

## MINUTES

### PORT OF NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

**Date:** Monday 17 August 2020, 5.30PM

**Location:** Video conference, via Zoom

**Chair:** Jackie Spiteri – Port of Newcastle

**Secretary:** Angie Francisco – Port of Newcastle

#### Attendees

Community representatives	Port of Newcastle representatives
Dave Williams – Stockton community resident	Craig Carmody – Chief Executive Officer
Chris Northam – Office of Tim Crakanthorp MP	Glen Hayward – Executive Manager Marine and Operations
Robert Aitchison – All Australian Journeys	Tanya McDonald – Executive Manager Corporate Affairs and Strategy
Jelinda Millgate – Hunter Business Chamber	Glenn Thornton – Executive Manager Projects
John Hayes - Climate Action Newcastle	Jackie Spiteri – Environment, Sustainability and Planning Manager
Katelijan Hullegie -Tighes Hill Action Group	Paul Brown – Executive Manager Business Development
Trudie Larnach - Port Waratah Coal	Sam Collyer – Senior Manager Corporate Communications
Richard Howard – Clark Shipping	Ross Cadell – Special Projects Director
Paul O'Rourke - Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, Newcastle Tourism Industry Group	Sarah Kiely – Communications and Community Relations Manager
Rick Banyard - Correct Planning and Consultation for Mayfield	Paul Chapman – WHS Manager
Richard Finlay-Jones – Clean Energy Association	Danielle Lilley – Communications Advisor
Jacqui Warren - HunterNet	Angie Francisco – Communications and Community Relations Manager
Clare Monkley - Throsby Basin Business Chamber	
Nick Moretti - Koppers	
John Thacker – Carrington Community Centre Management Committee	
John McLeod – Newcastle Rowing Club	
Ryan Duckmanton – Stolthaven	
Graham Harde – Carrington Community Council	
Paul Hearfield – Transport for NSW	

#### General Business

##### Welcome and introductions

- Jackie Spiteri (JS) welcomed attendees
- JS began the meeting by acknowledging the Awakabal and Worimi People as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the meeting was held, paying respect to Elders past, present and future
- Port of Newcastle (PON) representatives were introduced
- JS introduced newly-appointed Executive Manager Paul Brown, who expressed enthusiasm for growing the Port's existing and new markets
- JS welcomed Sarah Kiely, the Port's Communications and Community Relations Manager, to the role of CLG Secretary following her return from maternity leave
- JS gave an overview of the Zoom meeting protocols

- Apologies were received from:

Rebecca Connor (PlanB Town Planning and Development Consultancy); Greg Gocher (Thales); Nathan Juchau (NCIG); Dallas Fletcher (Honeysuckle Community Group); Emma Fensom (Port Authority of NSW), Lyn Kilby (Greater Lifestyles of Wickham)

### Review of action items

Item	Action	Responsibility	Date recorded	Timing	Status
I	PON will review the NPCC clause and report back to GH about whether the contribution amount is to change over time or whether it is fixed each year.	PON	18 May 2020		Completed. <b>Newcastle Port Community Contribution Fund contact</b> Mark McClean Deputy Director – Regional Development, Hunter & Central Coast Regional Development   Department of Regional NSW 02 4921 2650 Mark.mclean@dpc.nsw.gov.au

### Port of Newcastle update

#### Craig Carmody (CC) – Chief Executive Officer

- CC acknowledged the social and mental health impact of the second wave of COVID-19 and encouraged members to reach out to each other, as well as friends and colleagues to check-in and see how they were doing.
- **COVID-19** – PON acted quickly on 16 March to put in place preventative measures to limit risks to staff and their families, the port community as well as the broader community. PON also committed to protecting the welfare of the many small to medium suppliers that service the business, by ensuring fast payment. In March, PON immediately stood up its Incident Management Team, which has been meeting multiple times a week to continually review the Port's response and ensure it remains informed by and aligned to the relevant regulations, guidelines, and public health orders from the Australian and NSW Governments. Five months on, the Port's people continue to show high levels of professionalism and commitment to their tasks in unique and at times challenging circumstances.
- **First quarter (Q2) trade results** – Year to date coal exports were 6.3% below 2019. July in particular was affected by: change in demand in some key markets, weather events, flooding and power outages. Diversified trade volumes have remained resilient during COVID-19 and are tracking above forecast. Engagement with grain terminals provides optimism for a return to wheat exports commencing December, which is positive for regional farmers and communities.

- **Recent appointments** – Over the past few months there have been three significant appointments at PON. The business is continuing to grow, even during the economic downturn. Glenn Thornton has been introduced previously. He commenced as Executive Manager Projects and will be key to delivering the Multi-purpose Deepwater Terminal (MDT). Paul Brown joined PON as Executive Manager Business Development. Noel Dent has also recently been appointed as Strategic Development Manager for the MDT. Noel brings more than three decades of expertise in container shipping to PON. There is further recruitment underway for other MDT roles, including a Senior Project Manager, which will be announced soon. These roles will be critical as the Port pursues projects designed to directly contribute to the Hunter’s economic recovery.
- **Newcastle Multi-purpose Deepwater Terminal (MDT)** – The Port is continuing to work towards the MDT project. There are no new updates, as matters relating to the penalties associated with moving containers through Newcastle is before the Federal Court.
- **Port and MDT Tour** – While COVID restrictions continue to affect how we engage with stakeholders, a new video has helped to give new staff and external people a tour of the Port, which also includes a 3D visualisation of the MDT. The video was shown at the meeting and can be found online: <https://youtu.be/gyOS-cy0YJU>
- **Passenger train arrivals** – In June, PON saw the first shipment of new passenger trains arrive, destined for the Sydney network. Further shipments are expected over the next few months. PON also recently had a Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) shipment call in, demonstrating the Port’s capability and continued commitment to growth in these types of cargoes.
- **Dyke Point welcome sign** – The updated Dyke Point sign features PON’s new logo and original artwork by Saretta Fielding. CC invited Angie Francisco (AF) to provide more details. AF said Saretta was commissioned to produce an artwork that represented the local Aboriginal community along with the Port. The outcome is a beautiful piece that acknowledges the Worimi and Awabakal Peoples’ land on which the Port operates. PON is committed to acknowledging and engaging with the Traditional Owners of the land and the sign is symbolic of, and consistent with, that commitment.
- **Sustainability initiatives** – CC invited JS to give an overview of the sustainability initiatives being implemented across the Port. JS highlighted the continued transition of PON’s vehicle fleet to electric, which will provide a saving of 48 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year. JS provided an overview of PON’s involvement with a consortium of Hunter institutions to drive the local adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. CC added that the Port has continued its commitment to empowering women in the maritime industry
- **Community Sponsorship Program** – CC invited AF to provide an update on the 2020 Sponsorship Program. AF advised that Sarah Kiely is now managing the program, which is being rolled out in partnership with the 12 successful recipients. PON will engage with the recipients through their sponsored programs throughout the year, sharing the story of all the projects via PON’s website, LinkedIn and The Channel e-newsletter.
- **Transition to 100% renewables** – CC mentioned the group may have read an article published in the Newcastle Herald recently about PON’s plans to move to renewable energy by 2021. He invited JS to provide an update. JS noted that tenders have been issued to move the port’s energy networks at Mayfield, Carrington and the Newcastle Bulk Precinct to renewables in a bid to reduce the Port’s “Scope 2” emissions.
- **Ammonium Nitrate** – CC acknowledged community concern about ammonium nitrate, including the volumes shipped through the Port. He invited Glen Hayward (GH) to explain how this is managed at the Port. GH explained that ammonium nitrate is never stored at the Port. The product is carried in individual bulk bags, which are unloaded by the ship’s crane onto each truck. Once loaded the truck

leaves the berth immediately. As a product classified as Dangerous Goods, every aspect of its use, storage and transport is subject to strict regulatory requirements and oversight in Australia. Every shipment through Newcastle is audited and subject to multiple controls and checks by the stevedores, cargo owners, transport operator, the port and the vessel master before moving it. While storage arrangements outside the port, including nearby facilities, are not within PON's control, they are subject to a raft of national and state-based regulatory requirements.

**Q:** Rick Banyard (RB) asked about the maximum cargo size per shipment

**A:** GH informed that K2/K3 can manage 3000 tonnes per shipment and M4 can handle 6500 tonnes per vessel.

**Q:** John McLeod (JM) asked about whether ammonium nitrate is exported

**A:** GH said although it is usually imported only, the Port has capability to export and has done so historically

## PON's COVID-19 response

### Paul Chapman (PC) – Work Health and Safety Manager

- PC provided a detailed overview of how the Port has responded during the COVID-19 situation:
  - A detailed Pandemic Emergency Management Plan was developed to protect employees, family, port operation and community
  - The Plan was implemented with a structured Incident Management Team
  - Many procedures and processes were implemented. Communication with employees, stakeholders and community has been key
  - PON needs to be agile with changing circumstances in the community
  - PON implemented a structured mental health risk assessment and strategy
  - An employee survey revealed positive rates of wellbeing
  - PON managed shipping in accordance with Government restrictions and marine orders
  - Next steps – continue to look after employees and stakeholders

CC added that PON and its employees have demonstrated agility and flexibility during the crisis. PON is committed to capturing the best parts of its COVID-19 responsiveness to be part of a new way of operating.

## Other business

**Q:** John Hayes (JH) asked if PON in its research for the use of renewable energy found attractive economic benefits

**A:** JS explained there were some savings, but the sustainability benefits were far more significant and important for PON

**Q:** RB asked what type of electric vehicles (EV) were required?

**A:** JS explained that the EVs needed to meet staff needs, including adequate towing capacity noting that there was not yet a suitable electric ute on the Australian market

**Suggestion:** JM suggested that a boat ramp be constructed at the Snake Pit berth for commercial and recreational use. JS confirmed recent discussions between PON and JM regarding this suggestion and noted the challenges, including impact on future port plans.

**Suggestion:** RB suggested a passenger, vehicle and freight ferry service on a three round trips per week basis between Tasmania and Newcastle. Sarah Kiely (SK), said someone from PON would follow up with RB.

**Suggestion:** JH informed the group that the Croatian Sports Club now has solar panels thanks to sponsorship funding provided by PON.

**Suggestion:** Richard Finlay-Jones (RF) mentioned that the WA government had recently been discussing the potential for local manufacturing of wind turbines to support large scale project developments, such as offshore wind projects. Newcastle would also have an opportunity to capitalise on this position if it were to expediate these kinds of developments and confirm an industry development strategy.

### Meeting close

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 23 November 2020. Logistics of this meeting will be provided closer to the date.