

# Minutes

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<b>Meeting title</b>	<b>Botany Mill Community Liaison Group</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To liaise with community members
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March, 6:10pm – 7:40pm
<b>Place</b>	B9
<b>Attendees</b>	Charles Abela (CA), Peter Fagan (PF), Karen Jones (KJ), Craig Nicol (CN), Jacob Chretien (JC)
<b>Note-taker</b>	Karen Jones

#	Meeting Item	Notes/Action	Leader
1	Welcome and Apologies	Apologies: Gerry O’Connell, Lynda Newnam, Karen Browne (Office of Michael Daley MP)	Karen Jones
2	Review Action List	<p>Karen Jones to invite Bronwyn Englaro from Randwick City Council to attend one meeting per year to give an update on local environment and community issues.</p> <p>Email sent to Bronwyn in February, but no response. Will follow up for the next meeting.</p>	Karen Jones
3	Mill Projects Update	<p><b><u>Secondary water Treatment plant (SWTP)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biomass was introduced in early November, when commissioning began.</li> <li>Ramp up of commissioning continuing, with completion expected in around a month’s time.</li> <li>During commissioning a flare has been operating for the consumption of the biogas. This flare has an enclosed flame, so is not visible from outside the plant.</li> <li>Cogeneration is likely to start in April, where the biogas will be used to sustainably create electricity for the site, with the flare only being operated when the biogas engine is unavailable.</li> <li>Co-generation plant will generate approx. 1.5 MW power. There is space reserved for a second gas engine if needed.</li> <li>Excess aerobic sludge is dewatered and sent to an organics facility to produce compost.</li> </ul> <p>PF asked whether Orora had been asked by Sydney Water or the EPA to build the SWTP, or whether it was an Orora initiative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JC answered that it was driven by Orora. The SWTP is the first step to significantly reduce water use on site. The next step in the future would</li> </ul>	Karen Jones

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be to build a tertiary treatment plant. Water saving is the right thing to do to be a sustainable business.

- CN stated that 9/10 mills in the UK have a SWTP to minimise environmental impact.

### **B7 Demolition**

- Demolition of the main B7 building is almost complete.
- Work continues on sorting and removing rubble and waste for recycling.
- Over 90% of the demolition waste has been recycled.
- A community flyer was sent out in November to update local residents on both the secondary water treatment plant and B7 demolition.

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## **4 Overview of main site issues**

### **Site Performance**

Craig Nicol

- Performance of the paper machine over the last 5-6 months has seen an improvement. There has been a long-term improving trend since B9 started up.
- Good performance also means better resource efficiencies, such as water and energy.
- The focus now is on optimisation.

### **Annual Maintenance shut**

- In addition to the regular day-long monthly maintenance shuts that the mill regularly holds, the site had its annual planned extended maintenance shut from February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.
- Some very large items required changing for the first time in five years.
- Many other improvement works were conducted for performance, safety, environment and quality.
- No accidents or injuries over the shut period.
- Around 130 additional people were on site every day.

PF asked if Orora conducts a big shut each year. CN answered that generally yes, however the length of the shut and at what time of the year is site dependent, and can change from year to year.

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## **5 Complaints Review** Contacts Review (15/10/17 – 07/03/2018)

Karen Jones

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
Odour	6
Noise	0
Other	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>

Six odour complaints were received since the last meeting, four to the mill and two via the EPA. Four complaints were in the first week of February, and two in the first week of March.

All complaints related to the failure of the flare in the secondary water treatment plant, with biogas being vented through the safety relief valves to the atmosphere.

Five of the seven complaints were from one resident.

One call regarding a medium-sized recycling truck using McCauley Street to access Botany Road on its way to deliver paper to the mill. The driver is now using Beauchamp Road instead.

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CA stated that several years ago odour from the mill was mentioned at every La Perouse precinct committee meeting. Since B9 started running it hasn't been mentioned at all.

PF stated that he very rarely smelt the odour – perhaps twice in the last five years in Little Bay. Prior to that it was more regular.

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## 6 *General Business*

- Botany Mill Sponsored the Matraville Christmas Carols
- Sponsorship of Bondi Lions club for their “World Festival of Magic” fundraiser. Funds go towards attendance of local disadvantaged children at the magic show, along with equipment for the Sydney Children’s and Royal Women’s hospitals.
- Visit from federal MP Mark Thistlethwaite in February. The visit was for general interest in a large manufacturing site in his electorate and to become familiar with Orora’s operations.
- Botany Mill to again participate in Clean up Australia Day in Purcell Park on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- General discussion around local recycling:
  - CN stated that we spoke to Mark Thistlethwaite MP about co-mingled recycling and whether there was an opportunity to do more source separation.
  - PF stated that the local council used to have split bins, with half paper, half other recyclables, but people weren’t respecting it, so council gave up and went to a complete co-mingled bin.
  - PF suggested that the solution may be to find what will motivate the community to source separate their recyclable materials.
  - PF asked whether Orora was able to get enough feedstock. CN answered that Orora collects more than we consume.
  - PF asked whether the 450,000 Tonnes of wastepaper per year is delivered via Foreshore Road. JC answered that yes, and of the 400,000 Tonnes of product that leaves the site, 2/3 is taken via Foreshore Road, and 1/3 goes to the Ports for shipping. There is no train line to the site, and poor consistency of the rail network across states is a barrier to rail transport.

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## 7 *Conclusion*

Date of next meeting – June 2018

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