



**MINUTES OF BOCO ROCK WIND FARM
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CCC)**

9.00am, Wednesday 6th August 2014
Nimmitabel Community Centre

Attendees

Howard Charles (HC)	Landholder (host)
Richard Lawson (RL)	Community Member
John Harrington (JH)	Community Member
Bill Garnock (BG)[Arrived at 9.05am]	Landholder (host)
Fr Sergei Shatrov (SS)	Community Member
Fiona Taylor (FT)	Community Member/Neighbouring Landholder
Cr Bronnie Taylor (BT)	Cooma-Monaro Shire Council (alternate)
Adrian Oakey (AO)	CWP Renewables – Manager, Boco Rock Wind Farm
Ed Mounsey (EM)	CWP Renewables – Head of Development
Mark Fleming (MF)	Office of Environment & Heritage
Lisa Andrews (LA)	Independent Chair

Absent

Cr Brad Yelds – Bombala Council

Item	Action
<p>1.0 Welcome and Introductions <i>Meeting opened at 9.04am.</i> Lisa Andrews welcomed the attendees and asked that those present complete the Attendance Sheet.</p>	
<p>2.0 Apologies</p>	<p>Cr Dean Lynch. <i>Alternate: Cr Bronnie Taylor</i></p>
<p>3.0 Declarations of Interest</p>	<p>Lisa Andrews declared that she was an independent chair engaged by CWP to chair the CCC meeting and invited each person to give a brief introduction of their position on the committee & make any necessary declarations</p>
<p>4.0 Confirmation of previous minutes</p>	<p>Motion: That the draft minutes be confirmed.</p> <p>Moved Howard Charles Seconded Richard Lawson Accepted</p>

5.0 Business arising

Action items from previous minutes.

Due to Cr Lynch's absence, Cr Bronnie Taylor was asked if she was able to provide any feedback regarding Items 1 & 2.

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Figures from CMSC's contract with Downer (on returning profits back to road maintenance)	Cr Dean Lynch
2	Consultation with RMS on lowering speed limit on Springfield Road	Cr Dean Lynch
3	Write to Cooma-Monaro Council regarding concerns with tourists travelling to Snowy Region	Lisa Andrews
4	Write to Snowy Mountains Tourist Information Bureau raising concerns with tourists travelling to Snowy Region	Lisa Andrews

Items 1 & 2 – BT advised that the matter of Springfield Road had been raised at the Roads and Traffic Committee (R&TC) of Council. There is a representative from Roads & Maritime Services on the committee.

Items: 3 & 4 were actioned. Refer to Item 6 - "Correspondence Out"

HC stated that the Council is doing a good job with maintaining Springfield Road, however, he would like to see the road sealed in the future, towards the end of the contract.

6.0 Correspondence

• Out

- 20/5/14 – Email to CCC members with the Minutes of the May Meeting and enclosing a copy of the presentation, community concerns questions and answers.
- 24/5/14 - Letter to Cooma Monaro raising concerns with Springfield Road for tourists travelling to the Snowy Mountains region
- 24/5/14 - Letter to Snowy Mountains Tourist Information Bureau-raising concerns for tourists travelling to the region.
- 16/5/14 – Email to Department of Planning asking if they wish to consider the nominations for the replacement member of the CCC Meeting
- 17/6/14 - Email to Fr Sergei Shatrov with a reminder for Community Concerns to be submitted.
- 23/7/14 – Email to CCC - Meeting Notice and Agenda for today's meeting
- 1/8/14 – Email to CCC with 2 x Applications & covering report for consideration of membership to CCC at today's meeting.

BT suggested writing to Joe Vescio of Snowy River Council to chase up a response from Snowy River Tourist Information Bureau and to mention her name.

Moved: By LA – that the applications for membership to the CCC be moved to General Business for discussion.

Motion: By LA - that the correspondence be accepted.

Seconded: Richard Lawson

Carried

<p>In</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/6/14 - Correspondence from Cooma-Monaro Shire Council acknowledging receipt of chair's letter regarding signage on Springfield Road and commitment to provide an "alternate" when Cr Lynch is unavailable to attend. • 16/6/14 - Email from Dept of Planning advising that they do not have a role in the appointment of members to the CCC, this is done by the proponent and the chair. 	
<p>7.0 Boco Rock Reports Adrian Oakey updated the committee on the Wind Farm Project - progress to date.</p>	<p>A slide show was presented, which included information and photographs on the progress of the project. (Copy of presentation to be sent to CCC and placed on the project website.)</p> <p>Questions throughout Presentation:</p> <p>HC: Were there any measurements taken of the recent winds? AO: There were reports of winds up to 130kph. FT: Will the audit include an overlay map to compare the location of the proposed turbines to their final location? AO: The biggest move would be 28 metres. FT: How do you work out where they are? EM: We provide coordinates of their location to the necessary agencies, aviation, etc. There can be a need to microsite turbines up to 100m once on site. Discussions were held about the variations and inconsistencies in the location of turbines at the Gullen Ranges Wind Farm, however, it was explained by EM that this was an older approval and therefore didn't accommodate the current Planning requirements. HC: Commented that it was a good result that only three complaints had been received over the three month period.</p>
<p>8.0 Community Concerns</p>	<p><i>No written submissions were received regarding this agenda item.</i></p>

9.0 General Business

Consideration of Applications to Vacant CCC Position:

LA briefly read through the report with its recommendations/options. Discussions were held about this issue. BT recommended the broadening of the demographics for future committee member, as Nimmitabel residents are already heavily represented.

It was suggested that those that may be visually impacted and/or residents on the other side of the project, might want to be involved.

RL: Stated that the Council representatives on the committee represent the whole of the shire and therefore those areas are already covered.

SS: Concurred with BT that there was already a strong representation from the Nimmitabel community. There are many people with opinions on the visual impact of the turbines who want to know what the future will be. How do we encourage them to be interested in these issues in the broader community?

RL: How long will the CCC will be continuing?

EM: The guidelines indicate the CCC meetings continue at quarterly intervals two years past the completion of construction and proposed to be six months after that.

JH: Agreed, that we have enough representation for the district.

BT: Demographically weighted to Nimmitabel and suggested further advertising and leaving the position open.

LA: Stated that this position has been advertised for the past 6 months with only 2 applications received.

AO: Not sure what else can be achieved by advertising. It is probably better for community members to tap others on the shoulder to see if they are interested.

RL: **Moved:** That Option 3 be accepted.

FT: **Moved:** That a caveat be placed on Option 3 to keep the position open in case we receive interest from someone outside the district.

Accordingly, it was agreed that a replacement member not be appointed at this time, however, that the position remain open in case someone from outside the Nimmitabel area is interested and they can be invited to submit an application for consideration.

RL: **Moved:** That Option 4 also be adopted.

All attendees in favour.

Carried.

Springfield Road

HC: Stated that he was worried about the future of the roads and would like to push for the road to be sealed all the way through. The current works being undertaken; placing gravel, grading and rolling basically mean that it wouldn't take much to put a seal over the road. Therefore, can we look at trying to attract funding through the Country Road program? Perhaps get all the local representatives to work together to get the road sealed for the benefit of the community, business and visitors to the area? Can we make representations to Peter Hendy & John Barilaro and get them to the table with the Council to try and make this happen?

BT: I presume that CWP will be putting up some money?

EM: Prior to works commencing on the project, a pre-dilapidation report was undertaken of the road and other public assets. As part of our approval, we are required to return the road to its original condition (or better) at the end of the construction of the project.

AO: Downer would have a budget for the final maintenance of the road. Maybe it could all go into the one pot with funding from other areas?

HC: Reiterated that it was a good time to do it now.

AO: Often it's not as easy as it seems, it depends on the base, etc. The area in question is all clay so it would require a lot of gravel base to be installed. Of course, the more money you spend, the better road you will get.

BT: There isn't a lot of money available from the Council. I suggest that HC speak with the Council engineers first on what is required, prior to trying to organise a meeting.

HC: **Motion:**

That the chair write to the local members to seek a meeting to discuss options for funding to improve the surface and safety of Springfield Road.

SS: Concerned with the contractors working at a section of the Maclaughlin River. He advises that there are no warning signs leading up to where the trucks are parked and the road needs cleaning up and re-marking.

SS: Confused with the interpretation of a CCC member, given the reception he received at the last meeting regarding his "Community Concerns" submission and the advice that some issues raised were not a matter for this forum. He

asked whether the CCC members thought his actions and behaviour were inappropriate.
LA: Explained that the company has an approval to construct and operate. Conditions of consent have been placed on the project by the Dept of Planning and the consultative committee members are there to raise any concerns on behalf of the community as well as provide information back to the community on the environmental, construction and operations of the Boco Rock project.

Whilst some of the issues raised by SS were not relevant to this project, the company still provided answers to all concerns raised.

BG: Reiterated that his motion at the last meeting was for the answers to be provided via email to the CCC members due to the time constraints because of the site inspection on that day.

Discussions were held about this matter where it was agreed that the previous meeting was not a true indicative of the usual practice due to the time required for the inspection which therefore did not provide for discussion on all matters. This together with the late arrival of three attendees required the meeting to be cut short to enable the inspection to take place.

LA: The "Community Concerns" agenda item was established due to previous concerns raised by FT. As a consequence it was resolved that members submit their concerns 14 days prior to the next meeting.

SS: Asked the chair that if she didn't think the questions were appropriate then she should have come back to him in that 14 day period.

LA: Advised that it was not her position to censor the concerns raised, however, perhaps they could be kept to a short question, which can be answered by the company.

BT: Everyone wants to feel valued and the idea of a CCC is to consult.

MF: If anyone wants information on independent studies (fauna & flora) of environmental issues, OEH has a lot of data available, which he is happy to make available to CCC members.

JH: School Bus Report – all transport is behaving. Thanks to the Council for filling in the pot holes. Radio communication has been good.

BG: Confirmed that he did move at the last meeting about responding to the community concerns in writing to save time.

AO: It is better to keep the questions/issues short

and digestible rather than lengthy, as it makes it easier for the CCC as a whole to process them.
LA: Whilst not all the issues were relevant, the community concerns that were submitted, were answered in full by the company and included in the draft minutes that were sent to all members.
BG: Access to our contact details – happy for his information to be advertised.

This issue was discussed further about home phone numbers and mobile phone numbers. It was agreed that email addresses would be the best option due to phone reception issues, etc.

JH: How are things going for Stage 2? At the last meeting you appeared optimistic it would go ahead.

EM: At the last meeting I explained the ACT government's proposed funding, which certainly wasn't apparent at the CCC meeting prior to the last one. So from a policy point of view, Stage 2 under the ACT scheme is looking more possible than under the current RET scheme, which is currently under review.

The ACT scheme favours projects in the Australian Capital Region (ACR), which comprises 17 local Council regions surrounding the ACT.

AO: There is 200 megawatts of generation up for grabs, comprising at least two projects. There is a 100MW per project cap. BRWF Stage 2 = c. 32 megawatts.

BG: 32 megawatts equals a quarter of your generation, so there is potential for Stage 2?

EM: The ACT scheme is a reverse auction, largely based on lowest cost of generation wins, with some additional criteria included. At this stage, with the current market, around 32 MW looks to drive the most cost effective solution. This may yet change.

FT: You only want to contribute 32 megawatts? What's available to the grid?

EM: There is > 32MW capacity in the grid. We have the ability to build more but are currently targeting 32MW. All proponents with projects competing for an ACT Feed-in-Tariff have the ability to propose projects > 100MW, however, if they do, they will only receive a contract with the

ACT Government for 100MW. The remainder will need to be contracted elsewhere or traded on the spot market.

FT: What does 32 megawatts equal in turbines?

EM: Using the same capacity as installed in Stage 1; it will equate to 19 turbines. However, this is not yet determined.

BT: Do you know what is happening with the RET Review?

EM: Delayed at the moment. Likely to receive first indication in early September when the Industry Minister releases the Energy Green Paper.

HC: I'm concerned with the issue of Hewatt's Earthmoving; what is happening with their contractors?

AO: This is a matter for the administrators, however, we have been working hard with Downer to try and get a good result for the contractors. To date, we understand the administrators were offering 5 cents in the dollar, however, we understand Downer paid the contractors approximately 36 cents in the dollar. There was roughly \$1M owed to sub-contractors, so have paid out over \$300,000. I understand that the administrators arranged for the plant to be auctioned off.

It is unfortunate situation; we recognise that it reflects on the project as a whole. That is why we are working hard to get the best result possible.

BT: Adrian, I remember you came to Council the day before it was all announced. Were you aware of what was about to happen?

AO: We knew the day it happened, like everyone else did.

BT: There were rumours going around for 2 weeks prior.

BG: There were rumours going around for 6 months prior, as they had problems with previous contracts.

FT: To the chair – if I send through a link on an article on wind energy, would you be able to distribute it to the CCC members?

LA: Happy to send out any information for the benefit of all.

RL: To Adrian – do you have any plans to have a site open day?

AO: Yes, just trying to work out the right time.

	<p>We had 6 members from Bombala Council, as well as John Barilaro and Peter Hendy attend the site. Cooma-Monaro Council have postponed their visit.</p> <p>EM: The State Environment Minister may come to the site as well.</p>
10.0 Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting of the CCC will be held in the Nimmitabel Community Hall on Wednesday 5th November 2014 at 9am.</p>

Meeting closed 10.43am

Action Items:

Item	Issue	Action By:
1	Figures from CMSC's contract with Downer (on returning profits back to road maintenance). <i>Held over from February, May & August meeting.</i>	Cr Dean Lynch
2	Consultation with RMS on lowering speed limit on Springfield Road. <i>Held over from February & May meeting.</i> BT informed CCC at August meeting that the matter had been referred to the Roads & Traffic Committee of which RMS were represented.	Cr Dean Lynch
3	Write to local members about concerns with Springfield Road and potential funding to seal road	Lisa Andrews
4	Write to Snowy River Council with concerns for the safety of motorists travelling to the Region	Lisa Andrews
5	Write to applicants for the vacant position on the CCC to advise that 'no appointment' is being made at this time.	Lisa Andrews