

MINUTES

Port of Newcastle Community Liaison Group

Date: Monday 16 October 2017

Location: Travelodge, Newcastle

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

Attendees:

Member	Representing
Keith Wilks (KW)	Port of Newcastle , Executive Manager Operations & Infrastructure
Susan Bradley (SB)	Parks & Playgrounds Movement. Throsby Villages Alliance
Michael Frost (MF)	Stolthaven , General Manager
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
Dallas Fletcher (DF)	Honeysuckle Community Group
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
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
Nathan Juchau (NJ)	Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group , Health, Safety & Environment Manager
Sarah Kiely (SK)	Port of Newcastle , Communication Officer. Minute Taker .

Apologies:

Member	Representing
Geoff Crowe (GC)	Port of Newcastle , Chief Executive Officer
Robert Aitchison (RAI)	Business / Tourism, All Australian Journeys
Tim Lees (TL)	Honeysuckle Community Group
Nicole Guyder (NG)	Office of the State Member for Newcastle , Electoral Officer (Alternate for Tim Crakanthorp)
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
Richard Howard (RH)	Clark Shipping Australia , Director
Claire Monkley (CM)	Throsby Basin Business Chamber

Absent:

Member	Representing
Sonia McKay (SM)	Roads and Maritime Services , Principal Manager, Boating Operations Branch

1. Welcome and Introductions

- LE welcomed the attendees and guest speaker, Keith Wilks (Port of Newcastle Executive Manager, Operations & Infrastructure) and Dallas Fletcher (representing the Honeysuckle Community Group).
- There were no actions from the last CLG meeting.

2. General Business

Port of Newcastle Update – Keith Wilks (KW), Port of Newcastle Executive Manager, Operations & Infrastructure

- KW noted that Port of Newcastle (PON) remained Lost Time Injury free. 1,000 days LTI free was marked in February 2017.
- PON's trade scorecard was in good shape and non-coal continued to perform strongly. KW noted the predicted shortfall in grain on the east coast next year. Fertiliser was expected to tail-off. There had been some industrial issues at mines in the Hunter Valley, however coal was still expected to finish the year strongly.
- KW also noted PON's other cargoes, including the arrival of the first set of blades for the Sapphire Wind Farm and the trains for the Sydney North-West Metro Project. Vision can be viewed on [YouTube](#).
- The *Sun Princess* visited in early October, marking the start of Newcastle's 2017-18 cruise season. Entry to the Port was briefly delayed due to swell, however the ship arranged a later departure, so the passengers could still enjoy a full day as planned in Newcastle.
- KW also noted that Newcastle was rated as one of the world's top 10 emerging cruise destinations by a national travel publication.
- KW noted the cruise terminal detailed design was progressing and we look forward to providing an update soon.
- KW noted the increased use of technology around the Port and discussed a project that would see the replacement of 42 navigation aids with new live-monitoring technology.
- Planning is ongoing for the Carrington Engine House Project. PON is in final negotiations with the project contractor and works will commence by early 2018.
- PON has launched an [e-brochure](#) to document some of its environmental initiatives.
- KW noted the community events PON had been involved in recently, including the China Week Business Forum and Lifeline's Brass Blokes Award.
- PON is currently reviewing the applications received in the second round of Community Partnerships Program funding.

Q&A

- RB said that he thought emissions from the *Sun Princess* cruise ship were unacceptable and asked what steps PON was taking regarding emissions from cruise vessels. KW responded that ship emissions were regulated through International Conventions which are given force in Australia by Federal Legislation which is administered by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). Feedback can be provided to AMSA, as the regulator of ships.
- WD asked if there were plans to link the cruise ship visits up with the Super Cars event, similar to the cruises planned around Melbourne Cup and State of Origin events? KW noted that cruise ship visits were planned around two years in advance but the cruise lines may look at this in the future.

3. Presentation – Port of Newcastle (Keith Wilks, Executive Manager Operations & Infrastructure)

- KW provided an overview of PON's plans to upgrade the Newcastle Bulk Terminal (Kooragang 2 and 3 berth).
 - The K2 was berth built in the 1960s for the import of phosphate and the cranes are now around 50 years old. The infrastructure and old technology is now beyond its service life.
 - K2 is Port of Newcastle's busiest common user berth, handling fertiliser, meals, magnetite, cement, vegetable oils, ammonia and fuels. Around 600,000 Tonnes of loose bulk is moved through the K2 crane each year – this is significant in terms of the Port's trade.
 - Trucks have been used to transport cargoes from K2 since the 1980s.
 - Port of Newcastle is investing \$30 million in the future of the berth with a vision to make Newcastle the cleanest and most efficient bulk import handling facility on the east coast.
 - The new unloader will be designed in Germany and constructed in Vietnam.
 - PON's investment will allow customers to grow their trade volumes.
 - PON is recruiting a Bulk Terminal Supervisor who will facilitate greater control of the berth.
 - The K2 upgrade will be a significant project for PON's Operations & Infrastructure team.

Q&A

- WD asked when tenders would be called, noting the interest for HunterNet and its members. KW responded that tenders for the Principal Contractor were closed in February 2017 and negotiations were continuing.
- RAN asked whether the construction would have any impact on inbound alumina shipment to Kooragang Bulk Facilities? KW responded that there would be no impact as KBF operate their own vacuum and conveyor system.
- MF asked if the works would involve increasing the size of the berth box. KW responded that the K2 wharf structure had been built to a depth and this project did not involve the increasing the berth box size.
- MF asked if either the K2 or K3 berth could take an LR tanker vessel. KW noted K2 is limited to a MR tanker and further noted that draught could be an issue but K3 would be able to handle this size. The berth had previously handled larger ships in the 1980-90s.
- NJ mentioned the 1,000T per hour capability and KW noted this was based on the long-term planning around connectivity via a conveyor system.
- NJ also asked if the unloader would be unmanned. KW responded that it would not be, however semi-automated technology would be used. For example, a pattern could be set, similar to the coal loaders, which would not allow the grab to overfill. KW noted the Kanga style slewing/luffing unloader would be the first of its kind in Australia.
- WD acknowledged it was a good decision by PON to commence the upgrade.

4. Other Business

- LE discussed the plans for the final CLG meeting for 2017. A tour of the Thales facility followed by dinner at the Carrington Bowling Club had been proposed. The meeting would commence around 5.15pm and further details would be sent around shortly.

- CLG members were requested to send through any suggestions for presentations topics to LE. PON looked forward to sharing the cruise terminal design with the group when it was finalised.
- SB thanked the CLG on behalf of Lyn Kilby for their interest in the installation of the historical World War I Honour Roll which had now been placed at the new Wickham Transport Interchange.
- DF provided an overview to the CLG on behalf of the Honeysuckle Community Group regarding the Australian Power Boats event that would be held on the harbour on Australia Day 2018.

Next meeting

Monday 11 December 2017, 5.15pm

Thales, Carrington

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