

Minutes

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|------------------------|---|
| Meeting title | Botany Mill Community Liaison Group |
| Purpose | To liaise with community members |
| Date & Time | 21 st July 2016, 6:30pm – 8:00pm |
| Place | B9 |
| Attendees | Charles Abela (CA), Kate Mackay (KM), Karen Browne (KB), Lynda Newnam (LN), Karl Achleitner (KA), Jacob Chretien (JC), Karen Jones (KJ) |
| Note-taker | Karen Jones |

| # | Meeting Item | Notes/Action | Leader(s) | Due date |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|----------|
| 1 | Welcome and introductions | Apologies: Gerry O’Connell, John Viselli, Adem Long (NSW Ports) | Karl Achleitner | |
| 2 | Review Action List | <u>Action</u> : KJ to provide LN with information on the range of plants that are to be planted along the noise wall. <u>Comments</u> : Email on noise wall design sent to LN. Could not find any detail on range of plant species. | Karen Jones | Complete |
| 3 | Update on Land Sale and Noise Wall | A community flyer was sent out regarding an update on the Land Sale and Noise Wall in May 2016. <u>Land Sale</u> : Settlement on the “Hangar Block” land took place on 18 th April 2016. The new owners are Horne Group Pty Ltd, who have no public contact details listed. Action: KJ to add contact details of new property owner to meeting minutes. <u>Noise Wall</u> – The noise wall on the “Hangar Block”, as was approved, will not be built due to the changing position of the new owners of the land. A new noise consultant has been appointed to determine a new noise strategy for the site, and the community will be consulted once a new plan is developed. B7 will not be demolished until an interim noise solution is put in place. Orora will need to determine not only how to mitigate noise in the long-term, but also determine how to minimize the noise during the demolition of the B7 building. | Karl Achleitner | |

Unfortunately the replacement solution will likely only reduce the noise from the Mill, and not from surrounding noise sources such as the Ports and Botany Road.

LN stated that it was disappointing that Randwick City Council and the Department of Planning did not pay closer attention to how the noise wall agreement between Orora and the new owners was set out.

KM added that her property used to be affected by mill noise when B7 and B8 were running, however since B9 started up, she does not hear any “Mill” noise. She has made one noise complaint due to the steam release valves, but since then there have been no issues. The noises that impact her property at night are trucks and alarms/beepers. It is difficult to tell where these noises are coming from.

4 *Secondary Water Treatment Plant*

Botany Mill will be investing in a secondary water treatment plant. The new biological waste water treatment plant is designed to reduce biological oxygen demand (BOD) and therefore reduce Orora’s impact on the environment and operating costs.

Jacob
Chretien

The water treatment plant will also generate biogas, which will be converted into electricity to be used on site.

Currently the mill uses around 7 million litres of water each day. There is primary treatment on site, which separates out solids (mainly paper fibres) from the water before discharging the remainder to the Sydney Water Sewer.

The secondary water treatment plant is a pre-requisite for tertiary water treatment, which will further reduce the mill’s environmental footprint by allowing a reduction in water usage on site.

The mill is looking to have the secondary water treatment plant operational by December 2017.

There will be no construction of buildings, only process equipment (tanks, piping etc).

The treatment process will be a 2-stage biological process: anaerobic (without the presence of oxygen) treatment, followed by aerobic treatment (with oxygen).

CA said that he was not concerned about the noise during construction and operation, but was very concerned about the possibility of odour generation. The old clarifier was very smelly, so how is this any different?

JC explained that the open tank is in a surplus of oxygen, so along with a change in pH, this will convert any hydrogen sulfide into non-odorous compounds.

CA asked why the sparged tank (aeration tank) doesn't have a cover. JC answered that the conditions shouldn't generate odour and therefore a cover is not needed. He has seen this system in operation and there was no odour. If after commissioning there is any odour generated, then Orora will put measures in place to control the odour.

LN asked who the water treatment system supplier was. JC answered that it is Veolia.

LN asked in the future, how much water would Orora like to see saved by tertiary treatment. JC responded that a few million litres each day would be a good outcome.

LN asked how much electricity will be generated using the biogas from the secondary treatment. JC stated that around 5% of the site's electricity would be generated.

CA asked how often the flare would be operated. JC answered that it would be used as little as possible. If the flare is being used, then the mill is losing the opportunity to generate electricity.

CA mentioned a flare in a business not working properly and hydrogen sulfide could be detected two miles away. JC explained that there will be no hydrogen sulfide in the biogas, as it will be scrubbed out before it reaches the generator. The biogas will be a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide.

The group believe that the secondary water treatment plant was progress and a positive news story, and that it should be promoted.

JC suggested that it could be the subject of the mill's next community newsletter. LN suggested publishing the news in WME.

5 *Overview of main site issues*

Demolition B7 – Will not be commenced until a new reduction strategy is in place and approved.

Karl Achleitner

B5 Demolition – 95% complete.

Production – The mill is at 98% of name plate production, which means it is producing paper at 98% of the designed production rate.

The mill has a partnership with Sydney University to involve Engineering Students in a developmental program with the mill.

6 *Complaints Review*

Complaints received in the period since the last meeting (12/02/16 – 01/07/16).

Karen Jones

| Category | Number |
|--------------|----------|
| Odour | 0 |
| Noise Wall | 1 |
| Noise | 1 |
| Trees | 1 |
| Total | 3 |

The call regarding the Noise Wall was to let the mill know that the complainant was not happy that the noise wall had not been built. He also had concerns about the new owner of the “Hangar Block” land.

The mill received one noise complaint in June regarding a steam safety valve that lifted early in the morning.

The complaint for trees was regarding a tree that had fallen down behind the caller’s fence. She asked for the fallen tree to be removed and a native tree planted in its place.

Three other calls were placed to the hotline, requesting information on Hangar Block work, visible crane work on site and a real estate agent with a general enquiry about mill operations.

7 *General Business*

LN mentioned that the Greater Sydney Commission Talk Bus will be at Maroubra Beach on Saturday July 23rd from 12 - 4pm.

Karl Achleitner

KB stated that Michael Daley’s office used to get calls regarding complaints about the mill, but no longer receive any complaints.

KM let the group know that she will be moving out of Sydney at the end of this year.

8 *Conclusion*

Date of next meetings – 27/10/16
02/03/17

Karl Achleitner

| ACTIONS | COMMENTS |
|--|---|
| KJ to add contact details of new property owner to meeting minutes. | City Alliance Property is selling plots of the Hanger Block land, subject to Subdivision Approval at www.cityalliance.com.au Agent is Steve Hawksley. He is stated as a “director of the vendor”. Ph: 8399 2200 Mob: 0419 144 889 |