
**MINUTES OF BRANDY HILL QUARRY COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Date: Thursday 15th November 2018

Start: 2:30pm

Closed: 5:37pm

Venue: Raymond Terrace Bowling Club

Apologies: Neil Ritchie, Margarete Ritchie, Peter Rees & Bronwyn Write.

Present:

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
Belinda Pignone (BP)	Grad. Envir.Planning & Compliance Coordinator
Andrew Driver (AD)	Eastern Region Development Manager
Chris Dolden (CD)	Metro Quarry Operations Manager Aggregates
Nick Warren (NW)	Consultant – RW Corkery (invited guest)
Nichole Stanfield (NS)	Hanson
Brad Nelson (BN)	Quarry Manager (Hanson)
Shaun Boland (SB)	Production Supervisor (Hanson)
Cr Paul Le Mottee (PLM)	Port Stephens Council delegate (<i>left at 3pm</i>)
Rob Adams (RA)	Community Representative
Pre McGee (PM)	Community Representative
Chantal Parslow Redman (CPR)	Community Representative
James Moore (JM)	Community Representative

ITEM 1: Opening & Welcome by LA.

ITEM 2: Apologies (as listed above). LA advised the CCC that Bronwyn White has resigned from the CCC. (CPR advised that she would speak with BW.)

ITEM 3: Declaration: LA advised that she is an approved Independent Chairperson with DPE & engaged by Hanson to chair this meeting. No changes to members' declarations.

ITEM 4: Confirmation of previous meeting minutes

LA advised that due to the number of changes from the draft minutes, that the minutes would be confirmed at this meeting.

Moved that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting: PLM

Seconded: PM

Business Arising:

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	CCC to be advised when the RTS is sent to DP&E. Link to EDM's report to be included. (emailed)	AD/LA
2	Community Sponsorship Program to be finalised (emailed)	AD
3	PLM to obtain information from PSC regarding the levy (cents p/t) paid by Hanson (completed & emailed 27/4/18)	PLM
4	Copy of Drivers' Code of Conduct to be provided to members (included with RTS - Appendix 8 - emailed 7/9/18)	BP
5	Identify appropriate location for Visual Messaging Sign (VMS) on Brandy Hill Drive (See below*)	JM & PS
6	Hanson to speak to Roads & Maritime Service (RMS) about lowering speed limit (completed & emailed 15/8/18)	AD
7	Any Council matters to be directed to PLM two weeks prior to each meeting to enable information to be provided at the CCC (None received)	All CCC members
8*	Hanson to investigate "Industrial Noise" being heard in Giles Road (monitoring undertaken – results showed that noise levels were within limits)	CD & PS
9	Email electronic version of presentation as well as "Project Summary" sheet (emailed on 20/3/18)	LA

*5: Negotiations ongoing regarding the location of the VMS on Brandy Hill Drive. A location was identified, however, the resident did not consent to having the equipment on their property. Insurances and the costs associated, are still being worked through.

AD advised the CCC, that RMS are carrying out an assessment of Clarence Town Road. He will follow up with them to obtain further information. It was noted that the setting of speed limits is the responsibility of the RMS.

ITEM 5: Correspondence (as sent with Meeting Notice 22/10/18 with three additional items)

- 24/3/18 - Email to members with the draft minutes, project summary and electronic presentation from the 9/3/18 CCC.
- Emails received from Neil & Margarete, Peter Rees and Chantal Redman Powell with comments on the draft minutes.
- 16/4/18 – Email to members with the amended version of the draft minutes.
- 27/4/18 – Email to members with Cr Paul Le Mottee's investigations with Council regarding the levy paid by Council towards road maintenance.
- 15/8/18 – Email to members with the response from RMS regarding speed zoning along Clarence Town Rd, Brandy Hill.
- 16/8/18 – Email from Pre McGee recommending that Hanson write to the Local Traffic Committee regarding its request for the lowering of the speed limit. This was forwarded to Hanson.
- 4/9/18 – Email to members with advice on RTS.
- 5/9/18 – Email to members with a copy of the proposed RTS for the BHSAG, VoWW & Kate Washington.
- 7/9/18 – Email to members with the appendices.

- 17/10/18 – Email to members with a “Save the Date”.
- 17/11/10 – Email from Neil & Margarete Ritchie with an inability to attend.
- 22/10/18 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda and Correspondence Report for this meeting.
- 26/10/18 – Email from Bronwyn White resigning from the CCC.
- 12/11/18 – Email from Peter Rees with an apology for this meeting.
- 13/11/18 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting
- 15/11/18 – Email from CPR providing a copy of correspondence from Neil & Margarete Ritchie, to be tabled at this CCC.

ITEM 6: Reports & Updates

RTS

- NW provided a briefing to the CCC on the Response to Submissions (RTS) advising that the document has been finalised. DPE has sort feedback to various government bodies and allowed community members to provide feedback (which has been uploaded onto the DPE website).
 - PM informed the CCC of the traffic congestion traveling from Seaham to Raymond Terrace, with traffic backed up on the other side of the bridge, due to waste management trucks turning right. PM enquired whether Hanson’s Transport Assessment covered all vehicles using the roads, not just the Hanson trucks.
 - NW advised that the assessment was undertaken to correct standards as required by DPE.
 - PLM advised that the new roundabout was designed to be adaptable due to limited funding from RMS. This was based on vehicle usage determined by traffic counts. RMS didn’t believe it qualified for upgrade in the first place. AD commented that traffic works against automatic tube counters because of slow moving vehicles.
 - PLM stated that it is understood that the Quarry needs to exist, however, must be managed effectively. He raised concerns that the countless meetings between Hanson and the community did not seem to indicate that any changes to the application had occurred to mitigate the concerns raised. He was unable to identify any changes made in the RTS in line with the community’s requests.
 - NW advised that there has been a reduction in operational hours (load and haul), the primary crusher has been modified to reduce noise and dust. (5am-10pm.)
 - PLM asked if the crusher was to be enclosed to reduce noise and dust. NW advised that it is proposed to enclose the majority of the plant equipment. EPA provided comment to the RTS and requested further mitigation to be carried out by suggesting that the plant should be completely enclosed from Stage 1.
 - JM advised that in past experience in the mining industry, processing is required to be enclosed and has been so for some 20 years. The Hanson quarry project is classified as Mining – Extractive Industries and as such should be required to comply with current best practice in Mining – Extractive Industries.
 - PLM suggested providing an interim document to explain the technical aspect of the RTS to the CCC.

- Discussions were held around the product free falling from the apex of fixed height conveyors and the potential to generate high dust levels, particularly in high winds, and how these situations are catered for in the modelling.
- JM indicated that the plant will still be generating dust due to dry product and high winds with PM2.5 dust carrying significant distances. NW stated that they have never claimed that the project would not generate dust. Modelling indicates an incremental increase to background levels with mitigation to elevate impacts. This covers PM2.5, PM10, deposited dust etc.
- AD asked if there were any comments in relation to the reduction of movements.
 - CPR stated that the numbers are not consistent within the RTS, Hanson are still asking for 24/7 operations. AD explained that the 24/7 operations allows for peaks and troughs in production and therefore the expansion application seeks to enable this to occur during times of high demand. CPR understood that it would not be all the time but wanted to know what the limit was.
 - PLM calculated that the total number of tonnes didn't match the number of movements requested. CD reiterated that this was to allow for the peaks in production. PLM stated that there would still be more trucks on the road than requested total number of tonnes per year. AD responded that the project needs to cover transport requirements relating to both the averages and maximums of movements, so the criteria set can allow for days where a project requires a lot of product to be processed in one day and numbers will not match compliance requirements if average transport numbers are set as the criteria.
 - PLM reiterated that the changes to the project are not clear in the document, and therefore finds it confusing and leads to the assumption of a worst case scenario. Addressing community concerns could have been put out in clearer terms. CD agreed with this logic, however, a "lay" document provides a greater risk of misinterpretation, which could lead to more issues. PLM recommended that community representatives meet to form questions for concise answers in relation to the RTS.
 - AD advised that he had met with Council's S94 contributions officer who had advised that she had not provided information to PLM about where the S94 funds had been directed. PLM stated that he sought information on how much money had been paid to Council, not where the money had been allocated.
 - LA advised that she understood that Hanson's percentage of road usage sits at 17% currently. AD confirmed that Hanson pay contributions in relation to the entire haulage route, however Council was spending 100% on the maintenance of Brandy Hill Drive.
- RA sought clarification regarding the enclosure of the entire plant. NW explained that the current plant will be entirely enclosed at the commencement of Stage 1, with the new plant to also be entirely enclosed when it is built at Stage 4.
- LA advised that it was an appropriate time for CPR to read out the correspondence from M & N Richie. CPR read the concerns which related to Hanson's commitment to ethical behaviour and working with the community. Reference was made to information obtained from their website.

- LA suggested that a frequently asked question and answer document be created? CCC can develop questions, Hanson to provide answers and place on the website.
- CPR raised concerns with noise, vibration, dust, dust monitoring, rain water tanks, first flush systems, health impacts, etc.
- NW advised that there is background dust in the area, not all dust was from the quarry. CPR asked if testing could be undertaken on the dust (in relation to health concerns). NW stated that it would be difficult to isolate dust produced from the quarry and other dust. Health impacts such as zinc and aluminium within drinking water is leached from roofing and piping. Through the outcomes of the air quality assessment, the changes to the proposal have shown that there is a decrease in dust levels compared to what is produced currently.
- CD stated that there are different impacts between Brandy Hill Drive & Giles Road and confirmed that the EPA is monitored on today's criteria, not the original 1983 consent.
- JM advised that particulates can degrade within water in tanks and that the Hunter Health submission commented on the impacts on health.
 - NW advised that the Hunter Health submission was a comment for the requirement to provide a management plan. CD advised that water used on the quarry site is used in many different aspects. He asked CPR if a first flush system was something that would help her circumstances given she didn't have one on her tank? SB asked if there was a test available on the dust and the amount that can be consumed before it affects human health. AD advised that the EPL contains criteria that is used.
- CPR stated that neighbours have noticed damage to properties, and whether there was a way to notify them of when blasting was to occur. Suggested SMS messaging?
 - CD stated there was a need to determine possible damage ownership, ie was it because of activities from the quarry, or other factors such as the age of the structure, climate influences, dry conditions, etc. It requires management of expectations.
 - SB stated that four sessions of blast monitoring was completed, no monitoring triggered any exceedances. All blasts are designed by a fully licenced blasting contractor.
 - CD stated that every person in Australia consumes 10tonne of rock a year. The rock is where it is – the quarry needs to be there to supply the demand and would be operated in accordance with the regulatory requirements.
- CPR stated that when she purchased her property, she was advised by Council that the quarry was running out of rock and going to be closed down. Obviously, it was very frustrating to learn of the quarry's proposed extension.
- Questions around best possible practice for environment and health monitoring from activities occurring at the quarry. Whether the mobile fleet within the mine would be progressively fitted with sound attenuation.
 - CD advised that all mobile equipment is at Tier 4 level (modern). Crusher is new; it is the same model as the one it replaced (which was 30 years old).
 - CPR stated that she was happy to have air monitoring equipment at her property. (AD took on notice.)

- NW advised that standards need to be followed; if results don't meet Australian standards then the results are no longer valid.
- RA stated that the location should be reliant on most sensitive receiver.
- CPR provided a response to DPE to RTS, and asked what the next stage was.
 - NW advised that EPA & Council would be responded to, however, they were not going to reiterate what has already been expressed in the document.
 - CPR stated that Hanson needed to be a good corporate citizen. NW confirmed that they would prepare answers to questions raised to eliminate any doubts in results and interpretation.
 - CPR raised the sign issue with CD stating that trust works both ways, it was necessary to accurately reflect information and not expose the community to misinterpretation.
 - RA requested clarification on balancing individual's rights; with CD stating that if Hanson didn't gain approval, the economy will draw the product from another source. Stating that either way, neighbours of a quarry would be impacted within NSW.
- JM asked if the emissions from the trucks had been included within the assessment.
 - NW answered that it was taken into account in background assumptions. Worst case scenario modelling was completed (maximum emissions, worst case scenario wind, location of equipment at high levels) and all met criteria.
 - PM asked whether the waste management trucks had been included in this consideration.
- CPR commented that the reduction in speed would mean the sound is around longer.

A demonstration of the electronic surveillance software "Trimview" was shown to the CCC at 4pm, which indicates trucks travelling on particular roads, times, speeds, etc. Hanson are able to track their fleet to ensure drivers are adhering to the Code of Conduct and invited contact from the community if they had any particular issues.

- AD requested feedback from CCC members regarding movements at night – Hanson trucks only 58 dispatches between 10pm and 7am.
 - PM asked whether double glazing would be offered to property owners on Brandy Hill Drive. AD advised of the availability of the community enhancement fund, which is yet to be decided on whether it would be administered via a VPA with Council or through the CCC.
 - NW stated that residents could approach the relevant body for community enhancement, Hanson would not be involved in the determination of the fund allocation. It was important not to cause community division. Needs to be equitable.
 - LA advised that concerns have been raised on other projects that funds are not spent in areas that are potentially impacted by the project if they are administered by Council. It was important to set an appropriate criteria.
- Hanson is currently in discussions with Council on the VPA.
 - Discussions regarding a footpath and bus bay and where the ideal locations would be.
 - Formal bus bay has to meet design criteria
 - Informal doesn't require such particular designs.

- Side streets can be used for laybys.
 - Buses are privately run, not public transport.
 - Sets a precedent on Council to provide walkways everywhere – shire is a large area.
- CPR suggested greater community engagement by Hanson. The community representatives receive comments from other community members, which they bring to the meetings.
- NW advised of the stakeholder engagement plan, which included:
 - Feedback from CCC on how Hanson communicates with the community
 - LA recommended a “Have-a-Chat”, at least once per month, where residents could call in and speak with a Hanson staff member on an informal basis. Some people are better communicating one on one, instead of writing formal submissions or speaking up at community/public meetings. BN agreed to facilitate a “Have-a-Chat” and would advertise via a letter box drop
 - It was agreed to commence after Christmas; before the end of January/beginning of February 2019.
- Drivers Code of Conduct feedback:
 - Noise volume dropped from truck but the traffic following add to the noise.
 - Behaviour of other motorists trying to pass the slow trucks.
 - NW asked whether the document addressed concerns raised by community members.
 - LA to re-send to CCC members, a copy of the driver’s Code of Conduct and requested feedback to be provided.
 - It was agreed that the community representatives would prepare a list of questions for Hanson and submit by 29th November via LA.
- Discussions on how to identify trucks that are not complying with the Code of Conduct. SB advised that the trucks are audited. Whilst sub-contractors don’t have fleet numbers identified on the trucks, they could look at incorporating this requirement (magnetic stickers)?
- AD stated that Section 94 contributions would be a part of the VPA, which included road maintenance.
- AD advised that he had spoken to DPE (Colin Philips and Gen Seed), who noted that the footpath shouldn’t be 100% funded by Hanson.
 - Refuge islands to go along with the bus bays?
- RA advised that this was the first meeting where Hanson was offering mitigation funds and community enhancement, finally listening to community. AD responded by saying that Hanson had always said that they needed the project to stack up first in terms of legislation, prior to being able to offer incentives and improvements.

ITEM 7: General Business

- None.

ITEM 8: Meeting Schedule for 2019

LA asked if members wished to schedule meetings for 2019. It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Thursday 21st February 2019, at the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club, commencing at 4pm. At this time, dates for the remainder of the year would be discussed, dependent on the project's assessment.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 21st February 2019, 4pm – Raymond Terrace Bowling Club.

Meeting closed at 5.27pm

Action Items

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Consider notification options to advise neighbours of when blasting will occur	AD/SB
2	Consider air monitoring equipment being placed on property of CPR	AD
3	Community representatives to prepare a list of questions and submit to Hanson by 29/11/18	CCC members
4	Hanson to look at sub-contractor drivers placing identifying numbers on trucks	SB