

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

10 October 2024  
9:00-9:31am  
Mercure Newcastle Airport

**Meeting Number:** 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting      **Type of meeting:** General  
**Chairperson:** John Turner - JT      **Note taker:** Jonathan Berry

**Attendees:** Wayne Sampson (Resident) – WS  
Stephen Kuehn (Resident) – SK  
Jonathan Berry (Wedgetail Project Consulting) – JB  
Paul Hardes (Resident) – PH  
John Simpson (Hunter Water) – JS  
Elliott Laver (Newcastle Sand) – EL  
Darren Williams (WSS) – DW

**Apologies:** Greg Callaghan (Resident) – GC

**Observers:** Brett Cassidy (HWC)

**Meeting Open:** 9:00am

## Minutes

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

**Discussion:**

Greg Callaghan (Resident) – GC

**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.  
Greg Callaghan (Resident) – Deed with WSS  
Stephen Kuehn (Resident) – Deed with WSS  
Elliott Laver - Employed as Quarry Manager by Newcastle Sand  
Darren Williams (WSS) – Shareholder / Director of Newcastle Sand

**Agenda item: 3 Minutes to be adopted**      **Presenter:** John Turner

**Discussion:**

Minutes from the last meeting were noted.  
Minutes moved by SK. 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 (attached).

JS – Can you elaborate on what reasons were given for the BCS lack of support for Mod3.

JB – Despite the fact the revised project footprint would have resulted in a smaller footprint and recovered more sand, the inclusion of the extension areas on the eastern fingers was not supported as these sections were previously removed from the project, which was ultimately approved, i.e. they likely formed part of previous justification / decision on approval. In addition, some concerns over connectivity impacts and potential issues with the residual land BSA area boundary.

JS – What is happening with glass sand?

DW – Holding it at the moment, supplied to end users by few customers, at this stage no agreement for further sales with other imports / trucking arrangements preferred to use of this sand. Will retain it for as long as possible, but could eventually be used in concrete if there is no change.

JS – [in response to slide on groundwater levels] The aquifer is at 100% at the moment.

JS – How is the blending of the fines occurring with topsoil.

DW – Layout fines over extraction floor, then blend the topsoil over the fines, the dozer movement, and subsequent timber placement results in a good blend of these materials.

EL – Seeing some good results where fines placed, perhaps better water holding, returning what was there originally.

DW – Rehabilitation is doing good in keeping out future risk of motor bikes damaging rehabilitation.

EL – Have seen less motor bikes then earlier years, have placed some timber stumps across tracks that were previously used [gates still remain on recognized tracks].

DW – Despite the timber placement and significant difficulty in crossing the timber, 4.5km of bunting was placed around perimeter at the request of DPHI compliance.

JS – What density of canopy is expected [in response to observations on increasing eucalypts in rehabilitation]

JB – Can't recall management plan specifics [Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Management Plan does not set specific completion criteria for canopy density. Plan seeks to establish community similar to original, with a similar species composition with key species present, a canopy height of 3m+, and 90% cover achieved (across canopy, mid storey and shrubs)].

WS – We did notice more dust during those significant northwesterly winds, particularly from the road, surprised this wasn't picked up in the air monitors. Wasn't significant enough to report at the time, but wanted to pass on at this meeting.

JB – The levels presented were annual average levels, we did observe some peaks in the air quality at the monitors, but it was not enough to change the averages.

EL – We find the worst days for sand tracking is when the weather is patchy, seems to stick to tires more than being wet or dry. We use the bobcat sweeper and contract sweeper regularly. Contractor is actually booked in for this afternoon. Please let us know if more sweeping is needed.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Nil		
✓		
✓		

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

**Discussion:**

Nil

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

**Discussion:**

Nil

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Nil		
✓		
✓		

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

**Discussion:**

JT – The meeting is now closed at 9:31am, the next meeting is set for 17 December 2024.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
None.		

***Other Information***

- 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:***

9:31 am