

**MINUTES OF THE DARTBROOK COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
AT DARTBROOK – 12 December 2014 .**

PRESENT:

Councillor Jennifer Lecky	JL	Muswellbrook Shire Council Representative (DCCC Chairperson)
Councillor Lorna Driscoll	LD	Alternate Upper Hunter Shire Council Representative
Matt Frodsham	MF	Anglo American - Stakeholder Engagement Specialist
Arthur Mitchell	AM	Upper Hunter Community Representative
Doug Stewart	DS	Anglo American Dartbrook Mine – Safety, Health, Environment (SHE) Coordinator
APOLOGY:		
		Nil
Jason Fittler	JF	Anglo American – Environment Manager NSW
Craig Flemming	CF	Muswellbrook Shire Council Staff Representative
Noel Downs	ND	Muswellbrook Shire Community Representative
Paul Smith	PS	Upper Hunter Shire Council Staff Representative
Annette Rahn	AR	Upper Hunter Community Representative
Councillor Kiwa Fisher	KF	Upper Hunter Shire Council Representative
Tony Lonergan	TL	Muswellbrook Shire Community Representative
VISITORS:		
		Nil

1. SAFETY MOMENT & APOLOGIES:

- 1.1 The meeting was opened at 2 pm.
- 1.2 Safety Moment – weather conditions.
- 1.3 Apologies as per the list above. The meeting was advised that Jason Fittler has transferred to the Brisbane Corporate Office.
- 1.4 No environmental incidents have occurred since the last meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

- 2.1 There were no pecuniary interests declared by any member present.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- 3.1 Nil.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 4.1 Confirmation of previous minutes. **Moved:** AM **Seconded:** LD. No dissenters – Minutes accepted.

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5. BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Nil.

6. COMPLAINTS SUMMARY

6.1 There have not been any environmental incidents or complaints, which required reporting, since the last meeting.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 A presentation was provided on the Environment for YTD 2014. General discussions focussed on the period August to December. The main issues presented are summarised below:

- Hi-Volume Dust Monitoring: was below the NEPC guideline limit of 50ug/m³. The Macairstrip showed two spikes one in October and the other in November.
- Depositional Dust Monitoring Results: Graphs and isopleths for November 2014 were shown with site 885 being elevated mainly because of natural contamination. The elevated readings were generally contaminated with insects and bird droppings. The YTD graph showed site 898 as reading the highest.
- Long term water quality trends in the Dart Brook and Hunter River were reviewed. The November / December 2014 salinity trends for both Hunter River upstream and downstream sites showed a gradual increase while the Dart Brook upper and lower sections showed a decrease.
- Rainfall - The year to date cumulative rainfall at Dartbrook for 2014 showed the total of 373.6, which is 147mm below YTD average. July remains the lowest month for 2014 being the driest July on Dartbrook's records at 1.8mm.

7.2 Dartbrook **Project Exploration** activities continue to be on hold due to the coal industry downturn. The Exploration team do not have any plans to visit the site in the near future.

7.3 Dartbrook **Project Prefeasibility studies** remain suspended indefinitely.

7.4 Dartbrook Care and Maintenance - Recent **Rural Lands** activities:

- Noxious Plants and Animals - The Roo and pig control continued with 263 Roos and 38 pigs to date. Box thorn, Green Cestrum, and Tiger pear and prickly Acacia control was carried out during the period. Any areas of Prickly Acacia to be treated with herbicide.
- Rabbit poisoning – preparations made near the NE Hwy tree screen.
- Repairs continue to be undertaken at the various rural residences.
- The tree screen drip irrigation system continued to water beside the highway during the dry periods. Any dead trees being replanted.

7.5 Dartbrook Care and Maintenance - recent **Regulatory** activities are:

- Ongoing consultation with DRE re the sustainable grazing trial is planned for the rehabilitated Rejects Emplacement Area. The fencing is completed.

7.5..1 It was decided not to progress the sealing of some gas drainage boreholes.

- Dartbrook is still waiting for an approval from ARTC (landowner) to construct the extension to the existing shelter at Simpson Park and for an Archaeological Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) for the relocation of the scar tree to the proposed shelter.

7.6 Dartbrook Care and Maintenance - recent **Community** activities are:

- The Dartbrook access road closure between 10 pm and 2 am continues without any issues.
- The meeting was also advised:

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- That there was a theft of cooper wire from the workshop on 21st November.
- That an Open Day is proposed in April 2015.
- Upper Dorset house is proposed to be demolished in quarter 1, 2015.
- Dartbrook is to be offered for sale in 2015.

7.7 . Dartbrook Care and Maintenance - recent UGM maintenance activities are:

- Underground road works
- Scrap removal tender – for scrap on the laydown pads
- Belt removal from underground
- Registration of Eimco engine – a statutory requirement
- Pleuger pump repairs
- Compressor repairs

8. OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 EPA's Air Quality Monitoring network – Two slides were presented:

- The first showing Aberdeen, Singleton and Standings HV PM10 monitoring sites.
- The second was a bar graph showing the same information which was cluttered and difficult to read.

8.2 Dartbrook's Greenhouse emissions for YTD 2014 were shown in graph format.

<i>Action Item No</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	To resolve the number and date of future meetings at the next meeting

9. MEETING CLOSED

9.1 The formal meeting closed at 3:15 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next meetings are planned for 11am on 26 March 2015.