

Austral Bricks: Cardup Stakeholder Community Group

Cardup Southern Pit (Shale Road Pit): Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 24 November 2021, 10:00am to 11:00am

Dome Cafe, 829 South Western Highway, Byford

Agenda, minutes and tabled documents available via
www.australbricks.com.au/environmental-documentation

Once you click on the link, you need to also **click on the 'Shale Rd (WA)' tab** along the top of the webpage to be directed to the correct page.

Attendees

Alan Clarkson	Serpentine-Jarrahdale Ratepayers Association
Max Erskine	Byford Progress Association
Abbey Honey	Byford on the Scarp Association
Stephen White	Byford on the Scarp Association
Tom Dyer	Serpentine-Jarrahdale Ratepayers Association
Anne Dyer	Local Resident
Peter Edmiston	Local Resident
Colleen Rankin	Byford Progress Association
Vanessa Slater	Coordinator Natural Reserves; Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale
Jessica French	Environmental & Sustainability Manager; Brickworks
Trevor Tadman	Mining Raw Materials Manager; Austral Bricks
Lenda Oshalem	Chairperson; SEC Newgate
Cale Black	SEC Newgate

Apologies

Tony Harrison	Byford on the Scarp Association
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Agenda

Item	Topic	Reporting
1.0	Welcome / Introductions / Apologies	SEC Newgate
2.0	Update from Austral Bricks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future Stakeholder Consultative Group meetings	Austral Bricks
3.0	Update on Southern Pit (Shale Road pit)	Austral Bricks
4.0	Water monitoring report	Austral Bricks
5.0	Any other business	SEC Newgate
6.0	Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• February/March 2022 TBC	SEC Newgate

No.	Item	Action items
<p>1.0</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.2</p> <p>1.3</p>	<p>Welcome / Introductions / Apologies</p> <p>Lenda Oshalem opened the meeting at 10:00am.</p> <p>Apologies received from Tony Harrison.</p> <p>Introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica French - Environmental & Sustainability Manager; Brickworks • Trevor Tadman – Mining Raw Materials Manager; Austral Bricks • Abbey Honey – Byford on the Scarp Association 	
<p>2.0</p> <p>2.1</p> <p>2.2</p> <p>2.3</p>	<p>Update from Austral Bricks</p> <p>Jessica French outlined there will be separate meetings for Shale Road and for Cardup plant operations if required, with separate agendas and minutes. This will comply with the previous Community Consultation Framework approved by the Shire.</p> <p>Alan Clarkson asked if the extraction licence is up for relicensing. Jessica French confirmed this was the case for December 2022.</p> <p>Peter Edmiston asked whether the meeting will be run in accordance with the terms of reference outlined in the Community Consultation Framework, which would include data and reporting to come to the SCG before it goes to the Shire. Jessica French said the SCG would comply with the terms of reference as well as it is able.</p>	
<p>3.0</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>Update on Southern Pit (Shale Road pit)</p> <p>Trevor Tadman provided an update on the Shale Road pit. A third party does the work at this site, including laying and carting of material and road maintenance as required. Operators must complete an online induction regarding dust mitigation, which is reinforced through monthly toolbox meetings. Road sweeps take place three days a week. Cattle grids are cleaned and regularly inspected throughout the season. Work on site is broken up into two-week campaigns; before Christmas, another in January and in March/April (subject to change). Four-inch water pumps at Shale Road can be made available for use by the Shire or in local emergencies for firefighting. Trevor Tadman reminded the SCG that his contact number is on pit signage for reporting of issues.</p> <p>Alan Clarkson asked about washouts on Kiln Road. Trevor Tadman said drainage on the southern side of Kiln Road is not deep enough. Alan Clarkson said the creek is taking on a lot of water wash off from Kiln Road.</p> <p>Peter Edmiston said washout can leave the site quickly with sediment, requiring clean up. Jessica French said if it happens again to call Trevor Tadman or Jessica French, or to email the facility. Austral Bricks can action clean up quicker with the local Plant Manager if they are aware of it.</p>	

3.4	<p>Peter Edmiston asked what pits are being worked on at this time. Trevor Tadman said they are in stages 2 and 3, with stages 1 and 2 part of the water management plan. Jessica French said stages 1 and 2 are turned into ponds to retain water on site for treatment. Alan Clarkson asked if the pits have overflowed. Trevor Tadman and Jessica French confirmed no discharge has occurred, but water levels have been high after extreme weather. Water carts are sometimes used for irrigation if water levels get too high.</p>	
3.5	<p>Tom Dyer asked about a large bundle of wire that has been left on the side of the road. Trevor Tadman said he is not sure where the wire has come from. Alan Clarkson said some re-fencing was done recently and may be old fencing material. Trevor Tadman said if that were the case, he would arrange to have it moved.</p>	<p>ACTION ITEM Trevor Tadman to investigate bundles of wire left on the side of the road near the Shale Road pit.</p>
3.6	<p>Alan Clarkson asked about rehabilitation of the Shale Road pit. Jessica French said rehabilitation takes place on pits once finished with them; the Shale Road pit is still being used. Peter Edmiston said community expectation is Austral Bricks would rehabilitate as they go and not leaving it bare for years. Peter Edmiston referred to other sites as an example of rehabilitation works not taking place in due time. Jessica French said progressive rehabilitation does take place and referred to the sustainability report, and said rehabilitation means the land becomes what it was used for before, such as farmland. Austral Bricks is not at the stage of closing out pit cells yet and will make the site safe once works are completed.</p>	
3.7	<p>Alan Clarkson said there weren't many clay quarries the size of Austral Bricks in the area, which creates community concerns with rehabilitation. Jessica French says Austral Bricks will progressively rehabilitate the Shale Road pit once cells start to close.</p>	
3.8	<p>Stephen White asked about reforestation and the use of appropriate native vegetation during rehabilitation. Vanessa Slater says the use of vegetation during rehabilitation is actioned as per the approved rehabilitation plan.</p>	
3.9	<p>Abbey Honey asked if there was a timeframe from closure of a site to rehabilitation commencement. Jessica French and Trevor Tadman said there was no set time with rehabilitation done progressively each year.</p>	
3.10	<p>Peter Edmiston asked why rehabilitation can't be started now. Jessica French and Trevor Tadman said that the site is still being used now. Trevor Tadman said that until material is all taken out of the area, rehabilitation work can't continue. Peter Edmiston asked about the timeline for stage 2. Trevor Tadman said it would be a couple of years depending on demand and production schedules.</p>	
3.11	<p>Colleen Rankin asked if Western Australian native trees are used in rehabilitation. Trevor Tadman confirmed this is the case. Colleen Rankin asked if Shire controls are in place to ensure natives are supplied adequately by nurseries. Vanessa Slater said pre-ordering from nurseries should be occurring to avoid supply issues. Trevor Tadman confirmed Austral Bricks does pre-order. Jessica French asked if the Shire has an official species lists. Vanessa Slater</p>	<p>ACTION ITEM Vanessa Slater to share information on species list with Austral Bricks.</p>

	<p>said the Shire can share this information to cross-check with Austral Bricks.</p>	
3.12	<p>Peter Edmiston asked if there would be any major changes for the licence renewal next year. Jessica French said the main change would be for the length of time. Peter Edmiston asked if any operational changes or extensions of the size of pits would take place. Jessica French said the next stages would be applied for and Austral Bricks is still working with consultants on which area would be next as they work towards Kiln Road in the future and will share with the SCG once information is available.</p>	
	<p>4.0 Water monitoring report</p>	
4.1	<p>Jessica French said Austral Bricks received a finalised water monitoring report from Conterra in March.</p>	
4.2	<p>Jessica French provided an overview of the report. Groundwater begins at 30 metres with extraction only taking place to 15 metres, leaving a buffer of 15 metres. Austral Bricks is satisfied it is not interacting with the aquifer, and there is no discharge and no treatment required for the pond. Groundwater quality came back with some exceedances of guidelines however the consultant noted that surrounding land use including cattle farming and landfill nearby likely resulted in this.</p>	<p>ACTION ITEM Jessica French to seek clarification on if the water monitoring report can be shared with the SCG.</p>
4.3	<p>Alan Clarkson said that he would like a copy of the report. Jessica French would seek clarification on if the report could be shared with the SCG.</p>	
4.4	<p>Max Erskine asked about the buffer between excavation and aquifer level. Jessica French clarified the 2-metre buffer is the minimum allowed by the Shire, this is not where Austral Bricks excavates, and even if Austral Bricks does go down to 20 metres, it would not get close to the aquifer or breach the licence.</p>	
4.5	<p>Alan Clarkson asked a question about perched water. Jessica French said that it will be incorporated into the next water management plan as part of the next stages of mining at greater detail than the last plan issued. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation will review this and give advice on the groundwater aquifer level, and Austral Bricks will work with consultants on dealing with large pockets of water and dewatering methods. Alan Clarkson said it was of great concern and commented the water monitoring report would be good to review.</p>	
4.6	<p>Tom Dyer asked for clarification that pumped water pockets would not be replenished. Jessica French confirmed this was the case.</p>	
4.7	<p>Max Erskine said that he would like independent professionals to review the water management plan.</p>	
4.8	<p>Jessica French said the current water management plan was peer reviewed twice with five revisions made before being sent to the Shire.</p>	
4.9	<p>Alan Clarkson expressed concern about groundwater and the raised the example of Cardup landfill (next to the Shale Road pit</p>	

	site) where it was found the operator had cut into two meters of groundwater. Jessica French noted concerns about the Cardup landfill.	
5.0	Any other business	
5.1	No other business raised.	
6.0	Next meeting	
6.1	The next meeting will take place in February or March 2022, to be confirmed.	
6.2	Meeting closed 10:55am.	

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