

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cleary Bros Albion Park Quarry Community
Consultative Committee**

Held at the Shellharbour Civic Centre

On Thursday July 28, 2022 at 1:07 pm

Present:

Chairperson	B Weir
Fig Tree Hill Representative	S Dunster
Shellharbour City Council Representative	M Miller
Cleary Bros Environmental Officer	M Hammond
Cleary Bros Representative	T Kalajzich
Cleary Bros Stakeholder Relations Manager	P Jackson (observer)

Item 1: Welcome and Apologies:

The Chairperson welcomed all Members and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the Land on which the meeting was being held and paid his respects to Elders Past, Present and Emerging.

Item 2: Declaration of pecuniary interests:

The usual interests being Messrs Hammond and Kalajzich being employees of Cleary Bros., the Chairman being paid a meeting fee and M/s Dunster being an adjoining land owner, were declared.

Item 3: Business arising from previous meeting dated 2 December 2021:

The Chairperson dictated a summary of the proceedings of the site visit held on Thursday 26 May 2022. This summary is attached to these minutes.

Item 4: Correspondence:

The Chairperson advised that correspondence had been received from the Department of Planning and Environment inviting submissions from interested parties as part of a review of the CCC Guidelines.

Item 5: Progress of Project:

Mr Hammond spoke to his report which had previously been circulated (attached).

He noted there was an error in the first line, whereby the 685,347 tonnes of hard rock should refer to the entire FY22 period (delete "to 31 October 2021").

MM, referring to the section on rehabilitation, queried where the seedlings planted on the site were sourced from.

MH advised they were sourced from Jamberoo Native Nursery.

MM, referring to the section on Community Complaints, mentioned that there had been an increase in blasting complaints reported to Council in recent times. MM advised that when a complaint is made to Council, he encourages the complainant to contact the quarrying company in the first instant.

There was general discussion around blasting, noting that four quarries operate in the local area, and an influx of new residents weren't necessarily used to the quarry blasting.

MH stated that Cleary Bros had undertaken some additional blast monitoring in the surrounding suburbs in the past 6 months, and all measurements were proportionately lower than those recorded at the fixed monitor.

TL advised that modern blasting technologies permitted refinements to blasting, so that they were usually smaller but longer than historical blasting techniques.

Item 6: Other Agenda Items

i) Development Application for Stage 7 of the Quarry

Mr Hammond stated the following.

Environmental Assessment was accepted by the Department of Planning and Environment and went on public exhibition for 28 days over May and June 2022.

Following on from the exhibition, 61 submissions were received from the public, all expressing their support for the development. Advice was also received from 11 government agencies, the last of which was only received yesterday (27/7/22). Of these agency comments, the majority (8) advised that they either had no comment or concerns in relation to the proposal, or suggested conditions that be attached to the project should it be approved. The remaining three agency submissions requested further information or clarification in relation to the project, principally on matters of biodiversity, water management, water licencing, and heritage.

Cleary Bros is now considering the comments from the agencies, and aims to provide our response by the end of August 2022.

SD noted that the current practice of placing a notice in newspapers was not as effective in the current times, given the diminishing readership.

There was general discussion around this theme, and general agreeance that the reach of public notices in newspapers wasn't as broad as it once was. It was agreed that this was a matter for the Department of Planning and Environment.

Item 7: General Business:

MH asked whether all members had received a copy of the Annual Review for 2021-2022. All advised they had. SD requested a hard copy which MH agreed to arrange.

Item 8: Next Meeting:

Mr Hammond suggested that the next meeting be held at 1pm on December 8, 2022 at the Shellharbour Civic Centre.

Meeting concluded 1.50pm.

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Item 5 – Albion Park Quarry CCC Meeting 28th July 2022

Cleary Bros reports and overview of activities

Progress of the project

Currently excavating rock from Stages 5 and 6. For FY22 to 31 October 2021, 685,347 tonnes of hard rock products were produced on site, including approximately 440,858 tonnes of blue basalt products and 244,489 tonnes of red agglomerate. Production during the past 6 months has been impacted by wet weather. Production going forward is expected to be approximately 800,000 t/yr.

Site visit

A site visit was undertaken at the previous meeting. A visit to the proposed Stage 7 area was also undertaken as part of the exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement in May 2022. No site visit is planned for this meeting.

Monitoring and environmental performance

Environmental Monitoring:

Air Quality

Depositional dust, which consists of larger dust particles that can settle out on surfaces, have varied across the site (12-month average), with the gauge closest to the site entrance decreasing from 9.1g/m²/month at the time of the last meeting to 6.7g/m²/month currently. Cleary Bros anticipate dust levels will continue to improve with construction works associated with the Albion Park Rail bypass now completed. All other gauges have recorded between 0.9 and 1.7g/m²/month, which are generally lower than the levels reported at the last meeting.

The High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) records dust particles that are suspended in the air and are smaller than 10 micrometers, which is referred to as particulate matter (PM₁₀). The rolling annual average has continued to improve since the last report, declining from 17.1 µg/m³ at the last meeting to 12.0 µg/m³ as at the end of June 2022, which is largely related to improvements in regional air quality. There were no exceedances of the incremental criteria since the last meeting, with the highest incremental measurement of 36.4 µg/m³ below the criteria of 50 µg/m³.

We have not been able to demonstrate a reliable and consistent long term alignment between the real time air quality monitors and the HVAS to date. We have seen shorter term periods (up to 2 months) where the correlation is excellent, however we have been unable to extend this consistency over longer periods to date. Nevertheless, the monitors are already serving as a management tool for the quarry, with the alerting function set up – this alerting function is currently set to send a text message when the average particulate matter over a ten minute period measured by the monitor exceeds a pre-set trigger level. This has allowed the site to respond, and has contributed to the improved air quality measured by the HVAS over the past 12 months. Cleary Bros will continue trying to demonstrate correlation of these units with the HVAS, however if unsuccessful will look to deploy as a management tool only, rather than the original aim of using them as a compliance tool.

All measurements of air quality are within the criteria of the Development Consent and Environment Protection Licence for the Quarry.

Boreholes

Cleary Bros have continued regular sampling of groundwater bores since the last report. Groundwater levels have continued to increase over the last 12 months in response to improved rainfall. This is particularly the case with the shallow bores, which are now similar to or higher than the levels measured immediately before the 2017-2019 drought period. The concentrations of most major salt components and overall salinity are still higher than the long term average for the deep bores, while the shallow bores have shown reductions in salt concentrations, likely as a result of increased rainfall entering the shallow aquifer.

Groundwater management and monitoring is in compliance with the Development Consent for the Quarry.

Blasting

All blast results have complied with Development Consent and Environmental Protection Licence limits. FY22 average and maximum blast overpressure (noise) at the nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 105.4 dB(L) and 112.2 dB(L) respectively. FY22 average and maximum blast vibration at the nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 2.13 mm/s and 4.57 mm/s respectively.

Rehabilitation and Revegetation

Revegetation works are now moving into the maintenance phase, in accordance with the Revegetation Management Plan approved under the Development Consent. Vegetation in Zones 2 and 3 now have significant density and canopy cover, and are successfully shading out the weedy understorey. It is expected that over the coming years these areas will become self-sufficient, with natural recruitment of native species to the understorey. Plantings within zones 4 and 5 have continued to grow with 90% of plantings surviving to

date. It is expected that with continued treatment of the annual weeds in these areas, the success of Zones 2 and 3 will be replicated. Zone 1 contains a mixture of mature plantings and recent infill, with some weed control still required around the recent plantings to ensure success. Cleary Bros commenced planting reshaped areas within Stage 1 of the quarry since the last meeting. This included 120 larger seedlings (pots) of local species, including the Forest Red Gum, Illawarra Flame Tree, and local fig trees. These plants have performed well, and with excellent seed germination also observed along the southern rehabilitation batter.

Community Complaints

Cleary Bros have received two community complaints since the last meeting. Both complaints were investigated and in each instance blast emissions were within approved limits.

Community Engagement

Cleary Bros have been proud to support the following community programs and events over the past 12 months:

- Group 7 Referees – Major sponsor over more than 35 years, continuing the development of rugby league referees on the South Coast.
- South Coast Blaze – Franchise Partner supporting the team in the NSW Premier League netball competition, fostering the best current and emerging netball talent from the local area.
- Illawarra Convoy – Long term supporter of the Illawarra Convoy, providing much needed support to families affected by life threatening medical conditions and local charities.
- Kiama Rugby 7's – Tournament Sponsor over a number of years, providing integral support to one of Kiama's pinnacle annual events.

Information provided to the community and any feedback

The Cleary Bros website is regularly updated to ensure all required information is current, including approvals, management plans, and environmental monitoring data.

Cleary Bros recommend the above report is received and noted by the CCC

Signed:

Mark Hammond (Environmental Officer)

6/7/2022

Summary of CCC visit to the Albion Park Quarry Stage 7 area undertaken on Thursday 26 May 2022.

Attendees:

- John Murray (Community rep)
- Susan Dunster (Figtree Hill rep)
- Mark Miller (Shellharbour Council rep)
- Brian Weir (CCC Chairperson)
- Todd Kalajzich (CB Quarry Manager)
- Mark Hammond (CB Environmental Officer)
- Paul Jackson (Observer; CB Stakeholder Relations Manager)

All participants were collected at the quarry office except for Susan Dunster who was collected at Figtree Hill, and driven to the Belmont. From there we had a discussion about what was proposed and proceeded on foot about 100m south to where there was a view to the south. A site plan of the proposal was displayed.

The key matters discussed included:

- Visual controls and how these would be implemented to minimize visual impacts to residents to the east (primarily Shell Cove). These include:
 - Amenity bunds and tree screens
 - Project staging – a, b, c, d including eastern rim
- Belmont – plans for demolition, under watch of archaeologist. Council representative asked about potentially relocating house. CB advised that is not what is currently planned, but that we would be open to this if an opportunity arose.
- Fig trees – natural decline of two existing large figs, new figs growing in host trees within footprint, and generally which figs would be removed as part of the proposal.
- Determination process – advised 3 more weeks of exhibition, then CB would need to respond to any submissions as may be appropriate. The Planning Minister would likely determine the Project. Expect this process to take approximately 12 months.

There were also general discussions around project length, Holcim's activities and future, and recent weather and ground conditions.

Following the visit, all attendees were returned to the quarry office (with the exception of Susan Dunster who was dropped off at Figtree Hill). There were no matters arising from the site visit.