



**MINUTES OF THE BI-ANNUAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2026
HAERSES ROAD QUARRY, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

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

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION	LA opened the meeting at 1.02pm 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 to chair the meeting and engaged by Dixon Quarry Group.			
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (5/11/25)	NO.	ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	1 – KM confirmed that TfNSW undertake works & funds are paid to them by Council.
	1	Confirm how S94 contributions for road maintenance are managed.	KM	
	No other business arising.			
CORRESPONDENCE (as emailed with Meeting Notice on 1/5/26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20/11/25 - Email to members with draft minutes for review. 28/11/25 – Email to members with the finalised minutes. 24/3/26 - Email members with a "Save the Date" for 6/5/26. 1/5/26 – Email to members with meeting notice & agenda for this meeting. 			
Operation/ Progress	<p>Site operations and current project progress were presented by JB and HC, including an extraction overview.</p> <p>At ONR, JB advised that construction has occurred on the 250m school buffer bund wall during school holidays. Old Silt ponds are being consolidated in preparation for rehabilitation and new silt ponds will be established further to the east.</p>			Slides 6 & 7

	<p>At HR, construction of the Wash Plant is still progressing, however is on hold at the moment. A new fire hydrant is to be put at the driveway to get the Occupation Certificate for Sandstone Cutting Shed.</p> <p>KM asked where washing was currently being undertaken with JB responding via the Mobile Plant.</p>																					
<p>Old Northern Road (ONR) – Proposed Dam Mod 6 -</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 for 30 years from the date of Mod 6 being approved. <p>Timeline</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 667 1235 1641"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Milestone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>January 2023</td> <td>Scoping Letter lodged with DPHI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 2023</td> <td>DPHI confirmed pathway and requests additional traffic assessment and rehabilitation and final landform assessment to be updated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>September 2023</td> <td>Consultation with Agencies</td> </tr> <tr> <td>November 2023</td> <td>Modification Report submitted to DPHI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>November 2023 – April 2024</td> <td>Public Exhibition, received submissions from the community and agencies, submissions report submitted to DPHI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 2024</td> <td>Received further comments from DCCEEW-Water. Submission report being prepared.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July 2024</td> <td>DPHI issued an RFI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October 2025</td> <td>Response to RFI submitted to DPHI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>December 2025 to May 2026</td> <td>Liaised with DPHI and DCCEEW regarding the methodology to address RFI Installed 2 additional Monitoring Bores BH11 and BH12, Collect Groundwater data Revise Groundwater Impact Assessment as requested by DPHI and DCCEEW.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>PS sought an explanation of the VENM & ENM definitions, which was provided by HC. JB explained the certification process that tests and identifies the type of materials, which are all undertaken under the EPA's waste classification guidelines.</p>	Date	Milestone	January 2023	Scoping Letter lodged with DPHI	March 2023	DPHI 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 DPHI	November 2023 – April 2024	Public Exhibition, received submissions from the community and agencies, submissions report submitted to DPHI	May 2024	Received further comments from DCCEEW-Water. Submission report being prepared.	July 2024	DPHI issued an RFI	October 2025	Response to RFI submitted to DPHI	December 2025 to May 2026	Liaised with DPHI and DCCEEW regarding the methodology to address RFI Installed 2 additional Monitoring Bores BH11 and BH12, Collect Groundwater data Revise Groundwater Impact Assessment as requested by DPHI and DCCEEW.	<p>Sides: 8 & 9</p>
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<p>ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING RESULTS</p>	<p>HC commenced the environmental monitoring results, by showing the locations of monitoring devices and explaining/quantifying the outcomes. Data explained.</p>	<p>Slides: 11 to 14</p>																				

TEOM DATA	<p>HC explained that the EPA has recently issued an EPL variation for both quarries with new conditions requiring installation of PM2.5 monitor at the current TEOM location and relocation of dust deposition gauges.</p> <p>HC presented the TEOM data and measurement criteria, providing further information on the relevant graph & spikes.</p> <p>A slide showing the difference between PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5} was shown & explained.</p>	Slide: 15 & 16													
DEPOSITIONAL DUST DATA	<p>Dust data for this monitoring period: April 2025 – April 2026:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="496 450 1161 969"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="496 450 727 506">Date</th> <th data-bbox="727 450 1161 506">Milestone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 506 727 768" rowspan="5">Old Northern Road</td> <td data-bbox="727 506 1161 555">D1A Access road*</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 555 1161 604">D4 Rehab area</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 604 1161 654">D5 Bundwall*</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 654 1161 703">D6 School</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 703 1161 768">D7 Mullock Heap</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="496 768 727 969" rowspan="4">Haerses Road</td> <td data-bbox="727 768 1161 817">D8 Olive Grove</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 817 1161 866">D10 Haerses Road (EPL Point 3)*</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 866 1161 916">D11 Receiver R6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="727 916 1161 969">D12 Receiver R8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Proposed new locations for repositioning of monitors was shown. For D1A, D5 and D10.</p> <p>Whilst there were some higher readings, the site was still compliant.</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	See graphs for results. Slides: 17 - 24
Date	Milestone														
Old Northern Road	D1A Access road*														
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	D10 Haerses Road (EPL Point 3)*														
	D11 Receiver R6														
	D12 Receiver R8														
NOISE MONITORING	<p>ONR & Haerses Rd: Monitoring for December 2025</p> <p>Tables of noise monitoring locations indicating: Receivers, property addresses, descriptions and extrapolated monitoring results. No noise complaints have been received for quite some time.</p>	See Slides 25-34 For location of monitoring sites and summary of data.													
GROUND WATER MONITORING	<p>GW Monitoring wells</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONR 13 x BH • HR 16 x BH <p>GW levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly + continuous data loggers <p>GW quality sampling & lab analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 monthly sampling and testing. 	Graphs explained - See Slides 35-42 (maps)													
COMPLAINTS	<p>November 2025 – April 2026: No complaints received</p>	Slide 43													
BIODIVERSITY SITE – HAERSES ROAD (Active Management)	<p>Map shown of area with explanation of legend (colours).</p>	Slide 44													
BIOBANK SITE – PORTERS ROAD (Active Management)	<p>Map shown of area with explanation of legend (colours). Fox Management Program using trapping and ground shooting method currently being undertaken, instead of using 1080 baits. This is due to the number of people that walk in the area with their dogs. Deer management is continuing. HC explained the location of other</p>	Slide 45													

	<p>areas, including the Pistol Club, Fire Trails, Crown Land and private land parallel to O’Haras Creek.</p> <p>Ongoing balance on how to manage vandalism in the area with recent damage to entry gates and locks.</p> <p>HC advised that the RFS are conducting ecological burns in the area, on top of its existing hazard reduction burns. The tracks will need to be widened and remediated so that machinery can access the area.</p>	
<p>Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Threatened species update</p>	<p>MM commenced the presentation, advising:</p> <p>Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report 2025 (AR)</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 2025 Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report was completed in August 2025 and submitted with the Annual Review on the 30th of September 2025. The data for the 2026 Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Annual Report is currently being collected. ✚ The results of the 2025 report found the rehabilitation areas are stabilizing following the past 4 years of ideal growing conditions. Vegetation diversity and density have likely peaked and is now settling into average climatic conditions. <p>Native Vegetation Corridor – Old Northern Road explained.</p> <p>Biodiversity Offset Area – Haerses Road explained.</p> <p>Haerses Rd Biobank Site – explained.</p> <p>Porters Rd Biobank Site – explained.</p> <p>KM enquired – with Porters Rd site, are there threatened species in this location. MM responded that both sites have identified threatened species, which both biobank sites are now in active management. Additional survey works will be undertaken to monitor biodiversity and lantana will be mitigated.</p> <p>PS asked if there were any Grey Gums. MM advised that there are some, as well as Bloodwoods. PS advised that there have been reports of koalas along O’Haras Creek.</p> <p>Monitoring Fauna</p> <p>Fauna monitoring is undertaken in the summer months when activity is at the highest and more likely to be observed. Fauna monitoring includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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; 	<p>See Slides 47 – 60</p>

- Aural survey for birds; and
- Visual observation.

Fauna observations:

Photographs shown:

- Dog, Fox, Wallaby & Bandicoot paw prints shown in the same area of sand.

Monitoring flora

- 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:
 - 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, and bare ground.

Vegetation Monitoring Plots

Photographs shown of:

- ONR Annual Monitoring quadrant within the 200m buffer to Maroota Public School.
- HR annual monitoring quadrat within the HRBOA

Threatened Fauna Monitoring ONR

Photographs shown of:

- *Melaleuca deanei* – Deane’s paperbark.
- *Kunzea rupestris* - Rocky Kunzea

Threatened Flora Monitoring ONR

Photographs shown of:

- *Pimelea curviflora* var. *curviflora*
- *Darwinia fascicularis* subsp. *Oligantha*
- *Tetratheca glandulosa*

Threatened Flora Species at Haerses Rd

Photographs shown of:

- *Darwinia biflora*
- *Grevillea Parviflora* subsp *supplicans*
- *Acacia bynoeana*
- *Tetratheca glandulosa*

BCT Reporting

- Biobank Management is now into its 7th year
- Active Management at Porters Road has commenced with the first annual report completed
- Active Management at Haerses Road has commenced

Slide 61

<p>BUSH REGENERATION WORKS</p>	<p>Summary of Assisted Bush Regeneration Work for the period November 2025 to May 2026- presented by TB.</p> <p>Rehabilitation of Lot 196</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued suppression of Whisky Grass (<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>) from spreading seed. Achieved through slashing and hand weeding around native groundcover before the species flowered. ➤ Supplementary planting undertaken in May 2025 of 210 fast growing shrub species has been pretty successful, considering past failures. ➤ One more round of planting is scheduled for May-July this year. <p>Assisted Regeneration - Native Vegetation Corridor (NVC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Competing shrubs and vines were thinned out around threatened species <i>Melaleuca deaneii</i>. ➤ Continued maintenance of Whisky grass in and around translocation area. ➤ Maintenance of stock pile mounds in preparation for new NVC area. This included general sweeps targeting exotic grasses and a follow-up spot-spray of common couch using Glyphosate 360. <p>Rehabilitation of Lot 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued maintenance of exotic perennial grasses African Lovegrass and Paspalum. Also targeted <i>Pellaea Vridis</i>, which is mostly eradicated from this area. ➤ Continued primary and maintenance works on Lantana. We have largely eradicated Lantana around the dam. Bell Minors mostly no longer inhabit the areas where lantana has been effectively cleared. ➤ Plantings are doing relatively well albeit heavily grazed at the top of the guards. Perhaps some more pioneer Acacia species would do well here. <p>Rehabilitation of Haerses Rd – Old Dam Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Undertaking maintenance work mostly just patches of Crofton weed remain. Dense cover of native ferns. ➤ New area towards the cutting sheds to be worked in the coming months targeting lantana. ➤ Whiskey grass along access road near old dam is largely under control. We swept through just before it seeded and removed all immature seed. <p>Assisted Regeneration - Haerses Road Biodiversity Offset</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Is in relatively good condition with occasional weeds present across the top edge. 	<p>See photographs in Slides: 64 - - 76</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hasn't been worked a great deal in this area in the last 6 months. ➤ Managing <i>Pellaea</i> fern and Crofton weed along edges and drainage line. <p>Haerses Rd - Translocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued management of exotic perennial grasses mostly Whisky grass which is almost absent now and African Lovegrass. Removed Bridal Creeper, which is a concern and will be monitored on an ongoing basis. ➤ Continued selectively culled <i>Kunzea ambigua</i> specimens that were growing above high-value Proteaceae species, such as <i>Banksia serrata</i>, <i>Lambertia formosa</i> or <i>Persoonia linearis</i>. <p>Haerses Rd – Visual buffer along Wisemans Ferry Rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintenance of common couch contained in better areas. ➤ Supplementary planting undertaken in bare patch, where survival has been poor. ➤ Targeted priority species including blackberry and Moth Vine. ➤ We are planning to target Green Cestrum <i>Pellaea viridis</i> on the back edge. <p>Haerses Rd – Marks Dam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Most of the plantings have survived. We do very little here apart from target high priority weeds. ➤ <p>Porters Road Offset Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Undertook site inspection in April and treated exotic grasses on the loop track. ➤ Lantana has grown back rapidly in the lower part of the site and will be treated next financial year. ➤ Exotic grasses also increasing along track from Pistol Club to O'Haras Creek. <p>TB advised that it is looking like an El Nino period is coming so need to make sure that planting is done at the right time of the year for the tough conditions.</p> <p>FR advised that there are high levels of bell minors and lantana on Hitchcock Road.</p>	
<p>GENERAL BUSINESS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🇺🇦 LAy thanked Dixon Quarry for the Carols donation to the school and for helping with the tree clean up. 🇺🇦 HC commented on the road maintenance work on ONR near the school. LAy said will lodge a complaint with TfNSW about the unsatisfactory road shoulder works. HC commented that Dixon Quarry may also lodge a complaint. 🇺🇦 LA – as first meeting of 2026, time to review the Terms of Reference for this CCC to confirm they are fit for purpose. These will be sent with the minutes, for review. Requesting feedback 	

	<p>from members. An agenda item will be placed on the next meeting for discussion/ratification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA advised that DPHI sent an email and correspondence to all Independent Chairs in February 2026, following representations to the Secretary from some members of some CCC's. As a result, DPHI has reminded Chairs to ensure CCCs are run in accordance with the Department's Guidelines, Terms of Reference, and adherence of the Code of Conduct and update any Pecuniary Interest Declarations. JB/HC showed members a video showing the machinery cutting the sandstone blocks: Link: https://www.instagram.com/p/DXEF7TtTkuC/ 	
NEXT MEETING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 4th November 2026. Commencing at 12.30pm with lunch prior to the 1pm start. 	Agreed.

The meeting was closed at 3:09pm with the chair thanking all members for their attendance.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Send current version of Terms of Reference to CCC members for their review.	LA