

NEW CHUM COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

Meeting minutes – October 12 2022

Meeting details:

Meeting:	New Chum Flood Remediation Community Reference Group
Date:	October 12, 2022
Location:	Community Information Centre, 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 minutes	Chair
4. Actions from previous meetings	Chair
5. Correspondence	Chair
6. Site operations and environment update	Cleanaway
7. Community Benefits Fund	Chair
8. General business	All
9. Next meeting	Chair
10. Meeting close	Chair

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Minutes:

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed all attendees and declared the meeting open at 5pm.

The Chair introduced all members of the CRG and thanked them for their attendance and interest in Cleanaway's ongoing work at New Chum.

2. Attendance and apologies

The Chair acknowledged the attendance of:

- Walter Wood (Community member)
- Mark Dellit (Community member)
- Keith Steel (Community member)
- Yvette Phillips (Community member)
- Kristy Barnes (Cleanaway Senior Project Manager)
- Matt Baxter (Cleanaway Regional Manager)
- Suzanne Wauchope (Cleanaway General Manager of Solid Waste Services Queensland)
- Phil Lutton, acting as CRG Chair on behalf of Cleanaway (Three Plus)

The Chair noted the attendance as observers of:

- Carolyn Carruthers (Department of Environment and Science (DES) Manager Community Engagement)
- Brett Davey (Ipswich City Council (ICC) Manager City Design)

The Chair read an apology from community member David Curtin. 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.

3. Confirmation of minutes

The Chair confirmed the circulation of the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 5:05pm.

The Chair provided opportunity for committee members to comment on the minutes of the previous meeting. Two amendments were noted and approved by the CRG.

The minutes were then adopted as a true record of the New Chum CRG meeting on September 7, 2022.

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4. Actions from previous meetings

The Chair led a discussion on the actions from the previous meeting, regarding:

- **Regarding comment from some members of the CRG that odour was noticeable when it rained. The action was for Cleanaway to investigate and provide an update at the October meeting.**

The Chair invited Cleanaway to update the meeting. Cleanaway noted that an investigation had been conducted by a specialist third party and no direct correlation had been found between rain and an increased odour level on site.

- **Regarding discussion about the number of water-tanker trucks and timing of truck movements on local roads, and whether movements could be limited around school drop-off and pick-up times. The action was for Cleanaway to examine the tanker schedule to ensure maximum community safety.**

The Chair invited Cleanaway to update the meeting. Cleanaway noted that tanker truck movements have reduced significantly in line with the declining requirements. Cleanaway noted that B-Double tanker traffic will soon cease but smaller tankers will operate periodically.

- **Regarding a request for information about potential future uses of the site at New Chum. The action was for Cleanaway to provide examples of rehabilitated sites at the October meeting.**

Cleanaway distributed a document at the meeting featuring examples of rehabilitation projects at other Cleanaway sites, sourced from the Cleanaway website.

- **Regarding discussion about ensuring the community has every opportunity to access timely information about flood remediation and site operations. The action was for Cleanaway to report back to the CRG with proposed actions.**

As a starting point, Cleanaway has provided aerial photographs showing progress of flood remediation over time in Cell 3B, both in the community newsletter circulated to around 30,000 homes and on social media. Cleanaway encourages committee members to share the newsletter with their network to illustrate the progress. Cleanaway remains open to discussion about other opportunities.

5. 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.

6. Site operations and environment update

Cleanaway representatives provided the CRG with an update on the site's flood recovery and remediation progress.

The company provided the latest aerial photography showing the complete removal of stormwater from Cell 3B and updated the group on mitigation actions ahead of the wet season, which have included significant diversion works and construction of temporary holding ponds for water that may pool in the cell.

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The meeting was also informed about work to line the walls of cell 3B with an engineered high-density, polyethylene (HDPE) plastic to prevent any stormwater that gathers in the cell from coming into contact with waste in adjacent cells.

Cleanaway also provided an update on ongoing drilling to extend the network of landfill gas management wells at New Chum. This includes the use of a temporary flare to supplement the permanent flare until the gas reaches a volume that can potentially be converted to energy.

7. Community Benefits Fund

The Chair sought feedback from CRG members about the Community Benefits Fund (CBF) and reminded members of key dates regarding the launch of the next local round.

Round 1 – Open	Round 1 – Close	Round 1 – Awarded
Monday, October 31, 2022	Monday, November 28, 2022	Monday, December 12, 2022
Round 2 – Open	Round 2 – Close	Round 2 – Awarded
Monday, March 6, 2023	Monday, April 3, 2023	Monday, May 1, 2023

The Chair invited members to peruse provided examples from similar funding rounds in Melbourne.

8. General business

The Chair opened the meeting to general discussion and provided each CRG member with the opportunity to raise any matter for discussion.

- A committee member who is also a nearby resident asked why odour remained at his property after the floodwater had been removed. Cleanaway responded that air quality monitoring was being undertaken by the regulator at the site and in the community. The results of this monitoring are publicly available and show that air quality is within health guidelines. **ACTION:** Cleanaway to continue air quality monitoring at the site and investigate if there are patterns behind any increase in odour complaints, including atmospheric conditions. Cleanaway to report any findings to future meetings.
- A request was made for information and reports on hydrological modelling related to the site. **ACTION:** Cleanaway to assess the request and, where possible, provide updates at future meetings.
- It was suggested that name tags be provided at forthcoming meetings. **ACTION:** name tags to be provided.
- Requests were made to articulate the grant decision-making process in further detail. **ACTIONS:** Update to be provided to CRG members before the next meeting; and further information to be provided at the November meeting.
- Some members of the CRG reported not receiving a hard copy of the New Chum newsletter. **ACTIONS:** Distribution map to be provided at the next meeting with the aim of ensuring all members are in the postcode catchment.

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- A question was raised as to whether silt that had been removed from Cell 3B and buried at another part of the site may contain residue of leachate. ACTION: Cleanaway to clarify treatment of silt at November meeting.
- Some members of the CRG expressed disappointment that Cleanaway executives had been paid bonuses for environmental performance despite the odour issues created by the flooding of cell 3B at New Chum. Cleanaway acknowledged the comments and noted that Cleanaway had undertaken significant works to minimise the impacts of the unprecedented rain event and to remediate the site.

9. Next meeting

The Chair noted that the next meeting for the CRG would be held on Wednesday, November 9.

10. Meeting close

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.30pm.

-ENDS-