

MAXWELL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 March 2023

Via Zoom * & in attendance at the Maxwell Boardroom No. 2

GROUP	NAME	ORGANISATION
CCC MEMBERS PRESENT	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Mark Bowditch (MB)	Community Representative
	Stephen Ward (SW) *	Community Representative
	Michael White (MW)	Coolmore / Godolphin Representative
	Kemer Edwards (KE)	On behalf of De-Anne Douglas; CEO Wanaruah LALC
	Theresa Folpp (TF)	Muswellbrook Shire Council
CCC APOLOGIES	Susan Pickersgill (SP)	Community Representative
MALABAR REPRESENTATIVES	James Johnson (JJ)	General Manager; Development & Operations
	Donna McLaughlin (DM)	Manager Health, Safety, Environment & Community
	Alex Newton (AN)	Environment & Approvals Coordinator
OTHER	Sarah Purser	Independent Minute Taker
1. Welcome and Introductions	LA opened the meeting at 11.05 a.m. welcoming all and introducing Kemer Edwards as representative of Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council, Stephen Ward as a new Community Representative and Sarah Purser as Minute Taker. LA advised that Community Representative Les Jones will be resigning from this Community Consultative Committee (CCC) as he is unable to attend on a regular basis. Acknowledgement of Country by LA.	LA
2. Apologies	Advised and recorded	LA
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests	<i>Standing Declarations</i> ; LA is an Independent Chairperson, approved by the Department of Planning & Environment (DPE), and engaged by Maxwell to Chair the Maxwell CCC Meeting. MW is a consultant and representative for Coolmore and Godolphin. SP provides secretarial services as an external contractor to Maxwell.	LA
4. Confirm Minutes of Previous Meeting	The finalised Minutes of the previous CCC Meeting held 7 December 2022 were emailed to members 27 December 2022.	LA
5. Business Arising from the Meeting held 7 December 2022	LA confirmed a site inspection had been conducted in December 2022. Action Items: Ongoing: Members to forward "Community Questions" 14 days in advance of scheduled meetings. ✓ LA confirmed no questions had been put forward. Item: LA to write to Stephen Ward seeking interest in joining the CCC as a Community Representative. ✓ Actioned by LA, SW was welcomed at today's meeting. Item: AN to provide details on their investigation into loss of monitoring data. ✓ Presentation at today's meeting. Item: JJ to provide update on the granting of the exploration licence to the west of Maxwell. ✓ JJ confirmed that members had been advised at the 7 December 2022 CCC Meeting that this exploration licence had been granted.	LA

<p>6. Correspondence Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16/12/22; Email to members with the draft minutes for review as well as the sod turning invitation. • 27/12/22; Email to members with the finalised minutes. • 3/2/23; Email to members advising of an extra-ordinary meeting on 15/3/23 to discuss the proposed modification to the Antiene Rail Spur Development Consent. • 13/2/22; Email to Stephen Ward, inviting him to be a community representative on this CCC. • 23/2/23; Email to Mt Arthur CCC members regarding the meeting on 15/3/23. • 8/3/23; Email to Maxwell & Joint CCC members with agenda for 15/3/23. 	<p>LA</p>
<p>7. Update on the Spur Hill Underground Metallurgical Project James Johnson (JJ)</p>	<p>Spur Hill 2D Seismic Lines; JJ noted that there had been some delays in progressing the exploration program due to wet weather and contractor availability. The Archaeological and Ecological surveys have been completed. The ESF4 application is to be submitted to the Resources Regulator (RR). Work is planned to commence in Q2, with contractors currently being organised for the end of April 2023.</p>	<p>Slide 3</p>
<p>8. Update on Maxwell Underground Mine James Johnson (JJ)</p> <p>MEA Earthworks</p> <p>Whynot Portal</p>	<p>Schedule; Members were provided with a construction timetable for the period 2022 to 2026 onwards. JJ gave an overview of works being conducted in Q1 2023, including but not limited to; construction of the access road, mine access portals, drifts and vent shaft and site infrastructure. The Coal Handling Prep Plant is being recommissioned ready for the first coal. The longwall has been ordered and going through manufacture.</p> <p>PIMS Group are recruiting additional workforce to be directly employed for the Maxwell site. On-boarding activities, such as completing inductions, have been underway as the workforce mobilised to site in February, ready for the start of operations week commencing 13 March 2023.</p> <p>Development of the Woodlands Hill Drift is due to commence late Q2 2023. Development Coal produced to set up for Longwall production is anticipated for Q2 2024 with longwall production commencing in Q1 2025.</p> <p>JJ provided an overview of the construction process and progress for Whynot and Woodlands Portals as at 9/2/23 and 8/3/23.</p> <p>Whynot will be the first seam for operation with first workings scheduled to start week commencing 13/3/23 equipment has been mobilised to this area, workforce inducted and set up for operations. In response to a query from TF, JJ identified three portal entries that go into the Whynot seam, one will be roadways to provide access for vehicles, one will be for a conveyor and both provide intake ventilation, the third is for life of mine exhausting ventilation so there will be no requirement for a shaft.</p>	<p>Slide 5</p> <p>Slide 6 Slide 7</p>

<p>Management Plans And Audits Donna McLaughlin (DM)</p>	<p>The Rehabilitation Strategy was approved by DPE on 15 March 2023. MB queried if there could be any changes made to some of the native vegetation to incorporate species such as bush tucker. DM responded that species selection doesn't sit within the Rehabilitation Strategy as it is a high level document that defaults back to what is in the Development Consent, however DM would be happy to discuss this offline with MB, noting that the RR would need to approve of any changes. DM noted that it is not out of scope to conduct trials in regard to changing some species down the track, however this would still have to be consistent with Maxwell's consent.</p> <p>ACTION 1: DM to discuss seed mixes with MB to see if the native vegetation could incorporate or trial bush tucker species.</p> <p>MB felt a benefit that comes with rehabilitation is the opportunity to put in water bodies and appropriate trees with the right food sources to encourage endangered birds such as the Honey Eater, and also for the Black Cockatoos in the hope to encourage them out of Wollemi National Park.</p> <p>TF queried the types of species considered to be bush tucker and if they are planted randomly, or in communities. MB responded that is a broad term that covers a large number of species, including some weeds, some examples are; Prickly Pear, Davidson Plum and Native Hibiscus. MB explained what parts of these plants can and can't be consumed or alternatively have been used to make items such as fish nets and traps. MB provided an example of an area the size of an acre block where 5 to 6 plants would provide a food source to encourage birds, adding that natural seeding occurs as they move from each of these plants. MB believes that cultural fires, known as cool burns, are also required to assist plants to seed and grow. TF wondered if some of the plants MB had mentioned may already be in native seed mixes and DM agreed they potentially could be if they are all native species that existed in the area prior to mining.</p> <p>MB raised concerns about Black Wattle and White Cedar, these are fast growing species with a large number of berries that birds spread. Both species are attractive to the hairy caterpillar that shed hairs which is also of concern around horses' health. DM noted that Maxwell do not have those two species.</p> <p>In December 2022, Maxwell received a notice from the RR to engage a suitably qualified expert to undertake an assessment that sets out the design of modifications to the rehabilitated landform and surface water management structures on the rehabilitated landform to address any instability and erosion risks identified. Chris Waygood; Principal Mine Closure Specialist - Golder, has been engaged to carry out this assessment and that will go back to the RR.</p>	<p>Slide 12</p>
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<p>CCC Member Feedback</p>	<p>TF advised that Muswellbrook Council Officers had met with Regional NSW, along with a few other groups, around housing, adding there has been some concern about temporary housing in the shire. TF noted that the Hunter-Central Coast has recently been declared a renewable energy zone and there are a number of plans and strategies being developed, for example; around workforce accommodation and use of infrastructure post mining when sites are rehabilitated back to grass and trees. TF felt this was quite an exciting space and recommended that mining sites keep informed around Regional NSW's initiatives.</p> <p>MB queried if there was any structure in place that PIMS might use in relation to encouraging an intake of local apprentices, for example there are young people in Denman that may be interested in getting into the mining industry. MB acknowledged that it can be seen at shift changes that traffic is coming in and going out of the local area, he understands there is an appeal for many people to live in Newcastle and on the Coast. MB would like conversations to be started on how to encourage more people to live in the local area and attract them to support mining. LA noted that when putting out tender documents, or within purchasing procedures, a number of companies have a percentage of staff or materials that are to come from the local area and that MB had brought up a very valid point. JJ confirmed that both Maxwell and PIMS are proactive in developing supply arrangements through local suppliers and targeting a local workforce.</p> <p>JJ explained that Maxwell's first intake of personnel had been about bringing in a relatively small crew of experienced people to get the mine entry started to commence the underground mine.</p> <p>With the development of the mine, Maxwell will need 350 personnel, which will include engaging apprentices, so there will be Employment Road Shows conducted to attract these people in the future. These Road Shows will be of particular benefit to inexperienced people in gaining an understanding of how to follow a pathway to get into the industry. JJ noted that Maxwell is not targeting fly in - fly out transport or providing accommodation as part of employment packages as another means to encourage people to live locally.</p> <p>MB reiterated that he understands the rationale for people wanting to live out of the local area. As there is a transition to renewables, MB feels there will be a greater need for more people and that it would be of benefit to have people living locally at that time.</p> <p>JJ noted that with regard to a transitional workforce, he trusts that people will be able to see an opportunity to stay in the local area and do something they have not done before i.e. underground mining. With people seeing a future in this business will help support keeping them in the area.</p>	
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CCC Member Feedback	<p>DM agreed that this subject does require a broader approach and noted the importance of making sure people want to live locally by providing the right services, such as Doctors, Schools etc.</p> <p>MB declared that he works for a department of Regional NSW and noted that Muswellbrook Council has engaged with Regional NSW to uplift the liveability of the local area. MB would like for all to start reliving the conversation around attracting people looking to live locally, considering that Maxwell is starting to re-employ people whilst Mt Arthur Coal's closure will leave a huge hole. MB acknowledged that there is a housing issue in Muswellbrook but this cannot be addressed if people are not staying in the local area.</p> <p>MB queried with regard to renewables, if there was an update or news on the development of the solar farms. JJ responded there are two projects; one is a proposal for a large scale Solar Farm with Maxwell partnering with EDF Renewables. JJ confirmed that Maxwell put out a Media Release about this proposal in 2022. Development work is currently in progress, along with project planning and this will need to go through the approval process.</p> <p>The second is the Maxwell Solar Farm, a 25 megawatt solar farm, that has been approved to be built on a rehabilitated mine area. Maxwell are working with other groups for proposals on this project. TF queried if the land is ready to go for Maxwell Solar or does it require shaping and DM responded it will require clearing and shaping. Maxwell would need to relinquish that land from their mining lease and work with the RR to ensure they are happy to go with another land use.</p> <p>There was a general discussion around water erosion issues with solar farms and how that could be managed. MB noted the potential for water to pool and for run off to travel at an increased speed, therefore erosion control for the sediment is a very important consideration.</p> <p>LA closed the meeting at 12.02 p.m. thanking all for their attendance.</p>	
NEXT MEETING	<p>Wednesday 21 June 2023 at the Maxwell Infrastructure Meeting Room</p> <p>10.30 to 11.00 a.m. Joint Maxwell & Mt Arthur CCC (JCCC)</p> <p>11.00 to 12.00 noon Maxwell CCC</p>	LA

ACTION	ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
Ongoing	Members to forward "Community Questions" 14 days in advance of scheduled meetings.	Community Representatives
1	DM to discuss seed mixes with MB to see if the native vegetation could incorporate or trial bush tucker species.	DM
2	DM to engage with neighbouring Horse Studs and Vineyards in relation to the Antiene Rail Modification.	DM
3	LA to send SW the Minutes for the Maxwell CCC Meeting held 7 December 2022.	LA