



**MINUTES OF THE BI-ANNUAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 28 MAY 2024
HAERSES ROAD QUARRY, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

	NAME	ORGANISATION
PRESENT	Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
	Hunny Churcher (HC)	Environmental Officer, Dixon Sand
	David Dixon (DD)	Dixon Sand
	Melissa Mass (MM)	Dixon Sand - Ecologist
	Farley Roberts (FR)	Community Representative
	Lisa Aylward (LAy)	Maroota Public School Representative
	Kristine McKenzie (KM)	The Hills Shire Council Representative
	Zoe Ridgeway (ZR)	Bush-It (alternate)
	Jamie Baker (JB)	Dixon Sand – Business Development Manager
APOLOGIES	Jemma Roberts (JR)	Community Representative (alternate)
	Timothy Baker (TB)	Bush Regeneration Contractor (Bush-It)
	Pat Schwartz (PS)	Community Representative

HC provided a 'housekeeping' induction to members as it was a new venue.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION	LA opened the meeting at 1.25pm following a light luncheon. All members were welcomed.		
APOLOGIES	As listed above.		
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	LA declared that she is approved by the Department of Planning and Environment to chair the meeting and engaged by Dixon Sand.		FR & JR to complete their governance forms and submit to LA.
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (9/11/23)	NO.	ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
	1	Send out draft Terms of Reference for comment and governance forms for members' completion and return. Complete - Sent 24/11/23	LA
			LA noted that she had replaced Mark Dixon with Jamie Baker in the ToR & asked if members were happy to ratify. Agreed.

<p>CORRESPONDENCE (as emailed with Meeting Notice on 3/5/24 with 1 additional item)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16/11/23- Draft minutes and draft Terms of Reference sent to members for review • 24/11/23 – Email to members with the finalised minutes and governance forms for completion and return. • 28/11/23 – Email from KM with completed declaration form. • 29/11/23 – Email from HC with completed governance forms and new logo for future documentation. • 23/1/24 – Email from HC advising of the updated EMS and Management Plans Distribution. • 5/2/24 – Email to members with reminder for governance forms to be completed and returned. • 23/2/24 – Email to members with the change in date from 1/5/24 to 28/5/24. • 18/3/24 – Email from LAy with completed governance forms. Acknowledged. • 26/3/24 – Email from HC with details of the DA250-09-01 Old Northern Road Quarry - Revision of Environmental Management strategy • 22/4/24 – Email from HC with completed governance forms from DD & JB. • 3/5/24 – Email to members with meeting notice & agenda for 28/5/24. • 21/5/24 – Email from KM requesting November CCC proceed as scheduled. Acknowledged. • 27/5/24 – Email to members with the reminder for this meeting. 	<p>LA to finalise.</p> <p>LA spoke to this item & moved to “Next Meeting” Agenda item for discussion.</p>
<p>PROJECT REPORT, INCLUDING PRODUCTION/SALES</p>	<p>DD advised that there has not been many changes at Old Northern Road operations. Progressing with the new silt ponds. Sandstone and sand extraction continues.</p> <p>Haerses Rd produces brick laying operations and sandstone cutting operations.</p> <p>MOD 5 (sandstone cutting operations) has been approved by DPHI. Two sheds (maintenance and processing) to be erected. Proposed works have been taking some time due to an industry lull.</p> <p>Currently providing product to Kembla Grange Racecourse as well as continuing to supply golf & sporting fields.</p> <p>The Quarry is reviewing a number of internal systems including OH&S to address the change and growth of quarry operations.</p>	<p>Questions asked and answered throughout the presentation.</p>
<p>ONR – Proposed DA Mod 6 - Extraction within existing cells to maximise resource</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the depth of extraction within Lot 196 DP752025 to within 2m of the highest recorded regional wet weather groundwater level; • Import up to 250,000 tonnes per annum of virgin excavated natural material (VENM) and excavated natural material (ENM) within existing incoming trucks; and • Extend the quarry life by 11 years until 2053. 	<p>Sides: 9 & 10</p>

	<p>Timeline</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="496 241 727 286">Date</th> <th data-bbox="727 241 1158 286">Milestone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 286 727 376">January 2023</td> <td data-bbox="727 286 1158 376">Scoping Letter lodge with DPE (now DPHI)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 376 727 521">March 2023</td> <td data-bbox="727 376 1158 521">DPE confirmed pathway and requests additional traffic assessment and rehabilitation and final landform assessment to be updated</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 521 727 589">September 2023</td> <td data-bbox="727 521 1158 589">Consultation with Agencies</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 589 727 645">November 2023</td> <td data-bbox="727 589 1158 645">Modification Report submitted to DPE</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 645 727 745">November 2023 – April 2024</td> <td data-bbox="727 645 1158 745">Public Exhibition, received submissions from the community and agencies, submissions report submitted to DPE</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 745 727 857">May 2024</td> <td data-bbox="727 745 1158 857">Received further comments from DCCEEW-Water. Submission report being prepared.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Milestone	January 2023	Scoping Letter lodge with DPE (now DPHI)	March 2023	DPE confirmed pathway and requests additional traffic assessment and rehabilitation and final landform assessment to be updated	September 2023	Consultation with Agencies	November 2023	Modification Report submitted to DPE	November 2023 – April 2024	Public Exhibition, received submissions from the community and agencies, submissions report submitted to DPE	May 2024	Received further comments from DCCEEW-Water. Submission report being prepared.	
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<p>ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING RESULTS</p>	<p>HC commenced by explaining the locations of all the monitoring points and the schedule for conducting the monitoring.</p>	<p>Slides: 10-15 for results</p>														
<p>TEOM DATA</p>	<p>HC explained the TEOM data and measurement criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TEOM and Meteorological station records PM10 levels and weather data such as rain, temperature, wind etc. ○ Monitoring Criteria – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long term: Annual PM10 average (light blue line) should not exceed the annual average criteria (pink line – 30µg/m3) – ● Short term: 24hr PM10 average (blue bars) should not exceed the 24hr PM10 NEPM Criteria (yellow line – 50µg/m3) – ● Short term: If the 24hr PM10 EPL Criteria Level (green line – 42µg/m3) is exceeded by the 24hr PM10 average (blue bars), and the prevailing wind is from the specific quadrant Dixon Sand is required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Notify EPA ● Take immediate action to reduce PM10 levels ● Stop works if levels do not fall below 42µg/m3 within 1 hour ○ TEOM station represent the EPL Points 1 & 3 <p>Lay asked why there weren't more TEMO monitors on site. DD explained it was due to costs (\$100k each) and confirmed that dust monitoring requirements are met in accordance with the projects' conditions of consent.</p>	<p>Slides: 16-17 for results</p>														

<p>DEPOSITIONAL DUST DATA</p>	<p>Dust data for this monitoring period: June 2023 –May 2024:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="555 241 1129 759"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="561 250 783 293">Date</th> <th data-bbox="790 250 1123 293">Milestone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="561 302 783 555" rowspan="5">Old Northern Road</td> <td data-bbox="790 302 1123 344">D1A Access road</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 353 1123 396">D4 Rehab area</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 405 1123 448">D5 Bundwall</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 456 1123 499">D6 School</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 508 1123 551">D7 Mullock Heap</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="561 560 783 750" rowspan="4">Haerses Road</td> <td data-bbox="790 560 1123 602">D8 Olive Grove</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 611 1123 654">D10 Haerses Road (EPL Point 3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 663 1123 705">D11 Receiver R6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 714 1123 757">D12 Receiver R8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Dust exceedances due to bundwall work, paddock maintenance and neighbouring farming activities at some of the dust gauges, trying to get these dust gauges removed/moved as they aren't indicative of quarry operations.</p> <p>A few elevated results, due to a fire at the school (burning off tree pruning, etc) and slashing works on the neighbouring property.</p> <p>FR advised that roadworks are also generating dust.</p> <p>DD advised that they continue to provide occupational dust monitoring for staff and equipment for inhalable and respirable dust and quartz, in addition to environmental monitoring requirements. One elevated dust result was attributed insufficient seal on the door of a crusher was rectified, retested and retested which returned results well before the exposure standard.</p> <p>Annual testing of employees including CT scans of lungs every year. Clean bill of health.</p>	Date	Milestone	Old Northern Road	D1A Access road	D4 Rehab area	D5 Bundwall	D6 School	D7 Mullock Heap	Haerses Road	D8 Olive Grove	D10 Haerses Road (EPL Point 3)	D11 Receiver R6	D12 Receiver R8	<p>See graphs for results. Slides: 18-27 (maps)</p>
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<p>NOISE MONITORING</p>	<p>ONR & Haerses Rd:</p> <p>Tables of noise monitoring locations indicating: Receivers, property addresses, descriptions and extrapolated monitoring results.</p>	<p>See Slides 28-35 For location of monitoring sites and summary of data.</p>													
<p>GROUND WATER MONITORING</p>	<p>GW Monitoring wells</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONR 11 x BH • HR 22 x BH <p>GW levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly + continuous data loggers <p>GW quality sampling & lab analysis:</p>	<p>Graphs explained - See Slides 36-49 (maps)</p>													

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 monthly sampling and testing. <p>HC handed around a data logger that has been taken out of service, to show the equipment to members.</p>	
<p>BUSH REGENERATION WORKS</p>	<p>Summary of Assisted Bush Regeneration Work - November 2023 to May 2024 - presented by ZR.</p> <p><u>Old Northern Rd Works Areas: Rehabilitation of Lot 196</u></p> <p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the commander area, ongoing challenge of heavily compacted soils and absence of all native vegetation strata. • The majority of Melaleuca deanei plantings in this area did not survive, most likely due to September 2023 dry conditions, 4/11 remain (one at ONR entrance and estimated three at commander). • Repressing the established stand of Andropogon virginicus in such a heavily degraded area. <p>Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term successful maintenance in repressing Andropogon virginicus. Mixed treatments of brush-cutting areas with 100% weed cover and hand removing amongst the direct seeded enrichment nodes consisting of juvenile Kunzea ambigua. € Planted 40 Acacia longifolias and 10 Imperata cylindricas to create more dense enrichment nodes in this heavily degraded edge of the site. <p>Future Works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued regular yet minimal maintenance of Andropogon virginicus, so as not to drain hours and results from more resilient areas. • Continue seed collection and revegetation, planting endemic canopy and shrub species that are more resistant to harsh conditions and soil compaction, as per most recent planting strategy. <p><u>Assisted Regeneration - Native Vegetation Corridor (NVC)</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor infestations of exotic grasses, namely Andropogon virginicus and Cynodon dactylon var. dactylon • Shrub density of Banksia ericifolia and Grevillea buxifolia threatens the biodiversity of the translocation due to changes in light levels. • Regrowth of mother Melaleuca deanei has come to a standstill but will continue to observe. 	<p>See photographs in Slides 50-65</p>

	<p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suppression of exotic grasses in translocation, mainly from hand removal of <i>Andropogon virginicus</i> and <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>. Sprayed <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> var. <i>dactylon</i> growing on adjacent sand mounds to prevent it spreading into NVG. • Thinned out dominating shrubs to promote biodiversity, using the excess material to brushmat exposed bare ground on site, aiming to create microclimates that promote further regeneration from the seed bank. • <i>Melaleuca deanei</i> plantings are continuing to go well in the area. Removed some guards and brush matted around the bases. <p>Future Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor and suppress exotic grasses • Monitor domineering shrubs and thin/brushmat when deemed necessary <p><u>Rehabilitation of Lot 2</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past access to site, working around development of bund that coincided with previous planting window. • Minor regrowth of woody weed infestations. • Ongoing maintenance of exotic grasses and <i>Ageratina adenophora</i> in exposed and/or waterlogged areas <p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of <i>Pultenaea flexilis</i> seed on site, processed at OZ Eco Flora for propagation. • Extended primary works and continued follow up treatment on <i>Lantana camara</i> (lantana) regrowth in order to evict Bell Minors from the area • Suppression of exotic grasses • Planted 200 specimens that included <i>Acacia longifolia</i>, <i>Acacia linifolia</i>, <i>Banksia serrata</i>, <i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>, <i>Imperata cylindrica</i>, <i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> and <i>Pultenaea flexilis</i> seeds that were harvested from Lot 2 and other sites across Dixon Sands. <p>Future Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued revegetation of exposed areas. • Continued suppression of lantana <p><u>Rehabilitation of Haerses Rd – Old Dam Area</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dense lantana infestation • Runoff from surrounding fields <p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful reduction and consolidation of lantana infestation 	
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	<p>Future Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to consolidate lantana, in the long term potential to follow up with planting native shrub species. <p><u>Assisted Regeneration - Haerses Road Biodiversity Offset</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encroachment of exotic grasses along disturbed edges of the site. Minor encroachments of <i>Ageratina adenophora</i> on edges and drainage lines on site <p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful management of exotic grasses via non-chemical methods, brush-cutting and slashing. Dense native buffer remains in good condition. Continued suppression of <i>Ageratina adenophora</i>, minimal treatments have been required over this period. <p>Future Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue maintenance of exotic grasses on disturbed edges Monitor for reshoots of <i>Ageratina adenophora</i>. Monitor for <i>Pallaea viridis</i> specimens and treat upon sighting. <p><u>Haerses Rd - Translocation</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infestations of invasive exotic grasses, namely <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> var. <i>Dactylon</i>, <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> and <i>Andropogon virginicus</i>. <i>Pallaea viridis</i> specimen was found on site. <p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target-sprayed exotic grasses with 50:1 and 75:1 water:glyphosate for effective treatment. Successfully manual removal of known <i>Pallaea viridis</i> from site. <p>Future Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued treatment of grasses Continue to monitor for <i>Pallaea viridis</i> specimens <p><u>Haerses Rd – Visual buffer along Wisemans Ferry Road</u></p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High proportion of resources required to maintain these areas. Sites on both sides of Hearses Road are highly exposed to invasive species such as <i>Rumex</i> 	
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	<p>sagittarius, Cynodon dactylon var. Dactylon and Rubus fruticosus, as well as annuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil quality is degraded <p>Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able spray and suppress aforementioned invasive species. • Continued control of Cynodon dactylon var. dactylon in the planting site via careful spray and manual removal. Slashed annuals in the area as well. • Planting continue to succeed and have started to remove guards on fast growing specimens ∅ Planted 50 specimens of Banksia serrata, Acacia longifolia and Imperata cylindrica into site. <p>Future Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued maintenance of aforementioned invasive species. Potential to supplement plantings again in the future Haerses Rd – Visual buffer along Wisemans Ferry Rd <p>Porters Rd Offset Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This site remains in excellent condition and is an ideal reference site for the area. • We successfully collected seed from native shrub and canopy species in the area, which were sent to Oz Eco Flora for propagation. Mainly Banksia, Acacia and Proteaceae species. • Will continue to conduct seed collection. 	
<p>BIODIVERSITY AND REHABILITATION (Threatened Species Update)</p>	<p>MM provided the following presentation: Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ The Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report identifies native flora and fauna within the Native Vegetation Corridor and the Haerses Road Biodiversity Offset Area, it monitors the success of the rehabilitation area within the NVC and describes the current condition of threatened flora and fauna and their habitats within the Old Northern Road site and the HRBOA. ✚ The 2023 Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report was completed in September and submitted with the Annual Review on the 30th of September 2024. ✚ The results found the rehabilitation areas are thriving and increasing in diversity and density. Ideal growing conditions with favourable temperatures and regular rainfall over the past 4 years has improved the overall biodiversity of all rehabilitation and monitoring sites. ✚ Survey work has begun in preparation for the 2024-2025 report. 	<p>See Slides 66 – 77 (see photographs)</p>

	<p>Monitoring Fauna Fauna monitoring is undertaken in the summer months when activity is at the highest and more likely to be observed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fauna monitoring includes: Recording bat calls via an Anabat sound recorder; The use of unbaited infra-red motion detection cameras on animal trails; ○ Looking for scats, prints and other signs such as diggings, scratches, feed scars; ○ Aural survey for birds; and ○ Visual observation. <p>Monitoring flora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora monitoring is undertaken in the winter months as many of the threatened species are flowering or budding up preparing for early spring flowering • Vegetation quadrats are repeated annually in monitoring locations. Quadrats are 20m x 50m, 20m x 20m and 1m x 1m which record the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Species present and percentage of cover; ○ Stem class including recruitments present or absent; ○ Number of hollow bearing trees; ○ Total length of coarse woody debris; ○ Litter cover, rock surface area, bare ground <p>BCT Reporting</p> <p>Annual Management Report for year 5 was completed in March - Passive Management at Haerses Road and Porters Road continues</p>	
GENERAL BUSINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HC showed drone footage of rehabilitation areas. ○ LAy thanked Dixon Quarry for the donation to the School. ○ FR stated that truck drivers seem to be responding to the signage regarding exhaust brakes. Commenting on a very loud truck at 1am, possibly associated with the roadworks. ○ DD spoke about building waste dumped on the side of the road, just before the golf course on the right hand side. 	
NEXT MEETING	Next meeting will be held Wednesday 6 November 2024 as scheduled.	Agreed.

The meeting was closed at 2:58pm with the chair thanking all members for their attendance.

ACTION ITEM:

NO.	ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Send out finalised Terms of Reference for CCC to members	LA