

## MINUTES

### BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING OF 21 June 2016

**ATTENDEES:** R Oakley (Waste Services Branch - WSB)  
B Lee (WSB)  
JA Lee (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 1:05pm.

#### **1.0 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from M Asnicar (Manager WSB), L Boyd (Community Representative), N Martin (Community Representative) and Councillor Dalley

J Ooms, L Miller, D Moore, P Cohen, E Koch, F and M Laughton, G Williams, A and H Priday, D Eldridge, L Ross, L and M Blunt and S Baker, (all Community Representatives) did not attend.

#### **2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

No Community Representatives who attended the previous meeting were present to confirm that the minutes of that meeting (on 22 March 2016) were accurate.

#### **3.0 BUSINESS ARISING**

##### **3.1 Landfill Odour**

There have been 10 confirmed (from a total of 13) complaints in the 2015/16 year to date compared to a total of 29 at the same stage of the previous year. (Two of the unconfirmed complaints were from residences that are well over a kilometre from the landfill and are much closer to chicken farms. The third complaint was classified as unconfirmed after a WS officer attending the complainant's residence was unable to smell odour at the same time and place that the resident was advising that she could.)

There was one complaint (unconfirmed) received during the three-month period of March to May 2016. This compared to 4 for the same three-month period in the previous year. Details were as follows:

##### March 2016:

No complaints.

##### April 2016:

There was one odour complaint received during April 2016. Details were as follows:

- 26/04/16 - 3.00pm - Centaurus Crescent Regents Park - Very soon after receiving the call a Waste Services officer visited the area to investigate. The officer was unable to detect any odour at the complainant's home. The complainant was interviewed and she reported being able to detect a very strong odour (rated maximum 4 out of 4) at the same time that the WS Officer could smell nothing. As a result, it has been recorded as an unconfirmed complaint. Odour demisters had been on all morning. No further action was taken. Wind was 38 km/hr from the east at the time of the complaint.

May 2016:

No complaints.

B Lee asked JA Lee how landfill odour had been in Tarrango Place and she advised that there had been none in recent months.

### 3.2 Environmental Performance

The results of environmental monitoring conducted in February 2016 were received in March. There were exceedances of the dust limit (130 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day) at three locations. These were at locations BPP-6 (293 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day) and BPP-7 (147 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day) and BPP-2 (140 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day). The exceedances can be attributed to ongoing earthworks associated with the new cell 2D as well as erosion noted on the track adjacent to both particulate monitoring locations. Dust control measures are in effect onsite including ongoing water truck usage, as well as speed limits for all vehicles transiting the site.

JA Lee commented that she is very regularly experiencing dust. B Lee advised that, over the last month or so, there has been increased activity on site with the commencement of the construction of the new Market carpark and entrance road.

This prompted a discussion about a barrier that has gone up along the edge of Bayliss Road, which JA Lee reported has made the road very narrow.

**Action:** *R Oakley to raise the issue of the narrowness of Bayliss Road with the contractor.*

### 3.3 Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)

There was no contact with DEHP officers during the period of March to May 2016.

### 3.4 Ibis Update

Numbers of ibis recorded at the landfill site have been as follows:

Average number recorded by contractor before dispersal	Total
August 2015	1053
September 2015	1054
October 2015	862
November 2015	663
December 2015	721
January 2016	761
February 2016	947
March 2016	1643

April 2016	1100
May 2016	1339

There was one complaint received regarding ibis during the three months of April to May 2016. Details were as follows:

- 05/05/16 at 3.00pm - St James Circuit - The resident complained about the Ibis being outside her house and making a lot of noise at night.
- Note - another very similar complaint from the same area was received in early June.

Waste Services contacted the ibis control contractor (Nature Call) shortly after receipt of both complaints and asked them to focus more on the area of the landfill adjacent to the residents to warn off the ibis. The contractor thereafter conducted afternoon dispersals. They also undertook assessment of the area to see where the ibis were roosting. They advised that more dispersals could be scheduled if required.

The wildlife management contractor's report for May included the following:

- Average initial daily ibis counts were 1339, prior to harassment activities.
- Average final counts of Ibis after harassment activities were 389, which is a decrease on the previous month
- There were 6 dispersal techniques that were implemented during the month of May. The quad bike and Pool Noodles were the most widely used harassment activities, making up 31% & 29% respectively.
- On average, Ibis numbers were reduced by 950 during the harassment period.
- Nest numbers both on and off site have substantially decreased.
- Average initial ibis numbers on site are lower than that observed in the same month, one year earlier. The average initial number of ibis were observed in May was 1,546 in 2015 and 1,339 in 2016.
- Ibis are increasingly difficult to disperse from surrounding trees without the use of noise techniques.

JA Lee advised that, on one occasion only, she had noticed ibis "blanketing" a single yard in Tarrango Place - but the incident has not been repeated.

In relation to ibis control activities outside the landfill site, advice from Council's Animal and Pest Services Branch is that the application to cull has been withdrawn. Further details are as follows:

- The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection stipulates that approval of a mitigation permit to cull can only be considered based on proven health or economic impacts. Concerns such as odour, visual impact or damage to vegetation are not criteria for consideration.
- The current strategy of egg and nest removal has provided a successful reduction in the number of birds roosting on the corner of Bayliss and Browns Plains Road and Wayne Goss Drive Berrinba at present. This will be recommenced in the area if and when ibis return.
- Reports of ibis roosting at other sites within Heritage Park and Berrinba Wetlands indicates the need to ensure the program of egg and nest removal is moved as needed to other locations in the vicinity of Browns Plains Landfill.

### **3.5 Fire Ant Update**

The only interaction relating to fire ants with officers of Biosecurity Queensland during the three-month March to May 2016 period related to consultation on awarding of a new greenwaste management contract

### **3.6 Bayliss Road Entry to Landfill**

R Oakley reported that the project, which has now commenced, involves construction of a new carpark for the Recycling Market, as well as a new entry road. The new carpark will be undertaken first, although vegetation clearing for the road has already been done. A Cultural Heritage survey still has to be undertaken prior to any excavation work commencing for the road.

JA Lee asked if Bayliss Road will be widened to accommodate traffic turning into the site. RO confirmed that there would be a right-turn into the site from Bayliss Road (but not a right hand turn onto Bayliss to exit) and there would be a lane for that.

### **3.7 Invitations to Odour Complainants**

At the Group's September 2009 meeting it was recommended that Council direction be sought on a proposal to send landfill odour complainants an invitation to join the Group. The matter was considered by Council at its meeting of 27 October 2009 when it resolved that written invitations to join the Group be sent to residents who make odour complaints about the landfill.

Further, at the Group's meeting of 25 June 2013 it was agreed that Council should ensure that invitations to join the Group are reissued to complainants who had been previously invited over six months previously. (It had previously been Council's practice to not send multiple invitations to residents making multiple complaints.)

There was one complaint made during the March to May 2016 period and it resulted in an invitation to join the Group being issued.

### **3.8 Demolition of Log Cabin House**

Council's Property Branch advised on 30 March 2016 that the house and other structures at 1-9 Volstead Road have been demolished.

## **4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Location of Waste Tipping**

JA Lee asked if waste tipping would continue in cell 2D (the current cell which is towards the centre of the site) throughout the upcoming summer. R Oakley confirmed that it would and that tipping was planned so that the maximum buffer distance would coincide with the summer month's period.

## **5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING**

The meeting closed at 1.20pm. Invitations and agendas for the next meeting in September 2016 will be issued in due course.