

CHAMBERS FLAT WWTP COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING No.3



Meeting details

Date: 28 August 2023

Time: 6.30pm to 7.45pm

Location: Chambers Flat Community Hall

Attendees

CRG Chairperson: Michelle Feenan, Engagement Plus

Chambers Flat WWTP Community Reference Group (CRG) Members

Brendan Doman, Kym Suthers, Brad O'Keefe, Ted Austin, David Loch

Apologies: Sue Simpson, Matthew Patterson

Logan Water Representatives: Damien Collins (Manager Water Infrastructure Solutions, Kelly Blanchard (Water Customer Advocacy & Experience Program Lead), Felicity Simpson (Community and Stakeholder Engagement Lead) Tania Keelan (Community and Stakeholder Engagement Officer/Minute taker)

Agenda

No.	Item
1	Acknowledgement of Country (1min)
2	Project staff update and CRG membership change (5mins)
3	Acceptance of last meeting's minutes (close out any open action items) (5mins) Outstanding action items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Logan Water officers will provide a copy of the photos shown and an aerial map of the site indicating where each photo was (see next dot point)- Logan Water to provide research on social / town planning for the area (will be emailed)- Logan Water to discuss the seedlings that have been removed from the boundary fence line with the agistee (complete)- Another site tour of the Cedar Grove and Chambers Flat sites for the remaining CRG members (Complete)
4	Project update (30 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Timeframes, master planning update, Chambers Flat Road project update
5	Recap where we left off at the previous meeting (10mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Values, suggestions for the site, screening, social / town planning report
6	General business (9mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Next meeting date / frequency of meetings

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Meeting notes

No.	Item	Action	Due
1	Acknowledgement of Country	Note	
2	Project staff update and CRG membership change		
2.1	<p>Logan Water announced two new staff members on the project team (Damien Collins – Manager for Water Infrastructure Solutions and Felicity Simpson – Community Engagement Lead).</p> <p>Logan Water announced that two CRG members (Kelly Wood and Geoff Burr) had resigned their CRG membership for personal reasons.</p> <p>As there were two new positions available, it was opened to the CRG as to how they would like to proceed with getting new members. It was agreed that Logan Water will call for new nominations with the likelihood of having two new people for the next meeting.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>LW</p>	15/9/23
3	Acceptance of Last meetings minutes		
3.1	Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 July 2022 were accepted by all CRG members present.	Note	
3.2	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logan Water officers will provide a copy of the photos shown and an aerial map of the site indicating where each photo was (see next dot point) - Logan Water to provide research on social / town planning for the area (was emailed on 29 August 2023) - Logan Water to discuss the seedlings that have been removed from the boundary fence line with the agistee (complete) - Another site tour of the Cedar Grove and Chambers Flat sites for the remaining CRG members (Complete) 	Note	
4	Project update		
4.1	<p>A presentation was shown to the CRG which included the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What the CRG already know - Becoming a carbon neutral, green city - The Logan Community Vision - What is new for the site - Updated concept plan - Councils plan for sustainability projects - Rendering images of solar - Timeline 	Note	
4.2	<p>What the CRG already know</p> <p>Logan Water commenced the project update by addressing what had already been discussed at previous meetings including the purpose of the site (to build a wastewater treatment plant), with potential for community and environment projects.</p> <p>Logan Water is currently in the planning phase and is considering master planning options.</p> <p>Council has reserved land on the site for sustainability projects.</p>	Note	

	<p>Logan Water officers advised that Council was in discussions with the Department of Environment and Science (DES) to clarify information and progress the application. It is expected that DES will be looking for a high-water quality output from the WWTP.</p>		
4.3	<p><i>Becoming a carbon neutral, green city</i> Logan Water provided the history of Council explaining how it is becoming a carbon neutral, green city. Logan Water explained that Council had set a target of carbon neutral for all quantifiable carbon emissions and the most prudent and efficient means of achieving this are through locally generated carbon offsets.</p> <p>The CRG chairperson asked the CRG if they were familiar with the terminology being used regarding carbon offsets. The group agreed that it was quite topical in the news, and they were familiar with it.</p>	Note Note	
4.4	<p><i>Logan City Community Vision.</i> Logan Water explained the community engagement undertaken to produce the Logan City Community Vision.</p> <p>The report was finalised in May 2021 after a rigorous community engagement process including working groups and survey.</p> <p>Nine themes were created including Innovation and Employment which identified opportunities for investment in renewables and renewable projects.</p> <p>Logan Water will provide a copy of the Logan City Community Vision report to the members of the CRG.</p>	LW	15/9/23
4.5	<p><i>What is new for the site</i> A slide was shown to the CRG which covered what is new to the site. This included an updated concept plan which now showed the proposed sustainability projects as a 20-25MW solar farm (approximately 4,000 panels).</p> <p>A discussion about the location of the solar farm commenced. Logan Water explained that there was a planned 50m densely screened buffer between the Shiels Road property boundary and the solar farm.</p> <p>A member of the CRG commented that soil testing would need to be done prior to ensure growth of vegetation along the boundary. The CRG member commented that from their experience some areas would not grow anything.</p> <p>Logan Water officers advised the CRG that vegetation screening would commence soon and the CRG would have an opportunity to shape how this is progressed. Logan Water will prepare information for the CRG on the species of trees / shrubs that are common in the area. Wattle trees were mentioned as a possibility by a CRG member, it was requested that gum trees were not used for screening by another CRG member.</p> <p>Another CRG member said they would rather look at a fence than a solar farm.</p> <p>A question was raised by a CRG member about whether there would be a substation. The answer was yes however the location was not yet known.</p> <p>A question was asked about the rationale for the location of the solar panels and Logan Water advised that due to the components that drive the solar tracker, they need to be out of the flood zone.</p>	Note	

	<i>Post meeting note: The number of the solar panels has since been corrected to approximately 40,000 panels.</i>		
4.6	<p>Councils plan for sustainability projects Logan Water discussed with the CRG Councils plan for sustainability projects including talking about the existing solar array at Loganholme WWTP and also Cedar Grove to power its operations.</p> <p>The solar at Loganholme already powered the Australian first biosolids gasification facility which makes biochar. A product Council will be able to sell commercially for use as fertiliser etc.</p> <p>Further discussion was held about the possibilities for an anaerobic digester which could create green energy from food organics as another potential sustainable project in Logan City.</p> <p>A question was raised by a CRG member about the solar farm at Cedar Grove Environmental Centre about whether the energy was stored on site or put into to the grid. Logan Water advised the energy is consumed within the site for powering the plant.</p> <p>Another question was asked about whether cows or sheep would be considered to remain on the site with the solar. Council advised yes this would be considered on the site.</p> <p>A CRG member asked if the solar farm would be fenced, and the answer was yes.</p>	Note	
4.7	<p>Rendered images Four rendered images of the solar on the site were shown of the solar panels on the site from various viewpoints including Shiels Road and Chambers Flat Road.</p>	Note	
4.8	<p>Timeline A timeline was presented showing that the project is currently in planning with construction of the WWTP to commence after 2030, unless there are significant changes to population growth in the area.</p> <p>Master planning activities including screening for the solar is underway.</p> <p>Installation of the solar farm is expected to commence in 2024 and be completed in 2025.</p>	Note	
5	Recap of previous activities		
5.1	<p>The group discussed previous meetings and what activities had been undertaken so far. This included two meetings, site tours of the Chambers Flat site and Cedar Grove Environmental Centre, site master planning questionnaire including values and 'wish list' for the site and a community profiling report.</p> <p>Logan Water to email the community profiling document to the CRG members for their information.</p> <p>Logan Water to email the list of values to the CRG members to review and advise if there are any changes / additions before the next meeting.</p>	Note	
		LW	15/9/23
		LW	15/9/23

6	Where to from here		
6.1	Logan Water advised the CRG that the residents could expect to hear from the Roads Branch in September 2023 regarding the road upgrade.	Note	
5.2	Logan Water will continue master planning activities and commence activities for screening. Drivers for the master plan include the road upgrade announcement, screening and the proposed uses of the balance of the land. A CRG member mentioned that they liked how Springfield was developed and felt it was a great use of space.	Note Note	
6	General business		
6.1	A question was asked if the wetlands would still be required on the site. Logan Water advised that it was unlikely due to recent discussions with DES and their expectations for water quality from the WWTP and the size required of the wetlands. The WWTP at its ultimate stage will provide for approximately 60,000 EP (equivalent persons) which would make it the second biggest in the network behind Loganholme. It is likely the technology used for the WWTP will be particularly advanced to ensure a high-water quality discharge. A question was asked about flooding and whether the WWTP discharged water during a high-level rain event. Logan Water advised that yes, the water was discharged below the water line via bypass directly to the river. Logan Water advised they are likely to reach agreement with DES on the water quality requirements over the next 12 to 24 months.	Note	
6.2	Logan Water is to prepare a community engagement plan for implementation of the solar. A question was asked about when notice of the solar would be made to the wider community. Logan Water advised that a community newsletter was prepared and was due to be delivered on Wednesday 30 August 2023. The newsletter was shown to the CRG and discussed.	LW	30/9/23
7	Next Meeting Monday 30 October 2023, 6.00 – 7.30pm.		

Actions

- Logan Water will call for new nominations for the CRG
- Send the Logan Community Vision document to the CRG members
- Logan Water to send the community profiling document to the CRG members
- Logan Water to email the list of values to the CRG members before the next meeting
- Logan Water to prepare a community engagement for the implementation of the solar
- Focus for the next meeting to include:
 - o Welcoming of new CRG members
 - o Updates on related projects e.g. road corridor
 - o Input on the proposed vegetation species for buffer area
 - o Discussion on further development to draft Master Plan based on information provided in the interim.