

NEW CHUM COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

Meeting minutes – May 3, 2023

Meeting details:

Meeting:	New Chum Flood Remediation Community Reference Group
Date:	May 3, 2023
Location:	New Chum Boardroom, Cleanaway, 100 Chum Street New Chum
Start time:	5pm

Agenda items:

Item	Discussion led by
1. Welcome and introduction	Chair
2. Attendance and apologies	Chair
3. Confirmation of previous meetings	Chair
4. Action items from previous meetings	Chair
5. Correspondence	Chair
6. Site update – remediation, environmental actions, other items	Cleanaway
7. General business	All
8. Next meeting	Chair
9. Meeting close	Chair

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Minutes:

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed all attendees and declared the meeting open at 5.05pm.

• Attendance and apologies

The Chair acknowledged the attendance of:

- Walter Wood (community member)
- Mark Delitt (community member via Teams)
- Michael Azevedo (Cleanaway regional manager)
- Aaron Carter (Cleanaway General Manager of Solid Waste Services Queensland)
- Phil Lutton (acting as CRG chair on behalf of Cleanaway)
- Georgie Olivier (acting as CRG secretary on behalf of Cleanaway)
- Ian Dalzell (Community member)
- Wendy Davidson (Community member)
- Paul Hurley (Community member)
- David Trezise (Community member)

The Chair noted the attendance as observers of:

- Brett Davey (Ipswich City Council Manager City Design)

The chair noted an apology from:

- Yvette Phillips (community member)
- Cr Andrew Fechner (Ipswich City Councillor, via Teams)
- Daniel Phipps (Department of Environment and Science [DES] assistant director Community Engagement, via Teams)

The Chair also noted that up to 10 members of the community can be part of the committee and encouraged those present to pass on the details of any interested parties to Three Plus or Cleanaway.

2. Confirmation of previous meetings

The Chair confirmed the circulation of the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 5pm.

The Chair provided opportunity for committee members to comment on the minutes of the previous meeting. A typo was amended.

The minutes were then adopted as a true record of the April New Chum CRG meeting.

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- **Action items from previous meetings**

- David Trezise had the following question on notice for Cleanaway: New Chum accepted petroleum waste from Papua New Guinea in the past. Did they receive the correct permit to landfill the waste.
 - Michael Azevedo answered that they were granted the correct permit, but it was not needed as the petrol waste was shipped elsewhere.
- David Trezise had the following question on notice for Cleanaway: There are statutory provisions under the EP Act relating to the notification requirement for contaminated lands in Queensland. Has the Cleanaway New Chum site been placed on either **Environmental Management Register (EMR)** or the **Contaminated Lands Register (CLR)**?
 - Michael Azevedo informs the CRG that he cannot answer yet as he is still waiting for feedback
- 1. David Trezise had the following question on notice for Cleanaway: Is it true that some cells have no liners (geo-fabric liners) and where there are liners these have been damaged by activities?
 - Michael Azevedo answers that New Chum has never had any damaged liners but cell 5A is unlined. All that went into 5A is small amount of contaminated soil and flock – fluffy waste e.g., mattress stuffing. Geographically, the cell is based where the landfill started. It is not uncommon that older sites have the occasional unlined cell due to evolving environmental standards.

3. Correspondence

The Chair asked if any correspondence had been sent or received in relation to the CRG or relevant to operation of the New Chum Landfill site of which the CRG should be aware. None had been received.

4. Site update - remediation and environmental actions

Michael Azevedo gives an update. New Chum has 15 mm rain on Saturday night everywhere else got 10mm. Michael informs the CRG that are still dealing with some groundwater issues. New Chum continues with the gas works which have interrupted the irrigation system a little, but Cleanaway is continuing to deal with it. New Chum has closed out the air quality EPO. Though Cleanaway has been given all clear they aren't rolling back the testing regime and we will continue to be risk based and to future proof.

David Trezise asks if we can advertise that the EPO has been closed out to let the locals know that any pungent odours they may be experiencing aren't coming from New Chum at this time.

- Aaron Carter answers that Cleanaway can advertise on the appropriate channels and has put the action on notice

David Trezise asks if the CRG can see the plans New Chum has submitted for appeal regarding the potential extension of cell 3B

- Michael Azevedo has put on notice that they will do a presentation to the CRG in one of the upcoming meetings in the next few months.

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5. General business

The Chair provided a brief update of the Community Benefits Funds. The Chair said grant money for the recipients was still being processed and that should be finalised by the end of May. The Chair reminded the CRG that next year's round would be opening in March 2024. The Chair also said that Cleanaway would provide regular updates on the projects being delivered via its website, social media platforms, newsletter and local media.

Ian asks if there is proof of what the money is used for.

Walter explains the procedure of approval – Olga Ghiri from Cleanaway is managing that.

The Chair opened the floor to general business.

Ian asks: About the consequences of and the process of the prosecution.

Aaron responds that it is expected to take some time and is leaving it to the legal department. Cleanaway is limited in what it can say due to the now ongoing legal case.

David asks on notice: The about the maximum thickness of leachate above the liner?

Michael responds – That they are trying to reach that target. They have challenges to make sure we drill correctly. They are installing a leachate treatment plant. It started commissioning this week. The challenge is that leachate has qualities that mean it can't be treated with just any method – you need to process it for further processing. It's a technical process – removing PFAS, nutrients etc.

David: Can we get an update when it's up and running?

Phil – what does it look like?

Michael – it's a modular plant with different cells for different processes.

David asks if the leachate is alkaline.

Michael answers that it's acidic.

Ian asks is there any update if Griffith University is getting their extension of their license.

Michael says it has now been finalised and will continue for another two years

Link to video: <https://vimeo.com/692983939/2d0bb98030>

Walter was asking about the process of palletisation of soft plastics, but Cleanaway isn't currently dealing with that technology.

6. Next meeting

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The Chair suggested the next meeting be held on Wednesday, June 7, at 5pm, and that date be confirmed with the CRG in the preceding weeks.

7. Meeting close

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.42pm.

-ENDS-