

PQCEG minutes meeting 9

2.30pm 13 February 2019 Somerville Community House

1. Attendance

Chair: Rob Gerrand
Chris DeFreitas
Jo Murray
Geoff Gilbert ERR
David Chalke Tyabb Ratepayers
David Bergin Shire
Dianne Anderson
Kate Blake
Susan Milton (BERG)
Kerren Clark (minutes)

2. Apologies

Daniel Petroni, Vince Lopardi SRW, Emma Gasper, Ian McLeod, Gerard Lynch ERR, Martin Reeves ERR, Mindy Abel, Franc Amendola, Liz Barraclough, Martin O'Shaughnessy EPA, Leah Collins

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Approved as circulated.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

All addressed in items below.

5. Community grants program

It was agreed that a flier would be prepared and sent to members for them to distribute to their networks. It will also be placed in the MP news. It will advise that \$5000 is available and that applications close 30 June 2019.

Grant allocation will be decided at the first meeting after the closing date.

6. Site activity update

The majority of work since the last meeting has been bund construction and loading trucks to go to HMAS Cerberus. The navy is undertaking a massive works program and as much of that site is contaminated, they have been purchasing fill from PQV. Volumes are already decreasing and Chris thinks the project will wind up around Easter.

Other site works have been severely hampered by the weather – either too hot or too wet.

David C congratulated the team for ensuring that trucks use Bungower Road and he noted that trucks are cleaner and newer. Jo said that the new chain of responsibility laws have given her more power to turn away potentially unroadworthy vehicles. She has exercised the power, so the current fleet is top notch.

7. Complaints and compliments register

Jo tabled the register and it will soon be added to the website. She noted that public complaints have decreased and that contracted truck drivers are now reporting rocks on the road – these reports are on the register nonetheless.

David B questioned why the overhanging tree on Jones road was recorded as active (as the tree has been pruned). Jo said it is an oversight and she will correct it. Di said that there are still overhanging branches but acknowledged that trees have been lopped.

8. Pottery Road intersection upgrade

David B said the council is still in discussion with Bayport to finalise the paperwork to allow the intersection upgrade to commence. However, the Department's legal team has told council that the Minister for Resources wants to sign off, but he is unclear why.

The Chair asked Geoff to investigate within the Department and he agreed to do so.

9. Tree planting and bund works

Chris reported that the buffer between Leah's fence and the bund has been increased to 12.5 m for almost the whole distance. There is a very small section where it was not possible because of drainage issues. It is almost complete, but works have been slow because Chris is focusing on retaining existing vegetation. He needs to speak with Leah re retaining trees versus a lower bund in one small section. Also, the new trees cannot be planted until autumn.

Only half a dozen trees were lost and 12 have been relocated. The fill used for the bund was screened, the area has been mulched and Leah has requested a drainage scoop which will be constructed.

Di and David C welcomed Chris's report and congratulated him on his initiative. David C said he is grateful that the bund has been moved and Di said it looks fabulous.

Plants have been ordered and paid for and are expected to be delivered during April.

Jo volunteered to take before and after photos to present at the next meeting.

10. Safety

The group discussed the response from VicRoads and David B said it was to be expected. He reminded members that council applied to VicRoads for a review of the speed limit in 2015 and they declined to decrease the speed limit. There was some discussion about the rationale for refusal and members asked David B to request another review. He said he will ask his traffic team to take it up with VicRoads.

Temporary signage was also discussed, and Jo reported that people have been stealing the signs and David C observed that the thieves use the A-frames. He also said that key signs are in place and he is glad that the contractors are trying to comply with safety requirements.

11. Dust

Kate said she has had a lot of dirt in her pool from air-borne dust and that her pool cleaner said all the pools in the area are harder to clean.

There was discussion about ambient dust (Kate noted proximity of the market gardens) due to the general dryness and Chris said there would have been extra dust from site during the bund works. Geoff asked about the water truck and Chris said it is in constant use unless it is raining.

Geoff noted that the chart did not show much of an increase in dust collected. Chris said there was an increase, but it was still within regulatory limits.

David B referred to the chart and noted that BG2 is flat for Oct-Dec and Geoff said it is surrounded by vegetation. Chris and Geoff will discuss relocating the collection point and the decision will be made by ERR and PQV in conjunction.

12. Noise

David C says that his question regarding adjustments remains unanswered despite the EPA response. Kerren reported that she had spoken with Martin and he said that a reputable consulting firm had been used and they had provided an expert opinion based on listening to the tapes. He said that opinions are subjective, and the EPA will not be reviewing the tapes.

David C still wants to know the expert's technical justification for their opinion and Kerren agreed to take it up with Daniel to request another response from the expert.

13. General business

Susan requested an update on the EPA discharge licence. Chris said he believes a pre-meeting has been held but the application is yet to be lodged.

Sue asked if there was an issue with rain water and Chris said the application pertains only to ground water. He added that works would stop if excavations reached ground water.

14. Next meeting

2.30pm 9 May 2019