

**PQCEG Minutes - Meeting 17**  
**10.000am Tuesday 21 February 2023**  
**Somerville Community House**

**1. Attendance**

Rob Gerrand	Chair
Daniel Petroni	Peninsula Quarries/Bayport
Brad Chuck	Peninsula Quarries/Bayport
Alex Murray	Peninsula Quarries
Philip Goslin	Clifton - minutes
David Chalke	Tyabb Ratepayers Business & Environment Group
Robert Smith	Resident
Emma Gasper	Resident
Susan Milton	Resident
Cristy Marsh	Resident
Diane Anderson	Resident
Karyn Murray	Resident

**2. Apologies**

Tiffany Rietman	Resident
Leah Collins	Resident

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Approved.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes**

Nil.

**5. Community grants program**

Details of 2023 grants program to be advertised from mid-March. Dollar amount to remain at \$5000 with opportunity to increase the figure based on the merit of applications received — as done in 2022. There was some discussion around criteria for grant applications including environmental focus, community-based organisations, geographic region. No consensus was reached. Grants criteria to be advertised as in 2022 with PQCEG members again having the opportunity to decide on grant recipients.

## 6. Site activity update

Tim Etherington has resigned as general manager of Peninsula Quarries. The role has been advertised and Bayport will appoint a new general manager shortly. In the meantime Alex Murray is dealing with day-to-day matters with support from Brad Chuck.

Current projects included supplying materials to:

- Speedwell Street, Somerville – industrial buildings
- Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne - upgrade
- Hall Road/Evans Road, Cranbourne – intersection upgrade
- Clyde North – three residential projects
- HMAS Cerberus – on-site base works.

## 7. Water

a) Water table — Diane Anderson asked about the water table. PQ advised that it is not yet through the water table.

b) Water testing — Susan Milton asked about water testing. PQ advised that water testing is undertaken on a regular basis, specifically in relation to salinity, turbidity and conductivity. Tests do not include dissolved oxygen. There are two testing locations on site. Brad Chuck to provide copy of most recent water testing report.

c) Charles property pipeline — Robert Smith asked about the drainage pipe that runs along the back of the Charles property to Webbs Lane, ongoing maintenance and an issue with surface water. The pipeline is on the Charles property, however PQ does maintain it and there are no current issues with it. There was some discussion around installing a drainage pit. Daniel Petroni advised that PQ would look into the feasibility and efficacy of doing so.

## 8. Complaints and compliments register

Tabled.

David Chalke spoke about updates to the register and references to the status of matters listed — specifically matters being listed as “closed”.

PQ to look at internal processes in relation to the most up-to-date version of the register being available on the PQ website and terminology used to describe a matter’s status.

## 9. Vegetation report

No report tabled.

a) Karyn 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.

b) Leah Collins (via email) asked about weed control on the buffer zones — specifically, how often weed growth is assessed and treated (Leah concerned about the spread of ‘stinkwort’ [Dittricha graveolens] from buffer zone southern boundary access track). PQ advised that weed control spraying had recently been completed. The weed control program is implemented three times a year and targets specific weeds (including stinkwort) and blackberries. PQ can provide a copy of the weed management plan to PQCEG members if required.

## 10. Safety

a) Bungower Road dust — concern raised about amount of dust on Bungower Road.

b) Pottery Road surface — question of sealing Pottery Road was raised. Matter for residents to address with Council.

## 11. Traffic

a) Tarps — Robert Smith asked about tarps being properly fixed on trucks leaving the site and identified a particular truck that did not have a load covered recently. Daniel Petroni advised that site personnel check the tarps when they are on the weigh bridge, however it would address this issue with the driver concerned. Brad Chuck to follow-up.

b) Jones Road parking — concern over trucks parking along Jones Road prior to 7.00am. PQ advised that it is enforcing its rules with all cartage companies, moves vehicles off Jones Road when aware of a breach and issues warnings to drivers who breach site rules. Enforcement can prove difficult, however, with contract and ‘ex-bin’ (casual drive-up) operators.

c) Somerville roads — concern in relation to the movement of trucks through Somerville town centre. PQ advised that some drivers on the Speedwell Street project were taking a route through Somerville township however all had been advised to use Bungower Road and Frankston-Flinders Road.

## 12. Dust

No discussion.

### 13. Noise

Leah Collins (via email) asked about progress on addressing noise. Residents have previously 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’ safety system that is common practice in the industry.

PQ has previously outlined a number of steps undertaken to reduce the impact on residents from operational noise.

In terms of ongoing work to reduce the “banging noise”, PQ:

- continues to use the small (1.7 tonne) excavator it purchased specifically for cleaning out build-up in the loader and excavator buckets.
- is reviewing the effectiveness of bucket liners in excavator buckets.

In terms of ongoing work to reduce the “beeping noise”, PQ:

- Has completed a trial of an alternate “walkie talkie” based warning system for loading operations. It was deemed effective on quiet days (when only four to five trucks were operating) but ineffective on busier days.
- Is reviewing a ‘portable traffic light’ system. Brad Chuck undertaking review.

Additionally, the Webbs Lane bund is being worked on and will be planted out in April.

Independent acoustic consultants (ARUP) have conducted noise monitoring. A draft report was submitted to Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) in January. PQ has not received any feedback on the report. Noise levels are compliant. Karyn Murray asked for the report to be provided to all members of the PQCEG.

### 14. General business

a) Quarry life expectancy — Robert Smith asked for an indication of the life expectancy of the quarry. Brad Chuck advised that based on the total resource available and what had been extracted to-date the quarry had a lifespan of a further 15 to 20 years. He suggested 17 years was reasonable projected timeline, so operational through to 2040. He also advised that as the quarry gets deeper the impact of noise and dust on neighbours dissipates.

b) Susan Milton spoke about the planning permit application by Stillmark Holdings for erection of a telecommunications tower on land owned by Bayport Industries. Susan advised that Stillmark is yet to reply to Council’s request for information (RFI).

c) Karyn Murray asked about a variation to PQ's workplan. Daniel Petroni advised that any variation to Peninsula Quarries Work Authority (WA28) would need to be made through Earth Resources Regulation and would require consultation with all stakeholders including the PQCEG and other community members. Karyn asked Peninsula Quarries to provide a copy of its current workplan. PQ advised that it had directed Karyn to Earth Resources Regulation to secure a copy of the workplan.

## 15. 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 13 June 2023** at Somerville Community House.