



CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

9:30 am Friday 3 February 2023 Environmental Learning Facility (ELF) - Grafton Regional Landfill

704 Armidale Road, Elland

Present : Cr Greg Clancy (Chair), Judith McNeill, Leonie Blain, Helen Granleese, Stephen Fletcher, Nicholas Reeve, Phillip Hocking, Janet Cavanagh, Richard Roper (CVC Staff), Ken Wilson (CVC Staff), Scott Lenton (CVC Staff), Ben Ellis (CVC Staff), Suzanne Lynch (CVC Staff), Adam Cameron (Director CVC)

Apologies : Geoff Little, Robert Mylchreest, Clair Purvis, Ian Gaillard, Lynette Eggins

Item	Discussion	Responsible person & deadline
1. Welcome and Apologies	Cr Greg Clancy as Chair welcomed the Committee members and gave an acknowledgement to Country. Apologies were noted.	
2. Adoption of previous minutes from 27 th October 2022	Motion: Moved by Stephen Fletcher “to accept minutes” Motion Seconded: Phillip Hocking Resolved: Carried	
3. Business Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living Sustainably Awards 	Suzanne Lynch gave an update of the awards held in December 2022. There was a high calibre of nominees. Photos of the awards are available on the Council web site https://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au/News-articles/2022-Living-Sustainably-Awards . Helen Granleese congratulated Ken Wilson on his sustainability work over many years. Helen was very impressed with the ceremony and was keen to discuss future promotion of the awards with Suzanne. General discussion about the awards and the future promotion.	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste to Energy update- Council Response 	<p>Ken Wilson gave an update advising that a report was presented to the December 2022 Council meeting with the Resolution being;</p> <p><i>That Council:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note the status of the North Coast Waste Investment Review Project; In considering the recommendation of the Climate Change Advisory Committee, note it does not have a position on the merit of Waste to Energy technologies currently. Obtain additional information from staff in relation to North Coast Waste Investment Review. <p>Ken Wilson advised there was no further detailed information from Richmond Valley Council (RVC).</p> <p>Janet Cavanagh advised that Byron Council had received information from RVC about the EOI process. Why has CVC not received this? Ken Wilson advised that he will approach RVC again requesting a briefing.</p> <p>Stephen Fletcher – Australia is a signatory to the Stockholm Convention protecting people from persistent pollutants. If CVC were to sign up to waste to energy this comes with risk.</p> <p>Janet will provide a copy of Byron’s information from RVC about the EOI submissions.</p>	<p>If no formal response about the EIO process is received, then CVC to approach RVC</p> <p>Janet Cavanagh to provide Ken Wilson with a copy of advice received by Byron Council</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dark Skies Project 	<p>Ken Wilson gave brief update – The Council officer who was dealing with this project has now left Council so further delays are possible.</p>	<p>Ken Wilson to update Committee when further information is available.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation Waste from Development Sites • Coastal Vulnerability Mapping • Question on Active Transport Strategy • Question on decorative lights on trees in Prince Street 	<p>Ken Wilson advised that he had forwarded a copy of the Climate Change Committees resolution to CVC Planning Manager for action. Update to be reported to future meetings</p> <p>Cr Clancy gave an overview. The plans will be released at the next Coast and Estuaries Committee Meeting. The new updated plans will provide CVC with information to base management decisions on.</p> <p>There was general discussion by the committee about the plans and processes.</p> <p>Leonie Blain asked the question if the previous Minutes were correct with \$500K p.a. for pedestrian and cycle safety? Adam confirmed this was correct and gave an overview of current projects around Grafton and Maclean.</p> <p>Stephen Fletcher – Questioned the safety of the lights in trees at pedestrian crossings in the main street of Grafton as he believes this is a road safety issue.</p> <p>Motion- Moved by Stephen Fletcher <i>“lighting should be changed from cold light to warm light similar to the lights at the crossing to improve road safety.”</i></p> <p>Motion not seconded, motion lapsed</p> <p>Leonie Blain explained that a similar complaint some time ago to Council got no response from Council on 3 occasions.</p> <p>Scott Lenton advised that Stephen should notify Council through customer service channels of this road/ pedestrian safety matter.</p>	<p>Ken Wilson to update Committee when further information is available.</p>
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<p>4. Waste to Energy</p>	<p>Covered in Business Arising</p>	
<p>5. CVC Emissions Reduction Actions</p>	<p>Ken Wilson gave tabled a list of works CVC have undertaken,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 Council buildings have Solar systems totalling 1321 kW's, • 7 facilities have battery storage - learning process as batteries become more financially viable • Energy Efficient Projects over 17 Council buildings– lighting upgraded to LED • LED Streetlighting projects and sporting fields/ tennis courts • If the Landfill Smart Energy Park becomes operational it will meet CVC short term emission reduction and long term renewable energy targets • No formal reporting on emissions reduction achieved to date, assume at least 15 % reduction based on 2017 levels. • Helen Granleese – Question regarding Calypso Caravan park Yamba? Ken Wilson advised this site is earmarked for redevelopment. • Janet Cavanagh– Questioned why Koolkhan Depot had not had solar installed. Ken Wilson advised there is not a lot of energy use at that site. • Phillip Hocking – Asked about 4 EV charging stations at RRWD? Ken Wilson advised this was done as part of a bushfire resilience grant program. 110kw solar + 200kWh battery and 250 kva generator and 4 EV charging stations. No CVC fleet vehicles are EV yet but should be soon. These chargers are not bi-directional. • Cr Clancy – Can a report be prepared on this success? Ken Wilson advised he was happy to prepare report for Council. 	<p>Ken Wilson to prepare a report on Council's achievements to date on emission reduction and renewable energy projects</p>
<p>6. General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Fletcher – Nuclear Free Zone LGA 	<p>Ken Wilson – Unfortunately this has not progressed – waiting on appropriate opportunity to put this to Council.</p> <p>Stephen – Lismore is a nuclear free zone as well as NZ and lots of other areas in Australia. Stephen agrees this is an unlikely scenario but that by doing this it will send a message to Government.</p>	<p>Ken Wilson to prepare report to Council on the CVC LGA being declared Nuclear Free as per the Climate Change</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judith McNeill– What’s happening on climate adaptation and emergency preparedness Update Grafton Cathedral Lighting Question regarding recycling 	<p>Cr Clancy - There is a motion from the committee to put this to Council so this should be done ASAP.</p> <p>Motion- Moved by Stephen Fletcher “<i>The previous motion on a nuclear free LGA be put to Council ASAP</i>”</p> <p>Motion Seconded: Janet Cavanagh - CARRED</p> <p>Judith asked for an update on Council’s response to climate change adaptation and what measures are in place for emergency preparedness and disaster scenario planning?</p> <p>Scott Lenton – There is a lot of work being done on adaptation strategies.</p> <p>Ken Wilson advised that adaptation is a huge topic covering many areas including emergency response. For the next meeting the Committee could invite CVC’s Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) to attend and give an update on Council’s activities in emergency response. Agreed</p> <p>Business arising – Stephen Fletcher asked where this issue is this up to? Ken Wilson advised that this has not progressed. Need to consider better technology, amended hours, safety etc. Cr Clancy advised this issue should be progressed.</p> <p>Helen Granleese asked if recyclables were being disposed of at landfills in QLD. Ken Wilson was unaware of this and indicated CVC recyclables are bulked up and taken to Chinderah MRF (materials recovery facility) for processing. CVC’s new waste contract commencing July 2023 will require recyclables to be processing at the Grafton MRF which is based at the Grafton landfill.</p>	<p>Committee Resolution</p> <p>Ken Wilson to invite Robyn Monk (CVC LEMO) to attend next meeting to address the committee.</p> <p>Ken Wilson to progress this issue</p> <p>Advice from contractor is that all loads are tracked, and no loads have been directed to landfill.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA Changes to Organic Waste items in Green Bin • Meeting date Changes causing issue • Legal Advice on West Yamba 	<p>Janet Cavanagh asked what CVC's response is to the EPA changes to what can go in organics bins. Ken Wilson advised that EPA has recently made changes, restricting what can go into organic bins to simply food and garden waste. Other organic material such as napkins, pizza boxes & other food packaging are not approved due to concerns over PFAS contamination. At this stage CVC is not actively changing its messaging and promotional materials, this will occur over time. There is the possibility that the EPA may change its position as other jurisdictions have not taken this approach.</p> <p>Leonie advised that late changes to meeting dates makes it difficult for some members to attend. She asked if a change has to be made can this be done well in advance as we want everyone to attend?</p> <p>Helen Granleese asked if legal advice on West Yamba development been received? Adam Cameron advised it had and a report will be put to Council however the legal advice may be confidential.</p>	
<p>7. Action List</p>	<p>Action list to be updated</p>	
<p>8. Date and venue of next meeting</p>	<p>Friday 28 April 2023 Maclean CVC Office</p>	
<p>9. Close</p>	<p>Meeting closed at 11.40pm</p>	