

MINUTES

Port of Newcastle Community Liaison Group

Date: Monday 11 December 2017

Location: Thales, Carrington

Chairperson: Lauren Eyles, Executive Manager Communication, Port of Newcastle

Attendees:

Member	Representing
Greg Gocher (GG)	Thales, Project Manager Maritime / Ship Repair
Robert Aitchison (RAI)	Business / Tourism, All Australian Journeys
Rick Banyard (RB)	Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield Group
John Thacker (JT)	Carrington Community Centre Management Committee, Chairperson. University of the Third Age, President.
John McLeod (JM)	Newcastle Rowing Club, Carrington Community Council
Nicole Guyder (NG)	Office of the State Member for Newcastle, Electoral Officer (Alternate for Tim Crakanthorp)
Claire Monkley (CM)	Throsby Basin Business Chamber, President
Jon Novoselec	Hunter Business Chamber, Member Liaison & Communications Officer
John McLeod	Newcastle Rowing Club, Carrington Community Council
Wayne Diemar (WD)	HunterNet, Project Director
Paul O'Rourke (PO)	Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club. Chief Executive Officer
Tim Lees (TL)	Honeysuckle Community Group
Sarah Kiely (SK)	Port of Newcastle, Communication Officer. Minute Taker.

Apologies:

Member	Representing
Geoff Crowe (GC)	Port of Newcastle, Chief Executive Officer
Lyn Kilby (LK)	Greater Lifestyle of Wickham Group
Dr Richard Finlay-Jones (RFJ)	CLEANaS, Co-Founder. EcoEnviro, Director. Dixon Park Surf Life Saving Club, Member. Newcastle Stand Up Paddle Club, Co-Founder, Surf Rider's Assoc.
Julie Kearney (JK)	Stockton resident. Newcastle Surf Life Saving Club
Jill Gaynor (JG)	City of Newcastle, Manager of Strategic Planning Services
Michael Frost (MF)	Stolthaven, General Manager
Emma Fensom (EF)	Port Authority of NSW, Chief Operating Officer – Newcastle and Yamba
Trudie Larnach (TL)	Port Waratah Coal Services, Environment and Community Manager
Richard Anicich (RAN)	Hunter Business Chamber, Immediate Past President

Absent:

Member	Representing
Sonia McKay (SM)	Roads and Maritime Services, Principal Manager, Boating Operations Branch
Susan Bradley (SB)	Parks & Playgrounds Movement. Throsby Villages Alliance
Richard Howard (RH)	Clark Shipping Australia, Director
Nathan Juchau (NJ)	Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group, Health, Safety & Environment Manager

1. Welcome and Introductions

- LE welcomed the attendees and thanked Greg Gocher, Thales Project Manager, for providing a tour of the Thales site and for hosting the meeting. Apologies were noted.

2. General Business

- There were no actions to note from the previous meeting.
- LE discussed 2018 meeting dates and confirmed the group's consensus that CLG meetings would continue to be held every two months on a Monday evening. The Travelodge in Newcastle would continue as the venue until a new, potential meeting space was completed at PON. WD noted that PON was also able to use the PKF meeting rooms for CLG meetings.

ACTION: A list of 2018 meeting dates would be distributed to the group.

Port of Newcastle Update – Lauren Eyles (LE), Port of Newcastle Executive Manager Communication

- LE discussed the Port's trade, which was at 152.6 million tonnes year-to-date and about 780,000 tonnes ahead of last year. Cement, fertiliser, fuels, wheat, project cargo and steel had been performing well in 2017. It was noted that coal was approximately 1 million tonnes below last year's YTD total due to industrial action in the mines and rail networks. LE also mentioned that grain exports had slowed and no grain ships were in port this month.
- LE advised that the tracks for the Newcastle Light Rail project had arrived via the Port and PON had received the first shipment for the Bodangora Wind Farm Project.
- LE discussed the two awards PON received at the Australian Shipping Awards held on 16 November. GC received 'Newsmaker of the Year' and the Port received the highly commended award in the 'Port or Terminal of the Year' category. David Sexton, the Editor of Daily Cargo News, introduced the Newsmaker of the Year Award, noting PON's advocacy for its coal trade and its achievements in growing and diversifying the port.
- LE mentioned that PON was also awarded the HunterNet PKF Export Award on 30 November. The PKF Export Award recognises the Port's contribution to the Hunter region's economy and investment in the port's future.
- The announcement of Newcastle Cruise Terminal design was discussed. LE noted that it was good to have the Hunter's local, state and federal political representatives at the media launch. A [video animation](#) of the Newcastle Cruise Terminal design was played for the group.
- LE discussed the Carrington Hydraulic Engine House project and noted that following the heritage listing, further engagement with the Heritage Council was required. The appointment of a principal contractor and commencement of works was pending the receipt of a section 60 notice from the Heritage Council
- LE noted that a new Bulk Terminal Supervisor had been recruited to provide oversight at the Port's Walsh Point berths. The new bulk hoppers and grabs were currently being built for the Newcastle Bulk Terminal at Walsh Point and due to arrive in April 2018.
- LE mentioned the [Draft NSW Freight and Ports Plan](#) and that the NSW Government was inviting submissions by 25 March 2018. It was noted that there was significant capacity that exists within the port and its supply chains and PON would continue to engage with Transport for NSW around the plan.
- LE mentioned that GC had attended and presented at a forum in Tianjin, China, last week. The visit was a good opportunity to promote the Port and build future trade relationships.
- LE thanked the CLG for their time in 2017 and mentioned a survey would be emailed out to get some feedback and ideas for next year. LE noted that potential presentations in 2018 include the

Newcastle Cruise Terminal, the Bulk Terminal project, the Port Master Plan and the Economic Impact Report.

Q&A

- CM asked what would be involved in the Port Master Plan. LE responded that PON had formed a project group to draft the 20 year vision for the Port. LE noted that Newcastle would be the first port connected to the Inland Rail line and this was a good thing for the region. RB also noted that the benefits of the Inland Rail would be significant. WD mentioned ARTC had spoken at a HunterNet forum and presented on the opportunities the rail line would open up for farmers. The ARTC was suggested as a potential speaker to present on the Inland Rail Line to the CLG in 2018.
 - ACTION: PON to invite the ARTC to present.
- RA asked if the Newcastle Cruise Terminal was still intended to have a multi-functional use. LE responded yes, however, the primary use would be cruise. It was noted that the Cruise Terminal project leaders would provide a presentation to the CLG in 2018.
- RA asked if onshore power was included in the design of the Cruise Terminal. LE responded that shore power was not within the project scope. It was noted that the international shipping industry is moving to adopt low sulphur fuels.
- CM asked if air bridges were planned for the Cruise Terminal. LE responded that the terminal would be single storey and had been benchmarked against other cruise terminals and industry requirements. CM also asked if there were plans for the terminal to be two- stories in the future. LE responded that it was not planned at this stage.
- RB asked what kind of vessels the Port would receive for homeporting. LE responded that the terminal had been built for current and future industry requirements.
- TL asked about the timeline for the cruise terminal build. LE confirmed that construction would start in early 2018 and the Port would continue to welcome cruise ships throughout the development. It was due to be completed by late 2018.
- NG asked how the car park would function. LE responded that it would provide facilities for passenger drop off and pick up including coaches, taxis etc and short term parking.

3. Other Business

Next meeting

Monday 19 February

Travelodge

** Attendance is by Port of Newcastle's invitation.