

**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
78th MEETING Thursday 24th July 2025
ACOL Administration Office, Glennies Creek Road, CAMBERWELL**

Attendees

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	(MMH) Chairperson
John McInerney	(JM) Community Representative
Debbie Richards	(DR) Community Representative
Michael Bestic	(MB) Community Representative
Michael Bartlett	(MBa) Company Rep (Operations Manager)
Phillip Brown	(PB) Company Rep (Environment & Community Superintendent)
Karl Norman	(KN) Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:05 pm.

2. Apologies

Clr. Godfrey Adamthwaite (GA) Singleton Council (SC)

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by Community Representatives

No change to Committee Members' pecuniary interests previously declared.

4. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the meeting held 27 February 2025, were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: John McInerney **Seconded:** Debbie Richards

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- a. Weeds at Camberwell update*
- b. Camberwell demolitions update*
- c. Controlled burn*

6. Correspondence

- a. 5/5/25 – email PB to CCC – Wild dog and fox baiting notice*

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

7.1 Ashton Operations Update

Refer to presentation.

JM raised Lemington Road subsidence in relation to the Longwall panels.

MBa showed the Committee the longwall footprint and Lemington Road on satellite map.

JM asked if Lemington Road may further subside.

PB advised the possibility of hairline cracks, but no major subsidence expected.

7.2 Monitoring and Environmental Performance

Refer to environmental monitoring handout.

7.3 Community Complaints and response to complaints

Refer to presentation.

7.4 Environmental Update

Refer to presentation.

MB asked about RAP groups and artefacts in the RUMEx area.

PB explained RAP involvement in permitting and collection; artefacts include stone and tool fragments.

MMH asked if all RAP groups attend the ACCF meetings.
PB advised that all are invited and highlighted positive outcomes.

PB discussed amended EPA licence area.

JM asked of tailings void capacity.

MBa said Void 4 is not currently being used but remains a contingency. Current tailings go to NEOC void (capacity until 2030).

PB gave update on weed management.

MB asked about control measures for prickly pear.

DR asked about location of spraying efforts of St Johns Wort.

PB confirmed efforts focused on UG surface area.

JM asked for control of green cestrum along Glennies Creek at the northern edge of Camberwell village.

PB to discuss with contractor and property owner.

PB spoke about RFS slashing in preparation for controlled burn; currently too wet.

DR & JM raised concern about fuel load and asked for timeline.

JM asked that the burn area above the church include the whole top section along Glennies Creek Road.

PB confirmed burn will proceed when conditions improve.

JM requested a tour of the NEOC rehab area.

PB confirmed a tour at the next CCC meeting.

7.5 Camberwell Update

Refer to the presentation.

JM asked about demolition of derelict dwellings and impact on Camberwell reputation.

MBa confirmed 2025 budget constraints, looking into it for 2026.

MMH asked if demolition cost was the main issue – PB confirmed.

JM suggested staged demolition (e.g. one per year).

MBa acknowledged JM's concern regarding the lack of demolition in 2025 and will be noted in the Minutes and raised during budgetary discussions.

JM asked about Glennies Creek Road cracks, possibly due to Hebden seam and who would be responsible for the associated repairs.

PB to investigate and speak with Council.

8. Community Representative questions/comments

JM asked about potential grazing of the paddocks above the church.

PB to review and advise next committee meeting.

9. General Business

JM asked to revisit "flash feeding" of rehab. DR, JM concerned about fuel load and fire risk.

PB to assess feasibility and advise next committee meeting.

MMH proposed a rehabilitation tour for the committee at the next CCC meeting.

PB confirmed.

10. Next meeting

Next CCC meeting: 1:00 pm, 30 October 2025 (followed by tour of rehabilitated area).

MEETING CLOSED at 1:52 pm