

MINUTES OF MEETING
Cowal Gold Operations
Community Environmental Monitoring
and Consultative Committee (CEMCC)

Date: Wednesday 29 March 2023
Time: 11.00am, Cowal Gold Operations
Minutes taken by: Renee Pettit

Attendees:

Independent Chairperson: Lisa Andrews (LA)
Evolution: Grace Derrick (GD), Renee Pettit (RP), Georgia Sellings (GS),
Declan McBride (DM)
Community Members: Lucy Buttenshaw (LB)*, Angus Stitt (AS), Kate Dean (KD)*
Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation: Ally Coe (AC), Vicki Swadling (VS), Nicole Smith (NS)
Forbes Shire Council: Cr Chris Roylance (CR), Cr Brian Mattiske (BM)
Bland Shire Council: Cr Elizabeth McGlynn (LM)
Lachlan Shire Council: Cr Dennis Brady (DB)*

Apologies: Bruce Dent (BD)

**Attended meeting remotely*

ITEM	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Independent Chair, LA, opened the meeting at 10.08 am and welcomed all in attendance. Acknowledgment of Country.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of Interest</p> <p>LA advised there were no changes to previous declarations by CEMCC members, nor to hers; Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council.</p>	<p>Action 1: NS to submit CEMCC code of conduct & declaration of pecuniary & non-pecuniary interest forms.</p>
<p>3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes</p> <p>Moved by: AS Seconded by: LB</p>	



4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	EVN to contact relevant department to establish if it is a legal requirement to have an independent Scientist attending the CEMCC meetings. Keep action	GD
2	Circulate presentation slide pack to CEMCC members. Completed	RP
3	EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available. Keep action	GD
4	EVN to share links of the resource regulation of the mining lease updates. Completed	GD
5	EVN to provide CEMCC members with December edition of the Cowal Update. Completed	RP

Action 1: EVN to contact relevant department to establish if it is a legal requirement to have an independent Scientist attending the CEMCC meetings.

Action 3: EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.

5. Correspondence (as emailed with the meeting notice on 04/10/22)

- 20/12/22 - Email to members with the draft minutes for review/comment.
- 14/2/23 – Email to members with a Save the Date for 29/3/23 (Q1 meeting).
- 13/3/23 – Email members with Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting.

6. Reports

GD provided a detailed account of Cowal Gold Operations (CGO's) Environment Department's activities over the last quarter and a status of the underground project along with a quick introduction of the OPC.

- CR & BM questioned the need for more culverts on Newell Highway to keep highway open in rain events and extend the peaks.

RP provided details of community complaints and the activities and support undertaken by the Cowal Community and External Relations team in the previous quarter.

- No community complaints
- UG village update, working closely with contractor for completion.
- CPP Round 1 closed – 29 applications, outcomes to be communicated in the coming days.
- WSP – 14 applications, 11 approved.
- CGO Initiatives/support onsite & community communication. Flood relief support acknowledged and appreciated.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming events detailed. EM questioned EVN value of sponsorship. RP flagged the assessment process and explained the value to the community, and outcomes that will be achieved. Town Office completion. Great feedback from community and CEMCC members. <p>See attached presentation.</p>	
<p>General Business</p> <p>AS requested CEMCC meetings stay in line with time and dates scheduled in.</p> <p>AC acknowledged EVN support to flood affected areas. Spoke on the successes of the Wiradjuri Scholarship Program.</p> <p>CR also acknowledged EVN financial support and highlighted support services that have made a huge difference in the recovery of flood affected towns. He also made a comment of the mental health stresses these events have had on the community.</p> <p>EM also acknowledged flood support and acknowledged the positive impact the EVN town office has had on the main street of WW.</p>	
<p>7. Meeting Schedule for 2023, all starting at 9.00am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 8th of March LCCC Wednesday 7th of June WCC Wednesday 6th of September Evolution Town Office Wednesday 29th of November FSC 	
<p>8. Meeting Closed – 11.15am with LA thanking all for their attendance</p>	
<p>9. 11.30am-12.05pm EMM presentation Update of the Open Pit Continuation project</p>	

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Submission of CEMCC code of conduct and declaration of pecuniary & non-pecuniary interest forms.	LA & NS
2	EVN to contact relevant department to establish if it is a legal requirement to have an independent Scientist attending the CEMCC meetings.	GD
3	EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.	GD
4	EVN to share links of the resource regulation of the mining lease updates.	GD