

**Engineering works for a slurry pond on agricultural land at Sheep Hey Farm,
Leaches Road, Shuttleworth**

GR 379500;417760

Contamination and Odour Report

Ref: JB.130225.A

Contamination

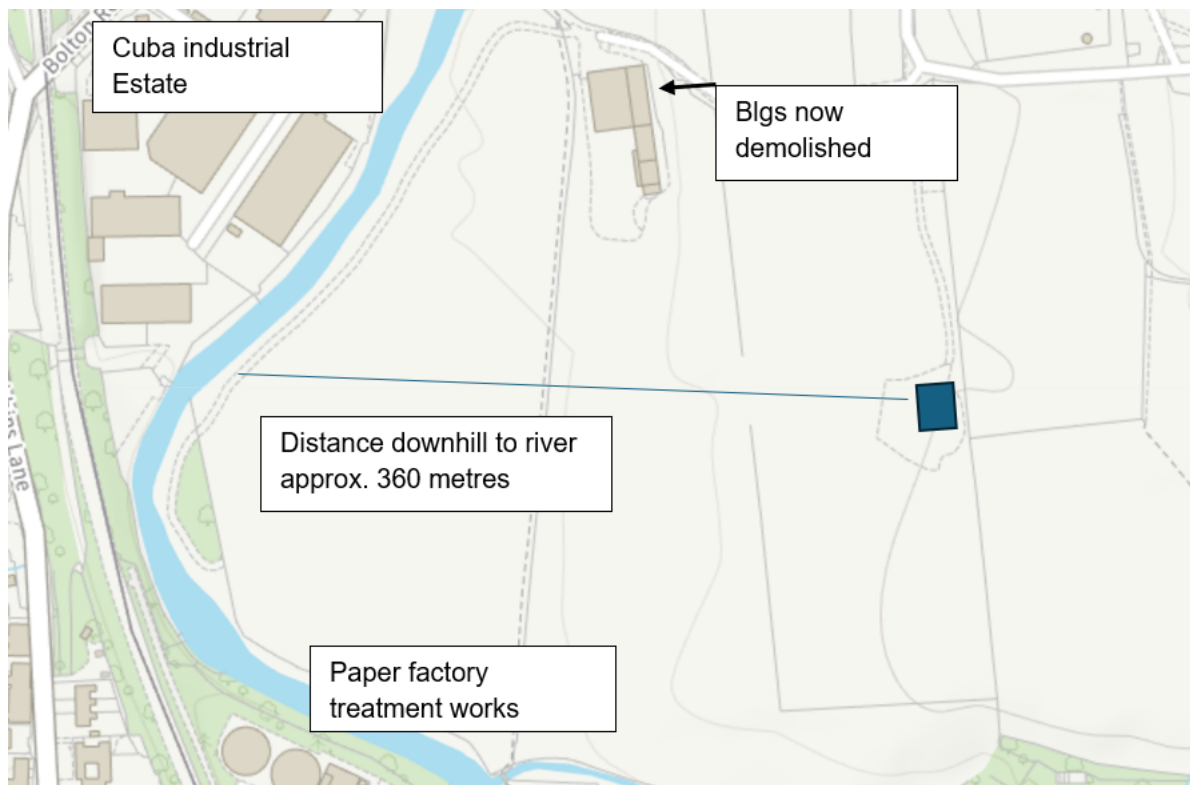
The proposed slurry lagoon would be 30 metres by 20 metres in extent and 4 metres deep. It would have a hardcore stone base with a 2mm thick black plastic liner to make the pond impermeable and would have 45 degree slopes to each side.

The purpose of the pond is to store slurry which will, as required, be spread on the appellant's land, including that immediately surrounding the pond. Slurry would be pumped into the pond and then pumped out when required.

The whole purpose of the pond is to make it impermeable. The slurry is a valuable asset in farming terms which would replace the need to buy in expensive fertilisers. The last thing the applicant wants is for the slurry to seep out into the adjacent field.

That is the purpose of the construction of the lagoon, including the impermeable plastic membrane - to prevent any leakage.

In the unlikely event of a leakage, the site is surrounded by open fields, sloping in a westerly direction, and with approximately a distance of 360 metres to the river: -



There are no streams crossing the fields.

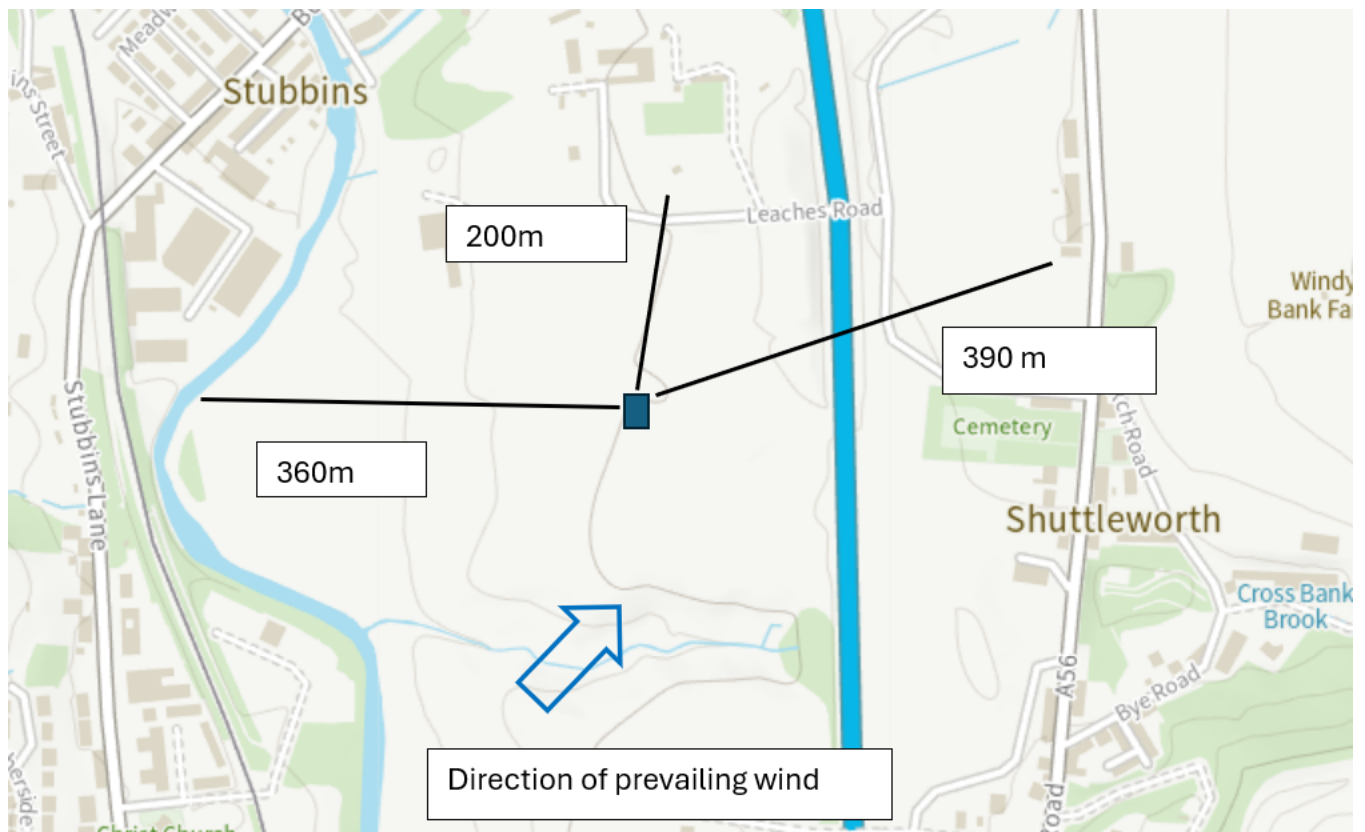
Even if there were to be a leakage, this is unlikely to be a complete and sudden breach. In that sense, it would likely be no different than the proposed spreading of the slurry on the land to fertilise it in the normal way.

Therefore, the proposed pond would not pose a material contamination risk.

Odour

It is common for farms to store slurry on their land, often close to their farmhouses.

In this instance, the proposed lagoon is centred in the middle of a field with no dwellings or commercial buildings close to it. In addition, its size at 30 metres by 20 metres is not excessively large.



Any odour in the area is dominated by that from the paper works located to the west in Stubbins.

It is clearly easier to determine the impact of odours where the source already exists, which does not apply in this case. However, a relatively recent case in Hyndburn involving proposed residential development close to large, industrial scale, poultry sheds assessed the impact of the latter when the sheds were being cleaned out and when odours were at their most powerful. The report assessed that a precautionary 100 metres should be kept clear of housing development from the poultry units, a recommendation which became a condition to the housing approval. A copy of the report is attached.

The poultry units cover a much greater area than would the slurry pond.

In addition, the current application for the lagoon is at a much greater distance to other uses than in the above case.

Taking into account the limited size of the slurry pond, the distances to other premises, the prevailing wind direction, and the fact that this is a farming area, there would be unlikely to be any significant adverse impact in terms of odour from it.