

## Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting title</b>	<b>Coopers Gap Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Meeting #41</b>		
<b>Attendees</b>			
Justin Drew (AGL)	Cr Scott Henschen, SBRC		
Nathan Brown (GE)	Jade Wenham		
Christopher Lemm (AEC)	Blair Wenham		
Margaret Fox (Tilt Renewables)	Alice Sharp		
Matt Dechert (Tilt Renewables)	Finlay Sharp		
Matthew Poulton (GE)	Nev Wenham		
Han Tay (Project Director AGL)	Gordon Glode		
Owen Boushel (Tilt Renewables)	Judy Schafferius		
Neil French	Ian Schafferius		
David Magill (Senior Manager, Government & Community Relations, AGL)	Lianne Knight		
Lauren Glode	Craig Knight		
Sarah Osborne	Michelle Davis		
Barry Glode	Barry Gooderham		
Cheryl Cosgrove	James Scott		
Mick Cosgrove	Russell Glode		
Keith Campbell (Chair)	Carol Weekes (Minute Secretary)		
<b>Observers</b>			
Marion Campbell			
<b>Apologies</b>			
Lidewij Koene (Economic Development Manager, WDRC)	Andrew and Karen O'Connor		
Bill and Dell Sparkes	Carmel and Phil Trebban		
Cr Kirstie Schumacher, SBRC			
<b>Location</b>	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North	<b>Date &amp; start time</b>	<b>17 November 2022 4.09pm</b>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>1. Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KC welcomed all attendees and noted apologies.</li> <li>David McGill introduced the new staff attendees and advised that the new Community Relations Manager (replacing Lachlan Stuart) is yet to be appointed.</li> <li>Owen Boushel introduced Nathan Brown, Chris Lemm, Margaret Fox (Head of Health, Safety and Environment) and Matt Dechert (Head of Risk).</li> </ul>
<b>2. Previous Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from the Community Consultative Committee Meeting No.40 (CCC-040) held on 24 May 2022 were distributed prior to this meeting.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As there was no further discussion from those Minutes, KC sought endorsement as a true and correct record of that meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>Moved:</b> Neil French  <b>Seconded:</b> Jade Wenham</p> <p><i>Minutes were unanimously accepted as a true and accurate record.</i></p>
<p><b>3. Business Arising</b></p>	<p><b>Action Item List:</b></p> <p><b>1. Viewing Platform:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs to be a joint SBRC and WDRC project</li> <li>Cr Scott Henschen advised that there is much work to be done in this area as there are significant bio-security concerns with tourists accessing private property and potentially spreading parthenium and fireweed, Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease.</li> <li>Rubbish removal is also an issue.</li> <li>Further community consultation is required.</li> <li>Budget is much higher than originally anticipated.</li> <li>An alternative Energy (Solar &amp; Windfarm) Trail could be created.</li> <li>SBRC will not be installing any further dump points</li> <li>If a blade is to be preserved for education purposes, then it should be located in Kumbia (so local businesses benefit.)</li> <li>There are 3 property owners affected by the proposed Viewing Platform.</li> </ul> <p>Several attendees provided notable points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combination locks have been installed on gates to prevent vehicles accessing properties but tourists are still going through the fences.</li> <li>One property owner has sought legal advice regarding liability for any injuries sustained by tourists climbing through fences.</li> <li>Tourists are stopping on the road to take photographs and are choking roads and access to properties. Access to some property driveways requires re-assessment with a view to improve safety</li> <li>If there is a place to stop briefly and turn around cars and caravans, the roads might not get blocked</li> <li>Signage is critical but raises the question: how will it be policed?</li> <li>Current bins have to be emptied, this proposal requires only 1 more, so could that be re-considered?</li> <li>ON GPS some “No Through Roads” are showing as trafficable, resulting in people opening gates and traversing private property to seemingly follow GPS instructions.</li> <li>Mareeba example provided: turbine is located within the turnaround area to enable tourists to have a look, get their photos and move on.</li> </ul>

<p><b>2. Project Update</b></p>	<p><b>Forecast Completion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still in construction phase but practical completion is expected before Christmas</li> <li>• Commencement of operation and maintenance are being conducted alongside the final construction phase</li> <li>• Faulty gearboxes have all been replaced.</li> <li>• It is likely that a formal opening event will be arranged by early next year.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Construction Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project almost completed</li> <li>• Next year the spill over work will be completed by a small team of 8 to 10 staff</li> <li>• Construction workforce will be reduced by Christmas</li> <li>• There will be 19 staff on site for maintenance and quality control of the towers. Any defects identified (punch list) become part of the spill over list to be addressed.</li> <li>• The project is in a “really good spot” with the adjusted timeline on track.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Community Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund has \$100,000, comprising \$70,000 from AGL and \$30,000 from Tilt Renewables. This round, \$48,500 will be distributed across a good spread of community organisations and sporting clubs, to communities in the region with Bell and Cooranga North as the epicentre of the area covered. Jandowae will now be part of the new Ironpot Wind Farm community.</li> <li>• Received 22 applications demonstrating a lot of interest.</li> <li>• AGL will soon touch base with the successful applicants.</li> <li>• The sharing of the successful grant recipients will be followed by a media release when the process is complete.</li> <li>• AGL/Tilt Renewables will be preparing a Newsletter in the future and information about community funding and successful grant recipients will be provided through that medium also.</li> <li>• Cr Scott Henschen thanked AGL/ Coopers Gap for their funding assistance with the 11th July 2022 Relay for Life event -Cricket for Life. The event comprised three 120 style matches and raised \$30,000 for Relay for Life. Next year’s event will have a mental health focus.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Update on Other Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Annual Newsletter and a website upgrade are being planned to assist in improving accessibility to information about Coopers Gap Windfarm. The Newsletter will include Community Funding outcomes</li> <li>• The current website content will be “cleaned up” and refreshed</li> <li>• Distribution list will be reviewed and brought up to date</li> <li>• Those interested will be able to “sign-up” to receive the Newsletter.</li> </ul>

<p><b>6. Mobile Phone Tower</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGL re-engaged with Telstra and a new location has been selected for the tower, which will cover 90% of the windfarm footprint/ approximately 25klm coverage</li> <li>• AGL will be signing the Agreement with Telstra within the next few weeks.</li> <li>• A proposal for planning approval, design and construction is being prepared and landowner approval negotiated, so this may take between 12 and 18 months to complete.</li> <li>• AGL are unable to disclose the location of the proposed tower until the above negotiations are complete and the Agreement with Telstra has been signed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. General Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KC invited participant feedback on the general level of satisfaction with the project</li> <li>• Whilst it's been a long-winded process, it is good to see it nearly complete and up and running</li> <li>• Traffic flow issues around the area remain a key issue to be addressed and remedied for everyone's safety</li> <li>• Cr Scott Henschen, SBRC, invited CCC members to utilise the experience they have gained from their Coopers Gap experiences to get involved in the new windfarm and solar projects evolving around the region.</li> <li>• Despite fears that Coopers Gap would decrease property values in the area, that has not happened.</li> <li>• Ongoing noise monitoring was raised as an issue and a question raised regarding length of time that noise monitors are in situ.</li> <li>• GE are monitoring noise levels and will respond if reports of increased noise are received. Quality Assurance checks are continuing to ensure acceptable noise output levels, for example, if the noise level is being exceeded, then the output of the tower can be reduced to reduce the noise level to what is deemed to be an acceptable level.</li> <li>• On behalf of the CCC, KC moved a vote of thanks to AGL/ Coopers Gap staff and meeting participants seconded and supported the vote through acclamation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Actions</b></p>	<p><b>Action 1: To progress Viewing Platform</b> (Item 3.1 above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting resolved that SBRC and WDRC advance this strategy after further adequate consultation with land holders</li> </ul> <p><b>Action 2: To progress Mobile Phone Tower</b> (Item 6 above)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HT will advise the CCC of the location of the Tower, when the Agreement is signed and the information becomes available, subject to the land holders permission and consent.</li> </ul>

<p><b>9. Next Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• KC invited meeting participants to the end of year celebrations and wished all a Merry Christmas and safe travels over the holiday period.</li><li>• Next meeting: proposed date: 18th May 2023, although this may change if the official opening of Coopers Gap occurs early as there may be an opportunity to have the meeting coincide with the Official Opening.</li><li>• <b>KC declared the meeting closed at 5.20pm</b></li></ul>
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