

Community Engagement Committee

April 2023 Minutes

1. Date, Location and Time:

- Monday April 3rd, Wallinduc CFA at 10am

2. Attendees:

- Derek – Golden Plains – Coordinator Economic Development
- Peter Ridsdale-Golden Plains-Business Development Manager
- Garry Moorfield – Corangamite Shire Council – Community Development Officer
- Nicholas Cole – Corangamite Shire Council – Councillor
- Philip Beattie – GPG Community & Stakeholder Engagement Officer (Chair)
- Luke Hatherell – GPG Operations Site Manager
- Haridian Fuentes – GPG Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager
- Robyn Alexander – Community member
- Peter and Brenda Rumler - Community Members
- Malcolm and Jane Cooper– Community Members
- Max Kerr – Community Member
- Avon Bucholz – Community visitor
- Anne Graham – Community visitor
- Chris Ardrey – Meredith Sharing Shed

3. Apologies:

- Ben Keating

4. Chair of Meeting

- Philip Beattie

5. Declaration of pecuniary or other interests:

- N/A

6. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting:

- **Moved:** Robyn Alexander
- **Seconded:** Max Kerr
- **In favour:** All

7. Business arising from previous minutes - response to issues raised or provision of additional information requested:

- A question was asked by Max Kerr if there had been any developments regarding the old church at Wallinduc:

Philip Beattie noted Peter Ridsdale had shared the building assessors' details with GPG and would follow it up.

8. Correspondence:

- N/A

9. GPG update:

BERRYBANK 1 UPDATE

- Availability 98.78%
- A two-day shut down completed for preventative maintenance on Berrybank 1 switch gear
- The 2 yearly service completed by Vestas on 16 of 43 turbines
- Landscape Screening Program is now imminent under Luke Hatherell's management

BERRYBANK 2 UPDATE

- Turbine 62 is now fully erected
- Turbine 62 HV terminations and internal works are aiming to be completed by 7th of April
- Hold Point 2 testing estimated to start week 2 of April. Allowing us to run 16 turbines at once
- The expected BB2 operations date is now been pushed back to mid May
- The refurbishment of the Berrybank-Wallinduc road edges has been approved

GPG COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

- GPG has done a review of the eligible properties and identified a number of addresses that do not have a **Neighbour Deed**, new offers will be sent.
- GPG's Victorian projects (Berrybank 1 & 2 WFs, Ryan Corner WF and Hawkesdale Wind Farm) got together to make a significant **donation to the RCH Good Friday** Appeal, which involved partnering with a civil contractor, a barbeque, an auction and some head shaving at Hawkesdale WF.
- **Entrepreneurship & innovation Program (RMIT)**
 - RMIT and the Meredith Sharing Shed have recently begun an alliance to deliver this exciting program to South-West Victoria to help stimulate small business ideas.
 - The Meredith Sharing Shed is a community initiative lead by Linda Wong and Chris Ardrey based in Meredith which is part of the Golden Plains shire.
 - Chris Ardrey gave a detailed description of the program and his links with the local community, schools and local service clubs. The Sharing Shed is planning to launch a Mini Tech Hub to the community in May followed by a number of community workshops. Chris/Linda secured funding to purchase a collection of machinery including 3Dprinters, 3D scanner, milling machine, vinyl cutter, 3D headsets and more to help facilitate the program.

10. Issues and comments identified by the community or local government representatives:

11. Corangamite Shire: Garry Moorefield

- The 2nd round of the **Berrybank Grants Program** is ready.
- Applications will open on Monday 17 April and will close Sunday 28 May.
- This includes both the Project grants and Leverage grants

12. Golden Plains Shire: Derek Scott

- **Berrybank Windfarm Community Grants**

- Funding is available across two categories:
 - ✓ Economic Development, Tourism Projects and Events
 - ✓ Community Projects and Events over \$10,000, with one off and recurring funding available.
- The Berrybank Wind Farm Community Grants Committee, made of representatives of the Company, Golden Plains Shire Council and members of the community, provide advice on the criteria for awarding community grants, evaluate applications from the public and make recommendations to Council on which local projects to support.
- The initial funding pool is \$60,000, increasing to \$100,000 annually once Berrybank 2 Wind Farm is fully operational. There will be a minimum of one round of application opportunities each year and funding will be made available over the next 15 years in cooperation with Berrybank Development Pty Ltd.
- Guidelines will be reviewed prior to the round opening to include consideration of environmental, climate emergency, sustainability and accessibility. Projects located closer to the Windfarm are entitled to a 5% uplift in scoring to promote and encourage applications. Applications are also invited from outside of the Shire provided they demonstrate significant economic or tourism benefit.

- **Wallinduc Community Project Support**

Discussion around proposed projects, including:

- The group have requested a mower, where there may be a surplus Council mower they could be allocated, otherwise they could apply in a future Community strengthening Grant round.
- The group had previously requested for playground equipment, however Council have indicated this needs to be of a specific minimum standard and a fixed installation would be around \$100,000. Other options of purchasing movable equipment and storing in a shed may meet their needs. The group could then apply for a Community Grant to fund the purchase.
- The group have also expressed a need to install an external toilet where there are connections close by that would accommodate local community members and tourists to stop, given there are no public toilets between Lismore and Rokewood. Council would need to review the option and consider cleaning and maintenance before committing to an external toilet.

13. General business:

- The condition of Urches Rd was mentioned by Max Kerr and GPG clarified that road is under the Council's responsibility. Garry Moorfield replied that the cost to repair is particularly expensive. Peter Ridsdale will check on the current status of remediation.

14. Meeting closed – 10.50am

15. Next meeting:

- Monday 5th June 2023, Wallinduc CFA 10am