

Snailbeach Lead Mine Shropshire: MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Volume 2: Management



Samantha F Barnes
English Heritage Historic Environment Manager (trainee)



In co-operation with Shropshire Council, English Heritage and Shropshire Mines Trust Ltd.

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SNAILBEACH LEAD MINE, SHROPSHIRE: MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Volume 2: Management

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I. ISSUES

The following conservation challenges highlight the main issues facing the management of the Snailbeach Lead Mine site. Objectives and solutions arising from these are included in the following sections, however much will be informed by the Shropshire Council condition survey (Snailbeach Scheduled Ancient Monument, Quadrennial Inspection Report, May 2011) which also provides a baseline for maintenance and repair specification.

Across-site issues

- Complex, multi-interest and multi phase site
- Historic connectivity across the site is hard to appreciate, including confusion over processing of different materials and the use of equipment
- Dual designation confuses management solutions
- Numerous surveys and information sources exist but there is no central record of their availability; therefore they are frequently not used in informing management decisions
- Vegetation management (where action is immediately required this is stated below): no timetable for vegetation monitoring and management
- Failure of repair and consolidation undertaken in the 1990s, failure of cement capping on the Resting Hill winding engine house for example
- Changes in ownership, e.g. from local authority to private
- No condition survey available to inform a programme of maintenance and repair
- Potential for additional interpretation to clutter site and confuse visitors
- Balance required between residential and visitor requirements
- Inconsistent communication between stakeholders
- Little above-ground interpretation of underground mining remains; query over their protection within the scheduled areas
- Conservation Area Appraisal out of date, and no Conservation Area Management Plan or policies for the designated area
- Several aspects of the site are currently not fully understood; some are stated below, but others include historic water management, subterranean archaeology, Roman mining settlement

White Tip

- No evidence of 'whiteness' remains: interpretation of industrial processes in this area reduced by the reclamation scheme and gradual natural establishment of vegetation
- Self-seeded silver birch may cause destabilisation
- Halvans Engine House and related ore-dressing floor not thoroughly investigated, recorded and understood
- Potential for conflict with biodiversity and geological significance as parts of the tip are designated as a SSSI and Local Geological Site. Priority BAP species are also known to thrive on the tip (e.g. grayling butterfly) and the level of vegetation should take their habitat into account.

Core area

- Excessive use of off-road and BMX bikes on dressing floor causing rapid erosion to surface with potential for damage to underlying archaeology
- Some areas require further interpretation, in particular how the SDR and tramway connected processes across the Snailbeach site
- Crusher house in unstable condition following harsh winter of 2010-2011. Future consolidation repair needs to take possible abrupt changes in weather into account
- Manager's office also in poor condition
- Compressor house used for storage of Heras fencing, signs and empty oil drums detracting from the survival of the internal features
- Flues to east of compressor house in unstable condition; previous repointing now failing
- Vegetation obscuring views of features and views outside of the core area, for example from the former railway bridge and towards Resting Hill
- Ore tunnel not thoroughly investigated, recorded and understood

Resting Hill

- Consolidation and capping to winding engine house failing and causing damage to surviving masonry
- Internal masonry of pumping engine house in poor condition, with potential structural weaknesses to lintels
- The double-apex to the pumping engine house does not contribute to its interpretation, and links to the rest of the mine site are weak
- Vegetation obscuring the earthwork remains of the inclined railway

Black Tom

- Self-seeded trees and vegetation obscuring interpretation of the area
- Little interpretation particularly of ore-dressing features

Ore House

- Developments to historic cottages are leading to the character of the area not being preserved although designated as a conservation area

Reservoir

- Vegetation management required around valve house
- The reservoir's water levels dropped significantly in summer 2011, impacting on wildlife and increasing anti-social behaviour. Uncertainty over ownership and management responsibility.

Magazine

- Old Reservoir overgrown and unmanaged (on private land?)
- Candlehouse in poor condition and threatened by unmanaged vegetation and overhanging trees. On Heritage at Risk register since 2008. In private ownership. Scheduled and listed.

Perkins Level and Upper Works¹

- Access to the property known as Pool Cottage by Perkins Level is used by Shropshire Mines Trust Ltd for underground tours, but it maintained with difficulty by its owners as there is no input from Shropshire Council or the Mines Trust.
- Vegetation around Upper Works is uncontrolled and affecting light levels to Pool Cottage. This small area of land is currently owned by Shropshire Council but the current residents have proposed to purchase it.
- The owners of Pool Cottage have raised concerns over the condition of trees behind their property, which in windy conditions drop debris on the house.

Chapel Shaft

- No statutory protection except to chimney
- Located very close to The Hollies, therefore potential conflicts with biodiversity management

New Smeltpill

- In private ownership therefore little or no public access
- Despite recent clearance, extensive vegetation to smeltpill features obscuring and potentially damaging remains
- No features recorded or fully understood, leading to potential for uninformed management
- On the Heritage at Risk register

¹ The following issues were raised by the owners of Pool Cottage during the consultation process.

2. OBJECTIVES

Aim: To adopt and implement a holistic management strategy for all historic built structures, involving relevant stakeholders at all stages.

To enhance the conservation of the site through active management, by:

1. Appropriate conservation of assets to remove them from the Heritage at Risk register. Most of the following objectives will contribute to this effectively taking place.
2. Regularly cutting back or removing of vegetation and trees to protect historic assets and for health & safety through a structured programme of ongoing maintenance
3. Using the condition survey undertaken by Shropshire Council to a) prioritise and advise ongoing and capital works, and b) inform reconsolidation, restoration or rebuilding. Monitor condition annually to identify repairs, and undertake full structural survey quadrennially
4. Managing, enhancing and providing access and interpretation in relation to the biodiversity aspects of the site, including ongoing habitat management which may include the removal of scrub and/or trees and hedge laying; managing the condition of the SSSI to obtain favourable condition status; and managing the spoil heap habitats for UKBAP species such as grayling butterfly
5. Ensuring that the Snailbeach community is recognised and involved in the management of the site, with consultation taking place for all significant developments
6. Considering funding opportunities from national, regional and local funding streams (for example Natural England Higher Level Stewardship)
7. Establishing a timetable of management meetings with all stakeholders, designed to update on current works and discuss future projects
8. Improving access and interpretation across all aspects of the site by:
 - a. Promoting access for those with a geological interest in the site
 - b. Continuing underground access, improving safety and offering more tours where possible
 - c. Providing or enhancing access for residents and visitors to amenities other than the site, e.g. chapel, public toilets, reservoir, small businesses
 - d. Considering methods of preventing unwanted damage to the monument, for example from off-road and BMX bikes.
 - e. Interpretation of mineral-processing
 - f. Interpretation of features following reinstatement/investigation
9. Enhancing the visitor experience across the Snailbeach site by:
 - a. Continuing and, where necessary, improving Health & Safety and security standards

- b. Improving or creating new displays within the Locomotive Shed, Blacksmith's Shop and Miners' Dry, including the conservation of artefacts where necessary
- c. Improving access, including temporary and permanent signage and parking, fencing, ramps, gates, stiles, steps and seating
- d. Consolidating and enhancing interpretation and signage, considering other users' and stakeholders' interests (e.g. Natural England)
- e. Enhancing access to viewpoints to enable the site to be appreciated in its wider setting and the connectivities of processes across the site
- f. Pursuing interpretation potential at the New Smelt Mill, considering its ownership and distance from the principal site

10. Enhancing the integrity of the site's historic processes by:

- a. Rebuilding one of the circular buddles
- b. Constructing of a display area for classifier and jigs at Black Tom
- c. Reinstating of Black Tom head gear
- d. Reinstating sections of tramway across the site, including interpretation of the inclined railway
- e. Investigating and opening ore-house tunnel on dressing floor
- f. Investigating and reinstating grizzly on dressing floor
- g. Investigating smelt mill flues and condensing chamber and making publically accessible if possible
- h. Opening up spillways between the reservoir and Hewitt's Pool
- i. Restoring and interpreting the Candlehouse and finding a positive new use within the visitor trail
- j. Further integrating Chapel Shaft into the visitor trail, including a programme of consolidation, reinstatement of headgear, and interpretation

11. Enhancing understanding, protection and recognition of the site through:

- a. Applying for identified buildings and sites to be statutorily designated
- b. Considering designation review of all statutorily protected assets, e.g. the effectiveness of dual designation
- c. Updating the Conservation Area Appraisal, to contain Conservation Area Management policies which should work alongside the wider management of the historic site
- d. Undertaking archaeological investigation to lesser-understood areas
- e. Commissioning a full subterranean underground assessment as part of the English Heritage research programme 'New Frontiers: understanding subterranean places' and to contribute towards delivery of English Heritage's National Heritage Protection Plan research priorities (see Appendix 5).
- f. Undertake archaeological survey and investigations at the New Smeltmill to determine its historic layout and processes and inform management
- g. Considering public accessibility of the SMTL archive
- h. Ensuring that residents are fully informed about and, where appropriate, included in larger projects
- i. Inclusion in the Stiperstones/Corndon Hill AONB Landscape Partnership Project where mining landscapes are a priority.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1. Introduction

The consultation period was timetabled for the 8-26 August 2011. In order to obtain the feedback and comments of a broad range of people the process was targeted at two principal groups. The first were stakeholders involved or interested in the management of the site, covering both the natural and historic environment, and the second were local users, including the residents of Snailbeach.

3.2. Consultees

The stakeholders consulted were:

Group One

- Shropshire Council: Policy & Environment, Parks & Countryside Sites, Leisure & Outdoor Recreation Service, and Countryside Access.
- Shropshire Mines Trust Ltd, including the Friends of Snailbeach Lead Mine.
- English Heritage: Historic Environment Field Advisors, Archaeological Survey and Investigation, Ancient Monuments Inspectors Group, Historic Buildings Inspector (Shropshire), Project Supervisor.
- Natural England: Senior Reserve Manager, Land Management and Conservation Advisor, Community Outreach Adviser, Stiperstones NNR, Historic Environment Lead Adviser
- Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership: Planning & Landscape Officer;
- Shropshire Caving and Mining Club
- West Midlands Geodiversity Partnership / Shropshire Geological Society
- Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust
- Shropshire Botanical Society
- Shropshire Bat Group
- Shropshire Mammal Group
- Shropshire Amphibian Group
- Forestry Commission
- Environment Agency

Group Two

- Local residents, owners and users
- Local Councillor
- Parish Council

3.3. Process

Group One were informed by email of the impending consultation period. Dates were given for the Project Manager's distribution of a PDF of the draft management strategy, for submission of feedback, and of the project's completion date. They were advised that they may wish to discuss the strategy at a team meeting. The draft strategy was submitted by email in PDF form on the 5 August 2011 and consultees given three weeks to respond, the preference given for email.

Group Two were informed by letter (the Local Councillor by email) of the impending consultation period. Two hard copies of the draft were deposited for public reference with a member of the Parish Council, and a further copy posted to The Stiperstones Inn, an

important local community hub. The PDF was also made available through the Shropshire Mines Trust Ltd and Shropshire Mines websites: <http://shropshiremines.org.uk/sms.htm> <http://www.shropshiremines.org.uk/> <http://shropshiremines.org.uk/snailbeach/index.htm> Residents were asked to submit comments to the Project Manager by email, phone or post, and were also invited to a community consultation workshop event. This was organised at Snailbeach Village Hall on the 18 August 2011 between 1500 and 1930.

The event was based around a selection of major draft management suggestions, supplemented by a map of the area, and a list of aspirations displayed on a series of exhibition boards. An explanation of a management strategy and its use was given. Attendees were invited to write comments on sticky notes and post adjacent to the relevant suggestion or aspiration. They were also asked to leave their name so an idea of attendance and interest could be achieved by the Project Manager and feedback could be provided.

3.4. Response

A reminder email was sent out to any Group One stakeholders who had not responded in the final week of the consultation period. By the end of the consultation period 16 stakeholders had responded.

The community consultation event attracted 17 local residents. Each person or couple stayed for around 20 minutes and most asked questions and were willing to discuss the strategy and its draft proposals.

3.5. Results

Comments from Group One varied from an extensive list of suggested amendments (mainly factual) to 'no comment'. These have been compiled and added into the management strategy as appropriate.

Comments from Group Two were positive overall. The main features of interest and concern were the dressing floor (known locally as 'The Bumps') and the Candlehouse, with attention also being paid to unlisted buildings regarded as being of merit. Several people commented on the poor condition of the Candlehouse and their concern over further damage by trees and vegetation. The dressing floor was seen by many as a play place for children, with the 'bumps' being utilised for adventurous bike riding; comments included 'hate to see it go'. Five comments highlighted the poor condition of the Candlehouse and called for its need to be 'saved' and restored.

Within the list of aspirations, attracting the most comments were issues regarding vegetation management (the rapid growth of certain species), community consultation ('recognising' rather than 'considering' residents), communication across organisations (responsibility for vegetation management at specific areas of the site), restoration and repair (reinstatement, 'tidying up' and further interpretation), and the visitor experience. The balance between a residential place and a visitor attraction was of concern to many people, with requests for a restriction of fenced areas and no mass tourism. Additional comments were made about features and connections not represented in the site's current

interpretation, for example the historic aerial ropeway and the author Malcolm Saville's representations of the area.

4. STRATEGY

Key to priorities (as defined in the English Heritage Government Historic Estates Unit *Managing Heritage Assets: guidance for government departments on the use of periodic inspections forward work plans and asset management programmes* (date).

PRIORITY 1: Unavoidable/immediate. Required immediately for legal or safety reasons, or to prevent imminent damage or rapid deterioration. Must be put in hand immediately

PRIORITY 2: Required urgently to avoid increased cost or dilapidation. Should be put in hand as soon as possible, certainly within the year.

PRIORITY 3: Necessary in current cycle. Necessary within 4 years to preserve the value or utility of the asset. Will include some cyclical maintenance. Should be planned over the next 1-4 years.

PRIORITY 4: Desirable. To improve function or performance, or enhance or reinstate features. Plan as appropriate, alongside other higher priority works, or defer to later years.

PRIORITY 5: Long term. Repeat cyclical maintenance or longer term planned repairs over the span of the asset management plan. Timescales will need to be identified.

PRIORITY	LOCATION/ FEATURE	TASK	DESIGNATION(S) AFFECTED	LEAD PARTNER	CONSULTATION NEEDED WITH:	NOTES
1	As appropriate	Trial capping strategy as outlined in Quadrennial Inspection Report and Site Manual	SAM LB	SC	EH	Monitor over one year
1	As appropriate	Remove vegetation where survey is required to inform repair	SAM CA	SC	EH	
3	Buddles	Replace missing bricks and re-point brickwork with appropriate mortar	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E2)
4	Buddles	Reinstate one buddle and provide interpretation	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E2)

4	White Tip	Install large map board near entrance sign	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	
2	White Tip	Clear vegetation and trees	SAM CA	SC	EH, NE	
3	White Tip	Clear vegetation and trees from Geological Collection Area	SAM SSSI LGS	SC	EH, NE	
4	White Tip	Turn over rocks to reveal new samples at Geological Collection Area	SAM SSSI LGS	SGS	SC, NE, EH	
2	Halvans engine house	Clear vegetation	SAM	SC	EH, NE	
1	Halvans engine house	Repair damage caused by metal machinery rods on N wall	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E3)
2	Halvans engine house	Re-point and consolidate masonry, and consider providing interpretation	SAM	SC	EH	
4	Dressing floor – grizzley	Re-erect and interpret in the context of the Core Area	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	
3	Dressing floor	Clear vegetation	SAM	SC	EH	
4	Dressing floor	Excavate ore-tunnel chute and provide interpretation	SAM	SMTL	EH, SC	
1	Dressing floor	Consider methods of protecting area from illegal damage	SAM	EH	SC	
4	SDR bridge	Clear vegetation to create viewpoint	SAM	SC	EH	
2	Blacksmiths' Shop	Replace cracked mortar fillets to chimney	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E3)
1	Blacksmiths' Shop	Investigate condition of brick S elevation to Old Engine House and repair as required	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E6)
	Blacksmiths' Shop	Re-point with appropriate mortar as necessary	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E6)
3	Blacksmiths' Shop	Clear vegetation if necessary to prevent damage	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E6)
4	Blacksmiths' Shop	Provide electricity supply	SAM LB	SMTL		

I*	Old Engine House	Investigate condition of SW corner and repair as necessary	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E7)
3	Old Engine House	Review capping as part of overall capping strategy	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E7)
2	Old Engine House	Investigate voids in walls and requirement for grouting	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E7)
3	Old Engine House	Re-point with appropriate mortar as necessary	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E7)
4	Old Engine House	Consider re-opening doorways for greater access, use and interpretation	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E7)
3	New Engine House	Review capping as part of overall capping strategy	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E10)
I*	New Engine House	Investigate structural condition of N elevation	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E10)
I	New Engine House	Repair and consolidate masonry following investigation	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E10)
I	New Engine House	Remove ivy to S elevation to investigate condition	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E10)
I	New Engine House	Investigate voids in walls and requirement for grouting	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E10)
4	George's Shaft	Fill woodpecker hole and decorate headgear considering appropriateness of materials	SAM	SC	SMTL, EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E9)
4	George's Shaft	Maintain metalwork to cage and truck	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E9)
4	George's Shaft	Recommend regular expert inspection by Mine Inspector	SAM	SC	EH	
2	Miners' Dry	Investigate damp ingress to internal S elevation	SAM	SC	SMTL	See recommendations in QI (ref.E11)
3	Miners' Dry	Re-point with appropriate mortar as necessary	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E11)
4	Miners' Dry	Undertake internal decoration as required	SAM	SMTL		

4	Miners' Dry	Review and develop interpretation material	n/a	SMTL		
2	Day Level entrance	Re-bed masonry to W wall using appropriate mortar	SAM	SC		See recommendations in QI (ref.E12)
3	Day Level entrance	Clear vegetation if necessary to prevent damage	SAM	SC	EH	
1*	Crusher House complex	Clear vegetation	SAM LB CA	SC	EH	
1*	Crusher House	Undertake structural survey following vegetation clearance	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E13)
1*	Crusher House	Repair and consolidate masonry as required, considering opportunity for reinstatement if appropriate.	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E13)
4	Crusher House	Review interpretative material and develop or renew as necessary.	SAM	SC	SMTL EH	
1	Crusher House chimney	Repair and consolidate cracked quoins and re-point as required using appropriate mortar	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E13)
2	Compressor Engine House	Repair lintel to E doorway	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E15)
3	Compressor Engine House	Re-point with appropriate mortar as necessary	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E15)
3	Compressor Engine House chimney	Steeplejack survey recommended every two years	SAM LB	SC	EH	
3	Compressor Engine House chimney	Re-point with appropriate mortar as necessary	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E16)
	Compressor Boiler House and yard	Stabilise, cap and repair brick flues as appropriate	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E17)
	Black Tom	Clear vegetation and trees to enhance connectivity to Core Area	SAM CA	SC		In progress Sept 2011
	Black Tom	Reinstate jigger to new building	SAM	SC		In progress Sept 2011
	Black Tom	Reinstate headgear	SAM	SC		In progress Sept 2011
4	Black Tom shaft	Recommend regular expert inspection by Mine Inspector	SAM	SC		

1*	Mine Manager's Office	Clear vegetation	SAM	SC	EH	
1*	Mine Manager's Office	Undertake structural survey and cause of water penetration following vegetation clearance	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E18)
1*	Mine Manager's Office	Repair and consolidate fabric as required, considering opportunity for reinstatement if appropriate	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E18)
4	Locomotive Shed	Re-point masonry with appropriate mortar as required; redecorate joinery	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E6)
4	Locomotive Shed	Remove ivy growth if necessary to prevent damage	SAM LB	SC	EH	
5	Locomotive Shed	Move tractor	n/a	SMTL		
1	Steps by Manager's office	Manage trees on bank	SAM CA	SC		
2	Steps by Manager's office	Repair and consolidate retaining wall	SAM	SC	EH	
4	Reservoir	Clear spillway between old and new reservoirs	SAM	SC	EH	
4	Perkins Level	Rebuild stone building for mine tour equipment storage	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	
1	Candlehouse	Facilitate removal from Heritage at Risk register	SAM LB	EH	SC Owner	
1	Candlehouse	Repair and consolidate fabric as required, considering opportunity for reinstatement if appropriate	SAM LB	EH	SC	
3	Candlehouse	Integrate into Miner's Trail	SAM LB	SMTL		
2	Resting Hill area	Clear vegetation	SAM CA	SC	EH	
2	Pumping Engine House	Repair and consolidate masonry considering opportunity for reinstatement of single gable as appropriate	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E27)
4	Pumping Engine House	Review and develop interpretation	SAM	SC	SMTL EH	
3	Pumping Engine House shaft	Clear vegetation if necessary to prevent damage and for health & safety	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E28)

4	Pumping Engine House shaft	Recommend regular expert inspection by Mine Inspector	SAM	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E28)
1	Winding Engine House	Repair and consolidate masonry considering opportunity for reinstatement and interpretation as appropriate	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (refs.E24 & 25)
3	Winding Engine House	Review capping as part of overall capping strategy	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (refs.E24 & 25)
1	Resting Hill chimney	Repair and consolidate cracked quoins using appropriate mortar	SAM LB	SC	EH	See recommendations in QI (ref.E29)
3	Resting Hill chimney	Steeplejack survey recommended every two years	SAM LB	SC	EH	
4	Smelter flue	Consider partial reopening	SAM	SC	EH	May require consultation with private land owners
4	Inclined railway	Clear vegetation and consider interpretation methods	SAM CA	SC	EH	
4	Tramway	Re-lay rails and/or consider interpretation	SAM	SMTL	EH, SC	
4	Tramway	Research historic route, including to the New Smeltnill	n/a	EH	SC, SMTL	
2	New Smeltnill	Clear vegetation	SAM LB	EH	SMTL	
3	New Smeltnill	Undertake archaeological survey to understand history and processes, and inform management	SAM LB	EH		
4	New Smeltnill	Consider remote methods of interpretation e.g. Internet/Smartphone tools	n/a	SMTL	EH	
4	Chapel Shaft	Undertake archaeological survey to understand history and inform management	LB	EH		
3	Scheduled area	Review scheduling to potentially include wider underground mining remains	n/a	EH		
5	Scheduled area and beyond	Research historic water-management system	n/a			

4	Scheduled area and beyond	Research subterranean archaeology, survival and significance	n/a	EH	SMTL SCMC	
5	Stiperstones area	Research location of Roman mining settlement and bole smelters	n/a	EH		
4	Unlisted buildings	Identify and consider buildings for listing applications ²	n/a	SC	EH	
4	Unscheduled areas	Identify and consider unscheduled areas for designation application ³	n/a	SC	EH	
3	Conservation Area	Review Conservation Area boundary and appraisal, and compile Management Plan with policies and enforcement as appropriate	n/a	SC		
4	Snailbeach village	Consider compiling a local list for Snailbeach	n/a	SC		
2	Snailbeach SAM	Establish yearly timetable for monitoring repairs	n/a	SC	EH	
2	Snailbeach SAM	Establish quadrennial timetable for full condition survey	n/a	SC	EH	
2	Snailbeach SAM	Establish timetable for vegetation monitoring and tree survey	n/a	SC		
3	Snailbeach SAM	Agree specification and design guide for benches, signage, fencing etc	SAM	SC	EH	
3		Promote SMTL Miners' Trail on Shropshire Council website	n/a	SMTL		
5		Consider potential for 'podcast' type tours	n/a	SMTL		
5		Consider removal storyboards for open days	n/a	SMTL		
5		Consider large-scale interpretation project	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	
5		Consider low-key but detailed interpretation of all aspects of mining site	SAM	SMTL	SC, EH	
4		Consider storage or SMT archives and artefacts	n/a	SMTL		
2		Monitor condition and ownership of land and features not in SC ownership	SAM	SC		
1		Ensure cross-organisation communication	n/a	EH	SC	All primary stakeholders involved
5		Continue health & safety schedule and risk assessments	n/a	SMTL	SC	
3		Liase with NE on long-term management of habitats	n/a	SC	NE	
		Timetable and undertake natural environment surveys (e.g. bats, dormice)	n/a	SC	NE	All biodiversity stakeholders

² Snailbeach Farm, Mrs Hewitt's Cottage

³ Chapel Shaft

APPENDIX 7: SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES OF 2006 MANAGEMENT PLAN

Outcomes of objectives of 2006 Management Plan according to feature

FEATURE 1: Archaeological and industrial heritage (Scheduled Ancient Monument with Listed Buildings).

OBJECTIVE: Through appropriate management, all features listed in the Sites and Monuments Record and associated with the site's industrial heritage should be maintained in good condition and clear of vegetation, providing good access to features of interest.

Damaging operations will be avoided.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Favourable, stable.

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- Structured vegetation management programme not in place
- Trees on bank near steps by Loco Shed remain an issue

FEATURE 2: Geological interest of the site including the exposed mineral waste which is designated SSSI and RIGS

OBJECTIVE: Mineral deposits in the Rock Store and Black Hillocks will be both easily visible and accessible. Examples of barites, calcite, galena, sphalerite and witherite will be available for viewing. Collecting will be restricted to educational and research projects. Underground geology will be viewable by arrangement.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Favourable, declining.

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- Vegetation unmanaged for at least past 18 months
- Uncertain if the waste on the rock store been turned

FEATURE 3: Upland oakwood (Resting Hill)

OBJECTIVE: The woodland habitat of Resting Hill ... will be maintained as high forest to provide mature oak as dominant with other native trees and shrubs ... present. The woodland will continue to provide a suitable habitat to support dormice, with deadwood ... retained where safe. Selective felling close to structures may be required which archaeological features are threatened or to open up views of buildings and the Lordshill Chimney ... 'Natural re-growth' will fill gaps in the tree canopy resulting from natural tree fall or managed tree felling.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Unfavourable, improving

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- All appear to have been undertaken

- Sight of a woodland management/monitoring plan may help with wider management planning

FEATURE 4: Notable invertebrate species

OBJECTIVE: Habitats known to be of particular value to notable invertebrates (areas of bare sandy ground and sparse open grassland) will be maintained on site... Breeding populations of grayling, wall, green hairstreak and the mining bee ... will continue to be present on site.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Favourable, declining

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- Vegetation clearance not obvious and certainly not undertaken in last c.18 months
- Timetabled butterfly survey in place?

FEATURE 5: Bats and bat roosts

OBJECTIVE: The site will continue to support all four bat species [lesser horseshoe, Daubentons, Natterers, and brown long-eared]. The mine adits, levels and buildings will continue to provide undisturbed roost sites.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Favourable, stable

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- All appear to have been completed
- Grills and adit openings appear to have been maintained and access monitored
- Woodland, open water and grassland maintained
- Up to date bat survey needed?

FEATURE 6: Public access, interpretation and education

OBJECTIVE (SUMMARY): Snailbeach will continue to act as an important amenity, providing access, interpretation and opportunities for education particularly relating to the site's rich industrial heritage and geology.

Car parking and toilet facilities to be retained and maintained.

SMT will continue to provide access to areas of the site (underground etc), guided tours, organised events etc. Development of exhibitions and restoration of artefacts.

Low-level interpretation to continue with boards replaced as required. Additional interpretation at the Rock Store and signs at e.g. Black Tom will be considered.

Paths will be maintained in good condition. Views from the site at key points will be kept open and views of features within the site maintained. Views across to the site from adjacent land will be opened up.

Site to play a key role in the Stiperstones geotrail.

A self-guided heritage trail (possibly with numbered posts) will also be developed.

Further research and educational visits encouraged.

Vandalism will be at a minimum and undesirable activities will cease.

CURRENT STATUS (4/2006): Favourable, stable.

Prescriptions not undertaken in 5-year period from 2006:

- Some footpaths overgrown (e.g. tramway near Black Tom)
- Has the geotrail been implemented?
- Are the underground workings regularly inspected to ensure safety for general public?
- Vegetation requires further structured management
- Further research in mineralogy and geology
- Vandalism issues on dressing floor have arisen.
- Setting the site within the wider landscape by providing accessible viewpoints would be advantageous.

FEATURE 7: Health & Safety obligations

OBJECTIVE: To maintain Snailbeach Mine as a safe place whereby all necessary Risk Assessments, Inspections and works are carried out to comply with relevant legislation.

Management priorities:

- 1) Review Site Risk Assessment
- 2) Carry out monthly site safety audit
- 3) Tree survey – 2-4 years
- 4) Building inspection – 5 years

Unknown as to whether these have been regularly carried out. There has not been a building inspection resulting in a priority list and works carried out accordingly in the last c.18 months. A condition survey is being undertaken in Summer 2011 by SC.

APPENDIX 8: CONTACTS

Information correct as of September 2011.

ENGLISH HERITAGE

The Axis
10 Holliday Street
Birmingham
B1 1TG
0121 6256820

Key contacts:
Bill Klemperer (Inspector of Ancient Monuments)
Dr Sarah Lewis (Heritage at Risk)

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6ND
01743 252562

Key contacts:
Parks & Countryside Sites
Gareth Egarr (Countryside Sites Manager)
Lynne Dean (Ranger)
Biodiversity
Dan Wrench (Biodiversity Officer)
Historic Environment
Colin Richards (Historic Environment Manager)
Philip Belchere (Team Leader)
Matthew Knight (Conservation Officer)
Rachael Parry (Conservation Officer)

SHROPSHIRE MINES TRUST

Contact in the first instance:
Adrian Pearce
01952-405369 / 07831-340529

Other key contacts:
Peter Sheldrake
Nick Southwick

NATURAL ENGLAND

To be confirmed

Many of the stakeholder groups can be contacted via their websites:

West Midlands Geodiversity Partnership / Shropshire Geological Society

<http://www.shropshiregeology.org.uk/> Key contact: Mary Steer

Shropshire Caving and Mining Club

<http://www.shropshirecmc.org.uk/> Key contact: Andrew Wood (secretary)

Shropshire Wildlife Trust

<http://www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/> Key contact: Robin Mager

Shropshire Botanical Society

<http://www.shropsbotdata.org.uk/> Key contact:

Shropshire Biodiversity Partnership

<http://www.naturalshropshire.org.uk/Home/News/tabid/129/Default.aspx>

Key contact: Gareth Parry

Shropshire Mammal Group

<http://www.naturalshropshire.org.uk/SpeciesGroups/ShropshireMammalGroup/tabid/54/Default.aspx>

Shropshire Amphibian and Reptile Group

<http://www.naturalshropshire.org.uk/SpeciesGroups/ShropshireAmphibianReptileGroup/tabid/140/Default.aspx>

Shropshire Bat Group

<http://www.naturalshropshire.org.uk/SpeciesGroups/ShropshireBatGroup/tabid/66/Default.aspx> Key contact:

Fran Lancaster