Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics Pty Ltd Community Liaison Committee
Meeting 27 April 2016
3:30 pm

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ITEM: 1 ATTENDENCE AND APOLOGIES

Present: Mayor Maree Statham (Chairperson), Rachel Nicoll, Christian Howard, David Turnbull

Officers: Andrew Muir and Jessica Heath

Apologies: Jim Nichols

Other absences: Owen Mayne, Barry Dowsett

Declaration of Interests: Nil

ITEM: 2 ACCEPTING PREVIOUS MINUTES

Call for acceptance of the previous minutes 28 October 2015.

COMMITTEE ACTION
THAT the previous minutes 28 October 2015 be noted.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL – Nil.

MOVED: Christian Howard SECONDED: Rachel Nicoll

ITEM: 3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

As the relevant matters were already included on the agenda, there was no business arising from the previous minutes.

ITEM: 4 CURRENT GUIDELINES/NOTES FROM SAFE WORK NSW IN RELATION TO THE LIGHTNING REQUIREMENTS

COMMENTARY
Howard & Sons advised that there are no guidelines from Safe Work NSW on lightning strikes and explosives. However, current requirements onsite are to evacuate all employees for Work Health & Safety (WH&S) issues when lightning and thunder are 30 seconds apart. Residents in the surrounding area for WH&S reasons would be far enough away to meet that requirement. Research of other facilities was undertaken and found that similar policies are adopted.
Some interesting information was found in relation to a tool that can provide information on static and lightning which may be helpful onsite and Howard & Sons are investigating the use of this tool further.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

**THAT** the information on lightning requirements be noted.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL** – Nil

**MOVED:** David Turnbull  **SECONDED:** Mayor Maree Statham

**ITEM: 5  FORMAL RESIGNATION REQUIRED**

**COMMENTARY**

Committee member Barry Dowsett has not provided a written resignation as he indicated he would at the last meeting. A replacement may be sought if the committee member has not attended 3 consecutive meetings without having given reasons acceptable to the Committee.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

**THAT** the update in relation to the resignation of Barry Dowsett be noted and the item placed on the next agenda.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL** – Nil

**MOVED:** Rachel Nicoll  **SECONDED:** David Turnbull

**ITEM: 6  UPDATE ON BOGAN GATE INCIDENT**

**COMMENTARY**

Howard & Sons advised that the outcome of investigations were inconclusive, however it was day of extreme temperatures, with lightning in the area. Additionally, it was found that old stock and static could have caused the explosion. Therefore, as a result Safe Work NSW have now imposed a requirement restricting the age of stock stored onsite. This has then been imposed for the Wallerawang site as well.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

**THAT** the information on the Bogan Gate incident be noted and no further action be required.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL** – Nil

**MOVED:** Rachel Nicoll  **SECONDED:** David Turnbull
ITEM: 7 INFORMATION ON EXCESS PAYMENTS IN RELATION TO INSURANCE CLAIMS

COMMENTARY
Howard & Sons advised that excess payments must be paid by the insurance premium holder under which the claim is made. Howard & Sons cannot pay excess payments for people who made a claim with their own insurers after the incident.

COMMITTEE ACTION
THAT the information on insurance excess payments be noted and no further action be taken.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL – Nil

MOVED: David Turnbull SECONDED: Rachel Nicholl

ITEM: 8 GENERAL BUSINESS

COMMENTARY
Council advised the committee that a concern had been raised by a member of the public in relation to smoking onsite. This was raised with Howard & Sons who supplied information and requirements on smoking to Council who advised the complainant.

Smoking onsite is restricted to the entrance of the site near Pipers Flat Road. There is a strict no smoking policy enforced for all employees onsite and also a quit program provided. These requirements are written into Howard & Sons documentation for operations and employee requirements.

COMMITTEE ACTION
THAT the information on smoking restrictions be noted and no further action be taken.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL – Nil

MOVED: Rachel Nicoll SECONDED: David Turnbull

ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting: Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics Pty Ltd Community Liaison Committee Meeting proposed for 17 August 2016.