through buffer zones, bunds, screening with vegetation, dust suppression, control of working hours, noise limits and limits on simultaneous working of sites AS19 and AS26.*

### **Sculpture by the Lakes Response**

We have received no concrete proposals about how this mitigation would work. The prevailing wind will carry all quarry noise towards us and even a boundary 500m away would still disturb the peace and tranquillity of Sculpture by the Lakes. The ONLY mitigation that would work was if the quarry work at AS19 & AS25 & AS26 was carried out between November and March each year and unless I receive written contractual assurances from Woodsford and Moreton I will continue with my objections.

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## **About Sculpture by the Lakes -**

*Sculpture by the Lakes (SBTL) is a major visitor attraction in Dorset. This year we have attracted 14,000 visitors so far.*

*Of the 14,000 visitors this year only one has purchase a sculpture.*

*We have a restaurant, The Gallery Cafe, on the site which not only caters for visitors but also is an attraction in it's own right [www.gallerycafe.uk](http://www.gallerycafe.uk)*

*We run an Art School from the site with over thirty course through the winter <https://www.sculpturebythelakes.co.uk/arts crafts>*

*We run a series of meditation, yoga and wellbeing courses which rely on the peace and tranquility of the area to create harmony <https://www.sculpturebythelakes.co.uk/wellbeing>*

*We run a series of garden lectures and workshops throughout the year <https://www.sculpturebythelakes.co.uk/garden-talks>*

*We have over 1,100 reviews on TripAdvisor, most of whom mention the peace and tranquility at the Lakes [https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction\\_Review-g186263-d2280159-Reviews-Sculpture\\_by\\_the\\_Lakes-Dorchester\\_Dorset\\_England.html](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction_Review-g186263-d2280159-Reviews-Sculpture_by_the_Lakes-Dorchester_Dorset_England.html)*

*We have nearly 9,000 followers on Facebook and many of the reviews mention the peace and tranquility <https://www.facebook.com/SculpturebytheLakes/>*

*The lakes were dug in the 1970's as fishing lakes and the gravel sold. This has no relevance to the current inquiry.*

*We purchased the property in 2007 and opened Sculpture by the Lakes in 2011*

*Article in the Daly Telegraph*

*<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/gardening/gardenstovisit/10961706/Sculpture-by-the-Lakes-Gloriously-wild.html>*

*We have two gallery spaces where we exhibit other artists, both local and international*

In view of the inaccuracies of Halletec's and Moreton's response I would like to make a presentation at the inquiry. I also feel it is important and necessary that the Inspector visits Sculpture by the Lakes to accurately assess the impact any quarrying would have on us. Would you let me know a time for both.

Simon Gudgeon