

PQCEG Minutes - Meeting 14

2.30pm Tuesday 1 March 2022

Somerville Community House

1. Attendance

Rob Gerrand	Chair
Brad Chuck	Peninsula Quarries/Bayport
Tim Etherington	Peninsula Quarries
Jo Murray	Peninsula Quarries
Philip Goslin	Clifton - minutes
David Chalke	Tyabb Ratepayers Business & Environment Group
Leah Collins	Resident
Alden Collins	Resident
Susan Milton	Resident
Robert Smith	Resident
Tiffany Rietman	Resident
Diane Anderson	Resident
Hayden Marsh	Resident

2. Apologies

Daniel Petroni	Peninsula Quarries/Bayport
Mike McIntosh	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Gerard Lynch	Earth Resources Regulation (DJPR)
Jo Prendergast	Environment Protection Authority Victoria
Emma Rogers	Resident
Alan Robinson	Resident
Karyn Spencer	Resident

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Approved as circulated.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Nil.

5. Community grants program

Tim Etherington advised that PQV will reinstate the community grants program. PQV will begin promoting the grants program and call for submissions by the end of April. PQCEG to discuss applications at the July meeting. Leah Collins and Diane Anderson asked whether the level of funding would be backdated to consider the past two years. Brad Chuck to review with PQV executives. There was a query on whether donation requests would be considered and Friends of Olivers Creek Bushland Reserve was mentioned. Brad Chuck advised all grant applications and donation requests would be welcomed and be considered by the PQCEG.

6. Site activity update

Tim advised that current projects included supplying materials to:

- Hallam Road landfill
- Hallam Road upgrade
- Multiple level cross projects including Bonbeach, Seaford, Hallam, Cranbourne
- City of Casey – Clyde Road intersection
- Botanic Ridge wetlands project
- a number of local projects.

7. Water

a) Water table and EPA — David Chalke asked about an application to the EPA to penetrate the water table. Tim Etherington said there was no active application and Daniel Petroni is in the best position to update the group on this matter. Response will be issued via email post issuing of meeting minutes.

b) Balcombe Creek — Susan Milton enquired about water monitoring in Balcombe Creek. Tim Etherington advised that it is being done fortnightly. Susan asked for information about water quality. Tim to arrange prior to the next PQCEG meeting.

c) Water in the quarry — Leah Collins enquired about water in the quarry. Jo Murray advised that PQV had built a dam in the top paddock near Webbs Lane. The water cart is being filled from that dam. In the southern area of the quarry water run-off is being pumped into that dam.

d) Water for residents — Leah Collins enquired about access to water for residents. Jo Murray advised that former quarry general manager Chris DeFreitas had provided water in the past, however she was unaware of the need for water over the past two years as no requests from residents were made. Tim Etherington said he would undertake to supply water where possible. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

e) Water tables — Robert Smith enquired about water tables and mentioned his dam volumes have dropped significantly. Asked whether it was the impact of digging on the water table. Tim Etherington said there had been no digging below the water table. Brad Chuck to speak to PQV's hydrologist about dam levels. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

f) Pipeline at back of property — Robert Smith asked if the pipeline running behind his property was within the council easement or a commercial agreement between PQV and Bob and Gail Charles as the vegetation within the easement is overgrown and requires maintenance. PQV to determine who is responsible and response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

8. Complaints and compliments register

Not tabled. The complaints and compliments register can be viewed on the PQV website.

9. Vegetation report

a) An estimated 2 hectares of vegetation has been removed on the south-west boundary. Revegetation with Australian natives will be undertaken on the western bund when it is built up. Some trees are being removed on the north-west of the site and these will be replaced with native species. Alden Collins asked who approved the vegetation removal — Tim Etherington approved vegetation removal in his role as general manager.

b) Alden Collins raised the question of ecological surveys. Brad Chuck advised that there had been no individual assessment of vegetation on the quarry boundary, however trees on the edge of the bund have been retained.

c) Alden Collins raised the question of offsetting to compensate for native vegetation removal. Brad Chuck advised that PQV is not required to offset under local council planning laws. Brad to secure a copy of the relevant planning law as it applies to PQV for distribution to the PQCEG. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

d) Alden Collins asked about weed management. Tim Etherington advised that an independent contractor is engaged to undertake weed management. They were last on site in late January.

e) Hayden Marsh enquired about planting trees in Autumn behind his property. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

f) Susan Milton enquired about tree removal and also the development of a seed bank. Tim Etherington advised that PQV intended to revegetate and that he was happy to talk to local community groups that might supply native seeds.

10. Safety

a) Pottery Road/Jones Road intersection upgrade works — Mornington Peninsula Shire has awarded a contract for an upgrade of this intersection to AWS Civil. Works are scheduled to start in April. Detail of the upgrade to be circulated to PQCEG once received from the shire. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

b) Pottery Road surface — David Chalke asked about the surface of Pottery Road and the gravel requiring extra maintenance. He asked if there was any chance of treating the surface. Because Pottery Road is a Mornington Peninsula Shire asset any changes to the surface is a shire decision in consultation with property owners. Tim Etherington suggested residents lobby the shire on this matter. PQV has previously suggested to the shire that a basalt topping would be better as it would generate less dirt and mud when wet. Tim advised that PQV regularly cleans its weighbridge and internal roads to reduce the amount of dirt being transported off site. PQV also engages a street sweeper as required and often does so on very short notice. Street sweeping is an additional measure undertaken at PQV's expense in the interests of the community as PQV is not permitted to operate its water cart on Jones Road.

c) Road signage — Hayden Marsh raised concerns about the number of road safety signs on Jones Road — nine sign over a 300 metre stretch. It was suggested that the PQCEG could review and comment on the traffic management plan. Tim Etherington to speak with Shire traffic management personnel in relation to a review of the traffic management plan. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

11. Dust

a) Diane Anderson had concerns about increased dust levels on her property in recent months and asked if there had been any changes in quarry operations. Tim Etherington said there had been no crushing on site and the water cart is employed to manage dust. He advised that dust monitoring records would be shared with the PQCEG and that a dust monitor would be installed at the back of Diane's property. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

b) Robert Smith asked about trucks leaving the quarry without tarpaulins. Tim Etherington advised that it is PQV policy that all trucks leave with tarps on. While the onus is on the driver this policy is enforced by the weighbridge operator.

12. Noise

a) Leah Collins asked about digging behind her property. Tim Etherington advised that extraction can be from anywhere in the quarry. In this instance it followed a specific request for clay.

b) Leah Collins mentioned noise issues and asked about an "acoustic area for residents". Tim Etherington advised that PQV considers its neighbours and the impact of noise.

c) Robert Smith mentioned truck loading operations and concerns over the 'double beep warning' system. Tim Etherington advised that PQV would review its safety operations to see if a visual warning could be implemented rather than an audible warning. Tim to report back at next meeting.

13. General business

a) Robert Smith asked if PQ could provide an update on the amount of clay that has been removed from the site to-date. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

b) Both Robert Smith and Susan Milton enquired about the life of the quarry. Tim Etherington advised that there is no change expected but ultimately this is driven by demand for quarry material. Expected life is a further 15 years.

c) Leah Collins asked if there were any change to PQV permits. Jo Murray advised that there had been no change to any of PQV's work authority/permits.

d) Alan Robinson asked via email how the PQCEG has benefited the local community since its inception. It was agreed to provide some details in relation to this request. Response will be issued via email post issuing of minutes.

e) Leah Collins voiced her disappointment that Daniel Petroni was unable to attend the meeting to answer residents' questions directly and asked for that to be recorded in the minutes.

f) Committee members also noted disappointment that there was no representation from any of the industry bodies invited — i.e. Earth Resources Regulation, Environment Protection Authority Victoria and Mornington Peninsula Shire.

g) Tim Etherington reiterated that the site's neighbours are welcome to visit the quarry and can arrange this via phone or email.

14. Next meeting

Scheduled for a 2.45pm start on Tuesday 5 July 2022.

NOTE: Slightly later start time due to Somerville Community House bookings schedule.

1 March 2022 PQCEG Meeting

Minute actions

At the Peninsula Quarries Community Engagement Group (PQCEG) meeting on 1 March 2022 a number of questions were raised that could not be answered immediately. The group was advised that responses would be issued via email. These responses follow:

5. Community grants program

Applications for 2022 PQ community grants program will open on 1 June and close on 30 June. Grant applications will be reviewed by PQCEG members at the 5 July meeting. The value of the grants pool is \$5000. The community grants program funding for 2022 will not be increased to allow for the program not running over the COVID impacted period as Peninsula Quarries has been supporting local community groups through direct sponsorship during this time.

7. Water

- a) No application has been lodged with the EPA to penetrate the water table. An application will be made at the appropriate time.
- b) Balcombe Creek water testing information will be discussed at the next PQCEG meeting.
- d) All reasonable requests for water from neighbouring residents will be considered provided water is available. Requests are to be made directly to Tim Etherington.
- e) Queries in relation to water levels dropping in surrounding dams/areas were addressed in a hydrological report when Peninsula Quarries applied for a ground water licence. To our knowledge, there is no reason development of the quarry would be impacting surrounding dams.
- f) Peninsula Quarries understands that the pipeline easement that runs at the rear of Highfield Way properties is a drainage easement. Individuals should make their own enquiries with council and landowners to verify the legal standing on who is responsible for maintenance of the easement.

9. Vegetation

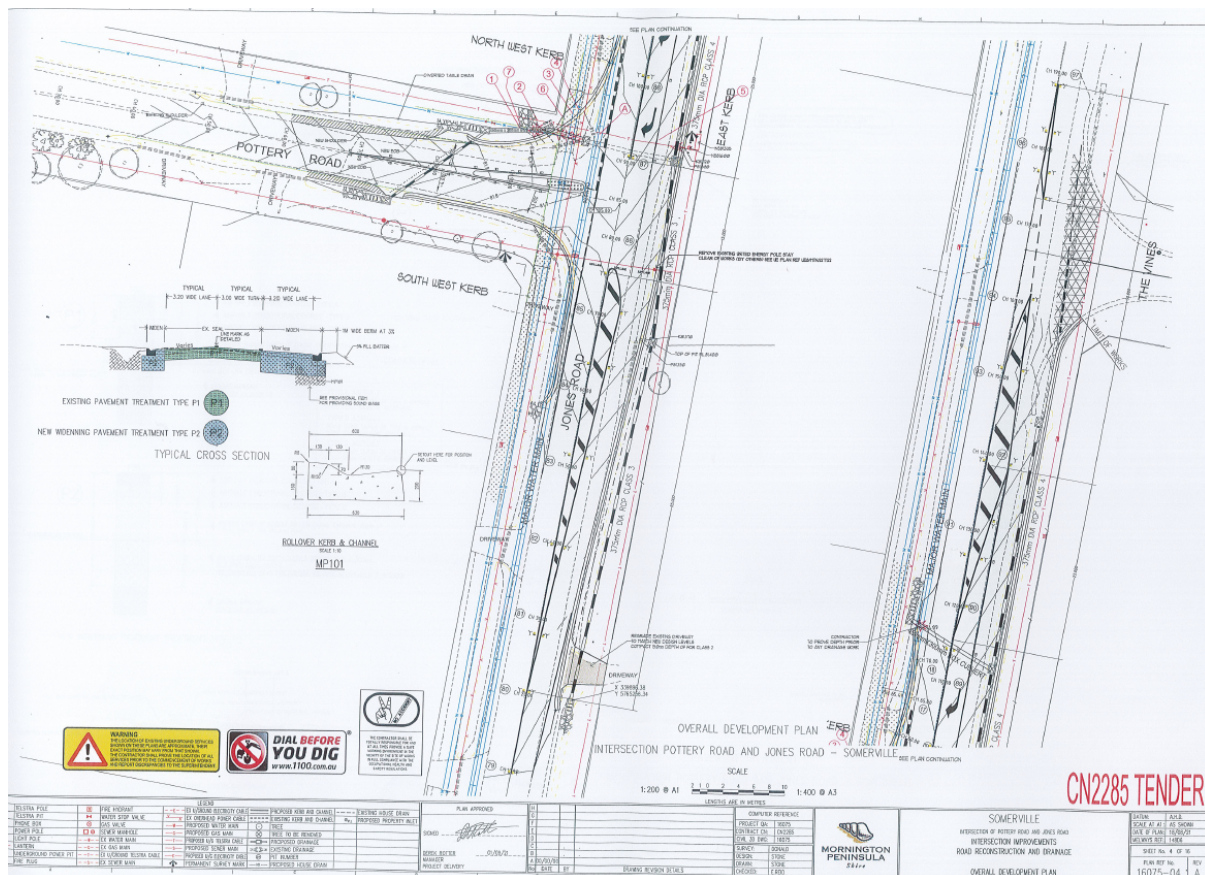
c) Vegetation removal is in accordance with the following planning scheme: <https://planning-schemes.app.planning.vic.gov.au/static/1649047146582/pdf/2413652.pdf>

e) Planning is underway for vegetation planting of the south-eastern buffer zones/bunds. Works will be completed over the coming months.

f) Operation Reveg Pty Ltd has attended the site to investigate establishment of a seed bank from within the southern vegetation area. Native vegetation is being grown under contract for a 2023 planting program and will utilise the seed bank if possible.

10. Safety

a) The Pottery Road/Jones Road intersection plan extract is below. Works are scheduled to commence in June 2022.



c) A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) review is underway with a certified traffic control contractor. A revised TMP will be submitted to Mornington Peninsula Shire for approval (MoA). Signage changes will take place following approval and completion of intersection works.

11. Dust

a) A dust monitor (BC02) will be repositioned by an independent contractor (within dust deposition specifications) during April. The location will be representative of neighbouring properties (30-33 Highfield Way).

13. General business

a) Information relating to the amount of material removed from the site is commercial in confidence. Peninsula Quarries is not in a position to provide details at this time.

d) Some of the direct benefits that Peninsula Quarries and the PQCEG have brought to the broader community can be viewed on the 'PQV Community Engagement Timeline' on the Peninsula Quarries [website](#). These benefits include employment of local residents, supply of materials, community group sponsorships and grants as well as planting native vegetation along site boundaries.

In addition, the PQCEG facilitates direct communication on details of works on site and future works applications. It also provides an opportunity to liaise with near neighbours, consider their specific concerns and provide reports on matters such as dust, noise, traffic, road works and safety, including the upgrade of the Pottery and Jones Road intersection – currently on the way.

Through the group, Peninsula Quarries has consulted with neighbours and secured their input on site activity including bund design and bund works, access tracks, fencing, vegetation and screening. Neighbours have also been supplied with water.

The PQCEG has promoted a more structured process for resident complaints and compliments and seen the establishment of a complaints and compliments register.

Following the establishment of a Community Grants Program, the PQCEG has administered the program and made decisions on the issuing of grants to local community groups.

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