Hillside Mine Community Consultative Committee (HMCCC) Minutes

Monday 8th April 2024

Chairperson Phil Tyler

HMCC Members Mark Butterworth (Rex Minerals), Jo Buchanan, Shane Kennedy, Peter Koulizos (on phone), Don Hosking. Margaret Roads, Ben Thompson, Tim Walsh.

Visitors Anna Lodge, Chair Ardrossan Childcare Committee, Nick Perry, Yorke Peninsula Council (YPC)

Apologies Rikki Parkinson

Minute Taker P Tyler

AGENDA ITEM	Notes	ASSIGNED TO/DATE DUE
Welcome & Introductions	Meeting opened at 5:30 pm	
	P Tyler welcomed everybody to the meeting.	
	Record keeper for this meeting /recording – P Tyler	
<u> </u>	Apologies – noted above	
Conflicts of Interest	Nil	
Minutes	Endorsement of Meeting Minutes from 5 th February 2024 Moved: Tim Walsh Seconded: Jo Buchanan Chair thanked Peter Koulizos for checking the February 2024 minutes.	
	HMCCC member to check minutes for this meeting: Jo Buchanan	
Business arising from the minutes.	April meeting to have childcare focus.	Discussed at Agenda Item later in the meeting.
	Letter on housing project to be sent to Rex Minerals and YPC.	Refer Chair's report.
Chair Report	Letter sent on 7 th February to YPC and Rex Minerals. Andrew Christiansen, Peter Koulizos and I met with Andrew Cameron and Ben Thompson (YPC) on 14 th March to discuss HMCCC letter. The outcome was that the CE would put the item on the council workshop meeting for 24 th April and that Andrew Christiansen would attend as expert advisor. Peter Koulizos is also available by zoom or phone if required. I have not heard from Rex Minerals regarding my 7 th February letter and, having sent a follow up email on 17 th March, I received an acknowledgement from Jane Blair on 19 th March. In discussing this with Mark Butterworth last week, he thought Jason and other executives in Rex were focused on securing funding for the project without committing to other issues. Before Jo Barrie left Rex last year we had been working on a website for HMCCC. Members had been asked to provide comments. During a debrief meeting with Jo on her last day she informed me she had transferred the website and administration to Jane Blair. I followed up this numerous times in the lead up to Christmas and was advised early 2024 that it was sent to Mark Butterworth to provide me with feedback. I received an email from Mark dated 5 th February saying that Rex were keen to hold off on the HMCCC website until project finance is approved. I responded on 14 th February asking for Rex to reconsider its position on the HMCCC website.	

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	I pointed out the website was about HMCCC activities and not the Hillside project; that as an independent community-based group it was about communicating our activities to the local community; previous groups to HMCCC had website presence; currently I am unable to fulfill my obligation as outlined in the Terms of Reference. I have discussed this a few times with Mark and hope for a response shortly. At the meeting Mark reported that he hoped to get a response so we can get the website up in the next month. I have met with Shaun Hollis, a journalist with the Yorke Peninsula Country Times. He told me he was new (about one month) and wanted to get an update an HMCCC and a bit of bistory.	
Guest speaker	update on HMCCC and a bit of history. Nick Perry and Ben Thompson provided an update on YPC activity in the	
Cucci opeanoi	childcare area:	
	 A community group (SYP Childcare Feasibility Group) conducted some research into the need for childcare in southern Yorke Peninsula circa 2020 The group presented findings to Council staff who then liaised with childcare operators about whether they would start service/s on YP; response was that it would not be viable despite high demand YPC decision was made that Council would have to build a childcare centre and offer attractive lease terms to attract a private operator Council then partnered with the SYP Childcare Feasibility Group on a second, more detailed survey, and used the results to compile a detailed Project Plan featuring the numbers of children requiring care, dozens of anecdotes about the various impacts of no childcare; draft plans for a new centre; thorough risk assessment and much more Council used this Project Plan and commissioned an independent cost-benefit analysis as the basis of two grant applications, succeeding with an application to the Federal Government's Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Fund Council then led two tender processes - one for a builder, and the other for an operator; the chosen parties worked together to ensure the childcare centre was designed according to all Standards and the specific needs of our community Construction of the new centre at Minlaton got underway and is expected to finish soon (sometime during term 2) allowing operations to start In the meantime, the chosen operator (t/a Yorke Peninsula Learning and Care) has reopened a disused childcare centre in Maitland - this involved Council identifying the opportunity and renovating the building in line with Standards (and in consultation with the operator), then leasing the building to the operator The operator now has 49 staff across Maitland and Minlaton, approx. 30 of whom are studying Cert III or Diploma in Early Childhood Education; these qualifications are subsidised under a State Government Funded Activities Agreement for whic	

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	Anna Lodge: provided an update on Ardrossan Childcare Committee:	
	Have worked on this issue for 2 years and conducted a survey which found overwhelming demand for a childcare facility	
	 Have identified the scout hall in Ardrossan as perhaps a suitable facility. Have done some work on plans and costing to bring it up to current estimate around the \$400k by a local builder, but they acknowledge a more detailed plan from an architect to get a more accurate costings is needed Project is at a stage where the committee needs more support and guidance. They have met with the Council which said a further survey would be needed. N Perry said that was correct, having met with Ardrossan parents seeking a similar outcome for their town, and advised the methodology that worked for Minlaton and Maitland, as well as the expenses and challenges of building new vs renovating to meet all current standards YPC staff advised a second survey would allow Council to create an Ardrossan-specific project plan ready for any future grant (or other) opportunities, and that more detailed plans specifying adherence to standards including yard, fence, fire safety etc would be required Chair suggested perhaps that further survey would be an independent robust business case from someone who had credibility in the sector. N Perry pointed out that for the Minlaton facility they had a cost-benefit plan done by an independent consultant that assisted in winning the Federal Government grant. Chair suggested that Anna and Nick work through the next steps for an Ardrossan Childcare facility. 	
	HMCCC acknowledged childcare was a need now in the Ardrossan community and would be a major issue for Rex as they start to recruit staff when the mine becomes operational. The Chair asked to be kept informed as we are eager to assist where we can.	
Rex Report	 In March, Rex sponsored the Curramulka Community Club for a year Rex made a donation to the James Well/Rogues Point Progress Association towards the purchase of new blinds for the Community Centre Rex provided the Ardrossan kindergarten with replacement equipment Leasing agreement in final stages for Hillside land Stage 1 Road Diversion continues to be delayed by DIT Developer's Deed. Has been with DIT for most of March and Rex continues to negotiate with DIT. Question about water with plan to use sea water. Chair suggested that perhaps we invited John Burgess (Rex Project Manager) to the next meeting to discuss water matters. Members agreed 	
AOB	Chair asked a question about the status of Ardrossan Hospital Don Hosking responded saying it's a complex issue but the hospital recently surrendered its private hospital licence as it found it very difficult to find staff, particularly doctors for the acute and accident and emergency service. As a result, the facility will now be known as Ardrossan Seaview and focus on its aged care business. NDIS will operate from the acute section which will now be called the Murrie Wing	

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Confirmation of Actions	M Butterworth to follow up on the Website	M Butterworth	
	M Butterworth to ask John Burgess to attend our next meeting to discuss water.	M Butterworth	
Meeting Close			
The Chair closed the meeting at 710 pm			
Next HMCCC Meeting Date: June 3rd @ 5.30 pm			