

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Stratford Coal Community Consultative Committee Meeting**  
**Stratford Mine Site**  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Attendees:**

Ms Margaret MacDonald-Hill	CCC Chairperson	Philip Greenwood	CCC Member
Thomas Kirkwood	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Kevin Lowrey	CCC Member
Mike Plain	Stratford Coal Pty Ltd	Norm Bignell	CCC Member
Ryan Fenning	MidCoast Council	Cr Katheryn Smith	MidCoast Council

**Guests:**

Nil

**1. Site Tour**

Site tour was postponed due to wet conditions.

**2. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:01am.

The Chair introduced Cr Katheryn Smith, the new MidCoast Council representative for the Stratford Coal CCC. Cr Katheryn Smith is now the primary representative for the MidCoast Council

Apologies: Mr Richard Clarke, Mr Anthony Berecry, Mr John Cullen and Cr Claire Pontin, Ms Lyndie Hepple.

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Ms MacDonald-Hill declared that she is the Independent Chair, approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment.

Mr Bignell informed the committee that his family has signed a lease agreement on the Yancoal owned 'Tiedman Agricultural Lot'.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 9 February 2022 were confirmed.

Moved: Phillip Greenwood; Seconded: Kevin Lowrey.

**5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting**

1. **Annual Action Item:** MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November on the spending of the Stratford Coal community enhancement contributions made to Council.

Due November 2022 meeting. Mr Plain advised the invoicing for the 2021 Development Consent contributions to MidCoast Council (MCC) had not yet been received. The Chair has sent a reminder to MCC.

## 6. Correspondence

Details of correspondence was included in the meeting agenda. There was no further discussion.

## 7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

SCPL presented the Company Reports and Overview of Activities:

1. Progress at Mine: Mr Kirkwood advised mining operations continued in Avon North and Stratford East Open Cuts. Backfilling on the BRN pit continued in Q1 2022.

Cr Smith asked how the recent wet weather and the ROM feed failure has impacted coal volumes. Mr Kirkwood advised coal volumes were below target during the first quarter of 2022 and SCPL would aim to recover this during the second half of the year.

2. Environmental & community activities including monitoring, mine closure and rehabilitation: (*refer to CCC presentation available on website for further detail*). Items discussed by exception:

Mr Greenwood inquired whether SCPL was still intending to utilise the site water fill point designed to make site water available for council use on roadworks. Mr Plain explained that the fill point is still intended to be used for this purpose following completion of relevant approvals.

Mr Kirkwood advised the planned tubestock planting program in April 2022 has been postponed due to wet weather and will be rescheduled in spring.

The SMC mine closure planning progress was presented and discussed by the committee. This included a schedule and timing for closure activities. Mr Greenwood requested that SCPL continue to keep the CCC informed regarding mine closure planning. Mr Greenwood stated that the local community will have an interest in the closure planning process and it will be important the CCC members are kept informed to answer questions regarding the status of operations at the Stratford Coal Mine. Mr Plain agreed that updates through the CCC will continue via the quarterly meetings and as requested.

Mr Lowrey questioned if SCPL had sufficient topsoil for the rehabilitation requirements for the site. Mr Plain informed Mr Lowrey that the recently reviewed topsoil balance has shown there is adequate topsoil available for rehabilitation requirements. Mr Plain continued that a summary of topsoil availability is included in the SCPL Annual Review.

Mr Greenwood also asked if the water level in the old main pit provided adequate cover of the deposited reject material in the void. Mr Plain advised that the depth of water cover for the rejects would be between 40 and 50 Met~~resers~~.

The committee commended SCPL for the complaint response listed in the presentation.

Cr Smith expressed concern that many of the recipients of the Stratford Coal Education Support Fund grants have been either from the same local businesses or from the same family as previous recipients. Cr Smith suggested that further emphasis is put on reaching new recipients in the upcoming grant rounds and reviewing the grant structure. The committee agreed. Mr Plain ~~agreed~~ ~~and~~ added that a diverse range of businesses have been targeted and even with businesses receiving the grant on multiple years the fund is still serving its purpose-.

## **8. General Business**

Nil

Next Meeting date: Proposed 9:00am on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

The next meeting is to be held at the Stratford Mine Site and a site tour will be scheduled for the start of the meeting.

Meeting closed at 10:29am.

### **Summary of Action Items from this meeting**

1. ***Annual Action Item:*** *MidCoast Council to provide an annual financial report each November on the spending of the Stratford Coal community enhancement contributions made to Council.*