

Minutes

Refuse Disposal Facility Community Reference Group Portfolio Committee – Meeting 47

Date:	24 February 2021	Time:	4:30pm - 7:00pm
Location:	Online (Microsoft Teams)		
Chairperson:	Bruce Turner		
Attendees:	<p>Independent Chair Bruce Turner Phoenix Facilitation</p> <p>Wyndham City Councillors: Cr Peter Maynard Councillor (Iramoo Ward) Cr Heather Marcus Councillor (Iramoo Ward)</p> <p>Wyndham City Council Staff: Stephen Thorpe Director City Operations Simon Clay Manager Waste Management and Disposal Justin Rhodes Environmental Systems Officer</p> <p>Reference Group members: Lisa Field Resident group representative Mason Asadi Environmental group representative Michelle Lee Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group Julian Menegazzo Adjacent landowner representative Joe Ferlazzo Community representative Karen Hucker Community representative Bianca Bragalenti Community representative Paul Von Harder Community representative</p> <p>Guest John Cumming</p>		
Apologies:	Hayley Scott Karthik Viswanathan	Community representative Community representative	

Program

Topic	Actions
<p>1. Welcome & Apologies Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>John Cumming is the RDF's EPA accredited Auditor who will be undertaking the Section 53V Operations Audit on behalf of the EPA. This audit reviews the site operations against the Environmental Monitoring program and the potential risk to the environment from onsite activities.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

The draft notes from the previous meeting held on the 16 December were accepted with no changes.

The Action Tracker was circulated prior to the meeting agenda. All 'pending' items have been listed for discussion under the relevant agenda items at today's meeting.

Action Tracker for the December 2021 meeting provided below.

ACTIONS FROM DECEMBER 2021 MEETING		
Action Reference	Action Details	Status
	No actions	
ACTIONS FROM MEETINGS PRIOR TO LAST MEETING		
M45-5.1	Stephen would request that Council's Resilience and Waste Education Team investigate straps on masks being removed prior to disposal.	Closed. Councils Resilience and Waste Education Team will schedule some social media posts and will include an article in Council's next Green Living e-newsletter.
M45-5.2	Stephen would request that Council's Waste Education Team to discuss Council's recycling Strategy	Closed.
M45-5.3	Justin to follow up with Council's Litter Management Team to give a presentation on litter management (hard waste collections)	Closed.
M45-8.1	Matthew to report to the CRG recycling initiatives at the RDF at the next meeting.	Pending. Council are planning to construct a trial sorting facility and will report to the group progress
M45-8.2	Simon to discuss reclamation projects at the next meeting.	Closed.
M43-7.1	Council to discuss and organise a	Pending. Stephen would follow up to see if

	presentation from Deakin University regarding the works at the Hub	he can find someone at Deakin who could present
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4. **RDF Membership and 2022 meeting schedule**

Action M47-4.1 Justin to review memberships and initiate refreshment as required

Justin indicated that the date for next CRG meeting:

- 28 April 2022 - will be held at the Council office (COVID pending)

All attendees will require to be vaccinated and Justin will look into the option of having members attend via teams.

5. **Members' Reports**

Julian Menegazzo

Julian reports that the LMS noise has gone. We will see what impact the weather conditions have during autumn and winter when we expect to see still and cooler nights

Joe Ferlazzo

Joe mentioned Wyndham TV (facebook group) news had articles in dumping of rubbish with some negative reports about the RDF. Peter Maynard discussed that that a lot people don't understand how the landfill levy/tax works and that rising weighbridge cost reflected the rising EPA levy. Heather Marcus indicated that Wyndham TV has approximately 69,000 followers.

Bianca Bragalenti

Bianca noted more recycling products generated around Christmas and the holiday period and queried if there is an option around an additional recycling pickups. Steven Torpe noted that this issue was raised by Council a couple of years ago. Council has data and calculated that it was approximately \$100,000 for an additional service. Council don't get many calls (via the Call Centre) about additional services at this time so presume that the demand is not there.

Paul Von Harder

Paul noted the amount of disposal mask laying around the community as a result of COVID and asked what Council had put in place regarding cutting cords. Stephen indicated that Hayley Jarvis discussed this last meeting and that this was going to be put on Council's social media. Stephen indicated that the RDF was where mask's ended up as part of waste collection. Bruce Turner noted an article in The Age on penguins having an issue with disposal mask cords. Joe indicated that this was a worldwide issue with approximately 3 million disposed every minute.

Lisa Field.

Clean Up Australia – lots of things happening in the community. Lisa noted an increase in dumping of rubbish - particularly Tarneit. Stephen agreed and noted an increase in business's dumping rubbish. Council do their best to collect this dumped waste (every week). Council once used cameras in known hotspots but don't do this anymore as it just shifted the problem to different areas. The known hotspots is where Council focussed on work with the community.

Action M47-5.1 Stephen will ask Council John Nemet to provide an update to the group on dumped rubbish data – particularly on mattresses and shopping trolleys.

6. Industry Update

Michelle discussed circular economy principals and practices. Members will be able to follow the link below for more information:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/mwrrg/>

MWRRG is transitioning into DEWLP. Hoping that DEWLP will have some information for the next meeting.

7. Wyndham Waste Strategy and Waste Services Update

Stephen was still chasing the Deaking Hub without success as a contact had resigned. There is an opportunity for two CRG members that maybe interested in attending three webinars (One in March and two in April) by Professor Sahajwalla.

Action M47-7.1 Justin to facilitate group member(s) that are interested in attending the webinars.

Resource recovery and baling facility

Simon Clay has been very busy working on the tenders and specifications and facility design works are progressing. Council has recently employed Bill Corcoan as the Resource Recovery Project Manager. This has been a two year process working through Bill's visa issues as he comes from Ireland. Bill is a specialist in anaerobic digestion and will be an enormous asset to bring this project to fruition.

Council is currently refining the specification for the design of the facility. This work should go out to shortlisted companies in the next couple of months which is in two stages – the design process and then the design of the facility. Towards end of 2022 we will be able to go to Council for final approval as the construction cost will be known. There maybe some variations in cost due to the international shipping rates as specialist equipment will need to come from overseas.

Joe asked if the facility has the ability to recycle plastics that have been placed in the landfill already. In terms of plastic Simon said there is a lot of interesting advances and emerging technologies, however this facilities first priority is in the waste received - recovering waste is difficult and the legislation doesn't really support it.

For the last 18 months, Councils has been working with Barwon Water for source serpated food and garden organics as regions work towards the 2027 Government manadate regarding FOGO. Julian asked if Council was looking to accept biosolids as he would have a concern around odour issues. Simon indicated that at this stage we would not be looking to take them.

Simon discussed LMS proposal for a 6th generator and that he had sent a a two page letter sent to group regarding this. The obvious concern was regarding noise and this is the message Council has taken back to LMS already. There has been no conclusive evidence to date that noise is coming from the generators, however all new equipment would have state of the art noise attunation devices (rather than retrofitting gear). Council (and LMS) are committed to working to working with residents on any issue to address concerns from the site.

8. RDF Operations

Performance Dashboard - tonnage, landfill gas

Simon provided information on the amounts of waste recorded coming into the site and the impacts of Covid on the volume of waste received at the Transfer Station. Peaks in the volumes of waste received at the Transfer Station coincided with the lifting of Covid restrictions.

Simon also noted an increase in green waste coming into the site which Council believes to be reflective of the seasons.

Complaints Register

An odour issue was noted offsite due to the use of recycled glass as the protective layer on the landfill cell. The recycled glass often contains sugars and the build up can create an odour if not properly cleaned before coming to site. Council has requested that future recycled glass be adequately cleaned/washed prior to deliver and is also in the process of sourcing an alternative, natural scoria product that has no odour.

Simon provided an updated on the LMS Bioenergy facility, which included the installation of further noise attenuation devices at their site. LMS advised Council that they had upgraded and installed the final muffler a few days ago. LMS staff onsite indicated that they believed there was a reduction in noise levels, however we would await any further feedback from Julian over the coming weeks. Julian asked if it was feasible to run the gas flares during the day rather than at night or is there some was of storing the gas at night to reduce the noise from the generators. Simon indicated that LMS have a lot more expertise in the area. We have had conversation around gas storage (peak times to maximise use to maximise revenue) Cost and complexities of storge outwaty the cost.

Pollution Abatement Notices

Overburden removal on Cell 4 was progressing well. It is estimated that approximately 120,000 m³ of waste had been removed and this would be confirmed with a survey late February/early March 2022.

Council was in the final process of awarding the Cell 4 (eastern side) capping contract. There are some delays with lining materials (sourced from overseas) which may mean the commencement date for works would be pushed back until early August 2022. It is estimated that this will take 4-6 months to complete.

Council was in the final stages of completing the biannual 53V Operations audit which would be submitted to the EPA by the end of March 2022.

Cell 6 and Cell 7 Construction

Cell 6 construction has been completed and Council is preparing documentation to provide to EPA for the Works Approval. Council won't commence filling Cell 6 until mid to late 2022.

Cell 7 design was underway however the site focus is on the rehabilitation projects for the immediate future.

9. Meeting Close/Details of Next Meeting

28 April 2022 – online or at Civic Centre (tbc)

Bruce acknowledged Harry Van Morst who recently passed. Bruce noted his commitment to the Wyndham Community and was a significant contributor in the start up of this group. Stephen Thorpe also acknowledged his contribution to the group.
