

Coopers Gap Wind Farm Meeting Minutes

Meeting title	Coopers Gap Community Consultative Committee (CCC). Meeting 44		
Attendees			
Alice Sharp	Nick Daly, Tilt Renewables		
Anne Gooderham	Barend van der Poll, Tilt Renewables		
Walter Gooderham	Mark Pring, Tilt Renewables		
Phil Trebbin	Owen Boushel, Tilt Renewables		
Carmel Trebbin	Cheryl Cosgrove		
Russell Glode	Mick Cosgrove		
Craig Knight	Siobhan Houghton, WDRC		
Jade Wenham	Lidewij Keone-Sloss WDRC		
Carol Weekes, (Minute Secretary)	Owen Boushel (Manager Stakeholder Engagement, Tilt Renewables)		
Keith Campbell, (Independent Chair)			
Observers			
Apologies			
Location	Cooranga North Memorial Hall, Cooranga North	Date & start time	21 May 2024 5.10pm

Topic	Discussion
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keith Campbell, Chair, welcomed all attendees
2. Previous Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from the Community Consultative Meeting No 43 (CCC-43) held on 22nd November 2023 were distributed prior to this meeting. It was noted that Lidewij Keone-Sloss's position was recorded as Executive Development Officer. This is to be correctly recorded as <i>Economic</i> Development Officer. Business raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niagara Road traffic and signage issue: no progress has been made on this issue 11 months has passed since the CCC wrote to SBRC and WDRC (7 June 2023). There is no evidence of any signage having been installed and the safety issues/ concerns remain the same. It was also noted that Councils should be alerted to the fact that Niagara Road past Bilboa Road, is included in a school bus run. Action: <i>The meeting agreed to write to both Councils to seek an update regarding what is happening</i> As there was no further discussion regarding the Minutes, the Chair sought endorsement as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Topic	Discussion
	<p>Moved: Mick Cosgrove Seconded: Wally Gooderham <i>Minutes were unanimously accepted as a true and correct record.</i></p>
<p>3. Correspondence</p>	<p>Nil Inwards or Outwards Correspondence</p>
<p>4. Project Update</p>	<p>Tilt Renewables: Owen Boushel</p> <p>Please find attached a presentation, prepared by Owen for the Meeting. Invitation List:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting participants advised that some previous attendees had not been notified of this meeting. Owen advised that Tilt are using the distribution list provided by AGL. • In order to remedy this situation, Tilt will soon be running newspaper advertisements and inviting people to sign up for updates via the Tilt Renewables website. The CCC Secretary will compile a list of previous meeting attendees from the Meeting Attendance Sheets and provide that to Owen, Keith, Mick, Jade and other long term attendees to determine who is not listed on that Distribution List so that a current and complete distribution list can be established. <p>Barend van der Poll (Tilt) provided the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Lemm has finished with Tilt and Liz Beavis will be returning as the Site Manager. • The Niagara Road culverts which were reinforced to cope with heavy loads will be returned to their former state by GE. GE are liaising with the South Burnett Regional Council to complete this work. • The transition from AGL to Tilt Renewables continues. Final commissioning and testing still to be done before handover. Tilt Renewables expect to complete this process for all aspects of the Wind Farm later in 2024. • Tilt staff invited community members to contact them if they have any concerns. <p>What's been happening on Site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently no issues at the site. • The Community will notice that no turbines will be operational for a period in June 2024. All turbines will be shut down for a period in June as Powerlink complete transmission line work. • Tilt Renewables will use the shutdown period as an opportunity to carry out maintenance work. • Coopers Gap has a minimum expected operational life of 30 years. On average, Tilt will need to replace 10% of components for each turbine over a 25 year period. Tilt Renewables oldest Wind Farm continues to operate. It is hoped that with good maintenance, Coopers Gap Wind Farm will continue to operate beyond its design life.

Topic	Discussion
	<p>Performance: Owen Boushel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise monitoring: The second round of noise monitoring will be delayed due to the shutdown of the turbines in June. • The three complaints as reported in the previous Minutes have been resolved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents may still notice some noise but it incumbent upon Tilt to monitor and maintain compliance, whilst negotiating with the complainant to come up with a solution that works for them. • When a complaint is received, the approach is to escalate the checks and investigate the issue by sending a crew to check the turbine. If it cannot be immediately repaired or noise levels remedied, then the turbine is switched off completely or during the hours as agreed to by the complainant. • It was reported that lights have been left on after hours, which can be seen at the door of the tower. Tilt staff will check on this situation as there may have been staff working afterhours. They will also check the legislative requirements regarding after hours lighting on the site.
<p>5. Benefit Sharing</p>	<p>Stakeholder Engagement and Community Fund: Owen Boushel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilt Renewables will be changing the way they manage the Community Benefit Fund from 2024. • To make it as easy as possible for applicants, Tilt Renewables are working in partnership with the Bendigo Bank and will utilise their online platform for applications, distribution of the funds and acquittals/ reporting on how the funding was used. The application package will include a map of eligible geographical locations so that applicants are clear if they can apply before commencing the process. • Any unspent funds from a given year will be rolled over to the next year. The second round of 2023 was undersubscribed with \$22,892 remaining that will be rolled into 2024. • There will be further promotion of the 2024 Rounds which are expected to occur in July 2024 and October/ November 2024. • Advertisements will be included in Newspapers and key council staff and local organisations will be notified. • Tilt are exploring the possibility of recurring funding for long term projects to ensure maximum benefit to community. • More information will be available in the next month or so.

Topic	Discussion
	<p>Telstra Tower: Owen Boushel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilt Renewables indicated that the Telstra tower is still being negotiated. Although progress has been slow, Tilt is committed to this project. • An estimated timeline is not yet available for the delivery of the tower and Owen acknowledged the community frustration regarding this deliverable and the ongoing lack of reliable mobile service in the area. • Tilt Renewables is committed to addressing this legacy issue. • This item will be a Standing Agenda item until resolved.
<p>6. Other Business</p>	<p>Tourism: Bell Blade Project Lidewij Koene-Sloss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lidewij advised that she will soon be on maternity leave. Lidewij introduced Siobhan Houghton, who will backfill her position for that period of time. • The WDRC staff are working on the Bell installation site and it is almost ready for installation of the blade. Lidewij advised that it was expected that the installation ceremony would occur in mid-July. • Tilt staff advised that the transport company that are delivering the new blade to Coopers Gap, will also deliver the used blade to Bell as a community service. • The meeting asked if the Project would include a plaque acknowledging contributions to the project such as the donation of the blade from the Coopers Gap Wind Farm and gratis offer of the transport company to deliver the blade to new site. Lidewij will follow this up.
<p>7.</p>	<p>Niagara Road traffic issues and Signage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the June 2023 CCC meeting, the Secretary wrote to SBRC and WDRC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>“express the CCC’s concern about the increasing volume of traffic and resultant safety issues for road users on Niagara Road; and”</i> b. <i>“seek the immediate installation of “No Parking Signs” (or signage as deemed relevant by the Councils) to assist with safe traffic flow.”</i> • The issue was raised as Business Arising from the previous meeting and is detailed above in that section of these Minutes.
<p>8. Close and Next Meeting</p>	<p>Keith thanked Cheryl and the QCWA members for hosting and catering for the meeting.</p> <p>Keith also thanked Tilt Renewables staff for their updates, and local community members who continue to invest their time and effort to ensure the Project standards are met.</p>



Topic	Discussion
	Keith closed the meeting at 6.10pm. Next Meeting: 4pm 21st November 2024

Attachments:

1. Presentation provided by Owen Boushel, Tilt Renewables