

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

Date:	11 May 2017
Time:	5:30 PM – 7:45 PM
Location:	Oakey Hospital Rec Room
Member Attendees:	Graham Cooke (Chair) Lindsay Evans Barry Mason Cathy Hartley Matthew Boyd Glenys Bowtell Helen Bawden Andrew Langton
New Hope Group Representatives:	David Vink – NAC GM Helen Williams – NHG Jamie Kemshead – NHG
Guest Speakers:	Jim Randall – NHG Steve Erbacher – NHG (APC)
Apologies	Maree Scheuerle Danny Keenan Nancy Sommerfield Jodie Collins

Agenda item Discussion

Meeting Introduction:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Chair welcomed the group and the guest speakers Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and adopted
Safety Share:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dave Vink (NHG) spoke about a recent safety interaction that was reported to the company by one of the current contractors. The team member had intervened after witnessing a car driving recklessly on the way home from work, and got the driver to pull over. It's thought that the driver was falling asleep at the wheel but hadn't realised. After pulling over, the driver swapped with his co-driver after a short rest to refresh. The incident highlighted to the group the need to act when they observe others in dangerous situations – especially on the road.
New Hope Group Company Update:	<p>Dave Vink provided an New Hope Group and New Acland Coal mine update to the group, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ongoing approvals process, Land Court and the associated water licence. Continuing mine planning aimed at prolonging the life of current coal stocks Resource testing being done on site for construction, upgrade & maintenance of internal mine site roads. An update on the equipment attenuation program that continues at the mine The increase in groups touring the mine – including a visit by representatives from Aurizon marking the transportation of 47,000,000 tonnes of coal from the New Acland operation Helen Williams spoke to the group briefly about NHG partnering with the University

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	<p>of Qld in a monitoring program directed at the Koala population in the Acland area.</p>
<p>Acland Pastoral Company: Introduction and Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Randell gave the group an update on the history of both NHG and APC operations, explaining the progression and development over the years, the recent change in management, changes to strategy. He then introduced the new Pastoral Manager Steve Erbacher • Steve Erbacher spoke to the group about his farming history and family background. He gave overview of what the future for APC would look like under his management and explained a little about the transition period thus far. Steve outlined areas of interest and also priorities for he and his team for the year ahead • Steve & the group discussed some of the new initiatives and different approaches he would employ in relation to weed management including the treatment of Box Thorn and Tree Pear. • Considerable interest was shown by all in regard to the treatment weeds and pests, the reasoning for both the treatment and the underlying drivers for why the country (nature) was responding in the manner in which it was, for example, stocking rates, grazing types and crop rotations (all putting pressure on the land). The need for a collaborative approach to weed and pest management was also acknowledged. • Steve & the group discussed some of the new initiatives and different approaches he would employ in relation to livestock management including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ To reflect the shift in the current cattle market, the transition from a 'dry beast' and 'backgrounding' beef operation to a fully functional breeder operation, including the bulls they're looking to use, the joining periods, mustering plan and sale options for both weaner stocks and processed cows ➢ The rotational grazing program and small paddock reshaping into larger aggregations to better suit the size of the mobs of cattle that are being run and the time periods that the cattle are spending in each paddock ➢ A broader breakdown of historical buying patterns and the likely trends of the next few years allowed for much sharing of views from both smaller scale producers and on behalf of a larger operator like APC.
<p>Community Updates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakey Community members provided updates regarding the success of last year's Santa Fair event with plans to do it again in 2017, the Oakey Chamber of Commerce working with groups to reopen the Oakey Rail sidings as community centre and the upcoming 7 Day Make Over initiative being supported by local council • Several members of the group outlined some of the other community events that have been happening and some of those that are up-coming in the next couple of months • Jondaryan & surrounds Community members highlighted some of the impacts locally from the recent cyclone, also a number of vehicle and house fires that have been responded to by the volunteer fire brigade • The group discussed the success and support of the many & varied ANZAC day celebrations, as well as a number of local Landcare initiatives ongoing in the area.
<p>General Business:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detail was provided around the temporary site for the ADF infrastructure from Radar Hill • Information regarding the LifeFlight and New Hope Group Rural Safety Workshop was provided with a general discussion around the partnership and future workshops
<p>Actions Items:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JMK to provide members with a copy Koala monitoring project flyer
<p>Next Meeting:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 13th July 2017 – Oakey Hospital Recreational Room @ 5:30 pm