

**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
74th MEETING Thursday 29th February 2024
ACOL Administration Office, Glennies Creek Road, CAMBERWELL**

Attendees

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	(MMH) Chairperson
John McInerney	(JM) Community Representative
Debbie Richards	(DR) Community Representative
Clr. Godfrey Adamthwaite	(GA) Singleton Council (SC)
Michael Bestic	(MB) Community Representative
Michael Bartlett	(MBa) Company Rep (Operations Manager)
Justin Peterkin	(JP) Company Rep (Mining Engineering Manager)
Phillip Brown	(PB) Company Rep (Environment & Community Superintendent)
Cameron Eckersley	(CE) Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)
Travis Edwards	(TE) Company Rep (Acting Environment and Community Coordinator)

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:15 pm.

PB introduced MBa and JP to the Ashton CCC members.

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by Community Representatives

No change to Committee Members' pecuniary interests previously declared.

4. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the meeting held 26th October 2023, were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: John McInerney **Seconded:** Michael Bestic

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

a. Camberwell Demolition timetable

Refer to presentation

PB advised that three properties were scheduled for demolition in 2024. One property was to be demolished in the first half of the year and the remaining two in the second half.

6. Correspondence

a. 23/11/23 – emails CE/MMH to CCC Bi-annual fauna monitoring

b. 24/11/23 – emails CE/MMH to CCC postponement of fauna monitoring

c. 12/01/24 – email PB to CCC notice of fauna monitoring

d. 15/01/24 – email MMH to DPE Chair's Annual Report

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

7.1 Ashton Operations Update

Refer to presentation

MBa gave an update advising that Ashton recommenced longwall production on 2nd January 2024. JM asked about the status of the water within the mine. MBa discussed the current status of the water and advised that dewatering infrastructure had been improved with the introduction of Borehole 8.

7.2 Monitoring and Environmental Performance

Refer to environmental monitoring handout.

7.3 Community Complaints and response to complaints

Refer to presentation

7.4 Environmental Update

Refer to presentation

PB advised that a creek geomorphology assessment had been completed along the Bowmans Creek diversion by Dr Chris Gippel. PB explained that a final report was yet to be provided however initial feedback was very positive.

7.5 Camberwell Update

Refer to the presentation.

8. Community Representative questions/comments

JM asked if the South East Open Cut project was "dead". PB explained that the approval for the project had lapsed.

DR asked about the outcomes of the recent bushfires at Ashton and additional prevention measures. PB explained that progress was slowly being made to reinstate the damaged equipment at Ashton and advised that ongoing slashing was being undertaken. PB noted that a fire trailer was available for use in Camberwell if required.

JM asked about the fencing in Camberwell adjacent to the Church. PB stated that the fencing was yet to be fixed.

DR asked about the weed management across Camberwell. PB advised that a noxious weed program had been developed for 2024 to manage weeds including Green Cestrum.

9. General Business

CE advised the Committee that he was leaving Ashton on 1st March, 2024. The Chairperson extended the Committee's thanks to CE for his assistance with the Committee during his time at Ashton and wished him all the best for the future.

10. Proposed remainder 2024 Meeting Schedule

Next CCC meeting: 1:00 pm, 25 July 2024

Remainder: 31 October 2024.

MEETING CLOSED at 1:37 pm