

Mineral Products Association Restoration Awards 2024

*Slight mist rising off the water and showing the reedbeds in early morning light,
Jill Bewley, Volunteer (Cotswold Lakes Trust) Cleveland Lakes, Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire*

STAGE 1 ENTRY

INTRODUCTION

We want to encourage entries from as many companies as possible covering a range of different types of site and restoration schemes. While we need you to provide sufficient information to demonstrate the merits of your entry we do not want this to be an overly bureaucratic and demanding exercise. Therefore, we encourage you, at this initial stage, to consider if you have a site that you feel demonstrates good practice in terms of restoration – which may include both the process and outcome – and to provide basic details including:

THIS YEAR WE ARE SEEKING ENTRIES FOR:

- Completed restoration schemes (including phases).
- Planned restoration schemes, that demonstrate innovative and ambitious restoration and after-use.

INFORMATION WE NEED

- Site name and type.
- Site location – NGR, coordinates and/or map.
- Site area (including plan/map).
- Short summary of good practice demonstrated.
- Short summary of the components and benefits of the restoration scheme ie landscape, recreation, agriculture, wildlife.

- Is it a joint entry with another partner including where these have taken over control or management?
- A set of representative images.
- Contact details for further information.

If the principal component and outcome of the restoration is nature conservation and biodiversity you may wish to consider entering the scheme in the MPA Biodiversity Awards instead.

We encourage entries for sites that may have been entered for previous awards but at which progress has been made or which illustrate specific features or benefits not previously highlighted.

This information should only be in summary form – bullet points are acceptable.

Please email this to info@mineralproducts.org
by **FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024**.



STAGE 2:

We will then refine the entry process and come back to you so that you can submit just the critical additional details by the closing date of **FRIDAY 12TH APRIL 2024**.

At this stage additional information may be required including:

- A more detailed site plan with red line indicating clearly the area being entered for an award.
- A letter from the Mineral Planning Authority confirming compliance with planning requirements.

WHO CAN ENTER?

- Entry is open to all members of the MPA who may submit any number of entries in a given year.
- Joint entries are welcomed where restoration has been achieved in partnership with other bodies such as a conservation organisation or local authority.
- Entries may relate to contemporary or long-standing sites and to logical phases within larger permissions.
- Schemes from previous years can be resubmitted as long as clear progress or additional features and benefits can be demonstrated.

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

- Entries for completed restoration schemes may be submitted for completed sites or logical phases.
- Recognition of achievement will be considered for restoration of all or part of the area covered by the planning permission relating to the restoration scheme, with each case being considered on its own merits.
- To be eligible, each project submitted must have complied with all relevant planning conditions/agreements, or be able to satisfy the judges that it complies with subsequently agreed amendments.

- In completed restoration schemes, the restoration process must have been substantially completed and be of sufficient maturity to indicate lasting success. Any outstanding restoration work should be capable of being completed within 12 months of the awards submission.
- In Planned schemes, the restoration scheme should have been approved and accompany a planning permission, and can be yet to start or to have started, but not yet be completed.
- Sites entered for previous awards will be subject to a re-examination of any previously entered areas covered by the same planning permission or restoration scheme. Only if satisfied with the ongoing care of those areas will the judge consider recommending a further award.
- If still within an aftercare period, entrants must be able to supply evidence to show that there is an appropriate aftercare programme and implementation procedure in place.
- If the entry site has passed out of its control, the entrant company must demonstrate that it has taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the land and facilities are properly cared for. In such instances, it is preferable for the entry to be a joint one with the new owner.

As a consequence of budget pressures, the way the 2024 entries are assessed and considered is likely to change compared to previous years. Similarly, the way any event held to support the awards is conducted should also be expected to change. Further details of both these developments will be communicated to members in Q1 2024.



Above: Kingfisher, Adrian Radnor, Hereford Quarry, Hereford, Herefordshire

