

Minutes of meeting

New Acland Community Reference Group

CRG meeting number: 5/2014

Date:	28 April 2014
Time:	5.30pm
Location:	Cultural Centre, Oakey
Attendees:	Chairperson – Graham Cooke Jodie Collins Lindsay Evans Glenys Bowtell Andrew Langton Barry Mason Victoria Menkins
New Hope Group Representatives:	Jim Randell – Executive General Manager Mining Jennifer Wilson – Secretariat Helen Braithwaite – Community Liaison Officer Naomi Tonscheck – Community Liaison Officer
Apologies	Greg Jones, Nancy Sommerfield, Matthew Boyd

Registered Office: 3/22 Magnolia Drive, Brookwater, Queensland 4300

Postal Address: PO Box 47, Ipswich, Queensland 4305 Australia
Website: www.newhopecoal.com.au

Phone number: +61 7 3418 0500

Agenda item Discussion

<p>Welcome</p>	<p>Graham Cooke welcomed everyone.</p> <p>Naomi Tonscheck introduced herself to the group. Naomi has been appointed as the Community Liaison Officer in Oakey for New Hope Group. Naomi lives locally on a family farm and previously worked for Heritage Bank.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting, presented and reviewed. Moved – Barry Mason. Seconded – Andrew Langton.</p> <p>Actions Arising from Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Bus Travel – to be resolved by the end of May.
<p>Safety Share</p>	<p>Helen updated everyone with the emergency procedures as this was a new venue for the meeting.</p> <p>Jim advised that a number of employees have had symptoms of heart attack at New Acland but not diagnosed as a heart attack. Following up with Nominated Medical Authority if it is a virus.</p> <p>Caravans do not always select appropriate areas to pull off and stop. Glenys came across one that was parked across to a gravel road access.</p>
<p>South Myall Landcare Group Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Glenys updated the group on the history and activities of the South Myall Landcare Group: ▪ North East Downs (NED) was formed in 1994 and is the parent group to 12 subgroups with South Myall Group included. ▪ South Myall Group has 200 members and was established in 1997. A number of large projects have been undertaken with funding from the Telstra sale and Caring for Country funding. One of the projects was the utilisation of Prison Crews from Westbrook Prison. This finished when Westbrook was closed in September 2012. A Work camp has been proposed for Jondaryan. ▪ South Myall Group ran a nursery for a number of years, propagating trees for corridors in the area. A number of training workshops have been run and included training for tickets on backhoe and dozers. Many of the participants were able to obtain work at the New Acland mine. These workshops were completed without funding. Other activities include bus trips, photo competitions. ▪ Funding is scarce and the group is hopeful that in the new budget year money may be made available. They currently have Biodiversity program which finished at the end of June. A partnership with Condamine Alliance in Sustainable Agriculture ran workshops in the past. ▪ Currently running computer workshops with 32 booked to attend. Two programs – Learners and Advanced with a series of three workshops. An issue with the internet during the last workshop needs to be addressed. Everyone very enthusiastic to attend. ▪ South Myall Group represents approximately 50% of the NED membership and is one of the most active groups.
<p>Community Group Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jodie Collins advised that there will be activities around Reconciliation week and Sorry Day. They are trying a different approach to NAIDOC to gain more community involvement and tie with in Toowoomba support ▪ Lindsay Evans advised that approximately 100 attended the Anzac Day

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	<p>Service at Jondaryan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Barry Mason attended the Acland Anzac Day service with approximately 260 attending. Different group including campers and caravans travelling long distance to enjoy the country atmosphere. Feral pigs have become an issue in the crops and have been sighted in large groups. ▪ The Oakey Anzac Day Dawn Service was one of the largest on record that Andrew Langton could recall. The Oakey Chamber of Commerce is releasing a 'Buy Locally' campaign from 1 May. This will involve receiving vouchers from the businesses involved and then go into a lucky draw. The Chamber is looking to expand and encourage membership. ▪ TRC are funding a consultant to do an economic development strategy for six of the regional towns in the area, Oakey is one of them. This will include completing an Economic Survey in the area, for ideas to gain involvement in the Charlton Industrial Park. Andrew and Helen will be involved to work with the consultants. ▪ Jodie Collins suggested that Oakey could organise a Multi-Cultural function as there are a number of different cultures within the area. Andrew will take this on board to see if there is any interest.
<p>Community Investment Fund – Round 2 - 2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helen advised there were some learning's from the previous round and suggested that the closing date be brought forward to 30 August to ensure the decision was finalised before the end of the year. Everyone agreed. ▪ The group reviewed the applications and requested follow up on information from two of the groups and will circulate comments back when confirmed.
<p>Action:</p>	<p>Helen to advise if GST has been considered in total fund.</p>
<p>New Acland/Acland Pastoral Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acland Precinct Group minutes were received from Toowoomba Regional Council and can be reviewed as Stage 3 is progressed. Miner's Cottage is of cultural significance. ▪ Conducting a clean-up of the rubble and concrete pads in the Acland town. A hygienist has been engaged to ensure areas are clean of asbestos and will be signed off when complete. This will continue with the buildings being fenced off that contain asbestos. NAC has organised a permit to demolish and remove the asbestos for the shop on the corner. The local bus has been stopping on this corner so we are looking at creating another area for the bus to pull off safely. The area to the west of the Park has already been cleaned and New Hope are looking to offer a local school the opportunity to plant trees. The miner's cottage and the old exchange will remain however any asbestos removed. ▪ Acland Pastoral are involved in Toowoomba Regional Council dog baiting program and would appreciate any feedback on the feral pig problem at next meeting. ▪ Continue to clean up the box thorn and pear on Spies Hill, Muldu road and Balgowan. ▪ Coal prices are extremely low and New Hope is currently reviewing the operations at West Moreton to arrest the low profits and until the turn around. ▪ Part two of the Stage II rehab grazing trials has started with USQ doing soil work. Initial results identified extremely good weight gain however will wait

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	<p>until the four parts have been completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussions with Gowrie irrigators on the timing of pumping program have been positive. ▪ Wirtgen miner arrives next week and will be operating by end of May. Invitation to view is extended. ▪ Centre pivot irrigator has been commissioned. Problem with the pumps has been resolved. ▪ Glenys advised that there was concern from some South Myall Landcare members on the future water supplies and effects from Stage 3. Jim advised that the model has been calibrated against Stage 2 use. Any residents that have been identified as having significant impacts have been contacted however if anyone with a concern he is happy to discuss their particular issue. ▪ Stockpile at Jondaryan remains low and it is the intention not to increase providing the trains continue to operate as scheduled.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oakey High School 50 year celebration on 17 May.
Next Meeting Meeting close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Next meeting Monday 26 May 2014 ▪ Meeting closed 7.25 pm