

MINUTES

Port of Newcastle Community Liaison Group

Date: Monday 25 February 2019

Location: Travelodge, Newcastle

Acting Chairperson: Sarah Kiely, Marketing Manager, Port of Newcastle

Attendees:

Member	Representing
Sarah Kiely (SK)	Port of Newcastle , Marketing Manager, Acting Chair
Tanya MacDonald (TM)	Port of Newcastle , Executive Manager Corporate Affairs
Ian Doherty (ID)	Port of Newcastle , Executive Manager Customer & Strategic Development
Nicole Guyder (NG)	Office of the State Member for Newcastle , Senior Electorate Officer (Alternate for Tim Crakanthorp)
Bruce Cooper (BC)	Port Authority of NSW
John Thacker (JT)	Carrington Community Centre Management Committee , Chairperson. University of the Third Age , President.
Clare Monkley (CM)	Throsby Basin Business Chamber
John McLeod (JM)	Newcastle Rowing Club , Carrington Community Council
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.
Nathan Juchau (NJ)	Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group , Health, Safety & Environment Manager
Robert Aitchison (RA)	Business / Tourism , All Australian Journeys
Patty McCarthy (PM)	City of Newcastle
Jon Novoselec (JN)	Hunter Business Chamber , Hunter First, Sponsorship and Communications Business Development Manager
Marcus Cahill (MC)	Roads and Maritime Services , Acting Manager Operations Hunter
Gaetan Amodio (GA)	Stolthaven
Dallas Fletcher (DF)	Honeysuckle Community Group
Lyn Kilby (LK)	Greater Lifestyle of Wickham Group
Paul O'Rourke (PO)	Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club , CEO
Greg Gocher (GG)	Thales Australia , Project Manager Maritime / Ship Repair
Nick Moretti (NM)	Koppers Carbon Materials and Chemicals Pty Ltd , Operations Manager Australian Operations
Graham Hardes (GH)	Carrington Community Council
Katelijn Hullegie (KH)	Tighes Hill Community Group
Darryn Costanzo (DC)	Port of Newcastle , Development Manager
Rebecca Johnson (RJ)	Port of Newcastle , Planning Manager
Emily Gallagher (EG)	Port of Newcastle , Communications Adviser
Kate Robinson (KR)	University of Newcastle
Will Rifkin (WR)	University of Newcastle

Apologies

Member	Representing
Craig Carmody	Port of Newcastle, CEO
Emma Fensom	Port Authority of NSW, Chief Operating Officer
Rick Banyard	Correct Planning
Sonia McKay	Roads and Maritime Services, Principal Manager, Boating Operations Branch
Ryan Duckmanton	Stolthaven, Newcastle Site Operations Manager
Wayne Diemar	HunterNet, Project Director
Trudie Larnach	Port Waratah Coal Services, Environment and Community Manager
Richard Howard	Clark Shipping Australia, Director

1. Welcome and Introductions

- SK mentioned the apologies and welcomed additional attendees:
 - Ian Doherty, Executive Manager Customer & Strategic Development
 - Tanya McDonald, Executive Manager Corporate Affairs
 - Rebecca Johnston, Planning Manager
 - Darryn Costanzo, Development Manager
 - Emily Gallagher, Communications Adviser
 - Kate Robinson, (Hunter Research Foundation)
 - Will Rifkin, (Hunter Research Foundation)
- SK welcomed new CLG members: Patty McCarthy (City of Newcastle, Interim Manager Corporate and Community Planning); Kaitlijn Hullegie (Tighes Hill Community Group).
- Noted resignation of Tim Lees, Honeysuckle Community Group representation. Dallas Fletcher will now represent the Honeysuckle Community Group.
- Julie Kearney has also resigned from the Group and we are currently confirming a new representative from Stockton. Julie was acknowledged for her involvement in the group since its inception in 2014.

2. General Business

- There were no actions to note from the previous meeting.

Port of Newcastle Update – Tanya McDonald, Executive Manager Corporate Affairs, Port of Newcastle

- TM noted sincere apologies from CC who was unable to attend due to the PON Board meeting.
- An update on the Newcastle Bulk Terminal upgrade was provided, with dismantling of the old ship unloaders at K2 now complete. Temporary bulk cargo hoppers are now in place while the new unloaders are being built in Vietnam. The new unloaders are due to arrive in 2020.
- A bulk fuels milestone was achieved in January with the first LR1 tanker received by Stolthaven at the new Mayfield 7 berth.
- 2018 annual operational noise compliance monitoring for the Port's Mayfield Concept Plan Approval are now on PON's website. Links to be sent with the Minutes. Compliance was demonstrated in all cases.
- TM announced that Port of Newcastle was the first port in Australia and New Zealand to sign up to the EcoPorts global standards for environmental management and sustainability. PON is now working towards certification after completing the rigorous self-diagnosis audit.

- An update on the 2018/19 cruise season was provided. It was noted that February has been the Port's biggest cruise month on record with more than 10,000 passengers visiting across 10 days. PON welcomed the *Explorer of the Seas* following a number of years of planning for the visit. Accommodating the Voyager-class vessel had involved deepening the berth and installing new fenders and mooring bollards.
- TM acknowledged the cruise terminal delays and thanked everyone for their patience during a busy period for the Port. PON looks forward to announcing next steps on the cruise terminal project very soon.
- TM noted that Craig Carmody, CEO Port of Newcastle would be delivering an address to industry, political and research leaders on Australian shipping policy at Macquarie University on Monday 4 March and all CLG were welcome to attend.

Q&A

- GH asked if PON had an update on the Newcastle Engine House Project. RJ informed the group that scaffolding went up around the building last year and there had been lots of activity over recent months. Work is progressing on a top down basis. Current works are being completed on the roof, sandstone, mortar, removing vegetation from the sandstone, repairing windows and doors. Once the restoration has been completed the plaza works will be able to commence. It was noted that the opening of the community area will be a celebration for the community and completion was expected by late 2019.
- RFJ asked if the EcoPorts membership has any implications or commitments in relation to ship emissions and fuel. TM noted that at this stage the EcoPorts standards were focused on self-diagnosis and company environmental management and compliance. IMO standards on low-sulphur fuel will be introduced to industry in 2020.
- RFJ mentioned the recent events in media regarding coal with Glencore slowing expansion and China banning imports of Australian coal. ID noted the Port was doing a lot of work to analyse these announcements and interpret their meaning. ID clarified that Glencore are capping capacity, not production. ID mentioned there is still headroom for Glencore to expand production within current capacity. ID mentioned the China ban on coal is not unheard of as they regularly cap or restrict imports. PON is not jumping to conclusions as there are still a lot of unknowns. ID noted these announcements confirmed PON's diversification strategy was well founded. It also highlighted the urgency of PON's plans to diversify.
- LK asked about the results of the ACCC proceedings. TM clarified the ACCC is taking NSW Ports to court and PON was not a party to the legal action. PON is expected to be called to give evidence. PON expects this may be prior to the Federal election. ACCC provided a statement that people can view on their [website here](#).
- LK mentioned there had been several recent positive articles in the Newcastle Herald including an editorial on the container terminal. ID mentioned that this article quoted several figures that were included in the reports PON has had commissioned over past 6 months. These are available on [PON website here](#).

3. Presentation

Newcastle Container Terminal Update

Ian Doherty, Executive Manager Customer & Strategic Development, Port of Newcastle

*** Presentation attached*

Q&A

- KH asked if all rail was going to be going through existing Carrington and Tighes Hill rail lines. ID confirmed this was correct. Rail will utilise the existing rail corridor.
- LK asked if adding a spur line through Sandgate was included in the design. ID commented that this was not PON land and not in the scope of the project.

- LK mentioned everyone's role in being aware of road deaths related to B-Double trucks and the potential for the container terminal to generate increased traffic. RJ noted that the Mayfield Concept Plan (approved in 2012) has approval for more 1 million truck movements per year under very specific route conditions. TM noted PON is aware of these issues of road safety and understand this is an important issue.
- RFJ asked if PON is the only port that can receive the larger maxi container vessels. ID clarified that Port Brisbane can receive these ships in the port but they unable to unload them due to portside land constraints. Port Botany would be able to receive more container vessels however it was already which is an issue that PON does not face.
- LK asked for specifics on the cost of establishing the design team. ID noted that dollar amounts would not be disclosed. The proposed 8-person project team would progress the detailed design phase and incorporate a mix of existing staff with potential to hire external expertise in the container terminal trade if required.
- RFJ asked about the business base for the project and the return on investment compared to coal. ID explained that the NCT is almost the same investment again but noted that PON would not invest while the port commitment deed exists. Ian also noted that there were many variables at the moment and the next 12 months would be focussed on firming up assumptions as part of the detailed design and completed further modelling. Both of PON's owners, MIRA and CMPort, have confidence in the NCT plan.
- LK mentioned the possible misalignment that exists between Mayfield being classified as a medium to high density residential area, whilst the NCT has approval under the Mayfield Concept Plan and would also bring more rail through residential areas. ID mentioned that PON is interested in protecting port land from urban encroachment to provide effective buffers between community and industry in general.
- KH asked how many extra train and truck movements are projected for the first, second and third stage of the NCT.

ACTION: Question taken on notice.

4. Other Business

- LK raised concerns with the reduction of CLG meetings when the NCT is about to go into planning phase. SK clarified that under project guidelines the NCT project would establish a separate Community Consultative Committee (CCC) which will be dedicated specifically to the NCT.
- RFJ mentioned he has noticed increases in foreign packaging on beaches during beach clean ups and would like to know what rules exist around it.
ACTION: Question taken on notice.
- LK mentioned to the Group that it was now time for members to talk to their local representatives in the lead up to March 23 State Election and advocate for proper transport, correct urban planning and the NCT. LK mentioned the Tighes Hill Plan that was developed by John Sutton some years ago was still relevant. TM noted that PON's first priority was removing investment uncertainty created by the PCD and called on the CLG to advocate in order to push forward mutual interests in relation to the NCT.
- TM has asked the CLG to send through key questions as input into information packs and FAQ's on NCT that will be available for CLG and on PON website.
- **ACTION: SK to collate key questions on the NCT as provided by CLG members.**
- GH Asked for a further clarification on why PON signed the lease with the PCD included in the first place. TM noted this was in the past, the situation has changed in the ports and shipping industry. The new strategy and NCT is about reacting to global shipping trends. TM mentioned HoustonKemp report which will be sent around to CLG post meeting.

Next meeting

May 2019

Venue TBC

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