

MINUTES

PORT OF NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

23 November 2021 – 4:00pm

ATTENDEES

Community representatives	Port of Newcastle representatives
John McLeod – Newcastle Rowing Club (joined 4.53pm)	Simon Byrnes – CCO
Rick Banyard – Correct Planning & Consultation for Mayfield Group	Tanya McDonald – Executive Manager Corporate Affairs & Strategy
Nick Moretti – Koppers	Glen Hayward – Executive Manager Marine and Operations
John Thacker – Newcastle West Community Group	Jackie Spiteri – Senior Manager ESG
John Hayes - Correct Planning & Consultation for Mayfield Group	Kristie Carter – Senior Manager Corporate Affairs & Strategy
Ryan Duckmanton – Stolthaven	Emily Gallagher – Communications & Media Advisor
Richard Finlay-Jones – CLEANaS, Newcastle Standup Paddle Board Club, Surfrider Foundation	Catherine King – Office Manager (taking minutes)
Jacqui Warren – Business Hunter	Wendy West – Senior Manager – Utilities
Bruce Cooper - PANSW	Kate McArthur – Business Development Manager
	Jennifer Anderson - Senior Manager Property, Environment & Planning
	Adam Sheedy – Creative Content Manager

GENERAL BUSINESS

Welcome and introductions

Kristie Carter (KC) – Senior Manager Corporate Affairs & Strategy

- KC introduced herself as Chair and advised that Sarah Kiely has left Port of Newcastle
- Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the group was meeting, and those on which remote attendees join, paying respect to Elders past, present and future.
- Zoom meeting protocols and house rules outlined.
- KC gave an overview of the agenda we are presenting today.
- Welcome and introduction of PON representatives attending the meeting.

PON Executive Update

Simon Byrnes (SB), Chief Commercial Officer on behalf of CEO Craig Carmody

- As we continue through COVID our focus is on the safety of our people and community. Careful planning and caution saw us able to keep our Port running smoothly with our many stakeholders and the focus is supporting jobs the prosperity of the Hunter local and NSW and National economy.
- With the latest COVID developments we have had to adapt quickly and our IMT has been instrumental in keeping operations and working with the “new normal”.

- Another focus is on Mental Health and making sure we get people back into the office when we can and managing people's anxieties around that. Conversations on this topic helps and keeping communications free flowing of communications through the business and the port community during these difficult times.
- Numerous stakeholders have been involved in decisions as and when required and we have been good on that front and keep the Port to be the Gateway for your community. Supply chain has shown resilience but Covid still remains a focus for the business and our team has done an excellent job in managing that.
- Trade Volumes – restrictions with China remain in place but good news is volumes through the Port have remained stable. We have seen a good strengthening in Japan and South Korea established markets but also some good headway from Hunter Valley Coal into emerging markets such as Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia and also India which has been positive to see. First 9 months of this year 124.5 MT was exported which is slightly higher than the year before so it continues through in terms of coal. Spot price at the end of October is about \$235 USD. Record highest ever price has eased a bit but still high at about \$160-\$170 USD a tonne, so the Coal producers are hopefully enjoying those conditions. The total value of the trade through the Port in the first three quarters of the year 2021 is almost \$35 billion dollars and 116% increase over last year.
- Agriculture has moved 2.7M Tonnes of Wheat, Meals and Grains exports through the Port, increase in Fertilizer imports half a million tonnes which is 39% increase from year before.
- Steel is up 79%, cement is up 24% and fuel 5% and favourable announcement on Park and Stothaven Strategic Fuel storage was more recent good news.
- Imports for Tomago 133% Aluminium up on year before for Tomago.
- **Projects – Strategic Project and Issues Overview:**
 - Recent media coverage shows there's a lot happening in the Port
 - We have been working to promote what we have been doing in the media and our Comms team have done a fantastic job and updated on our position on a range of key issues including the Federal Court decision on PCD / container terminal restrictions, Sweetman's Wood Chipping proposal, our Hydrogen Hub plans, our empty container park at Mayfield and the Mayfield Cargo Handling facility tenders and most recently the press on the TFNSW Northern Beaches Project about passing waste through the Port.
- **Lighting Project**
 - Port-wide Lighting Project is replacing lighting around the port with LED much more efficient all progressing well, light replacements at the Carrington Engine House, West Basin around Graincorp Silos and street lighting around the Carrington Precinct complete and on schedule and hoping to complete end of December 2021.
 - We have Installed interchangeable lights at Dyke point to celebrate specific events/ different occasions within our community and coloured lights and special Christmas lights to be featured around mid-December.
- **Tipler Bridge**

Media and social media around this, first in 50 years facelift, works will be completed and looking at pre-Christmas opening for the Community – COVID dependent. Jackie Spiteri will speak about our ESG achievements including GRESB where we scored 92/100 in its global benchmark rating system. This is a fantastic acknowledgement of the journey we have been on and new ways of doing things in the future.
- **TFNSW waste issue – in media.**

Overview was given and PON position re-confirmed. SB noted that we were briefed on the proposal but had not committed to it given a number of issues we identified. Advised that we assess all new access requests for a trade or commodity are assessed against three

main factors: impact and operations safety and ESG. Transport approached around that proposal, and we identified a number of issues against those criteria and worked with Transport in that regards. PON is first Port to achieve EcoPort status.

- **Sweetmans Wood chipping proposal.**
PON position reconfirmed. We were not aware of the plan. PON has been approached directly to lease land for many export purposes over the last two years and we have declined those that don't comply with our broader policy. We recognise the climate and biodiversity impacts of wood chipping and it goes against our commitment to further progressing our ESG principles and the further diversification which needs to be new and additional trade on a sustainable basis with broader benefits to the community.
- **Mayfield Precinct.**
We have the empty container park EOI and Multipurpose Cargo Handling facility and PON is excited to be activating one of the most historic and history steeped precincts within the Port. We have released and completed a successful EOI process for the operation of an Empty Container Park at our Mayfield 4 Berth. We have released two tenders for the Land and Water side works needed for our multipurpose precinct handling facility an interim body of work to diversify the Port. The tender works will support the Port's \$28.4M investment into Liebherr Mobile Harbour Cranes which are currently being constructed in Germany and expected to arrive mid-July 2022.
- **New Sweeper Vessel**
Lydia a multipurpose sweeping bed levelling vessel to improve our Dredge capability has now arrived. It will assist us levelling areas around the Port within areas under the sea dumping permit and allow more efficient maintaining of depth within the Port.
- **Hydrogen – University of Newcastle MOU.**
PON has formed a partnership with UoN. As we seek to diversify the trade we will work together to ensure appropriate workforce development and capability extension opportunities for people through educational and career pathways.
In 2021 there was a new spectrum of new future learning and career pathway opportunities for students and local jobs and you might have seen our Commercial Intern Ryan Maginnity awarded Intern of the Year Award from Newcastle University, he has a bright career ahead of him.
- **Multipurpose Deepwater Terminal**
Noted that last CLG CEO spoke in detail about the Federal Courts Judgment in the ACCC and NSW Ports case. We have welcomed the ACCC decision to appeal that case. Reiterated that PON's position is unwavering for our diversification plans and the Container Terminal.
- **PON Green Hydrogen Hub Project**
- Background detailed for the group about the PON and partner Green Hydrogen Hub Project and recent PM visit to the Port. SB advised that PON is looking at how we better utilise the proximity to infrastructure, renewal energy zones and rail and road infrastructure to provide a compelling new product into the supply chains. SB ran through our Partners and the breath of what we are trying to do to create something much more - 8 project partners and 22 broad base support. SB advised that we have a number of possible sites that will be considered as part of the feasibility study.

PON Operations Update

Glen Hayward (GH), Executive Manager Marine & Operations

- KC introduced Glen Hayward (GH) to give a marine and operations update.
- Lydia Sweeper Vessel just purchased at the Port will go into operation early next year, following some retrofitting which has to be completed first. Sweeper vessel will minimise the amount of trips the dredge will do out to sea so less diesel and wear and tear.
- GH spoke of the recent protest issues. GH advised that security in tandem with police and other partners have handled it with virtually no impact to PON operations.
- GH noted a lot of heavy rain around Port, but hoping that continued forecast rain would have minimal impact on the Port's channel.
- GH advised that PON has submitted its 10-year sea dumping permit renewal. This follows extensive stakeholder engagement and input.
- GH advised that operationally vessel movements have been very good over the last two months with minimal weather events. Port Authority pilots and tugs have been working well.
- Grain seasons has been amazing this year and never seen that sort of volume and GH congratulated those terminals involved in getting that tonnage out.
- K2 Ship Unloader continues to be commissioned and better tonnage rate through K2 and K3 Berth and working on conveyor connectivity to get product off berth quicker and into storage sheds.

PON Projects Update

Wendy West (WW), Senior Manager Engineering & Utilities on behalf of Glenn Thornton

- Wendy provided update on a number of projects their team have been working on recently.
- Tippler footbridge successfully remove in early October to Alfabs Facility in Kurri for structural repairs and painting, now looking to reposition late November and reinstatement before Christmas hopefully, around train movements. WW advised locals will see mobilisation works on work on ramp trestles and towers and lighting will also be upgraded.
- ESG Portwide Lighting – undertaking Stage 1 this year on track to be completed by the end of this year. Improving lighting - Stage 2 will commence in January 2022 and end of next year all Portwide lighting will be upgraded.
- Empty Container Park – Mayfield – issued at EOI – 4 hectares of land sitting behind the Multi-Purpose Cargo Handling facility. Receive feedback from industry experts and optimised operations of an empty container park. Further updates on this Project will be given at future CLG meetings.

Sustainability Update

Jackie Spiteri (JS), Senior Manager ESG

- JS advised an update on our Energy & Greenhouse Gas Emissions and performance for 2021 focus and continues to be positive. A chart showing Energy Consumption v Scope 2 Emissions was shared with the CLG. The chart showed, high energy usage and demonstrating a healthy operating Port, and a blue emissions line at near to zero, as the port continues to operate at a low emissions output.
- JS advised that the ports commitment to have in place 100% renewable electricity by the end of 2021 is well on track, we have increased the number of large generation certificates (LGCs) to capture all of operational electricity usage.

- A Scope 1 Emissions chart was shared with the CLG, it was noted that there had been a decrease in vehicles represented on the chart as a result of our electric vehicle transition project. JS also advised that the dredge had been separated out on the chart because it is our largest consumer. Once the new sweeper is operational, we expect to see a contribution towards reduced emissions from the dredge operation.
- JS advised that PON now has 75% of our fleet vehicles transitioned across to electric vehicles and awaiting suitable uses to transition the remaining fleet to get to 100%.
- ESG news – JS advised we were a finalist in the NSW sustainability awards, progressed to silver status in Sustainability Advantage scale and achieved a GRESB score of 92, placing PON as 1st in the sector in Oceania and 2nd globally. This improvement was from a score of 45 three years ago.
- JS outlined that we have run our final Mental Health First Aid Course for the year and have 32 PON employees that are accredited Mental Health First Aiders.
- JS advised that PON has entered into our second KPI Linked Financing Transaction, collaborating with Deutsche Bank to develop a sustainability linked hedge framework.

CLG Questions Raised

- John Hayes asked for a copy of the slides with the minutes. Advised they will be provided.
- Richard Finlay – Jones raised a question about MP Tim Crakanthorp's petition on toxic waste proposal.
TMcD advised that the media coverage was a surprise on the issue but that local MPs had been engaged by PON to correct the record that we do not support the proposal. TMcD advised that PON was not informed as the makeup or toxicity of the proposed materials.
- Richard Finlay-Jones questioned why PON states that the Sweetman's wood chipping proposal wouldn't be sustainable. TMcD advised that is the source of the woodchips that made it not sustainable.
- Richard Finlay-Jones queried whether it was appropriate for the PoN to be pleased with increasing coal exports given the recent COP meeting and Australia's obligations to emission reductions. SB/JS advised that the Port is measuring scope 3 emissions and diversification opportunities for the future.
- Richard Finlay-Jones noted that it was the CLG and CLEANaS that first brought up the green hydrogen opportunity for Newcastle in 2017. Comment was noted.
- Richard Finlay-Jones noted that it was ironic that wood chips were considered an unsustainable resource and coal was considered perfectly acceptable as an export product. Comment was noted. PON position is that it recognises the need for diversification and is taking actions as outlined.
- John Hayes question asked if Incitec Pivot closing their big fertiliser plant in Brisbane has any impact on Port of Newcastle. GH advised not, but that PON will be speaking with stakeholders on this.
- John Thacker asked if there are plans for increased explanatory signage for Tippler Bridge to show the history. KC advised PON is assessing how best to incorporate the history into the signage and signage needs.
- Rick Banyard asked a question on the container park around physical dimensions, how many containers and truck movements. RB suggested a better location for the MDT would be to house it off the Port sites. TMcD said PON had conducted rigorous analysis and determined it is best in the location currently determined until any formal arrangement is determined. John Thacker asked a question to confirm that the EOI is just possibilities not actuality at this time

which was confirmed. John Hayes asked if PON would need a DA and was advised that no as it falls under PON's SEPP.

- Richard Finlay-Jones asked if we have measured Scope 3 emissions. JS advised yes - we have looked at emissions from commercial vessels and tenants and commuting for travel etc. JS advised that in 2022 we will further refine that emissions boundary.
- Richard Finlay-Jones asked if we are putting pressure on vessel owners to change the nature of diesel fuel etc. JS advised that we don't have control over those commercial vessels but can support energy transition and have completed a study on types of vessels and future trends in terms of energy transitions to help us inform those decisions for infrastructure to put in place to support that.
- John Hayes asked if any thought has been given into what we cannot mandate if there could be any price differential by a certain time of fuel use and emissions Port charges could go up or down to attract greener and cleaner. – JS advised it is on our radar and looking to see what other Ports are doing.
- John Thacker suggested LNG could allow refuelling hubs in PON. JS said yes this would be explored.

Other Business

- KC asked the group if they had any other business to raise
- Rick Banyard questioned if the container cap number are we using has changed. KC said it hasn't moved since last update at 47,000.
- TMcD advised we won the Hunter Business Chamber Award for Contribution to the Region and was a nice acknowledgement and Craig Carmody received runner up for Business Leader of the Year.
- Richard Finlay-Jones noted that in relation to Hydrogen project, community concern for Hydrogen was important for the Port to note and embark on a serious campaign to educate the community on Hydrogen safety and technology to prevent any accidents. SB advised we will be working on this with the University and PON will take leadership on that.

Meeting Close

- KC thanked all CLG members and the PON team for their attendance and closed the meeting at 5.18pm
- KC advised that dates for will be circulated for CLG meetings next year.
- CLG advised that everyone at PON wish CLG and their families a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.