

**ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

Meeting #2

Tuesday 11th March, 2008 at 5.00pm

BLACKHILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

MINUTES

1. **OPENING & WELCOME:** Chairman, The Hon. Milton Morris AO
2. **PRESENT:** Mr Milton Morris (Chairman), Mr Alan Brown, Mr Allan Jennings, Mr Andrew Pace, Mr Brad Ure, Mr Terry Lewin, Mr Lachlan Crawford (Bloomfield), Mr Mark McPherson, Mr Alick Osborne, Mr Adam Heeney and Mr Phillip Brown (mins).
3. **APOLOGIES:** Nil
4. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OR OTHER INTERESTS:**
No issues were raised.
5. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**
5.1 *Previous Minutes 5th December 2007 were confirmed by those members present.*
6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - 6.1 *Business Arising.*
 - 6.1.1 *Update on Rail Issues – M McPherson*
Mr McPherson provided an update on the rail issues. Following the uncertainty in late 2007, Donaldson has satisfactory allocation to the port in 2008.
 - 6.1.2 *Abel information on Planning Website – M Morris*
Mr P Brown will discuss the missing Abel Appendices on the Department Website with the Department of Planning.
 - 6.1.3 *Proposed Trust Structure– A Osborne*
Mr Osborne advised that an initial draft has been prepared. Mr Osborne advised that representation on the Trust would be two (2) Community Representatives; two (2) Company representatives; and one (1) independent person. A suggestion was that Mr Morris would be the independent person on the Trust.

Mr Osborne said that the Company would like the community to come back with the names of two representatives and that they should reside within the footprint of the Abel Underground Mine.

Mr A Brown requested a copy of the final draft of the trust document be distributed to the Committee members.
Mr Osborne advised that the document was not completed at this stage. Mr Osborne clarified his position and said that Donaldson would have to consider who should have input into the deed. Mr Morris suggested that the nominated trustees should get to see the draft.

Mr Irwin asked if the Trust would start half way through the year.
Mr Osborne said that it would and that the community should come back with the two names.

Mr Morris shared his experience with Community Trusts with other mining organisations.

Mr Irwin suggested that a fixed amount be provided for the school P & C, say 40%, and the remaining 60% for Community Grants. He commented that the use of fixed amount for the school would ensure that there was no pecuniary interest by the school representative on the trust when assessing grant applications.

Mr Osborne said that people could make application now for the grants.

Mr Osborne advised that Donaldson Coal would place an advertisement in the local paper calling for grant applications and confirming that applications would only be received from those people who reside in the Abel footprint area. Further discussion clarified this point grants must reflect the consent condition that is benefit the people in the underground mine area.

Mr Osborne advised that after the discussion today, that Donaldson Coal would prepare cheques and provide them to the Trustees for distribution.

Mr A Brown simplified the Trust discussion and said that if we are looking for two trustees nominated from this Committee, he would be unavailable.

Mr Morris stated that he would like to see the Trustees nominated from those community representatives present today.

Mr A Brown advised that he would not be standing as a Trustee.

After discussion, the two Trustee representatives that were nominated were Mr B Ure and Mr T Irwin.

Mr A Brown reiterated that there are two different objectives with the position of a Committee member and a Trustee member.

6.1.4 Letter to RTA re Blackhill Road intersection – M Morris

Mr Morris advised that he had contacted the Minister's office regarding the intersection and had no response.

Mr McPherson advised that Shaun Forsythe from the RTA had had a meeting with Donaldson Coal about the proposed roadwork's on John Renshaw Drive from the west of the Mine's intersection. He advised that they are planning the upgrade at the moment and will be probably going to tender in June.

6.1.5 Bloomfield Representative

Mr McPherson advised that Mr Lachlan Crawford was nominated by the management of Bloomfield Colliery to be their representative on the Committee. Mr Morris welcomed Mr Crawford to the meeting and confirmed his appointment to the Committee.

6.1.6 *Representative from Maitland Council – P Carroll*

Mr Morris advised that the Mayor of Maitland Council, Clr Peter Blackmore would be the representative on the Committee for Maitland Council.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

8. COMPANY REPORTS AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES:

8.1 *Development update*

8.1.1 *Management Plans Update*

Mr P Brown advised the Committee that the following Management Plans had been approved by the Department of Planning:

- Landscape Management Plan
- Air Quality Management Plan
- Energy Savings Action Plan
- Aboriginal Heritage Plan
- Environmental Management Strategy.

Mr P Brown provided copies of the Management plans on disc to the Community Members.

8.1.2 *Abel Program 2008*

Mr McPherson advised that the progress of the mine including the earthworks had been held up by the wet weather. He advised that hopefully it wouldn't be long before they start construction on the north side of John Renshaw Drive. Mr A Brown questioned that the earth works referred to are for temporary infrastructure construction. Mr M McPherson confirmed.

8.2 *Monitoring and Environmental Performance*

Mr P Brown advised that there was no environmental monitoring undertaken at this stage.

Mr A Brown questioned that there had been no monitoring undertaken.

Mr P Brown confirmed that as the temporary buildings being constructed were within the footprint of the Donaldson Coal Open cut that the monitoring was undertaken as part of the Open Cut operations.

8.3 *Community Complaints and response to complaints*

Mr P Brown advised that there had been no community complaints relating to Abel.

8.4 *Information provided to the Community and any feedback*

8.4.1 *Website Information*

Mr P Brown advised that the approved management plans will be placed on the Company's website.

9. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

There were no business arising.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS:

10.1 *Minutes of Meetings – A Brown*

Mr A Brown spoke to the issue of placing the minutes of "the meetings on the Company's website and in another public place".

Mr P Brown advised that the minutes will be placed on the website.

10.2 Distribution of Agenda prior to meeting – A Brown

Mr A Brown stated that he would like to receive the Agenda and other documents prior to the meeting to allow preparation for the meeting.

Mr Morris said that is would happen.

11. NEXT MEETING:

The Meeting agreed that the next meeting would be held on the 18th June, 2008 commencing at 5.00pm at the Blackhill Public School.

Mr A Brown asked if he could have a copy of the draft Trust Document.

Mr Osborne said that he would take the question on notice. He then commented that it may be appropriate for the Trustees to see the draft but he will take the question on notice.

ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES

Document tabled by Mr. Alan Brown

ABEL UNDERGROUND COAL MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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GENERAL BUSINESS

- AB repeats previous email advice (14/1/08) regarding appropriate "Housekeeping" ie to be pedantic, for good order and endorsement of reputation; I believe it would be judicious to comply with the DoP 2005 guidelines post future meetings.

"Minutes of Meetings

The Company is responsible for taking Minutes of the Committee's meetings, which shall be distributed to all members. The Minutes shall record issues raised and actions to be undertaken, who is responsible for taking those actions and by when. If a member so requests, then the Minutes shall record that member's dissenting views on any matter.

*The Company shall ensure that a copy of the Minutes is made available **on the Company's website and in another public place agreed to by the Committee (eg the local Council offices or a public library)** within 28 days of each meeting. The Chairperson must endorse the Minutes prior to them being distributed or placed on the Company's website."*

- Action with regards 5/12/07 Minutes?

AB's personal "meeting notes". (emailed to CCC members 16/1/08)

P2 Section 9.1 para 1 line 4:Appendix D, E and F on CD which....

*P2 Section 9.2 para 2 line 1: that the company **has** not yet*

*P3 Section 9.2 para 1 line 1: Mr Morris asked Mr Alan Brown to send him **an email reminder with the reference details and he would.....***

*P3 Section 9.2 para 4 line 1:out of the mine **lease** and*

*P3 Section 9.2 para 11 line 1:separate **Committee's** or one.*

P3 Section 9.2 para 16 line 3:benefit of the school children.

*P4 Section 9.2 para 9 line 2:the next meeting **with a "Trust structure" proposal.***

- Outcome of points of Action highlighted at 5/12/07 Meeting – ie Business arising?
- Distribution of Agenda (+ papers) prior to meetings?