

Meeting Minutes



QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee

28 February 2013

10.00am to 2.00pm

Chinchilla Motor Inn & Park, 45 – 51 Park St, Chinchilla

1. Opening

The 13th meeting of the QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee was called to order at 10.10am on 28 February 2013 at the Chinchilla Motor Inn & Park, 45 – 51 Park St, Chinchilla facilitated by Mr Jim Cavaye, Independent Facilitator.

2. Attendees

The following people attended the QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee meeting:

QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee Members	QGC Representatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doreen Goldsmid, Central Community Committee representative • Jenelle Choyce, Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE • Bill Nicholas, AgForce • Jane Holdsworth, Western Downs Regional Council (Housing Presentation Only) • Leanne Evans, Chinchilla Community Unity Group (Housing Presentation Only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brett Smith, Vice President Sustainability • Zoe Carroll, Acting Social Performance Manager • Kristelle Darr, Social Performance Coordinator Central • Mike Whitelaw, Security and Emergency Response • Andrew Rushford, Rural Property Manager
Apologies	Independent Facilitator
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carollee Murphy, Western Downs Regional Council • Cr Carolyn Tillman, Western Downs Regional Council • Carl Martin, Field Operations Manager • Kathie Fletcher, Queensland Murray Darling Committee • Carl Mitchell, Condamine Alliance • Ros Wade, Southern Community Committee representative • Cecily Brockhurst, Northern Community Committee representative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Cavaye, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Queensland

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Meeting agenda

The following items of business were discussed as per the meeting agenda:

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a. Introductions and meeting overview	<p>Jim Cavaye led roundtable introductions of Community Committee members and QGC representatives.</p> <p>Jim Cavaye gave a broad overview of the meeting format.</p>
b. Safety moment	<p>Jim Cavaye invited Committee members to share a safety moment.</p> <p>Kristelle Darr spoke about how wet weather can adversely affect road conditions.</p>
c. Western Downs Housing Trust	<p>Jane Holdsworth Presented on the Western Downs Affordable Housing Trust. Key points were:</p> <p><i>Background on how the Western Downs Affordable Housing Trust was formed:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2011 affordable housing was seen as an increasingly critical issue for the Western Downs. It was decided that something needed to be done to address the issue. • QGC donated 200,000 towards an affordable housing strategy. • KPMG were contracted by Council to form the Western Downs Affordable Housing Strategy – a best practice approach, gap analysis and business case for housing needs in the region. • The strategy looked at a number of key areas, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - liveability - affordability - flexible and responsive - accountability and capability. • A widely used definition of affordable housing is if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rental costs do not exceed 30% of the gross household income; or - Mortgage costs are no more than 35% of gross household income. • KPMG performed a cumulative impact assessment looking at population projection and other available data including information from the Officer of Statistical Research in Queensland Treasury. • The assessment found a range of information about the area and planned major projects. • 99 major projects were reported and a further 285 sub projects have since been identified. Further information on these is available on the Advance Western Downs website. • Where possible, the strategy takes into consideration the

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	<p>expected non-resident worker population in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 11, 600 people were residing in camps when the strategy was being formed. The camp populations needed to be considered for liveability as camps were not considered in the most recent census. <p>Formation of the Western Downs Housing Affordability Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key action from the strategy for Western Downs Regional Council was to form an effective monitoring and governance arrangement to address affordable housing issues in the region. • It was therefore decided that the Affordable Housing Trust should be established. • QGC supported the housing trust with \$5.7 million contribution to funding • The housing delivery model includes an advisory body for decision making ; and • An 18-member reference group consisting of a range of community, business, resource industry, council and other key community representatives. • To inform the delivery of affordable housing, in 2012 Western Downs Regional Council undertook an affordable housing survey across the region. • It was focused on determining housing required to provide for key service workers for business in the region. • Key service workers on low to moderate incomes were determined as people who are critical to keep up service delivery and liveability of the area. • Jane presented a range of survey information to the committee on what types of housing were seen as critical to the area to meet the needs of businesses in the region. <p>Next Steps for the Affordable Housing Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Western Downs Affordable housing trust: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has appointed Horizon Housing Company to help with affordable housing design and management of the affordable housing once it's built. - Is identifying state and council land for development - Is building a website so the community can know what's happening and can source information on housing as it becomes available. <p>A number of questions were raised by the committee. Key points arising were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anecdotal evidence suggests social housing is a critical issue for the region in addition to affordable housing. • The Affordable Housing Trust was established by Council to focus on addressing housing affordability for key service workers in the region. • Social housing is seen as a State Government responsibility

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	<p>and therefore the Western Downs Affordable Housing Trust will not be addressing social housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council can however support community groups in the region seeking to address social housing through advocacy roles. • A committee member commented that the council could also address development assessment timeframes to help with faster land delivery in the Western Downs Region. • The council's planning department have to follow legislative planning requirements and have also had to contend with planning staff recruitment. • The council did its best to contact all local business in the Western Downs Region in regards to the housing survey. A 19% response rate was received which is a good response rate. The results will be extrapolated to provide a broader picture of the communities housing needs and ensure an evidence based approach to housing built. • Committee members agreed housing is a very complex issue. • One suggestion was whether the Defence Housing could be used as an example of how housing can be delivered in a sustainable way. • The council should continue to help educate the wider community on the difference between affordable and social housing and the focus of the Western Downs Affordable Housing Trust. • The council is looking to have the houses built by first quarter 2014. • There needs to be a greater understanding by state and local governments on housing issues and needs. <p>Action: The council to speak with their community development team about following up with the local neighbourhood centres and how they may be able to support the community in advocating for the state government to address social housing shortages.</p>
<p>d. QGC Emergency Flood Preparation and Response</p>	<p>Michael Whitelaw provided the Committee with an update on QGC's emergency flood preparation and response. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QGC has procedures in place for natural disaster responses. For flooding, QGC has developed the Flood Emergency Response Plan. • The plan identifies triggers for flooding and outlines procedures to follow before and during a flood event to minimise impacts to QGC and the community. • The Incident and Emergency Management team is located

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	<p>in Brisbane with site-based management teams at the Woleebee Creek, Windibri, Kenya, and Ruby Joe sites. These teams are responsible for managing the coordination of QGC and contractor resources during a flood incident.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In developing coordinated plans and approaches to flood events, information is gathered from national, regional, and local sources. These information sources include the Bureau of Meteorology, Western Downs Regional Council, Department of Transport and Main Roads, Emergency Services, and local police. <p>Michael Whitelaw provided a case study of the recent Australia Day long weekend flood and QGC's response through the Flood Emergency Response Plan. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• QGC was affected by the flooding with a small number of drilling rigs cut off, several worksites isolated, and all construction work in the region stopped.• The Incident and Emergency Management teams were activated and cascaded information throughout the company through frequent emails, calls, and SMS. 24-7 monitoring of all sites and accounting for persons on board• Drilling rig, worksite, camp emergency meeting point gatherings and evacuations of affected sites occurred throughout the region.• All site logistics requirements for water and food were assessed to determine supply needs for 5 – 10 days in advance.• The need for staff in the field was minimised where possible in addition to restricting all travel throughout the field to reduce road travel.• Aviation support was activated to rotate crews, renew prescriptions to personnel, and resupply fresh food to isolated sites.• QGC aviation supported the community by providing Queensland Police Service with situational awareness, evacuation assistance, and flying Ergon staff into the area to address power issues.• QGC also supported the community by providing

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	<p>accommodation, supplying food and other provisions and assisting with flood clean up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QGC donated \$50,000 to flood relief and matched up to \$20,000 in staff donations to QLD Flood Appeal 2013.
<p>e. Social Investment Update</p>	<p>Kristelle Darr provided an update on QGC's recent social investment initiatives. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QGC staff enjoyed the festivities of the Chinchilla Melon Festival and supported the Melon Games Arena. QGC also contributed \$20,000 in sponsorship and provided approximately 40 volunteers in the games arena on the main event day. • Round 5 of the QGC Sustainable Communities Fund (SCF) opened on 1 February and closes on 4 April 2013. • To date 38 projects across the Western Downs have received \$1.2 million in funding. • To support community groups and organisations in applying for funding through the SCF, three community information sessions were held throughout the Western Downs over February in Wandoan, Tara and Chinchilla. • Expressions of interest for community representatives for the Grant Assessment Panel have closed. Three community members have been selected to assist with providing local knowledge and input into the decision making process for Sustainable Communities Fund projects. • QGC has invested more than \$1.3 million over two years to support the University of Queensland's Centre for Online Health and UniQuest to deliver a Health e-Regions Project. • The project is aimed at providing better access to medical specialists in Toowoomba and Brisbane and reducing the need for travel through the provision of online medical services based in Dalby, Chinchilla and Miles. • The service will be managed through the Centre for Online Health and will focus on paediatric, geriatric and aged care services. • QGC and the State Government are partnering to build a new Multi-Tenant Service Centre in Chinchilla. • QGC are in the process of finalising the agreement with State which will see QGC contributing \$1 million and State Government contributing \$2.6 million towards the project. • QGC have also contracted Social Ventures Australia to work with the Chinchilla Family Support Centre in developing a strategic and operational plan for the centre and to build the capacity of the Chinchilla Family Support Centre as the lead tenant of the Multi-tenant centre once constructed.

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<p>f. QGC Rural Properties Management</p>	<p>Andrew Rushford, Rural Property Manager at QGC presented on QGC's property management. Key points were:</p> <p>QGC's approach to Property Management: QGC's Rural Property Management Team leads a team of local people who work in managing rural property assets for QGC owned land.</p> <p>QGC owns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 Properties • Totalling 44,000 Hectares of land <p>QGC owns land to accommodate the major gas production facilities it requires to run the business. This includes facilities such as compression stations, water treatment plants and associated infrastructure, offices, camp sites and warehouses.</p> <p>QGC manages its properties in line with each properties agricultural capability. When purchased, properties are assed to determine what uses might be the most effective ways to utilise the country e.g. grazing or cropping.</p> <p>For properties where farming uses are applicable, QGC utilises third parties for agistment and share farming, for example cattle agistment.</p> <p>To date there have been eight advertisements for expressions of interest in local newspapers, with more than 40 responses received making it a competitive process.</p> <p>Currently 22 properties (33,000 ha) are under third part occupation. This includes 4,200 head of cattle and 1250 ha of irrigated and dry land crop production.</p> <p>QGC values the relationship with agisters and the local knowledge and input they provide in maintaining their assets.</p> <p>Weed and Pest Management:</p> <p>QGC is responsible for managing pest animals, weeds and fires in line with existing local and state government procedures and programs.</p> <p>New properties are surveyed for weed and pest infestations and a 3 - 5 year property management plan is put in place.</p> <p>A weed wash down and hygiene program is followed to limit the spread of identified weeds.</p> <p>Pest management controls including ongoing capturing, culling and baiting mechanisms are used to keep identified animal pests such as wild dogs, goats, feral pigs and kangaroos under control.</p> <p>The Rural Property Management team work closely with local council, community and neighbouring properties to ensure a</p>

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	<p>collaborative approach to pest management is maintained. QGC ensures it fully follows state government regulation around pest management procedures.</p> <p>The committee asked some questions of the presentation. Key points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural property agistment agreements are negotiated separately to Conduct and Compensation Agreements and this is clearly defined when QGC is going through the negotiating process with landholders. • When negotiating agreements QGC considers the sustainability of that property and ensures this is maintained from a commercial stand point with minimal interference to the properties everyday operation. It tries to ensure the agriculture asset of the property remains at its correct value. • Coexisting with cultivation presents more challenges than coexistence with grazing. The appropriate placement of infrastructure is critical to ensuring cropping and CSG can work together. • The Rural Properties Team works with QGCs Cultural Heritage team to ensure that the traditional indigenous owners are consulted whenever necessary • QGC is aware of the current pilot program whereby local landholders provide some servicing works towards gas well infrastructure on their property or agisted land. QGC are in the process of furthering developing this program with consideration of HSSE requirements.
<p>g. Actions from previous meeting</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye reviewed the actions from the previous meeting.</p> <p>Integrated Housing Strategy: Jane Holdsworth from Western Downs Regional Council presented at the Regional Community Committee meeting on the Western Downs Affordable Trust.</p> <p>Social Housing: Zoe Carroll informed the Committee that QGC conducted research around the Western Downs regarding the need for social housing, including reviewing public policies and interviewing local neighbourhood centres. While anecdotal evidence suggests social housing is a need in the area, in comparison to other areas around Queensland, Western Downs has a reasonably low social housing waiting list. QGC's investigation points to affordable housing as a prominent need but QGC will continue to liaise with State regarding the issue</p> <p>Business Forum:</p>

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	<p>Following the last QGC Business Forum, Toowoomba Surat Basin Enterprise conducted a follow up survey of businesses attendees. A total of 30 responses were received from local businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% overall positive rating • 82% rated messaging / content as highly useful • 92% want to see format repeated in future • Suggestions for improvement included that contractor representatives should be specifically procurement focused to provide the most meaningful discussions on supply opportunities. <p>Sustainability Indicators:</p> <p>Work on the sustainability indicators is progressing and a further update will be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p>Environmental Sampling:</p> <p>Raw data from the air, soil and water testing have been provided to residents and Queensland Health for independent analysis and to be looked at by health professionals.</p> <p>QGC's analysis of the data found no harmful substances that could be attributed to CSG related impacts in the region.</p> <p>Noise studies were conducted during winter months, when sound travels further. During the testing period no direct links to CSG related noise close to the chosen sites was recorded. QGC is aware however that weather impacts can greatly affect the noise levels and investigates noise problems as they arise.</p> <p>New education representative:</p> <p>QGC met with Jenelle Choyce, Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE (SQIT) to outline the purpose and terms of reference for the committee. Jenelle has agreed to represent SQIT on the Regional Community Committee.</p> <p>Site Tour:</p> <p>The site tour planned for the February meeting was cancelled due to the wet weather. A site tour will be rescheduled to follow the next meeting on the 6 June.</p>
<p>h. Adoption of minutes</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye asked the Committee to formally consider the 15 November 2012 minutes and asked for suggested changes.</p> <p>The 15 November 2012 Regional Gas Field Community Committee minutes were adopted.</p>
<p>i. Community feedback</p>	<p>Jim Cavaye invited Committee members to share feedback from their networks.</p> <p>Chinchilla Family Support centre thanked QGC for progressing and supporting the Multi-tenant Service Centre project by providing Social Ventures Australia assistance with the operational planning</p>

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	for the centre.
j. Preparation for next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting will incorporate a site tour and therefore will be longer than usual • The committee was asked whether they would mind if the June meeting started at 9am (instead of 10am) so that everyone could travel home a little earlier in the afternoon. • There were no objections against it starting at 9am as opposed to 10am. • Further details of the changes to the start and finish time of the next meeting will be sent to the committee with plenty of notice.
k. Items for next agenda	<p>Jim Cavaye invited the Committee to propose agenda items for the next meeting.</p> <p>No agenda items were suggested.</p>

3. General Business

An Australian research grant has been applied for to assist eight funded partners in the region to respond to social disadvantage. Feedback and results from the grant will be available in June 2013.

4. Meeting Close

The meeting was closed by Jim Cavaye at 2.00pm.

The next QGC Regional Gas Field Community Committee meeting will be on 6 June from 9:00am to 11:30am followed by a site tour ending no later than 4.30pm.

5. Regional Gas Field Community Committee Members

Representative	Organisation
Bill Nicholas	AgForce
Carollee Murphy	Western Downs Regional Council
Cr Carolyn Tillman	Western Downs Regional Council
Cecily Brockhurst	Northern Gas Field Representative
Ros Wade	Southern Gas Field Representative
Floyd Leedie	Goondir Health Services
Kathie Fletcher	Queensland Murray-Darling Committee
Doreen Goldsmid	Central Gas Field Representative
Jenelle Choyce	Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE