



# Minutes

4 February 2025












<b>Project name</b>	12554413 - Koppers stakeholder engagement support	<b>From</b>	Sai Meghna
<b>Subject</b>	CRG Meeting #17	<b>Tel</b>	02 4910 7788
<b>Date / Time</b>	4 February 2025 15:34 – 16:47	<b>Project no.</b>	12554413
<b>Attendees</b>	Nick Moretti (Koppers) Shane Beasley (Koppers) Rick Banyard (Mayfield Group) Marie Caruana (First Chance) Chris Tola (Community member) Michael Ulph (GHD) Sai Meghna (GHD, minutes, online) Emily Graham (Port of Newcastle) Paul Adams (Major Projects) Tony Brooks (Flux 3d – was Mitsalloy)	<b>Apologies</b>	Tony Brooks (MITS Group) John Hayes (Mayfield Group) Emily Strauss (GHD) Rodney Hood (Pacific Hydraulics Newcastle) Mark Peattie (Pacific Hydraulics Newcastle)
<b>Guests</b>	NA		
<b>Objective</b>	Community Reference Group	<b>Copy to</b>	All CRG

Minutes	Action				
<p><b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> MU provides an Acknowledgement of Country.</p>	– NA				
<p><b>Meeting officially started at 3:34</b></p>	– NA				
<p><b>Agenda and introductions</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="175 1500 981 1747"> <thead> <tr> <th>Agenda</th> <th>Introductions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome and Acknowledgement of country</li> <li>Introductions / apologies</li> <li>Safety moment</li> <li>Past minutes</li> <li>Koppers general market update – Shane</li> <li>Mayfield report – Nick</li> <li>Community – Nick</li> <li>Close and next meeting</li> </ul> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nick Moretti</li> <li>Shane Beasley</li> <li>Rick Banyard</li> <li>Marie Caruana</li> <li>Chris Tola</li> <li>Emily Graham</li> <li>Michael Ulph</li> <li>Rodney Hood</li> <li>Paul Adams</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Standard introductions and agenda: – MU introduced Sai as a replacement for Emily</p>	Agenda	Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome and Acknowledgement of country</li> <li>Introductions / apologies</li> <li>Safety moment</li> <li>Past minutes</li> <li>Koppers general market update – Shane</li> <li>Mayfield report – Nick</li> <li>Community – Nick</li> <li>Close and next meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nick Moretti</li> <li>Shane Beasley</li> <li>Rick Banyard</li> <li>Marie Caruana</li> <li>Chris Tola</li> <li>Emily Graham</li> <li>Michael Ulph</li> <li>Rodney Hood</li> <li>Paul Adams</li> </ul>	– NA
Agenda	Introductions				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome and Acknowledgement of country</li> <li>Introductions / apologies</li> <li>Safety moment</li> <li>Past minutes</li> <li>Koppers general market update – Shane</li> <li>Mayfield report – Nick</li> <li>Community – Nick</li> <li>Close and next meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nick Moretti</li> <li>Shane Beasley</li> <li>Rick Banyard</li> <li>Marie Caruana</li> <li>Chris Tola</li> <li>Emily Graham</li> <li>Michael Ulph</li> <li>Rodney Hood</li> <li>Paul Adams</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Safety Moment</b> MU provides safety moment around heat and heat stroke and very hot days being experienced currently in all regions. Others agreed to this. Heat stroke occurs when the body's temperature rises above 104 degrees Celsius</p>	– NA				

Minutes	Action
<p>MU discussed symptoms such as altered mental state and headaches etc and also first aid tips such as Ice bath, take medicine assistant</p> <p>MU discussed prevention tips such as avoiding alcohol and caffeine, drinking 2 cups of water, wearing personal colling devices and taking 15 mins break every two hours when working hard in the sun.</p> <p>NM: We have electrolytes in office and inform the staff. Discussed another staff member who puts water on their back.</p>  <p>Another safety share shared in the room by RB about being aware of what's around your feet as he witnessed instances of cleaning up debris post the storm.</p>	
<p><b>Meeting minutes</b></p> <p>Past Minutes: Moved as true and correct by RB and seconded by CT.</p> <p>No actions from the last minutes.</p>	<p>– NA</p>
<p>Koppers General Market Update (Shane Beasley)</p>  <p><b>General market update</b></p> <p>Smelting in Australia is good. Early January, Centre announced that they will be putting two billion dollars over ten years into the aluminium industry. Limited to smelting moving to green energy. Current agreement is that all smelters will be run by green energy by 2036.</p> <p>SB shared that they are still catching with people coming back from leave about more details regarding this. It is a nice big number for the Aluminium industry to tap into.</p> <p>MU asked if there is any date by when we need to act upon this? SB shared that funding will be available from 2028 which is good news for the industry.</p> <p><b>Tariffs</b></p> <p>SB goes onto sharing about Tariffs. He shared that the news about tariffs is changing from morning to afternoon. Tariffs don't have a big impact on the firm but impacts the clients such as Rio Tinto. Yesterday, Canada was having tariffs imposed in 30 days which was put on hold by afternoon. Mexico had different response for the same tariff.</p> <p>There is an effect on the global aluminium prices. Share market is going up and down based on President Trump changes which is being closely monitored. They don't expect any direct impact to Australia, but they are still closely watching.</p> <p>China announced that the tax break on aluminium is rolled back from Dec 2024. SB is interested to see the long-term impacts of the same.</p>	<p>– NA</p>

Minutes	Action
<p>Most of the customers have an Asian benchmark for that market. SB don't think the market will decline and nor will it bloom as it was.</p> <p>MU asked the percentage of tariffs imposed by different countries, was Canada 25%? And was China 10% or an extra 10%?</p> <p>SB confirmed that Mexico and Canada are put on hold</p> <p>MU asked if there was a lot of instability there, and also if a fortune could be made from this for stock market traders.</p> <p>MU asked if there is a 25% tariff in Canada, and if yes, what is the impact here?</p> <p>SB confirmed that the supply is increasing from here.</p> <p>MU asked if there are any other ideas?</p> <p>TB shared that every industry is going to suffer when they start talking about tariffs irrespective of the country. China is trying to adjust to Trump since November. Very concerning.</p> <p>SB said that China is trying to reduce exports and keep it within the domestic market.</p> <p><b>Hydrogen and Hydro</b></p> <p>SB said that Hydro is a very large global aluminium company and probably the ones that have always been a little bit ahead of the curve in leaning towards greener technologies, looking at different ways to do things. They were the first aluminium company that sort of moved away from the Holy Grail of aluminium making, which is the inert anode, and that does not need carbon at all.</p> <p>The company was initially talking about investing heavily in hydrogen and investing heavily in battery technology. And then recently they've announced that they're not doing that anymore. They've got a new CEO who said that it doesn't believe that hydrogen and battery storage is the future, and from an aluminium point of view, they're looking heavily to recycling. In the last meeting with Hydro, they were discussing about the amount of recycling potential that's out there versus the amount that actually gets done. They are looking at aluminium in terms of recycling. We need to capture everything that is going into the landfill and reuse that. Invest in currently recycling the aluminium. This could affect the aluminium industry going forward if other companies follow the same trend.</p> <p>MU asked if a proportion of cars made from aluminium has increased in the recent past?</p> <p>SB confirmed that it has increased.</p> <p>SB reiterated that it was discussed in the previous meeting that there were billions of cans used but a very small recycling rate in the United States and why invest in new smelters when you find ways to reuse existing resources in landfill and smelter centres.</p> <p>SB confirmed that the material base for the industry is shrinking. Industry is changing with steel moving away from carbon based</p> <p>RB – Expects that number of cars made from aluminium has decreased. Big chunks were being incorporated into the panels which dropped right off. My observation would be that there has not been much change.</p>	
<p><b>Mayfield report</b></p> <p><b>Partnering with GICAN</b></p> <p>SB: GICAN is well-funded in Newcastle with up to 40 PhD students. Using nano-materials for multiple things from pollution control to various battery applications. They approached us late last year. We have had an initial meeting to draw the agreements up.</p> <p>Really well funded with a cutting-edge facility.</p> <p>NM shared the 57<sup>th</sup> employee will start soon. They are having some structural changes, NM is retiring and SB has been promoted. Looking at offering the Operations Manager role to someone within the company.</p> <p>Currently interviewing for a sales and logistic manager to take some of the load off SB.</p> <p>Hoping to engage somebody and train them up in the logistic aspects and to liaise with their customers. Customers are long standing and the new person will need to get to know them.</p> <p>The company is moving into sustainability and circular economy.</p> <p>A colleague will be working more on the sustainability and circular economy type of stuff, so we will need someone else to help with internal and external certifications. We will be training someone as a certification manager.</p> <p>There is going to be a shift and a slightly different structure over the next 5-6 months. There is a good future, and this is a good business that has been going for over 50 years, with new products coming up.</p>	

Minutes	Action
<p>RB asked if the change around the adjustment basically a growth phase.</p> <p>NM said there will be growth, and explained that they are accepting and taking Indonesia tar 50,000 tonnes from Indonesia and have signed up for 70,000 tonnes. They are looking to work more with Rio-Tinto and provide all of their pitch for their aluminium smelters in Australia.</p> <p>SB shared that is slightly based on growth but a different type of growth. There are shifting battery based onto pitch market with Rio Tinto. This is the first opportunity to get new raw materials in a long time. Company has spare capacity and are happy to utilise that. If a battery industry grows in Australia, then we have room on site to bring in specialty kit to support that.</p> <p>RB Is it Aussie coal going to Indonesia and coming back as pitch?</p> <p>NM replied Yes.</p> <p>RB said that this was a good success story .</p> <p>MU reiterated that this is also good success story for the Port of Newcastle.</p> <p>Emily agreed.</p> <p><b>Solar panels update</b></p> <p>NM shared that they installed a 100 kilowatt system last year - it was fairly small. Looked at another 400kw system to put another four times size of the first one. Plus, they have an empty block of land where a large megawatt system could be added, since the majority of it is contaminated land wherein panels can be built. It is now a matter of building a business case</p> <p>RB asked How many kilowatts would that be?</p> <p>NM replied that they are looking at 2-3 megawatts. Engineers have done some numbers and these are in the pipeline and are possibilities in the future.</p> <p><b>Onsite security</b></p> <p>There have been some break-ins in the SE corner where people come off the industrial highway, go past Modulate Containers and cut a hole in the chicken wire and come in and looking for electrical cables. Between Christmas and New Year, there was a break-in. Found some empty cable drums but couldn't find anything else. They couldn't find anything missing but there is another hole on the fence.</p> <p>Now, installed a lot of closed circuit tv cameras to alert of anyone coming in.</p> <p>Got some quotes for different type of fencing to make it harder to break in.</p> <p><b>New Environment Protection Licence (EPL)</b></p> <p>NM shared that they are negotiating with EPA about the Environment Protection Licence as there is a legislation to review the EPL every 5 year.</p> <p>Just finished reviewing on 23 Jan with a first draft which led to two more drafts.</p> <p>Small internal meeting to be held on Monday to get a final version and sign off.</p> <p>July 2022 was the last time they changed things in the licence.</p> <p>The EPA wanted to add our ship into the license, but the firm pushed back as they do not have much authority over that. The ship has its own environmental and safety requirements etc. EPA agreed to that.</p> <p>At Port Waratah that item was discussed at length. Some licences do have ships included in their licences which depends on set up and how the vessel is run.</p> <p>SB discussed attending a Business Chamber event – where EPA wants to be a resource industry and not a hammer. The EPA want to be educational and not wack the firms with fines</p> <p>SB met the head of EPA of Newcastle and had a very collaborative conversation about self-reporting and ways in which EPA can work better with the firm to aid smooth self-reporting.</p> <p>MC: Makes so much more sense.</p> <p><b>Newsletter March:</b></p> <p>MU shared that the last newsletter was published in September and that the next newsletter is due in March 2025.</p>	

Minutes	Action
<div data-bbox="175 212 654 560">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next newsletter March</li> </ul> </div> <div data-bbox="662 212 1141 560">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Islington Public School</li> </ul>   </div>	
<p>NM shared that they sponsored the sports person of the year award for Islington Public School. They have done this for a couple of years, and this will be an ongoing sponsorship with the school.</p>	
<div data-bbox="175 672 654 1030">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Veolia award</li> </ul>   </div> <div data-bbox="662 672 1141 1030"> <p>Veolia Award: An award that was presented by Veolia for a Manual Handling Reduction Award. It was an award for Veolia, but it was installed at Koppers. They came in and wanted to introduce it for which Koppers agreed to reduce waste and reduce manual handling. This in turn will reduce the risk for their employees on site.</p> </div>	
<p>Mission to Seafarers: Koppers provided supplies to put together Christmas care packs for the seafarers who come in.</p> <p>St Phillips College: Gave a talk on sustainability and circular economy to a classroom full of students.</p>	<div data-bbox="638 1052 1181 1433">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mission to Seafarers</li> <li>St Phillips College – circular economy</li> </ul>   </div>
<p><b>MU invites closing comments from the group</b></p> <div data-bbox="175 1500 726 1814">  <p>Around the room</p> </div> <p>Chris – Nothing to report. Had an enjoyable break for 2 months.</p> <p>Paul – Nothing to report – Great long break for 1 week.</p> <p>Emily – PON – Quite an eventful Christmas and New Year about the impressive car carriers that came in during the Christmas time. DAFF (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) who have intensified their biosecurity standards and requirements. Received the approval in Oct 2024. Roll on – roll off terminal – More than 2500 vehicle were moved during</p>	<p>– NA</p>

Minutes	Action
<p>that period of industrial action which demonstrated to the clients and investors the capacity of Newcastle. We have had some meetings with potential clients with some positive interactions.</p> <p>Clean Energy Precinct project is kicking along nicely with some momentum. Signed agreements with consultants for the Front End Engineering Design (FEED) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).</p> <p>Heading out for community engagement this month – 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of February.</p> <p>CT asked about the rehabilitation of the Green and Golden Bell Frog?</p> <p>EG shared that was one of the species identified as part of the remediation work and the EIS will consider the next steps for the same.</p> <p>Tony – Nothing much has happened in the new year. However one of the developments Mits Alloy – a small locally based fabricator was purchased by AIB. A big success for the company to be a part of a global conglomeration. I have gone into semi-retirement, probably not staying on this committee.</p> <p>Marie – January is a quiet month – work is starting to pick up now and that Marie is mostly working from home for the next month. There are a few staff development days coming up</p> <p>RB – Gave a handout with CPCFM pre-budget submission. Item was shared online after the meeting. PBS covered a no. of things which are very important for the future of the Economy of our state and even Australia. Shared about the important details pertaining to multiple projects including Ardglan Tunnel, Hunter Rail Corridor, high-speed rail and Bruce Highway.</p> <p>MU asked if it was to be sent to the state treasurer?</p> <p>RB confirmed that it will be sent.</p> <p>MU urged the team to provide any feedback on the documents directly to RB</p> <p>MU shared about projects being executed by GHD currently such as PON, battery storage, etc. Road and Rail is not as busy as it used to be. Contaminated land work is going well.</p> <p>RB: Asked about batteries – a new kind of lithium battery which uses less lithium to produce the same amount of energy and doesn't catch fire.</p> <p>SB: I haven't heard anything, however there is a lot of research being done to advance battery technology in Australia. The technology is changing pretty quickly.</p>	
<p><b>MU closed meeting at 4:47 pm</b></p>	<p>– NA</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting – around 3 months.</b></p>	