

PQCEG minutes meeting 7

3pm, 17 October 2018 Somerville Community House

1. Attendance

Chair: Rob Gerrand

Chris DeFreitas

Daniel Petroni

Jo Murray

Ian McLeod ERR Welcomed Dan Salmon for the first time

David Chalke Tyabb Ratepayers

David Bergin Shire

Leah Collins

Dianne Anderson

Susan Milton and Franc Amendola (BERG) Welcomed Liz Barraclough for the first time

Kerren Clark (minutes)

Emma Gasper.

2. Apologies

Vince Lopardi SRW

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Approved with amendments to item 8.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

David C asked whether the fencing order, mentioned at the last meeting had been cancelled and Daniel said that it had, with a financial penalty.

David also asked what action had been taken in relation to the legal notice received by Di and Daniel said that he had instructed the lawyers but had not yet received a reply. He said he would follow it up.

5. Community grants program

David C declared a conflict of interest in relation to two of the applicants, the school and the garden and members noted his declaration with thanks.

The three applications were discussed and it was agreed all had merit. It was also noted that the CFA request was in excess of the amount available.

After a very positive discussion, members decided to award:

Crib Point Community Garden - \$1,750.00

Somerville Rise Primary School - \$2,245.00

Somerville CFA - \$1,000.00

The chair clarified that the next grants will be available from July 2019 and Daniel said that at least \$5000 will be allocated.

6. Site activity update

Chris reported that work has started on the new bund wall but work is impacted by weather so it's hard to predict a completion date.

He said that extraction has commenced where the old stockpiles were located so all work is now below ground.

Work was undertaken on Pottery Road, where trucks had been entering and exiting a neighbouring business, causing divots on the road. It has now been compacted and graded.

The quarry is supplying material to:

HMAS Cerberus
Bayport St Germain Clyde
Bayport Somerfield Keysbrough
Bayport Gricies Road Clyde
Fleet Plant Hire Hughsdale Station
Symon Brothers Vicroads intersection
ResourceCo Vic roads wire ropes upgrade
Suez Landfill capping
Mornington Civic Reserve

During September there were 679 truck movements, meaning trucks in and out, the maximum on a single day being 91 and average of 26 per day

7. Complaints and compliments register

Jo tabled the register.

8. Tree planting and care

Chris said that the next batch of trees can't be planted until the bund works are complete. Of the last batch planted only one has died.

Watering

Following questions during the last meeting about optimum watering, Chris researched with irrigation experts. They all advised that the pop up sprinklers used on golf courses are the best option. They are quiet, have a variety of discharge styles and operate at sufficient pressure. He advised that 22 would need to be installed along the bund wall and that water would reach the boundary fence line.

A pipe from the dam will be installed and a fire pump will be recessed into the quarry side of the bund wall. The pump will be enclosed, save for exhaust, so there will be minimal noise.

Franc said the concern with sprinklers is that an aerosol effect is created but that it will be OK as long as it is within EPA specifications.

Chris said he could join T intersections to the pipe along the bund and run a pipe to neighbours' yards. That pipe would be capped and on request, where water is available, the pump could be turned on to make water available for use by neighbours. Ian noted that not everybody could have water at once and Chris said a demand plan would be needed. Daniel made it clear that water can be offered only when it is available in the dam. Chris expects that water would generally be available but said that in times of drought it may run dry.

The Chair asked Leah to speak to the photos she had asked to be distributed with the meeting papers. Leah said they represent what the bund looks like after three years. She said the bund is made of rubbish and that Chris has done his best to improve vegetation. She is not impressed and finds it hard to have faith. She added that the works were not done properly in the first place and she finds it unacceptable that she does not get any help to improve her property.

Franc said he knows that Chris only started a year ago and, having toured the site, he can see that Chris has done his best, but the area Leah refers to does not look good. Franc said that many of the trees are re-growth, especially black wattle. Liz said that black wattle is a pioneer plant that improves the soil for other plants.

David Bergin arrived at 3.50pm, having advised in advance that he would be late.

The discussion returned to issues agreed and resolved at the previous meeting, namely that the group had agreed that the bund works would proceed per the plans tabled and annotated at meeting 6.

Leah said that despite the minutes and previous agreement she is unhappy and wants the bund behind her property moved back.

Chris explained that moving the bund would necessitate removal of most of the established vegetation, create more noise and dust and delay revegetation. He considers that the alternative (adding more top soil to the bund and the lower part of the buffer and reshaping) will deliver the same outcome with less disruption and more quickly.

Ian observed that there are pros and cons of both options and agreed that both deliver essentially the same outcome, also noted that what is currently there is in accordance with approvals.

Per the last meeting, the Chair emphasised the need for works to be undertaken urgently to give plants some chance to take before the summer heat.

The purpose and location of the maintenance track was discussed, and Chris said that once the sprinklers are installed, there would be no need for water trucks and the track would be used only occasionally. Ian added that it is important for fire management.

Following a group discussion on the location of the bund, no decision could be reached. Leah wants it moved and Daniel says the outcome from the plans agreed at meeting 6 would be as good as the outcome of moving the bund, and it would be achieved quicker with less long-term impacts. At the urging of the Chair, Daniel and Chris agreed to give the matter further consideration.

9. Safety

Chris reported that he had spoken with Paula at Council regarding tree removal. David B is aware of the request and believes clearing trees on Council land is on the works list but clearing from the private property is another matter.

Chris has asked the property owner to lop trees, saying it is for safety, and the owner has refused.

David C asked about the installation of a stop sign. In the past Bayport has requested a sign and David B says traffic engineers have assessed the request and are of the opinion a stop sign will not improve safety.

David B offered to again investigate both matters and the group agreed that the Chair should formally write to Council.

Emma reiterated her concerns about the incident she experienced, and Chris said that the driver concerned has been dismissed by the cartage contractor. Jo is pleased the contractor responded quickly and appropriately to the safety concerns that were raised.

10. Dust

Chris said he has a hard time balancing the need for dust suppression with minimising dust on the road while not making it too muddy. There was discussion about mud ending up on Jones Road as a result of watering. Chris said he is aware of the concern but is obliged to suppress dust. Additives to the water sprayed on the road were discussed but there is nothing suitable for use at this time.

Franc asked about paving the road. After some discussion David B confirmed that Local Government Act has provision for a special charge scheme to rebuild unsealed roads. However without all Pottery Road owners' consent and certain conditions are met Council can not give permission.

11. Noise

David C made an observation that the noise report Daniel provided at meeting 6 does not make adjustments for impulsive or intermittent noise and asked Daniel why. Daniel said he does not understand the technical matters of the question and will refer to it to the acoustic consultant. David C agreed to email Daniel, and Daniel will refer the questions to the experts.

The Chair asked whether the noise issues raised at the last meeting had been resolved. Di said it has improved and Leah finds it intermittent.

12. General business

Sue asked about the EPA application and Daniel said there has been no progress since the last meeting.

Ian wanted to discuss the VCAT proceedings and the Pottery Road intersection upgrade but due to lack of time it was agreed the items would be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

13. Next meeting

2pm (please note new time) 28 November (venue TBC)