

## Meeting Minutes – Northparkes Community Consultative Committee (CCC)

Date & Time	Monday 27 July 2020 – 4pm	
Attendees	David Johnson	CCC Independent Chair
	Stacey Kelly	Northparkes Mines Manager People, Safety & Environment
	Chris Higgins	Northparkes Mines Superintendent Environment and Farms
	Ali Standen	Northparkes Mines Advisor Community & External Relations
	Cr Ken Keith OAM	Parkes Shire Council Mayor
	Cr Phyllis Miller OAM	Forbes Shire Council Mayor
	Cr Steve Karaitiana	Forbes Shire Councillor
	Cr Chris Roylance	Forbes Shire Councillor
	Sandra Parker	Parkes High School Principal
	Scott Bickett	Community Representative
	Margaret Applebee	Community Representative (Observer)
	Phill Moss	Community Representative (Observer)
	Andrew Rice	Community Representative
Apologies	Steve Loane	Forbes Shire Council General Manager
	Kent Boyd	Parkes Shire Council General Manager
	Geoff Rice	Parkes Chamber of Commerce
	Hubert Lehman	Northparkes Mines Managing Director
	Cr Bill Jayet	Parkes Shire Councillor
Venue:	Parkes Shire Council, 2 Cecile Street Parkes	
Subject:	Northparkes Community Consultative Committee	

## 1. WELCOME

David opened the meeting at 4.06pm.

David read out the apologies that had been received. This included Hubert Lehman, Steve Loane, Cr Bill Jayet, Geoff Rice and Kent Boyd.

David noted that he has been extremely diligent in abiding by the measures that are in place in relation to the COVID-19 health pandemic. He will continue practicing physical distancing throughout the course of the meeting as a precautionary measure.

David welcomed Marg Applebee and Andrew Rice as community members of the Northparkes CCC. Both are in attendance as observers, pending formal approval by the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (DPIE).

## 2. DECLARATION OF PRECAUTIONARY AND OTHER INTEREST

The committee was advised that all members must complete and sign the code of conduct form and the declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest. All committee members have now signed these forms.

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

All actions from the previous minutes have been completed.

## 4. CORRESPONDANCE

There was no correspondence received.

David noted that the DPIE had approved Andrew Rice as a community representative for this committee.

## 5. CMOC-NORTHPARKES MINES UPDATE

### 5.1 Business update

*Stacey Kelly, Chris Higgins and Ali Standen provided an update on the business operations, including an environmental, farming and community update. The presentation has been provided as an attachment at the end of these minutes. The following information includes the questions, responses and the additional information provided to the slides within the presentation.*

On Friday 19 June, there was a loader fire in our underground mine. All underground workers safely retreated to refuge chambers located throughout the underground mine. Our Emergency Response Team were mobilised and were able to extinguish the fire. All employees and contractors who were working underground were safely returned to the surface. An investigation was undertaken with the NSW Resources Regulator to understand the cause of the fire.

#### **Q. Phyllis asked what started the fire?**

**A.** The loader was bogging in tele-remote hut. An alarm signalled the break failure, however there was no audible alarm, meaning the operator didn't realise there was a fault. We are working with the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) as part of the investigation of the incident. We would like to call out the fantastic work of those underground personnel involved and our Emergency Response Team.

The NSW Resources Regulator has reduced the respirable dust exposure limit by 50%. As a result, we are looking at introducing new Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and a clean-shaven policy onsite.

**Q. Ken asked why we are implementing a clean-shaven policy? Have we considered the religious beliefs of our employees in relation to this policy?**

**A.** The regulator has advised that this is something that we need to implement onsite and it must be done within three months. Yes, we have. We are working through our approach at this stage – there is Personal Protective Equipment available that can be worn with masks that will comply. We will look at all available options.

In relation to our approach to the ongoing management of preventing the exposure of COVID-19 in our workplace, the Northparkes Leadership Team are continuing to meet on a daily basis to review our response plan. This is constantly updated to reflect the advice of health professionals and the governments.

In terms of production, COVID-19 hasn't had an impact and we remain confident in our approach at this stage. In terms of our major projects, we have had to source materials from other locations as a result of COVID-19, however this hasn't affected the projects timelines significantly.

Our owner operator CMOC, recently announced the gold and silver streaming agreement they have entered into with Triple Flag, a Canadian company.

To read CMOC's media release, visit: [https://en.cmoc.com/html/2020/News\\_0712/32.html](https://en.cmoc.com/html/2020/News_0712/32.html).

As part of this agreement, Triple Flag have committed to donating \$50K to Northparkes annually which will be contributed to the communities of Parkes and Forbes. Stay tuned for more information regarding this funding in the future. We will be conducting community consultation to understand where our employees and community members think this money should be spent.

Stacey updated the group on the progress of key major projects. All projects are tracking well.

Stacey mentioned that we are using an integrated owners' team for our projects, which essentially means we are using Northparkes employees to oversee the contracting companies. This approach enables us to keep providing employment opportunities to our locals.

Last year, we were approved by the DPIE to haul our product into town in support of the Inland Rail Project. This development modification was due to expire in August 2020 – we requested an extension of this modification to allow for any unforeseeable delays that may occur as part of the associated work at Goonumbla Rail Siding being conducted by Inland Rail. An extension has been granted until 31 December 2020.

Northparkes is currently undertaking a feasibility study on the E44 deposit which is located 21 kilometres south-west of our mining operations. The feasibility study is expected to be completed in mid-2021. The feasibility study will enable us to understand if the E44 deposit is a viable project. We have commenced discussions with landholders and the neighbours of the proposed E44 mine. This will more than likely be a small open cut pit mine operation.

**Q. Steve asked how far is the mine from the current mining operations?**

**A.** 21 kilometres south-west.

**Q. Scott asked will we build a new ore processing plant?**

**A.** No, we will look to either truck or convey the ore back to our current operations, this will however be dependent on cost.

**Q. Ken asked how big is the area and what sort of mine?**

**A.** We are still working through the feasibility study to determine the size, but the mine would be an open cut mine.

**Q. Marg asked how many landholders are directly impacted?**

**A.** There are seven neighbours who are directly impacted by noise, vibration and traffic, plus visually. We are working with these neighbours now to understand their concerns to ensure we are able to address them in the early stages.

**Q. Marg asked if we have spoken with the Dept. of Planning yet in relation to E44?**

**A.** Not as yet, we have had a few discussions advising them of the proposed plan, but nothing formal. As we mentioned, we are in the very early stages.

**Q. What will be the length of the vehicles trucking the product back to your Ore Processing Plant?**

**A.** At this stage we don't know that information, we are still in the process of determining the preferred transportation of the product.

**Q. When did the groundwater monitoring commence?**

**A.** It commenced in May, we are in the process of consulting the neighbours now to ask if we can start monitoring their bores as well.

**Q. Would a conveyor shorten the distance back to site?**

**A.** It would, but from a cost perspective it probably doesn't stack up.

## **5.2 Environment and Farming Performance**

Chris presented on the Environment performance for the first half of 2020. YTD there haven't been any non-compliances from an environmental perspective.

Chris talked through the environmental monitoring results that have been undertaken over the first half of 2020. We undertake monitoring at four different locations:

- Hillview
- Hubberstone
- Lonepine
- Milpose

**Action:** Ali to add a direct link to the environmental quarterly monitoring reports located on our website for reference. To view these reports, visit: <http://www.northparkes.com/news/reports-and-policies#report>.

Chris updated the group on the works being undertaken at our offset property Kokoda.

We are in the planting phase at the moment:

- 2,000 trees have already been planted as part of a trial
- Total number of trees to be planted in 2020: 9,800
- Total number of trees to be planted in 2021: 8,200
- 38 hectares of ground preparation, single tyne rip planted with
- 20 hectares of direct seeding

**Q. Marg asked what trees are we planting?**

**A.** Ali to advise

**Q. Marg asked who is doing the work?**

**A.** Chris answered that we are using Skillset to provide labour.

Last year, we installed some new fencing to try and control kangaroos and goats entering the property. During the kangaroo surveys we undertake, there has been a significant drop in the number of kangaroos we are seeing.

**Q. Andrew asked do you attribute the drop in kangaroo numbers to the fencing or due to more food being available?**

**A.** We can confidently say that the fencing has definitely contributed to the reduction in numbers.

**Q. How high are the fences?**

**A.** 1.6 metres high with a 300-millimetre apron

Andrew noted that it would be great if Northparkes could support the local Rural Fire Service brigades covering Kokoda and surrounds (Mandagery and Cookamidgera brigades).

**Action:** Ali, Stacey and Chris to discuss with key internal personal about being a part of the local fire brigade and to ensure the team receive the relevant communications being distributed. A meeting will be set up to discuss the outcomes of this action with Andrew.

In 2019, as a business we made the decision to rest our farming operations. Following that decision, we looked at various options in relation to our farming practices going forward – we are excited to announced that we have entered into a share farming arrangement with the Wright Family Partnership.

**Q. Steve asked how much farming land do we own?**

**A.** In total we own 8000 hectares of farming land.

Phyllis noted her thanks from Forbes Shire Council in relation to the contribution Northparkes made to the Aquatic Centre as part of their 25 years of operations celebrations.

Ali updated the group on the work Northparkes has been doing in the community space. This included an update on our current investment programs.

- \$40K was allocated to 16 projects / organisations across the Central West as part of the Northparkes Community Investment Program
- \$38,484.30 distributed to 9 projects during round one of the Sports Grants Program, a joint program between Parkes Shire Council and Northparkes – there was an increased number of projects this round.

## **6. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS.**

There were no other agenda items.

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9 November, probably at Northparkes Mine (to be confirmed). This will include an optional tour to our E44 deposit for those interested.

## **8. CLOSE**

David Johnson closed the meeting at 5.35pm.

## 9. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action	Assigned to	Tracking
The next CCC Meeting is planned to be held at Northparkes Mines on Monday 9 November 2020.	Ali Standen	
Northparkes to share the work we are undertaking with Landcare going forward so they can promote it via their communication channels internally and externally.	Ali Standen	
Ali to add a direct link to the environmental quarterly monitoring reports located on our website for reference. To view these reports, visit: <a href="http://www.northparkes.com/news/reports-and-policies#report">http://www.northparkes.com/news/reports-and-policies#report</a> .	Ali Standen	
Ali, Stacey and Chris to discuss with key internal personal about being a part of the local fire brigade and to ensure the team receive the relevant communications being distributed. A meeting will be set up to discuss the outcomes of this action with Andrew.	Ali Standen Chris Higgins Stacey Kelly	