

**Meeting Notes**

**Meeting Date: 18 June 2009**

**Time: 6.30 – 8.30 pm**

**Location: Club Menai, Banksia Room 2, 44 – 60 Allison Cres, Menai**

Item	Issue	Action	By
	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b>            DW introduced herself and informed members that AC had left to take up a full-time position and introduced CW</p>		
1	<p><b>Minutes</b>            Minutes of the previous meeting (19 March 2009): Minutes need to be amended to reflect correct action requested of GS</p>	KP	ASAP
2	<p><b>Business Arising</b>            There was no new business arising</p>		
3	<p><b>Update on Operation and Environmental Matters</b>            RM reported that wet weather had hampered the completion of lining Stage 5 Cell 2, that approximately 80% of Area 2 has been landscaped and that the remaining areas here will be used for stockpiling of capping and revegetation material for Stage 5 works            The DECC has given approval for Virgin Excavated Natural Material (VENM) to be taken to the PCYC Mini-bike club site to construct tracks and that the perimeter fence is complete. RM said the site is quite boggy and will need to dry for at least a week before car park and track construction can commence. A DA will be needed for the buildings            GS added that the DA is required because the plans did not show squares indicating buildings, but that it would probably only take 3 weeks to get approval as the buildings constitute minor works            RM described the trialling of Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) at Lucas Heights 2, and mentioned that quite a few sites including those at Horsley Park and Raymond Terrace are already using this biodegradable blend of polymers and recycled fibres as a spray-on cover. The advantage is that it is very thin compared to dirt and if the 6 month trial is successful it will be used at all sites            JR asked if the use of ADC would increase the risk of fire            RM answered that the blend is like papier maché and that it goes on wet, is only a thin layer and is not likely to increase fire risk.            JP reported that the area affected by asbestos on the former PCYC mini bike club site has been remediated and that Council has agreed that the remediation has been successful. The old site is now closed and no longer operational            RM updated members on Landfill Gas Management – the campaign</p>		

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	<p>to repair failed infrastructure in Areas 3 and 4 and install additional new wells in Areas 1a, 2, and 3 has begun and should be complete by the first week in July depending on the weather, and that three old wells have been replaced</p> <p>Nursery/Planting – a table showing the number of plants, species and recipients is attached to the minutes</p> <p>EB reported on Landfill gas and odour monitoring</p> <p>Hot spots (shown on attached Environmental and Operations Update) are mainly associated with gas emissions from existing gas infrastructure and filling activities and addressing these has been incorporated into the Winter Campaign</p> <p>RM added that some of the problems that were detected during the monitoring were repaired within a couple of days</p> <p>EB offered to resize the Complaints Summary to cover a smaller time frame</p>	EB	19 11 09
	<p>JR mentioned that he had phoned to complain about odour four times and on one occasion had spoken to a male customer service operator who did not follow the standard complaint response approach. This complaint was not recorded.</p> <p>JP responded that she would follow up on this</p> <p>IK asked if the odour levels had been associated with the maintenance work</p> <p>RM answered that this was partly responsible, and that temperature inversions caused by the cold weather meant little dilution of odour was occurring, which also means that combating odour in winter is a harder job, and that the high level of moisture has also caused the gas to concentrate. Further, a number of complaints have related to green waste, because this is smellier when saturated</p> <p>EB reported that one round of ground water monitoring was conducted in March 2009. The results showed ammonia levels to be consistent with those measured throughout 2007/8 and were considered to be low</p> <p>EB reported that wet weather overflow monitoring was undertaken over four rounds through April and June; that ammonia levels were acceptable but that turbidity (suspended solids in water) was elevated at the licence sampling point for all events. EB explained how turbidity was measured by passing light through water containing suspended solids, and the defraction of the light was then measured</p> <p>EB reported that dust results were below the target level of 4g/m<sup>2</sup>/month for all gauges</p> <p>DW asked members if they would prefer a graph that reflected only the past 12 months instead of around 3 years, to help make it easier to read</p> <p>Members agreed that this would be helpful, but that they would like to continue to see Complaints reflected over 3 years</p>	JP	19 11 09

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	<p>EB undertook to resize the dust graph so that it covers just 12 months instead of around 3 years and will be easier to read</p> <p>JP gave an update on the AWT facility. The Department of Planning has completed the Adequacy Review of the first draft of the EA. WSN is making amendments and will submit the final version to Department of Planning in roughly July/August, with the 30 day public exhibition phase likely to commence following this. We will keep the CAC up to date about this. The proposed landfill closing date extension is being sought at a later stage, and the CAC will be kept informed about this also.</p> <p>JR asked if the CAC would be more than just 'informed' about the progress of the AWT</p> <p>JP responded yes and that if no regular meeting is planned during this time that WSN would contact members to seek their feedback, and that WSN had invited CAC member input at previous meetings. A member said that there had been the suggestion of a visit to the WSN Macarthur AWT facility</p> <p>JR asked if the AWT is essentially used to reduce the impact of waste on the environment</p> <p>RM replied that an AWT is a holistic approach to waste reduction and that it is preferable in terms of energy production. Also that surrounding residents would be less subjected to odours as the odours are mostly contained inside the vessel, and that a further benefit is that residual waste is inert and therefore does not have to be buried so deep. The decision to employ an AWT is not dependent on any one feature, but the fact that gas is captured to reduce emissions and produce green energy is important</p> <p>JP said that the DA for the truck parking area and access road has been approved by Sutherland Shire Council. WSN is now waiting on approval from the land owner, ANSTO, before the DA can be submitted to the Department of Planning for development consent.</p> <p>The council advised that the proposal is deemed to be a minor modification.</p>	EB	19 11 09
4	<p><b>Community Feedback on Odours</b></p> <p>JR commented that odours in previous years had not seemed as bad as this year, and that he is more aware of odour levels as he is home more</p> <p>RM suggested this may be because of failures which are becoming apparent in some of gas wells in Stage 5 and that last year gas wells were able to be repaired before the winter in contrast to this one</p>		
5	<p><b>Actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KP to amend Dec minutes and send to WSN for publication</li> </ul> <p>Done – ACTION CLOSED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EB to check record of odour level from morning of 16 February</li> </ul>		

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	<p>EB reported that records were checked, but nothing specific that might have contributed to the smell that day was found. RM noted that the gas plant was in full production – ACTION CLOSED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GS to ask Ian Drinnan to attend meeting and advise if Council had a means of catching illegal dumping of rubbish at Heathcote Road – ACTION CLOSED</li> </ul> <p>GS reported that Brett Richardson of the Sutherland Shire Regulation and Enforcement Unit had trialled surveillance cameras in some areas but that power to cameras is often an issue and this was not generally successful. A further problem is that high levels of infra-red are required to provide quality visuals which in turn makes cameras more visible.</p> <p>The REU has also placed 6 officers in areas where dumping occurs frequently and there has been a high number of convictions but nothing ever gets reported and council funds to support this type of approach are limited. GS reported that Brett Richardson had indicated that he would be happy to talk to members of the CAC at a future meeting and will give GS a report to distribute (<i>see attached</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JP to send information about site tour availability to KP to distribute to members of the CAC – done. ACTION CLOSED</li> </ul>		
6	<p><b>Grass Roots Grants Program</b></p> <p>There is nothing new to report on the Grass Roots Grants Program. JP explained that the Program supports community environmental projects that demonstrate some aspect of sustainability</p> <p><b>Update on the Police Youth Club Mini-bike Site</b></p> <p>This was reported on under Item 2</p>		
7	<p><b>Other Business Arising</b></p> <p>The WSN CAC Lucas Heights Terms of Reference</p> <p>DW noted that the ToR need to be refreshed, that old items should be removed and that members should review the existing ToR and provide feedback</p> <p>KP to email a copy of the ToR to all members</p> <p>The Next Meeting – 19 September 2009</p> <p>It was noted that this will be a site tour with a short meeting beforehand. The meeting will be limited to 45 minutes and the entire event will take around 2 hours</p> <p>IK noted that he will be away – KP to add to apologies</p> <p>Bike/walking track development</p> <p>JR reported on the status of the bike/walking track and RM added that WSN hopes to link this into walks on the Great Kai'mia Way</p> <p>Contract for Facilitation Services</p> <p>JP reported that subsequent to the feedback survey conducted amongst all CAC members, a tender process was initiated for the future facilitation of the WSN CAC groups. The review is now complete and Id Planning was the successful tenderer.</p> <p>Sale of WSN</p>	<p>KP</p> <p>KP</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>19 11 09</p>

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	<p>EB reported that to date no more is known about this and for now it is business as usual</p> <p>The Golf Course</p> <p>GS reported that the first 9 holes are open but not full-time because of the inordinate amount of rain, and that the course should be fully operational within the next month. One problem is that the crows keep stealing the balls. The construction of the clubhouse is due to go to tender in the next month</p> <p>Date of the next meeting is 19 September – an agenda will be sent to members</p>		

**Next meeting: SATURDAY 19 September 2009 9:00am to 11:00am**  
**Venue : WSN Lucas Heights – members should proceed to the Weighbridge of the Lucas Heights WRC, where they will be directed to the meeting room in the site office.**

**Every participant must wear enclosed and sturdy shoes.**

Agenda Item	Action summary		
1	Minutes of the previous meeting (19 March 2009): Minutes need to be amended to reflect correct action requested of GS	KP	ASAP
3	EB to resize the Complaints Summary to cover a smaller time frame	EB	19 11 09
3	JP to follow up regarding complaints made by JR that were not documented	JP	19 11 09
3	EB to resize the dust graph so that it covers just 12 months instead of around 3 years	EB	19 11 09
7	KP to email a copy of the ToR to all members	KP	ASAP
7	IK noted that he will be away – KP to add to apologies	KP	19 11 09