

This meeting was held via video-conferencing due to COVID-19 lockdown restrictions.

Attendees

Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chairperson
Adam West (AW)	Facility Manager, BRWF
Fiona Taylor (FT)	Community Representative
Howard Charles (HC)	Community Representative
Peter Bascomb (PB)	General Manager - Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Bill Garnock (BG)	Host Landholder (via telephone, on speaker)
Vickie Pollard (VP)	Nimmitabel Advancement Group representative
Michael McGuire (MM)	Interim Site Manager (CWP BRWF)
Phoebe Rainer (PR)	Grants Officer, Snowy Monaro Regional Council (observer)

Apologies

Cr Peter Beer (PB) - Mayor, Snowy Monaro Regional Council
 Maryanne Renfrey (MR) – CWA’s Representative (Nimmitabel Branch)
 John Harrington (JH) – Community Representative
 Jessica Petersen (JP) – CWP Renewables Development Officer

Item	Action									
<p>1.0 Welcome and Introductions <i>Meeting opened at 1.12pm.</i> LA welcomed all attendees and thanked them for participating via video-conferencing. LA introduced Michael McGuire & Phoebe Rainer to CCC members.</p>										
<p>2.0 Apologies – As listed above.</p>										
<p>3.0 Declarations of Interest LA declared that she was an Independent Chair, approved by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and engaged by CWP to chair the CCC meeting.</p>	<p>No changes to members’ previous declarations.</p>									
<p>4.0 Business arising The minutes of 17 November 2020 meeting were finalised and sent to CCC members on 12 December 2020. Action items from the previous minutes were:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1585 1069 1724"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Issue</th> <th>Action By</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Keep CCC informed of CEF outcomes (ongoing).</td> <td>AW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Advise CCC members when determination is received for Stage II of the wind farm.</td> <td>JP/LA</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Issue	Action By	1	Keep CCC informed of CEF outcomes (ongoing).	AW	2	Advise CCC members when determination is received for Stage II of the wind farm.	JP/LA	<p>1 Moved to General Business.</p> <p>2 AW advised that he had spoken with JP who advised that DPIE have not made a determination on the project. The proponent were hoping to receive approval late last year with construction to commence shortly after, however, no decision has been made as yet.</p>
Item	Issue	Action By								
1	Keep CCC informed of CEF outcomes (ongoing).	AW								
2	Advise CCC members when determination is received for Stage II of the wind farm.	JP/LA								

<p>5.0 Correspondence Report (emailed 6/9/21) with 1 additional item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18/11/20 – Email to CCC members with the link to SMRC’s webpage with the CEF information. • 1/12/20 – Email to CCC members with the draft minutes for review. • 12/12/20 – Email to CCC members with the finalised minutes. • 3/2/21 – Email to CCC members postponing the Q1 CCC set down for 16/2/21. • 11/2/21 – Email to CCC members confirming cancelling of Q1 meeting. • 22/4/21 – Email to DPIE with chair’s annual report on the operations of the CCC from 2020-2021. • 11/5/21 – Email to CCC members with the meeting notice for 25/5/21. • 13/5/21 – Email to CCC members advising that AW is unavailable and proposing to push meeting to August 2021 – sought feedback. Responses received. • 19/5/21 – Email from AW with advertising dates for next round of BRWF CEF applications. • 6/8/21 – Email to CCC members postponing the meeting scheduled for 17 August 2021 due to COVID, etc. • 20/8/21 – Email to CCC members with a “save the date” for Wed 8 September 2021 at the Nimmitabel Community Centre. • 1/9/21 – Email to CCC asking whether to proceed with the 8/9/21 CCC via video-conferencing or postpone again. Responses received. • 6/9/21 – Email to CCC with the Meeting Notice, Agenda & Correspondence Report for this meeting • 8/9/21 – Email to members with the reminder for this meeting. 	<p>Accepted.</p>
<p>6.0 Reports/Updates BRWF Stage One - Current Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AW advised that there are no major works on site or any proposed prior to Christmas, however, they are looking to undertake some in Q1 of 2022 involving crane works for major maintenance of four turbines. He is currently liaising with crane companies in Port Kembla, that will need to travel to site to undertake these functions. ○ AW informed the CCC that he would send letters to local landowners when the major works are planned to advise them when heavy vehicles will travel on the roads. ○ HC asked if these works are able to proceed given the COVID restrictions. AW confirmed that the project is an essential service and therefore maintenance/construction can proceed. They are working smart and safe, restricting non-essential work/ers on site. ○ AW advised that they have ramped up weed spraying, which is four times the usual amount given the rain received. Further that weed spraying is currently occurring on BG’s land. ○ AW commented that all the dams are full with over 130mm of rain receive the previous weekend. ○ HC asked if this rain had caused any problems on site. AW responded that there were only some minor washouts on internal roads. ○ AW advised that there had been no site audits from agencies, however, there was a bio-banking audit by OEH in Q2 2020. ○ HC asked how the power generation was going. AW responded that the numbers had been low at the beginning of the year but are now back on budget from the seasonal winds. HC commented that this is encouraging for the proposed Stage 2 section of the project. 	

7.0 Community Enhancement Fund (CEF)

- AW advised that the CEF committee met last week and all funding applications were determined. He is not sure when the letters will be sent to the successful applicants, but presumed it will be fairly quickly.
- There is some funding from the allocation left over.
- A large percentage of projects came from the old Cooma LGA area and were mainly weighted in Nimmitabel. Noting that there was also a major project approved for the old Bombala LGA.
- LA asked PB if there was an audit of the funds available for the 2019/2020 period so that the community could see how much money was available in the CEF, what projects were approved and what funds are still available. PB advised that there has been a large turnover of staff at Council and therefore the grant acquittal process has not been undertaken as yet. Further, that the bigger picture of Council funds is reported to the NSW Auditor General. PB advised that Council has its own Audit Committee, which will be changed under the Regulations to comprise of all independent members. PB confirmed that there is a lot of information available on Council's website for public information regarding the CEF.
- HC advised that he is the President of the Nimmitabel Lions Club and that a contract is in place to construct the cycle pathway around Lake Williams.
- HC further advised that the formal opening of the Nimmitabel Bell will be held on 2 October 2021 'online' via Zoom due to the COVID restrictions. It is unlikely that Deputy Premier, John Barilaro will be able to attend, however, hopeful that Bronnie Taylor will be participating.
- VP advised that the Nimmitabel Advancement Group's (NAG) approved project at the Community Centre is half completed. Unfortunately the contractor had a heart attack, so there were some delays. It is hoped to be finished in about a month's time.

8.0 General Business

- BG enquired about the signage on Avon Lake Road. AW advised that the signs were in his office and that he would deliver them on Friday. (For background - the signs are being erected to identify the wind farm project site location to stop motorists accessing BG's private property to view the turbines.)
- VP commented that Nimmitabel had received a good percentage of funding from the CEF.
- AW advised that NSW Infrastructure have approached CWP to undertake a bush fire safety review survey following the region's bush fires. Apparently anyone who has to travel more than 10km to obtain phone reception is deemed as being unsafe and therefore at risk. They wanted to gauge CWP's interest in contributing to and supporting a new telecommunications tower in the area. AW asked PB whether the Department had also contacted Council. PB advised that he was aware of three temporary towers being installed, including one of the Snowy Mountains Highway. PB mentioned that Rockdale was one of the first areas impacted by the fires and this area has no mobile

<p>reception or government radio network coverage; this was one of the reasons why fire fighters weren't sent there, due to concerns for their safety. PB is aware that the federal government is looking for co-contributors to improve mobile phone reception in the region, especially along the Snowy Mountains Highway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HC enquired whether it was possible for a wind turbine to be used for telecommunications. AW responded that he was unsure and electrical interference may be an issue. If this could be overcome, then it would be up to the landowner to enter into a lease agreement with the telco provider. ○ VP asked about the location of the tower and possible improvements to blackspot areas. AW commented that no coverage is received on the wind farm site from the Nimmitabel Tower. Further stating that the Dalgety Tower has made an improvement in that area. ○ PB advised that the Victorian government is currently seeking feedback from border communities regarding black spots. Stating that you can "drop a pin" to identify sites with no or limited mobile reception. ○ HC enquired whether there was a telecommunications tower on Delegate Mountain. PB responded that he was unaware. 	<p>PB advised that he would send through the link to this survey for members' information.</p>
<p>9.0 Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tuesday 16 November 2021, at the Nimmitabel Community Centre, commencing at 9am. 	<p>LA to confirm meeting date, which will be based on determination of Stage 2 of BRWF & COVID restrictions.</p>

Meeting closed 1.50pm with LA thanking all for their participation via Microsoft Teams.

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Keep CCC informed of CEF outcomes	AW – Ongoing
2	Provide CEF grant acquittal information/audit to CCC when available	PB
3	Send link on 'black spot' mobile phone reception interactive map	PB (Complete – see below)
4	Confirm meeting date	LA

Link to Victorian Government Survey on Telecommunication Black Spots:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria>