

# Williamtown Sand Syndicate (WSS) Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry Community Consultative Committee Meeting

13 September 2022  
9:02-9:43am  
Mercure Newcastle Airport

**Meeting Number:** 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting      **Type of meeting:** General  
**Chairperson:** John Turner - JT      **Note taker:** Jonathan Berry

**Attendees:** Wayne Sampson (Resident) – WS  
Shirley Davis (Resident) – SD  
Greg Callaghan (Resident) – GC  
Stephen Kuehn (Resident) – SK  
John Simpson (Hunter Water Representative) – JS  
Jonathan Berry (Wedgetail Project Consulting) – JB

**Apologies:** Peter West (Resident) – PW  
Paul Hardes (Resident) – PH  
Darren Williams (WSS) – DW  
Barry Davis (Resident) – BD

**Observers:** None

**Meeting Open:** 9:00am

## Minutes

**Agenda item: 1 Apologies**      **Presenter:** John Turner

### Discussion:

Peter West (Resident) – PW  
Darren Williams (WSS) – DW  
Barry Davis (Resident) – BD

Sean Pennell, former Quarry Manager at Newcastle Sand no longer works at the quarry.

**Agenda item: 2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**      **Presenter:** NA

### Discussion:

John Turner (Chairperson) – Paid for service by WSS.  
Wayne Sampson (Resident) – Deed with WSS.  
Jonathan Berry (Wedgetail Project Consulting) – Consultant employed by WSS.  
Shirley Davis (Resident) – Nil.  
Greg Callaghan (Resident) – Deed with WSS  
Paul Hardes (Resident) – Deed with WSS  
Stephen Kuehn (Resident) – Deed with WSS

**Agenda item: 3 Minutes to be adopted**

**Presenter:** John Turner

**Discussion:**

Minutes from the last meeting were noted.

Minutes moved by GC. Minutes seconded by WS. All Agree.

**Agenda item: 4 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**Presenter:** JT

- Response to issues raised or provision of additional information requested;
- Nil

**Agenda item: 5 Correspondence**

**Presenter:** John Turner

- See presentation.

**Agenda item: 6 Proponents reports & overview of activities, including; Presenter:** Jonathan Berry

- Progress of the project
- Monitoring & environmental performances
- Community complaints & responses to these complaints
- Information provided to the community and any feedback

JB – Gave presentation of slides.

JB – Discussion on the high groundwater water levels

SK – Noted that in February 1990, when 250mm fell on one day and another 125mm fell the following day water levels are close to what they are at the moment, and there were houses in Barrie Close that had some water inundation. The water flows west to east. Some shallow drains were put in on Barrie Close after that event.

JS – HWC has also had numerous complaints / enquires from residents about the high water levels.

SD – BD has called someone at the quarry to complain about the early trucks, unsure who was called.

JB – Will followup with the quarry to ensure any complaints received by phone are included in the register.

WS – Any koalas been observed onsite?

JB – Yes koalas have been recorded on camera moving within the site.

JS – RE: High Water Levels – reasons for the buffer distance of the quarry from the aquifer is around preventing ponding and evaporation from the aquifer, and also ensuring that a suitable landscape can be rehabilitated onsite that is similar to what is current existing onsite.

WS – Noted that RZM had concerns that the fine silts and clays that were released during the dredging on the site would block infiltration within the sand beds, to reduce this a fines plant was then introduced along with flocculant addition to remove the silts which were then deposited in various emplacements in the local area.

SD – Still some ongoing concern with the amount of sand that remains along the shoulder of the acceleration lane and how this can swirl up behind trucks as they leave.

JB – Will followup with the quarry to get more sweeping / removal of the sand buildup.

JS – Who is completing the rehabilitation onsite?

JB – Wedgetail and Hunter Indigenous Plants have been collecting seed and this Spring will be the first monitoring completed of the rehabilitation areas. We can then see what is seeding and what needs additional effort and possible tube stock.

JS – Based on experience in the sand beds, tubestock will certainly be needed for the canopy species like the eucalypts and banksias. Recommend getting these in as soon as possible so they are not outcompeted by other species. No problem in waiting to see what comes up, but it will certainly be needed.

JB – Will increase the importance of tubestock and aim to get some underway following the first monitoring event.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Followup with quarry staff to ensure phone complaints when received are also added to the register.	JB	20/09/2022
✓ Attend to sand build up along acceleration lane shoulder	JB / Newcastle Sand	20/09/2022
✓ Increase the importance of tubestock in rehabilitation and get some ready for planting in rehabilitation	JB	20/09/2022

**Agenda item: 7 Other Agenda Items** **Presenter:** John Turner

**Discussion:**

JT – There were no other agenda items received.

**Agenda item: 8 General Business** **Presenter:** John Turner

**Discussion:**

JT – Is there any general business?

WS – Have any wild bee hives been observed onsite, will need to keep an eye out?

JB – No wild bee hives have been found to my knowledge.

WS – What is happening with the traffic island?

JB – No change since the last meeting that I am aware of.

SD – Can I please have a hard copy dropped off.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ SD – Can someone please drop off a copy of the minutes to my letter box?	Newcastle Sand will drop of a copy	When completed
✓		

**Agenda item: 9 Next Meeting** **Presenter:** John Turner

**Discussion:**

JT – The meeting is now closed at 9:43am, the next meeting to be advised.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
None.		

### ***Other Information***

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- Minutes to be provided as draft in the next week.
- Committee members have one week to provide feedback on the minutes to the Chairperson.
- Within two weeks of receiving feedback the minutes will be finalized and distributed to members and placed on the website.

### ***Meeting Close:***

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9:25 am