



PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY
WEDNESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2024

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT	Graham Winter Julie Knipping Mike Ansell Paul D'Vorak Paul MacGillivray Todd Brown Tresslyn Smith	Lee Smith (RM) Carol McKenzie (Committee Secretary)
APOLOGIES	Keith Wilks (CEO) Robyn Fenech (Director)	Alana Monaghan (Corporate Affairs Mgr.) Dennielle Massang (Comms)

The Chair opened the meeting at 5:02 pm, welcomed everyone to the meeting and Acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land.

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations.

2. Minutes of the Previous meeting

The Minutes of the previous Committee meeting held on 7th August 2024 were noted as approved via circular resolution on 14th October 2024. The circular resolution was affirmed by the Committee.

3. Action Items from Previous Minutes

Item 10.1 – A Committee member noted the updated Charter and enquired if Committee members were able to have input into the revision of the Charter.

Item 10.2 – Graham Winter will be the representative on the Community Investment Program Committee.

Item 10.3 – Advertising for new members – ongoing.

4. Corporate Update

No report.

5. New Staff and Safety and Security

The RM gave the following presentation: -

The organisation is facing challenges due to MRL ceasing their operations and their exports through Esperance Port at the end of the year. MRL is the largest revenue customer going through the Port of Esperance. Due to this Southern Ports has initiated a Voluntary Redundancy process which has been applied for by a few staff members.

The Annual Report is now available on our website.

Keith Wilks was elected as a Director of Ports Australia at their bi-annual conference held in Hobart.

Discussion was had around the impact MRL closing has on Esperance as a port and a town and the possible redundancies affecting Management and staff.

Due to the issue in Esperance, Southern Ports has ceased employing new staff except for those needed in critical areas.

Southern Ports and the Department of Transport will be undertaking oil spill training in November which will involve deploying of equipment, first responders' responsibilities and how to deal with the situation.

The Security Team undertake Access Card checks to ensure all who are going on site are approved card holders. The Security team are employed by a third party and operate twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

We have extended the lease for the customer based at the Outer Harbour who get approximately five shipments a year supplying methanol to a local laminating group. We are looking at options for moving the tanks in the future.

6. Environment

The RM gave the following update on behalf of Duncan Gordon: -

Southern Ports has retained the ISO 14001 accreditation for our Environment Management System. We are leveraging off Bunbury for the other two ports to get accreditation.

Fairy Terns are back breeding in the Outer Harbour area. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) have reported there are seventy-five nests at the breeding site and several birds in the area. Last year was the most successful breeding year in the Southern Hemisphere.

The lease for the community Nursery has been extended for ten years.

7. Port Trade

The RM gave the following update:

The first Sugar Australia vessel, the CSR Pioneer, came into port a couple of weeks ago discharging 7,300 tonnes of sugar into special containers that were then trucked off site. The vessel was unable to go to Fremantle or Kwinana due to congestion there.

The Helix Q 7000 is an oil well drilling and decommissioning rig that came into Bunbury Port late August. This demonstrates the capabilities of the Bunbury Port.

We continue to receive battery modules for the Synergy battery facility in Collie. Once complete it will be the biggest battery power storage facility in the southern hemisphere. There are currently nine modules moved up to Collie every day.

Trade is on budget and as forecasted. Grain may be slightly down this year; Alumina prices are good and spodumene exports are on track.

Offshore and onshore windfarms continue to be discussed and Bunbury is well placed to receive this type of cargo. It is estimated that 2026 to 2029 will show an influx of wind turbines and blades and we are planning laydown areas for this to deal with the length of time it takes to be taken off site.

Blades for offshore wind turbines are 140 metres long so infrastructure will be needed. Currently there is no port in Australia with this type of infrastructure and the costs are high. The State Government is heavily invested in onshore windfarms so offshore windfarms could take up to ten years to be ready.

The Transforming Bunbury Waterfront Project at the Outer Harbour Stage two involves dredging work and then Stage three will be the construction of the breakwater and proposed fishing platform. They are currently trucking in granite.

8. Marine

The RM gave the following update:

The Wrack Removal Instrument of Exemption application renewal process is under way with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD). Wrack is removed from the channel prior to dredging. When the wrack is removed it is checked for any sea life which is returned to the water and then the wrack is transported to the farmlands. Wrack is removed twice a year, in March and November.

The pilot boat – Tuart is out of the water for its five-year service.

9. Corporate Affairs

The RM gave the following update:

The City of Bunbury hosted the Innovative Industries of the Future conference at the Bunbury Entertainment Centre. Southern Ports was a silver sponsor and Keith Wilks gave a talk.

Southern Ports had a stand at the Brunswick show for the first time this year and we had a great response from the community.

Communications covered: -

- The Sugar Australia visit.
- Foodbank partnership
- Gnaala Karla Booja - funding was provided for branding water bottles that will be given to the community and businesses.
- Helix Q7000
- Annual Report
- Offshore windfarms
- A variety of forms of media was used to advise the community of the closure of Estuary Drive until the end of November.

- \$32,000 given in sponsorship in the latest round of the Community Investment Program

10. Community Feedback

\$4 million of Government funding has been given to the City of Bunbury to repair the plug. The Department of Transport will continue to operate the boom.

Discussion was had around the issue of the ship incident several months ago.

Facebook, and LinkedIn cover all three ports.

The provision of pre-notes being sent to the Committee is under review.

11. Any Other Business

a) CIP Nomination

Graham Winter will be the representative on the CIP committee.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 6.27 pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 6th February 2025

Venue to be confirmed

ACTION ITEM LIST

FROM MINUTES OF PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY

6th NOVEMBER 2024

ITEM NO	ACTION	DATE AROSE	ACTION BY	STATUS
10.1	Updated Charter to be sent to the Committee	07/08/2024	C McKenzie	
10.3	Continue to advertise for new members	07/08/2024	Comms Team	