



MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (MERCUNDA MINERAL SANDS)

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 13 December 2023 held at the Mindarie Site Office

Meeting commenced at 4.10 pm

Present:

Wendy Campana (Independent Chair)

Landowners: Kevin Heidrich, Darren Zadow, Jamie Evans

District Council of Karoonda East Murray: Calvin Hoye

DEM: Greg Tyczenko

Murray Zircon (MZ): Ken Donaldson, Simon Hilder and Graham Hewson

Tim Whetstone MP

Hans Bailiht (Observer)

Apologies:

Nil

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair thanked members for attending the meeting and all present introduced themselves to the group.

Graham Hewson (Executive General Manger) indicated that MZ was keen to enhance its community engagement and that there had been some issues to date. He also advised of the restructure occurring to support better practice. MZ is keen to gain guidance from the Committee to enhance its communication and engagement practices.

2. Minutes & Actions from the Previous Meeting

The Chair advised that she understood no formal minutes were taken of the previous meeting and members confirmed that a short presentation was made and that 2 meetings had taken place.

It was noted that the Committee had not formalised its Independent Chair at this time.

The Chair confirmed that formal minutes would be taken and be distributed in the future and placed on the MZ website.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Group were discussed and the Chair highlighted the following key issues included in the document which was prepared by MZ.

Key issues highlighted were:

- Purpose: the MMCC “*performs an advisory and consultative role and is not a decision-making or regulatory body*” it will work to “*establish good working relationships and promote information sharing between Murray Zircon and local stakeholders*”;
- Membership: Independent Chair; up to 5 community stakeholders with the combination proposed to be “*local landowners and people with wider community interests*”; a representative of the Council; 2 representatives nominated by Murray Zircon; a representative from the relevant Regional Development Board and a representative from the Landscape Board.
- Reporting: meeting agendas and minutes are to be published on the Murray Zircon site
- Resources: provided by Murray Zircon

The Chair described the group as a vehicle to ensure information is provided to the community and that members provided feedback on matters of concern along with any ideas to enhance their resolution. In essence the Group will be both the “cheer squad” to get information out and “the critics” back to MZ when issues emerged that needed clarification and better engagement.

Agreed Actions:

- Chair to distribute TOR to members
- Members to consider feedback to be provided at the next meeting
- Chair to clarify membership requests/response from other bodies

3. Project Update

Ken Donaldson provided an update on processing and mine activities during the compliance directive.

- Mining from the pit has ceased under the compliance direction.
- Rehabilitation of the tailings cells is continuing with cells 1,2 and 3 under rehabilitation.
- Planned maintenance works around the processing plant have been advanced whilst the plant in non-operational during this time.
- Training of staff has been brought forward with a number of personnel commencing required training (High Voltage Electrical switching, confined space and working at height training).
- Soil stripping and stockpiling occurring on the west side of Jacka rd. as per the compliance direction.

4. Community Engagement Update

Various matters were raised during the meeting:

Tim Whetstone encouraged greater engagement and communication with the community and raised various matters of concern he had heard about in the community.

The Chair confirmed that the role of the Committee was to suggest better approaches and to raise issues. Matters that related to specific landowners were able to be addressed in confidential

discussions between the landowner and MZ. Information of a general nature arising at these landowner meetings may assist to enhance stakeholder engagement.

Jamie Evans sought greater communication and face to face discussions and interactions with landowners.

Kevin Heidrich raised matters related to road conditions. The Chair sought clarification on the nature of the roads ie State or Local ownership. Calvin Hoyer from the Council confirmed that they were local roads however funding issues were preventing upgrades at this time.

Greg Tyczenko highlighted the value of having transparent and open information/communication available for stakeholders.

General discussion took place on opportunities to enhance community information/engagement.

- MZ confirmed that it is supporting various local groups but was not publishing this support on its website, however events held his sponsorship signing
- FAQs (frequently asked questions) on the website may assist with community information
- MZ had in the past had stands at local events for the community to gain information

Agreed Actions:

- Chair to distribute a draft set of FAQs for members to provide feedback on that would be discussed at the next meeting
- Members to consider what enhancements could be made on the website and provide ideas to be discussed the next meeting
- MZ to meet with Jamie Evans regarding his landowner issues/arrangements

5. Any Other Business

Jamie Evans advised of the importance of having a confirmed emergency services contact and conducting any training between the MZ and local emergency services brigades/teams to be ready for emergency responses. He understood that this information had not been shared at this stage.

Calvin Hoyer advised that the gate across Jacka Road has been communicated to emergency services.

Agreed Actions:

- MZ to meet with Jamie Evans regarding emergency services matters

6. Next Meeting

The Chair advised it would be valuable to meet again in February to progress issues raised that required discussion at the committee level and a date will be circulated.

Meeting closed at 5.15 pm