

Collector Wind Farm - Community Consultative Committee (CCC) - Meeting Notes

Date	15 May 2019	Time	6.30pm – 8.30pm, Bushranger Hotel, Collector
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Attendees

Margaret Harvie (MH) Chairperson		
Brian Mor (BM)	John Hoskins (JH)	James McKay (JM)
Martha Truelove (MT)	Gary Poile (GP)	Tony Walsh (TW)
Councillor John Searl (JS) – representing ULSC	Neil Weston (NW) Ratch Australia	Ian Lawrence (IL) Ratch Australia
NOTE TAKER: Kaye Paterson		Ajay Pancholi (AP), Vestas

Apologies: Mayor John Stafford

Item number	Discussion	Actions
1	<p>Welcome and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Margaret Harvie (MH) welcomed CCC members ▪ Introductions around the room for the benefit of substitute Council delegate John Searl and new guest Ajay Pancholi of Vestas, the project manager for the wind farm’s construction. 	
2	<p>Standing declaration of pecuniary or other interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gary Poile (GP) will be a wind turbine host ▪ Martha Truelove (MT) gets financial benefit due to proximity of her property to the wind farm ▪ JM indicated that he may be offering to rent his Studio/ cottage to members of the construction team (no arrangements yet in place) 	
3	<p>Action items from last minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MH to work with RATCH to facilitate advertising of CCC positions. <p>We will return to this item later in the agenda The distribution of the material related to the recruitment of the new CCC to the current CCC was noted</p>	
4	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email to the Chair from ‘Alice White’ requesting access to the minutes. Web link provided and emailed request to indicate interest in applying for a position on the ‘new’ CCC. ▪ MH wrote a letter to Phillipa Duncan from Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to indicate that that the CCC would be reforming. 	

5	<p>General Questions to start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GP asked about the implications to the project of the removal of the Office of Environment and Heritage. NW did not believe there would be any changes. ▪ Question about the progress of the Community Benefit Fund. ▪ NW – indicated that the community enhancement agreement has been finalised and approved by Council. Feedback from the workshops held last year has led to the trust structure and documentation. ▪ Further work will be done in the second half of this year by IL and NW to move this forward so that we are in a position where the trust can start operating when the wind farm becomes operational. ▪ Question from JM to JS – asking to confirm that the Community Enhancement Deed was approved by Council in December 2018 and to ask about the establishment of the Section 355 Committee. JS confirmed that this had and would occur. 	
6	<p>Ratch Update – Neil Weston</p> <p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are a number of outstanding approvals. The Section 138 application covering plans to upgrade Lerida Road South has been formally stamped by Council, meaning Ratch can go ahead and build in accordance with these plans. ▪ Ratch have agreed final conditions to accompany the modification. These are awaiting approval from DPE Executive Director. ▪ New fencing is being installed along the boundary of the extent of the road upgrade, for the extent of that upgrade (~6km). The project can do site establishment and minor works in advance of the approval that needs to be obtained related to major construction work. Other preconstruction activities include surveying and minor work. ▪ The pre-construction conditions include documents that need to be submitted to DPE and a number of these need to be both submitted to and approved by DPE. Primarily these are the construction management plans that have now been finalised and submitted. These documents will be placed on the website. (note that all the approved management plans have now been uploaded onto the Collector wind farm website: https://www.collectorwindfarm.com.au/construction) ▪ Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) has advised that night lighting is not required. Turbine co-ordinates have been provided to enable them to be added to aviation charts. 	

7	<p>Construction update – Vestas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AP– the Vestas Project Manager gave an update on the company and their progress. ▪ They are a publicly listed Danish company with a presence in 80 countries and 24,000 employees across the world. ▪ He explained their operational team and that Vestas would have between 10- 12 employees working on this site. ▪ During construction Vestas will have a number of civil and electrical engineers on site at various times, in addition to the 2 or 3 Ratch employees on site. ▪ Tony Greives has been appointed as site manager. Ratch would hope to have Tony at our next CCC meeting ▪ Ratch will shortly give formal approval to Vestas at which time they will take over the construction. ▪ Question about the life of the towers: AP advised typically between 20-25 years, dependent on nature of the site and client specification. At the end of a turbine’s time/life Vestas will inspect the turbines, with future options including turbine removal or replacement. <p>Next steps in the construction process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The first physical work will be the upgrade of Lerida Road – the first 2 km, up to the main site access point. ▪ Construction of the wind farm cannot begin until that first stage of the road upgrade is complete. 	
8.	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ian and Neil spent time at the Some Café with information about the wind farm (as had been advertised) – they only had questions from 2 couples. ▪ Another newsletter will be sent out in the next few weeks. 	<p>ACTION: Community engagement plan to be circulated to CCC members and added to the approval documents on the website.</p>
9.	<p>Reformation of the CCC</p> <p>JM expressed his concern that there will not be enough people who will put their hands up for the CCC. Also there are a number of other roles such as those related to the community fund that need to be filled and he pointed to the requirement that there is no overlap between the committee for the Community Benefit Fund and the CCC. There is an issue in that there is a lot of committees in Collector and a lack of people (300). The same people tend to volunteer for these committee roles.</p> <p>TW pointed out that this group has been meeting since 2012. Discussion around the criteria that has been raised by the CCC to date and whether this is a way to think about future recruitment. The discussion to date has included the preference for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A gender mix 	<p>ACTIONS: Ratch to ensure material online refers to option for established local groups to nominate a representative. Ratch to send adverts to TW and GP for dissemination to the Pot Black Club and Collector social media channels</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Younger members ▪ Different locations represented including Collector towns people/ people closer to the turbines. ▪ Interests – including groups ▪ Newcomers to Collector <p>MH asked if this an accurate summary of the criteria on which she might make future selections to the CCC?</p> <p>JS asked if there is a Terms of Reference for this CCC.</p> <p>MH replied that there was one presented to the CCC but that this had been set aside for consideration of the new committee.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference are based around the DPE guidelines for CCC.</p> <p>In terms of promotion of the positions on the CCC the suggestion was to approach Council social media, Goulburn Post, Gunning Lions Club newsletter.</p> <p>MH explained that it may be that groups are represented on the CCC and groups might choose to nominate a person. The difference with group representation is that if that person representing a group cannot attend they have the option to nominate another member of that group in their place.</p> <p>In terms of groups that might be approached to join the CCC - members suggested the Collector Community Association and the Pot Black Club. The History Association was also mentioned.</p> <p>The groups need to nominate and complete the nomination form as for any representative.</p> <p>Question of whether there is a need for a Turbine host to be on the Committee.</p> <p>It was considered that this is not essential.</p>	
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BM indicated that he is happy to step down but his is also happy to return to the CCC. ▪ MH reiterated that it is not the intention to replace the entire committee with new members but ideally attract a few new ones. 	
11.	<p>Next meeting – will be 7 August 2019.</p> <p>Meeting finished at 8.30pm</p>	