

Meeting Minutes

North Community Liaison Group (CLG)

Date	28/05/2021	Time	10:00-11:30am
Chair	Mike Marasco	Meeting no.	9
Location	Zoom	Minute taker	Jacinta Booth

Attendees

Attendees			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Mike Marasco (MM)	Independent Chair	Matt Abdallah (MA)	CPB
Michelle Giovas (MG)	Friends of Banyule	Greg Sandford (GS)	CPB
Katie George (KG)	Community Representative	Glen Preema (GP)	CPB
Allan Hunter (AH)	Community Representative	Kate Zisos (KZ)	CPB
Paul Bellis (PB)	Banyule Council	Carlene Rutledge (CR)	CPB
Adriano Murone (AM)	Community Representative	Nat Pearson (NP)	NELP
Stephen Paul (SP)	Community Representative	Jacinta Booth (JB)	NELP
Remo Marinucci (RM)	Community Representative	Frances Wickerson (FW)	NELP
John Pompei (JP)	Community Representative	Bill Himonas (BH)	NELP
Sarah Maguire (SM)	Watsonia Traders Association		

Apologies			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Michelle Molinaro (MMo)	Community Representative	Mick Marcevski (MMa)	DoT
Jim Needham (JN)	NELP	Matt Pochroj (MP)	CPB
Simon Chao (SC)	VicRoads		

Key discussion points/decisions

Owner	Action
Mike Marasco (MM)	<p>Welcome and outstanding business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MM welcomes the group. ● MM notes two new presenters from CPB, Greg Sandford (GS) and Kate Zisos (KZ). ● MM gives an update on the actions from the previous meeting. Notes that item 1 and 8 are underway, item 5 will be postponed till the next meeting and all other items have been completed. ● MM notes that MG's recent email will be addressed. ● KG asks for an update on item 1. ● NP explains this item was briefly mentioned to KG last week. Will be in touch soon about the review and KG will be able to provide input through that process. ● MM introduces CPB to give their works update.
Kate Zisos (KZ), Matt Abdallah (MA), & Glen Preema (GP), CPB	<p>CPB Works Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GS gives an overview of the agenda for the presentation. ● GS gives an update on water relocations at Borlase Reserve. The installation of the large DN1700 water main has been completed, the DN600 water main is still underway and will be followed by the installation of the DN375 water main. The PRS construction is progressing also with both Melbourne Water PRS header pipes being installed. ● GS gives an update on Borlase street reinstatement. Works commenced in Borlase Street on 16 March and the intersection was closed Monday 22 March. To safely complete the large and complex service relocation works that are now underway, the current road closure between 8 and 22 Borlase Street and the intersection with Drysdale Street will be maintained until late August. Once service relocation works are completed, road reinstatement activities will follow on Borlase and Drysdale streets. Adds that extending the closure will allow early works in the area to finish in late August as planned. ● KG asks what community consultation was done around the road closure, before the decision was made, to understand the impacts and how that was managed. ● MM advises this question will be answered at the end of CPB's presentation. ● GS gives an update on other utility relocations around Borlase including, culvert drainage works for the Banyule creek diversion, Moorwatha Street water main tie connection and road closure works, sewer works adjacent Greensborough Road and the commissioning and opening of bus stops on Lower Plenty Road. ● MG asks what a Pressure Reducing System is and the challenges besides truck vehicle safety. ● GS answers access is a challenge as there is one way in and one way out. Working with different easements and councils for approvals and working near various live services in a confined space were the key challenges. Adds this PRS facilities the East to North-east water supply to the community and explains the function of this particular PRS and its role in supplying water.

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GS continues with the update on utility relocations around Borlase including the relocation of overhead power lines and power poles on Greensborough Road, Lower Plenty Road and Creek Bend Reserve and the installation of underground power lines and pole replacements on Drysdale Street. ● GS gives an update on Greensborough Road utility relocations. Works north of Erskin Road due to be completed in August. Trenching works at night for the gas main relocation are progressing between Oban Way and Erskine Road, planning still underway for gas tie in works on Greensborough Road and Watsonia Road and trenching and conduit installation night works to relocate electricity infrastructure continue to progress. ● GP gives an update on the electricity works along Greensborough Road. Electrical cable installation was completed last week, re-sheeting of the road pavement (bike lane) is expected to take place by Mid-June and some concrete reinstatement work on Thompson Street to be complete before the end of June. ● MG asks about the road closure on Old Greensborough Road and whether CPB has spoken to residents who live between Santon and Doris streets. MG feels residents would like to have one lane left open. Also asked whether CPB know the people who live there and what their needs are. Keen to know what the overall consultation looks like. ● GP explains that we plan the works and find out what they entail with the contractor. Once we know what we are doing we do a consultation with people directly affected in that area, particularly those residents that are within the road closure area. ● CR furthers explains wherever there are construction works, we have to do quite a lot of lead time in terms of notifications, as part of the EPRs we do have to consult and plan the works where we can around residents as best as possible. ● GP adds there would only be a full closure if the work required it because of technical reasons. ● GP provides an update on the northern gas main relocation service investigations, works have progressed well over the last 6 weeks. Explains the works involved to locate the gas main. Adds they have not received many complaints and at most sites traffic has been able to flow through around the site. Investigations to continue around the north of Grimshaw Street. ● GP advises the design for the gas main relocation will be completed over the next couple of months with physical work expected to start later this year. ● KG asks whether these services investigations fall within the designated project area. ● GP advises some areas do fall outside the project area. ● KG wants to know why investigations are taking place outside the designated project area. ● GP explains it is to do with the gas main and the way the gas network is configured, because NEL will be deep and wide it will cut the gas network in half. Works happening in this area are to strengthen parts of the gas network to allow of all the network to be fed without having major crossings of the NEL alignment. Adds these works will make sure there is enough flow into the surrounding areas so that the gas network can cope with NEL. ● GP adds CPB can ask the designers from APA if there are any further questions on the gas network.

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CR gives an update on the Ford Park sports upgrades. On track for completion in August. The cricket nets and multicourt are mostly complete, the pavilion construction and oval upgrade works are progressing well. ● CR gives update on Binnak Park sports upgrades which are also on track for completion in August. Works on the internal structure and fit out on the pavilion continue, footpaths around the facilities for the oval upgrade works are progressing and we are preparing to asphalt and finish footpath access to upgrade the western carpark. ● KZ gives the community engagement update for all early works areas. Notes that they don't anticipate many requests from resident adjacent the night works on Greensborough Road and Lower Plenty Road to be relocated during lockdown. ● CR answers KG's question from earlier regarding consultation on the road closure. Explains that CPB do have a requirement to consult around works and establishing works in a new area. Significant consultation was done with residents in Borlase before works commenced, changes that have occurred recently had to go above and beyond regarding safety and the intention is to return access as quickly as possible. Affected residents for this piece of work who don't have access are properties 8 – 22 Borlase Street. We have been having conversations weekly with the residents who are still there to understand access requirements and have been making arrangements to meet their needs. CR adds that consultation and notifications have been ongoing with residents. ● KG explains her concern is the definition of consultation. As an affected resident her expectation is that the contractors or the project will talk to residents about the project requirements and outline the work that needs to be done before any decision is made so that residents get an opportunity to express how they will be impacted and contingencies are worked around those impacts. ● KG notes that during the 7-day lockdown period, there will be residents who won't be able to be relocated and won't have an option to get respite. KG is interested to know whether there is consideration to stop works for one or two nights during lockdown to give people respite and if not how will this be managed. ● CR advises that with regards to respite and relocation we will continue to work with the residents where there are ongoing night works. Considerations are factored in around how impactful works are, still some relocation options for residents within that proximity to the works, Mel our relocations manager will work closely with residents and is on call 24/7 during night works. We always consult with the contractors, but we are an essential service and we are trying to get this works done as much as possible, but we won't ignore the fact that people close by will be affected. It's a case by case basis, if people choose not to relocate, we look at what else we can do to help minimise impacts or plan works around that. ● CR advises she will come back to KG regarding respite options during lockdown, once she has further clarification. ● MG advised she turned into Drysdale Street from Greensborough Road recently and wasn't aware it was closed. Doesn't recall seeing signage on Greensborough Road to indicate Drysdale Road was closed. ● CR advises there is a sign which says, side road closed ahead. CR adds that these signs and the road closure have been dictated by the road safety auditor. ● MG has not noticed any signage and suggests that this be looked at.

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GS adds he can see MG's point, explains that the location of the signs along the road are dictated by DoT requirements. The sign CR referred to is in position for pedestrians, there is another sign further back to give prewarning to vehicles on both sides of Greensborough Road, these are set back further from the intersection. The photo in the presentation doesn't capture the signs but they are there. CR to take photos of the signs and send to MG. CR reminds the group of the community touch points. Asks NP whether the hubs are closed during lockdown. NP confirms both Hubs are closed during lockdown, she will let the group know when they have reopened.
Frances Wickerson (FW), NELP	<p>Early tree planting program update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FW gives a recap on the tree planting priorities. The first priority for tree planting is to plant as many trees as possible along NEL as part of the project design. This planting will be done by the contractors appointed to build the project. Before this planting starts, urban design and landscape plans will be put on exhibition for comment and the trees will be planted once construction is finished or earlier if the trees can be protected. The second planting priority is to plant trees as close as possible to North East Link and then the third is to plant in the six council areas the project passes through. These two priorities are NELP's responsibility so that where we are able to start early tree planting. FW responds to MG's point that it should be a priority to keep trees. Explains that we do have an EPR to keep as many trees as possible and that's the first thing that we are working to do, the priorities that FW is speaking to is regarding tree planting. FW gives an update on the tree planting survey that was completed in December last year. A report was put together on the survey results which planned to go out this week but unfortunately due to the lockdown we have had to put a hold on this until restrictions ease. FW explains there were nearly 800 responses to the survey from around 100 suburbs which is a strong response, half of those were from people living in the Banyule area. FW gives an overview on responses to community values including top places to plant trees and top reason to plant trees. FW gives an overview of the suggestions in response to where trees could be planted. Over 280 locations were suggested for consideration. FW explains that since the survey closed in December, NELP have been working closely with councils and land managers to look at where trees and can continue to be planted early in the project area. Over 25 locations have been chosen for the next lot of early tree planting. FW outlines the areas where early planting has begun and the locations that have been selected for the next stage of early tree planting. SP asks whether Windsor park on the list as a possible location for tree planting. FW explains that Windsor Reserve is included in the reference design as a construction laydown area. We will need to wait and see who the preferred bidder is and work through their design until we know what is planned for Windsor Reserve as it's inside the project area.

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FW talks about the Studley Park gum tree planting which started in late May. This type of gum is a hybrid of River Red Gum and Swap Gum. Outlines the sites they will be planted and number of tree at those sites. Explains the trees will be monitored closely for 10 years, reports will be summited every year and will be published on the NELP website. ● MG asks whether there will be planting at Banyule Flats. ● FW explains this location was suggested through the survey and is on the list of places being considered for planting. Currently NELP is working to keep trees as close as possible to where they might need to be removed, trying to balance as many trees in around where works are and were removals will take place as well as locations further away. Notes it will be a long planting program and all opportunities will be considered. ● MG adds she mentioned Banyule Flats as there are already large Studley Park gum trees and is an ideal location and NELP could work with Banyule City Council to plant there. ● FW explains one of the considerations for the Studley Park gum tree planting is the number of trees we are planting, we needed quite a large area which made Montpelier Reserve and Westerfolds Park were really suitable in terms of space and there has been a history of these gums in the area. ● FW adds that Banyule Flats could be an area we would look at for future planting for NEL. Advises MG that if she has any suggestions or knows of areas there that could benefit from extra trees we would be keen to work with her to identify where those could be. ● MG advises she will consult with the Warringal Conservation Society; they will have suggestions for locations. ● MG asks about the minimum number of trees planted, is that number usually around 10 or what is the number are you looking at. ● FW explains it's about looking at places where there is space for tree to grow over time as we are aiming for a canopy replacement target, not necessarily just getting lots of trees in the ground. ● MG confirms she will pass suggestions for plating locations in Banyule Flats to NP. ● FW to liaise with MG on location within Banyule Flats.
Mike Marasco (MM)	<p>Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● KG would like to hear from CPB about the full details of reinstatement works at Borlase St and Drysdale St. ● CR advises KG that she will provide an answer in writing to respond to her email earlier in week. Notes there are still a couple of items GS was seeking clarification on and then they will update KG. ● SP notes he went to the Greensborough College open day, the grounds are fantastic and the community should be very happy. ● KG asks a further question around the designated project area and works happening outside of it. Explains that NELP indicated that everything relating to the project was expected to fall inside this area, it seems like this may not be the case. Is worried there are sections of the community who will be impacted by the project who currently think they won't be because they are outside of the project boundary. KG wants to know how the project is planning to deal with that.

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NP to follow-up with KG to get more information about the specific areas. • MM confirms NP will send response to KG and group members. • KG asks whether there is an update on the timeline for the announcement of the bidders and the final design. • MM advises there has been no change to the timeline. • MG follows-up the email she sent regarding points for discussion at a future meeting. • MM advises MG's questions will be taken onboard. • NP notes many of the questions will be addressed at the next meeting. • MM thanks all participants and closes the meeting.

Actions – new

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
1	CR advises she will come back to KG regarding respite options during lockdown	CR	09/07/21	Complete	
2	CR to take photos of the signs in relation to Drysdale Street and Greensborough Road and send to MG.	CR	09/07/21	Pending	
3	NP to notify group when Hubs reopen	NP		Complete	
4	MG confirms she will pass suggestions for planting locations in Banyule Flats to NP. FW to liaise with MG on locations within Banyule Flats.	MG, NP, FW		Pending	
5	CR to provide an answer to KG in writing to respond to her email earlier in the week regarding details of reinstatement works at Borlase St and Drysdale St.	CR		Complete	
6	NP to follow-up with KG to get more information about the specific areas outside of the project boundary. NP to send response to KG and group members.	NP	09/07/21	Complete	
7	MG points raised in recent email to be addressed.	NP		In progress	

Actions – previous

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
1	TC to liaise with JN and CR and follow up with KG regarding complaint and overall complaints management process.	TC, JN & CR		In progress	NP will be in touch with KG soon about the review and KG will be able to provide input through that process.
2	JB to email CPBs bullying and harassment policies SP in response to his question raised at the previous meeting.	JB		Completed	
3	CR to give MG more info offline and photos of the Banyule creek.	CR		Completed	
4	CR advises she will talk to the supervisor regarding the lights on Greensborough Road.	CR		Completed	
5	CR to provide an overview of complaints analysis for other areas at the next CLG.	CR	09/07/2021	In progress	This will be actioned at the following meeting.
6	NP to look into WGTP tour.	NP		In progress	WGTP are not currently doing tours, will check in again in a few months.
7	TC to add the possibility of a dedicated NELP complaints number rather than the existing 1800 number into the contact centre audit.	TC		Completed	Will be included in the review.
8	TC and NP to liaise with KG and a small group of residents on the case management process and provide an update at a meeting down the track.	TC & NP		In progress	NP will be in touch with KG soon about the review and KG will be able to provide input through that process.