

Bloomfield Colliery Community Consultative Committee

Location: Bloomfield Colliery

Time: 11.01 am

Date: 19 June 2023

ATTENDEES	
Name	Organisation
Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
Janet Murray (JMY)	Community Representative
Dennis Thurlow (DT) <i>*via video-conferencing</i>	Community Representative
Michael Jacobs (MJ)	Community Representative
Jack Dwyer (JD)	Community Representative
Sarah Hyatt (SH)	Cessnock City Council
William Brown (WB)	Maitland City Council
Greg Lamb (GL)	Bloomfield Colliery
Brad Donoghue (BD)	Bloomfield Colliery
Geoff Moore (GM)	Bloomfield Colliery

Apologies	Nil
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Item	Issue	Action						
1	Welcome and Introductions							
	The Chair opened the CCC meeting at 11:01am and welcomed members to the meeting. William Brown, Coordinator Natural Environment & Resilience, was introduced as the Maitland City Council representative.							
2	Apologies							
	Nil							
3	Declaration of Interests							
	LA advised that there were no changes to her previous declaration, she is an approved Independent Chairperson with the Department of Planning and Environment, appointed by the Secretary to chair this CCC and engaged by Bloomfield.	LA to send WB declaration forms for completion and return.						
4	Business Arising from Previous Minutes							
	Last meeting held on 20/03/23. The minutes from that meeting were finalised and sent 6/04/23, There were four action items from that meeting:							
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th> <th>ISSUE</th> <th>RESPONSIBILITY</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>GL to provide DT and JM with tour of analogue forest site, older rehabilitated</td> <td>GL</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY	1	GL to provide DT and JM with tour of analogue forest site, older rehabilitated	GL	LA thanked DT for sending through
ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY						
1	GL to provide DT and JM with tour of analogue forest site, older rehabilitated	GL						

Item	Issue		Action
		areas of the site and the biodiversity offset area. (Complete – 15/6/23)	
2		GL to provide inspection of culverts under Mt Vincent. (Complete – 15/6/23)	GL
3		Provide dimensions of final void. (Complete – current approval 600m x 1100m x 60m deep)	GL
4		Resend email dated 4/11/22. (Complete – 27/3/23 & 6/4/23)	LA
	JMY commented that the location (Congewai) of the biodiversity offset area is not that relevant to land clearing on site (Ashtonfield) and that any future offsets should be located locally. DT concurred with these comments.		
	GM provided a brief update on the potential DA Modification. The Bloomfield Board is yet to decide whether to proceed with the modification. More detail is being obtained through high-level air and noise modelling before final decisions can be made. JMY commented that it is disappointing that climate is not considered in the decision process despite the globe experiencing a climate crisis. Further, that Bloomfield has stated that the mine is closing but now there could be an extension. DT commented that rehabilitation associated with any DA modification should be local native communities and not agriculture.		
5	Correspondence		
	As sent out with the meeting notice on 7/06/23 with 1 additional item: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27/3/23 - Email to members with the draft minutes for review. • 6/4/23 - Email to members with the finalised minutes. • 17/5/23 - Email from Will Brown, Maitland City Council as the Natural Environment Coordinator stating interest in attending future meeting. • 7/6/23 - Email to members with the Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting • 7/6/23 - Letter to DPE with recommendation for MJ to join CCC as community representative. • 7/6/23 – Email from DT requesting attendance at CCC meeting via video link. • 15/6/23 – Email from DT advising that Greg had taken him and JM on a tour of Bloomfield’s Biodiversity Conversation reserve and a visit to the culverts. 		
6	Reports		
	GL provided an update covering the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no community complaint since last meeting. • Capping of the tailings dam is continuing. • 6 Ha of rehabilitation was completed in June and further 3 Ha expected to be completed in late 2023 or early 2024. 		

Item	Issue	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Review (2022-23) expected to be completed and on the Bloomfield website by end of June. A link will be emailed to members and a hard copy is available on request. NSW DPE conducted site inspection in June. No issues raised. Dog baiting program planned for July / August in consultation with Local Land Services. An online ESG survey will be emailed to all members to gain feedback on issues of concern to them or their organisation. Bloomfield has purchased Ashtonfields Pty Ltd which includes most of the land within the mining lease and some surrounding land. 	<p>GL to provide link to LA.</p> <p>GL to provide link to LA</p>
7	General Business	
	DT requested a hard copy of the Annual Review	GL to provide hard copy to DT
	JMY raised concerns about possible future industrial development of the site accessed off John Renshaw Drive. The road network is not capable of additional traffic. Any future development should focus on brownfield sites and conserve natural areas.	
	WB commented that within the MCC area Bloomfield owns a large percentage of the remnant vegetation. WB enquired if there was any of this land covered by a stewardship agreement with BCT. GM replied that no land is covered by a stewardship agreement.	
	MJ enquired as to why Bloomfield has prevented access to Four Mile Creek from Ashtonfield. GL replied that complaints had been received from Ashtonfield residents of vehicles coming in at night making a lot of noise. Also people had been chopping down trees, presumably for fire wood. The fence erected was to prevent vehicle access and does not prevent bushwalkers or mountain bikers. However it is private property.	
	BD commented that as from July 2023 Bloomfield operations will no longer have a night shift. The CHPP may at times run a night shift depending on requirements. Under current approvals coal mining is expected to be completed in 2026.	
8	Meeting Schedule	
	Next meeting scheduled for 23 October at 11 am.	

Meeting closed at 11.50 am with LA thanking all for their participation.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Provide link to Annual Review	GL
2	Provide link to ESG survey	GL
3	Provide hard copy Annual Review to DT	GL

Acronyms referred to in minutes:

CCC	Community Consultative Committee
DPE	Department Planning and Environment
MCC	Maitland City Council
BCT	Biodiversity Conservation Trust