



Minutes

Project	Koppers Newcastle Stakeholder	From	Monique Pritchard
Subject	Koppers CRG #3	Tel	1800 066 243
Venue/Date/Time	Koppers Office 23/02/2021 3.30pm	Job No	12511862
Copies to	CRG members.		
Attendees	Michael Ulph (GHD) (MU) Nick Moretti (Koppers) (NM) Shane Beasley (Koppers) (SB) Marie Caruana (First Chance) (MC) John Hayes (community representative) (JH) Chris Tola (community representative) (CT) Andrew Humphries (Suez) (AH) Rick Banyard (community representative) (RB) Monique Pritchard (GHD) Minutes (MP)	Apologies Not present	Sarah Kiely (Port of Newcastle) Paul Adams (Major Projects)

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Action

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

- MU provided a welcome and Acknowledgement of Country.

Safety moment

- MU asked the room if they would like to share a safety moment.
- NM mentioned clipping on your seatbelt before starting your car, not whilst driving off, was much safer.
- RB mentioned the recent lifting of a 350 tonne coal loader in the harbour by heavy winds.

Introductions

- Technical issue with video conferencing sound via MS teams delayed start of meeting.
 - MU introduced Andrew Humphries of Suez as a replacement of Wade Hammond.
 - The group briefly introduced themselves around the table and via MS teams to welcome Andrew to the CRG for the first time.
- NM to invite the board room at next meeting to allow sound through the desk speaker when using MS teams/video conferencing.

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- JH moved that minutes of the previous meeting are a true and correct record.
- MC seconded the motion.

Koppers Generally

- SB provided an update of COVID on Koppers globally, advising that Denmark Koppers had a small number of cases and the US Koppers had 255 confirmed cases.
- SB advised that the global aluminium market had experienced a slowdown but this had not flowed through to the local market. Covid had effected all product line prices for Carbon Division but this had been offset by a strong year in the US in Construction Timber due to the Covid home reno boom.
- JH asked if Koppers Australia were not into construction.
- SB advised not directly, but further down the line.
- SB advised that globally it has been an ok year but US Koppers has had a challenging time as some staff did not follow COVID guidelines and had to step down.

Mayfield Report

- NM provided an overview of Mayfield Koppers advising the firm is a family of 58 people and they are currently hiring staff. NM informed that 29 people had been tested for COVID or quarantined, (with no positives) and a record was being kept. NM to touch base with AH for site tour and update
- NM advised that Mayfield Koppers have two planned shutdowns in April this year.
- NM highlighted that there have been no major injuries for a long while and that Mayfield Koppers have had a lower profile environmentally than previous years They now have alerts on the tanks for pressure changes to warn of potential odour issues.
- NM discussed the 2018 spill incident that lead to the EPA prosecution on 21 October 2020 that was delivered by phone. The events that took place on 21st and 22Nd of May 2020 were decided under the totality principle, which reduced the fine for the second event by 25%. Koppers pleaded guilty to the three charges and a lot of information was presented on 21 October Last year.
- NM advised the ruling was handed down last week and Koppers were fined \$82,500 in total, a fine that was to be paid to the Port Stephens Koala Sanctuary. The outcome was published in the media on 22nd and 23rd February, with three advertisements having to be placed in the Newcastle Herald, Sydney Morning Herald and the Australian Financial Review.

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- JH referred to the article relating to the funds being donated to the Koala Sanctuary in Port Stephens.
 - JH commented that the fine was minimal in comparison to the amount spent on measures to prevent these events happening again.
 - SB agreed with the comment and suggested that over \$1.8 million had been spent on just Thermal Oxidation improvements to site already.
 - NM explained that the spill occurred while they were implementing the thermal oxidation improvement program. He suggested that AH could come and have a look at the site.
 - RB asked if the warning devices are working.
 - NM confirmed they are working and explained how the alarms worked.
 - CT asked if ongoing training was being offered to staff as this replaces complacency.
 - NM confirmed that ongoing training was being offered and explained that quality checking and ongoing improvement protocols are in place.
 - NM advised there was a warning text list that was populated from Consultation Manager and a test text message was set up to notify residents of a drill
 - RB asked if the committee members are on the list and advised he would like to be included.
 - MU advised they are still populating the list with mobile numbers and can add the committee members.
 - MC suggested the list include the new neighbours – Pacific Hydraulics to the list of contacts. MC offered to provide an updated list of contacts for neighbours in the area for Mayfield Koppers to contact in the future.
- MU to add committee member mobile numbers to text list
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Community

- MU asked if members have other news to share that can be included in the next newsletter
 - MC advised that Firstchance have two events this year as fundraisers. The trivia night and ball were also supplemented with a silent auction.
 - CT mentioned the tree lopping by AGL contractors that received negative press from the local residents. A meeting was held to discuss the tree lopping, which saw two councillors meeting with local residents raising the issue of contractors wrecking trees and making them unsafe. No outcome at present.
- MU to follow up with MC regarding details of fundraising events.
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Minutes**Action**

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- JH advised that the same thing had happened in the Maryville area early one morning where residents complained to contractors wrecking trees. The contractors left as a result of the feedback that day.
 - RB mentioned there was renewed interest in the portside rail line and the rail line between Narrabri and Newcastle to be constructed into a double-stacked line for the movement of freight.
 - JH supported the CBCFM renewed interest in these rail lines and suggested the original catalyst was the proposed container terminal in 2010
 - CT helps the CBCFM committee to update the digital information but can also provide the details on paper to include in the Mayfield Koppers newsletter.
 - MC asked if there was any progress with the installation on traffic lights on Woodstock Street. SB suggested that RTA had decided this was not justified. Left turn only is the safest option.
 - MU asked if AH wanted to mention anything relating to Suez
 - AH provided an update on Suez regarding the impact of COVID on the business but also advised their success in winning a large recycling services contract that would keep them very busy.

Questions

- MU opens up for questions or suggestions
- CT asked if there is a council rep on the CRG
- MU advised that they had asked John Mackenzie, Emma White and John Church previously.
- MU suggested they could revisit asking a council to join the CRC by recommending that a council rep/staff member might be able to attend.
- MC advised she had an updated list of all the businesses and suggested they talk to Pacific Hydraulics as they own a large section of the building next to them.

MU to invite council rep to join the CRG

MU/NM to reach out to Pacific Hydraulics to make contact.

Close out and next meeting

- MU thanks everyone for their contribution and reminds MC for details of fundraising events to include in the next newsletter..
- MU suggests that another meeting be in three months' time.
- MU closes the meeting at 4:58pm.

MU to set up a CRG meeting for approximately 23/05/2021 and check availability of community members

Monique Pritchard

Senior Communications and Engagement Consultant