

PQCEG Minutes - Meeting 16

2.00 pm Tuesday 8 November 2022

Somerville Community House

1. Attendance

Rob Gerrand	Chair
Daniel Petroni	Peninsula Quarries/Bayport
Tim Etherington	Peninsula Quarries
Philip Goslin	Clifton - minutes
David Chalke	Tyabb Ratepayers Business & Environment Group
Hayden Marsh	Resident
Tiffany Rietman	Resident
Diane Anderson	Resident
Karen Murray	Resident

2. Apologies

Leah Collins	Resident
Susan Milton	Resident
Emma Gasper	Resident
Robert Smith	Resident

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Amended following request from David Chalke in relation to discussion around noise (12.b) and truck loading operations 'double beep warning' system. Changed from "industry standard" to "industry common practice". Approved with amendment.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Nil.

5. Community grants program

Community Grants Program celebration event was held on site on 25 November. Attended by four of the five grant recipient organisations. Media release and photos sent to local paper and organisations for their social media and/or newsletters. Details of 2023 grants program to be advertised in March. Dollar amount to remain at \$5000 with opportunity to increase the figure based on the merit of applications received — as done in 2022. Peninsula Quarries will also consider sponsorship of the Somerville Community Festival.

6. Site activity update

Site activity has been heavily impacted by wet weather. Quarry has been non-operational for past two weeks due to conditions following rain.

Mulching of the bund on the western boundary has commenced although this was postponed due to the weather conditions.

Currently extracting the top layer of material on southern side of the site. Also undertaking work in the pit, including haul road repositioning and soft rock extraction. Early works on rehabilitation of the northern face.

Have created a specific heavy vehicle parking area to segregate pedestrian and vehicle movement.

Tim advised that current projects included supplying materials to:

- Speedwell Street, Somerville
- Kennedy Community Centre – Hawthorn Football Club training facility in Dingley
- Hastings – two minor commercial projects
- Dromana – Southern Plants Nursery expansion
- Cranbourne – residential project
- Clyde North – residential project
- Dandenong South – Bunurong Memorial Park

7. Water

No discussion.

8. Complaints and compliments register

Tabled.

David Chalke requested noise complaints be classified under 'hazard type' instead of 'safety/environmental'.

The complaints and compliments register can be viewed on the PQV website.

9. Vegetation report

No report tabled.

Karen Murray asked about pine trees on the northern boundary (north-west corner of site) and requested a copy of the arborists report in relation to recent tree removal. To be provided.

10. Safety

a) Mariah Rafol, Project Manager at Mornington Peninsula Shire provided an update on the Pottery Road/Jones Road intersection upgrade works via email which was read to the group. Works successfully completed as designed and scoped on 19 October.

b) Pottery Road surface — Hayden Marsh raised the issue of an unreasonable amount of mud on Pottery Road and drainage issues. Suggested an assessment of the drainage is required. He has emailed the shire about this matter but has not had a response. He also mentioned the fact that there is no footpath and the safety implications of this for pedestrians. Rob Gerrand undertook to write to the shire on behalf of the PQCEG. Group members also advised they would correspond with the shire directly. David Chalke suggested directing any correspondence to councillor Anthony Marsh (current mayor and acting ward councillor) as well as shire chief executive officer John Baker.

c) Jones Road surface — Issue of clay on Jones Road was again raised. Tim advised that PQ had previously been advised by the shire that it could not use its water truck to wash Jones Road. Tim will seek further clarification/confirmation.

11. Dust

Dust is not an issue at the moment due to weather conditions. Dust data is collected monthly by a certified testing company and reports are submitted to the regulator annually. Karen Murray requested results of dust monitoring. Tim advised that the report would be made available to the PQCEG at the end of the financial year when submitted to the regulator.

12. Noise

Residents raised concerns over two specific noise issues:

a) a “banging noise” that is associated with the “bucket stops” on the loading mechanism.

b) a “beeping noise” that relates to truck loading operations and the ‘double beep warning’ system that is common practice in the industry.

Operational noise levels may be particularly noticeable for residents on the southern boundary as recent extraction operations have been concentrated in the southern area of the quarry.

Tim outlined a number of steps that Peninsula Quarries has undertaken to reduce the impact on residents from operational noise. These have included:

- seeking advice from equipment manufacturers in regard to potential fitment of load frame bump stops, ‘marshmallows’ and/or dampers

- purchase of a smaller (1.7 tonne) excavator specifically for the task of cleaning out build-up in the loader and excavator buckets
- installed and trialed different Ground Engaging Tools (GET) to loosen material and reduce sticking in the loader and buckets
- updating work procedures to ensure loading direction is undertaken to the north
- consulting with the industry regulator (ERR) and industry bodies (CMPA) for advice on alternatives to the double beep warning system
- fitting all plant and equipment with low frequency beepers or ‘squawkers’.
- extending the site perimeter bunds from 2 to 4 metres high
- the loading area has been set down by 3 metres below ground level to further reduce noise impact and a second 4 metre high earth bund has been established along the southern boundary where the extraction area is not below surface level.

Peninsula Quarries has engaged independent acoustic consultants (ARUP) to conduct monitoring and identify and advise of noise control measures. This work commenced on 4 October 2022. ARUP did a similar study in 2018. A draft report has been prepared. David Chalke requested a copy of that report as he is interested in the methodology. The final report will be emailed to PQCEG members when completed.

Tiffany Rietman, Diane Anderson and Karen Murray (as well as any other interested residents) were invited to visit the site to review noise control measures. Residents to arrange with Tim.

Tim also undertook to trial an alternate “walkie talkie” based warning system for loading operations and to report back to PQCEG members two weeks after implementation of the trial.

13. General business

General discussion around a planning permit application by Stillmark Holdings for erection of a telecommunications tower on land owned by Bayport Industries.

14. Next meeting

Meetings to be held every four months. It was suggested that morning meetings would work better for most members of the group.

Next meeting scheduled for **10.00am on Tuesday 21 February 2023** at Somerville Community House.