

# MEETING NOTES

**Subject:** Boral Teven Quarry Whole of Community Meeting 2019

**Location:** Ballina RSL Club, 240 River Street, Ballina

**Date & Time:** 18 July 2019, 6pm

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## Attendees:

1. **Denis and Gayl Perkins** – Residents
2. **Ron and Jutte Doorey** – Residents
3. **Peter Blackwood and Sally** – Resident / Visiting daughter of resident
4. **Bec Gillieatt** – Quarry Manager's wife

## *Boral staff*

- **Brad Doyle** – Acting Operations Manager (NSW Country – North), Boral Quarries (NSW/ACT)
- **Scott Gillieatt** – Quarry Manager, Boral Teven Quarry
- **Rod Johnson** – Environment Manager (NSW/ACT), Boral HSE
- **Tylah Drochmann** – Quarry Supervisor, Boral Teven Quarry
- **Paul Jackson** – Stakeholder Relations Manager (NSW/ACT & Ntnl Land Devpt), Boral Property

## *Apologies*

- **Vikki and Kevin Nelson** – Residents
- **Paulene Blackwood** - Resident

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*The following notes are taken from presentations and conversations conducted as part of this community meeting. The content, while representing an accurate summation of proceedings, should not be taken to represent exact dialogue unless specifically noted as such.*

*For the full presentation, visit [www.boral.com.au/tevenquarry](http://www.boral.com.au/tevenquarry). Meeting notes are considered as **draft** until reviewed at the start of the next community meeting (Community Consultative Committee or whole-of-community meeting, whichever is first) and any items in need of correction amended.*

## Meeting opened – 6pm

### 1. Welcome and introductions

**Paul Jackson** opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance at this fifth convening of a 'whole of community' session for the quarry since 2011.

Paul then took attendees through the meeting agenda before introducing his colleagues **Brad Doyle**, acting Operations Manager (NSW – Country North), Boral Quarries (NSW/ACT), and **Tylah Drochmann**, Supervisor at the Teven Quarry.

Brad, whose usual role is as the Quarry Manager of Boral's sites in Grafton and Macksville, is filling in the position left vacant through the impending departure of **Richard Tomkins** for new opportunities in western NSW.

Tylah has joined the team in the Quarry Supervisor's position which reports directly to the Quarry Manager. Tylah's background is in geology and she has taken on the new role as a challenge to further extend her knowledge of both her studied field and the extractive industry as a whole.

Paul then invited **Scott Gillieatt** to present the usual meeting start 'safety moment' to the group. Scott reported that recently he'd received a complaint about a truck being driven erratically along Houlaghan's Creek Road from a community member ahead of it arriving at the quarry.

Scott spoke with the driver once it entered the site, outlining the nature of the complaint and the reputational damage his driving had done not only to himself, but to Boral's business as well. He was warned that a second complaint would result in a ban from the quarry.

Scott concluded by reporting that the driver was highly apologetic and has been on best behaviour ever since. Scott thanked the member of the public for reporting the incident, mentioning that ensuring vehicles were being driven appropriately was not just a matter of image, but more importantly of safety.

A related comment was made by a resident about the slow speed of trucks heading south from the quarry up the hill past local residences. The resident requested that drivers be asked to consider moving more to the left as a courtesy if cars and other light vehicles were caught behind them.

### 2. Review of previous meeting notes and matters arising

Paul then referred attendees to the meeting notes of the last Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting, held 1 November 2018 as available on the quarry's website, [www.boral.com.au/tevenquarry](http://www.boral.com.au/tevenquarry). Everyone was asked whether there were any matters arising from the notes – none were nominated.

Paul then identified two actions which had been carried over. The first was a request by the CCC that Boral write to Ballina Shire Council on behalf of members with concerns about the delay between the reporting of local road damage and its eventual repair.

Paul offered his apologies that this task had not as yet been attended to, and took on the action to complete this before the next CCC meeting.

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Members were also informed that a presentation by Boral's quarry blasting contractor, Orica, had been arranged for the meeting as per a previous request, however within the last day Orica had informed that their representatives were no longer available.

Apologies were then noted for the session.

### **3. Confirmation of CCC representatives and Terms of Reference**

In line with the usual business of the 'whole of community' meeting, Paul moved to seek the election of resident representatives to the CCC, as well as the re-endorsement or amendment of the CCC's Terms of Reference (ToRs).

In accordance with the normal practice, Paul stated that the TORs as adopted in 2013 and re-endorsed in 2015 and 2017 had been reviewed by Boral. Once again, no need for changes had been identified.

Community attendees were therefore asked whether they saw a need to raise any amendments – none were offered, and so the meeting re-endorsed the document again for implementation until 2021.

Residents were then asked for nominations of the community representatives to serve on the CCC for the 2019-21 period. Support was given toward **Peter Blackwood** and **Denis Perkins** remaining as the resident representatives on the CCC.

During discussion, Paul noted for the interest of those attending that the Ballina Environment Society, a representative of which is required as a member of the CCC, had not attended any CCC or 'whole of community' meeting since 2015 despite being invited.

Paul asked that if anyone attending had connections with the Society, it'd be appreciated if this could be raised with them as Paul had been unsuccessful using the details he could find online and elsewhere.

### **4. Quarry operations update**

Paul then invited Scott to provide the meeting with an update on the quarry's operations across 2019. Scott began by noting that much of the information to be presented had been shown at the November 2018 CCC meeting but that given the small attendance, it had been updated for this session.

The Pacific Highway upgrade continued to supply the quarry with most of its work, particularly projects at Pimlico, along the Woolgoolga to Ballina alignment, and at the Harwood Bridge.

More locally, the quarry had supplied material for the completion of the Ferngrove Estate, the Banyon Hill to Cumbalum Estate, Avreus at Skinners Head, and the Valley View Estate on Richmond Hill. Upgrades at the Ballina Indoor Stadium and Emmanuel College had also received quarry materials.

Scott outlined the use of mobile crushing plant at the quarry during 2017, 2018 and 2019 to date. The days of usage respectively were 55, 64 and 14 to date. Two 'stripping' campaigns have also been carried out, the first seeing 160 000 tonnes of overburden moved, the second 220 000 tonnes.

The team also took great pleasure in reminding attendees that the quarry's long-standing partnership with the Tintenbar Community Aid Network (TinCAN) had received the National Cement Concrete Aggregates Australia Award for Community Leadership 2017-18 during September.

It was explained the program won the equivalent NSW/ACT category at the state awards presented in August, moving it forward as a national nomination. Scott stated the quarry was very proud of the award given the amount of work which had gone into the partnership and the benefit it had brought to locals.

Paul took the opportunity to publicly thank the members of TinCAN for their ongoing commitment not just to the partnership, but to particularly their 'bus trip' program which the quarry had been supporting for many years.

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Paul further identified **Paulene Blackwood** for special thanks as it was she who first connected the quarry team with TinCAN during 2013, resulting in the successful outcomes which had followed.

Scott then showed attendees pictures from the recent 'Quarry Kids Day' that had been arranged by the site for employees and their families. The idea was to introduce the children of the quarry team to what is was their parents did every day at work, and how it helps the whole community.

Finally, Scott covered a number of personnel changes which had taken place within Boral of relevance to the Teven site.

Firstly, Scott acknowledged and thanked **Rod Wallace**, a regular attendee at CCC and 'whole of community' meetings for many years as part of Boral's Planning team, for his contribution to Teven.

Rod is now Boral's NSW/ACT Environment Manager, with his former role taken over by **Adnan Voloder** who joined the business at the end of 2017. Paul mentioned that Adnan would soon travel to Teven with him to meet neighbours.

Scott then noted the number of different people who had occupied the Quarry Supervisor's position in recent years, thanking them for their efforts and again welcoming Tylah to the position. Scott stated his confidence in Tylah's being able to stabilise the role going forward.

Repeating the earlier information shared, Scott mentioned the upcoming departure of Richard from the Operations Manager role for Northern NSW Quarries. He noted Richard had been instrumental in securing overdue improvements at Teven which had taken it from being an unwanted neighbour to a workplace successfully co-existing with and supporting its local community.

It was again stated Brad would be looking after the role until Richard's replacement could be confirmed. Brad said that as he is based in Grafton, it is an easy thing for him to visit the Teven site should any concerns or issues arise.

Finally, Scott announced his own departure from Teven at the end of August. He informed attendees that he'd received an offer to join a company outside of the quarry industry in southern NSW as an Operations Manager.

Scott thanked community members present for their support and cooperation during his time running the quarry, adding he had found being part of the local community a very rewarding experience. He said he was looking forward to the challenges ahead but would miss the connections made with local residents.

**Bec Gillieatt**, Scott's wife, offered her additional gratitude to residents present for being wonderful neighbours during their time in Teven. Bec commented that everyone had been extremely welcoming and friendly since their first days, and that her family could not have been treated better as locals.

Peter then spoke on behalf of the community, firstly thanking Rod for all of his input into the planning matters which had led to the quarry's much improved performance over the years, and also for his assistance during the community effort to oppose the new function venue currently being built.

Peter then thanked Scott for his time as Quarry Manager, congratulating him on his new opportunity and stating that residents would miss him due to his competence and capability in the role. He offered the best wishes of residents to Scott, Bec and their children for their new adventure.

Brad then acknowledged the sentiment of the residents and added that in searching for Scott's replacement, the business was committed to finding someone of similar attributes in terms of working with the wider community as well as effectively managing a site.

Paul stated that Scott's resignation had been taken as a great blow to the NSW/ACT Quarries business as a whole, not just at Teven Quarry. He said this is because Scott was one of the business' best examples of an all-round Quarry Manager, and a model for others to follow.



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Paul praised Scott's efforts in terms of both managing the site and creating the far more positive relationship between the local Boral team and neighbours. He thanked him for all of the support he had offered in terms of community relations, adding that he would personally sorely miss his future input.

## **5. Environmental management and performance**

Paul then asked Scott to present an update on the site's environmental performance on behalf of the Health Safety Environment (HSE) team.

A picture of the quarry's sediment basins was shown which Scott said had been working well. An image was also shown of the completed 'clean' water diversion channel in the north western part of the site, while Scott also highlighted that a grated drain had been placed across the quarry entrance.

An update on weed management undertaken by the site was given, with most recent work focussed on the Beacon Road frontage, high side of the quarry pit, and along North Teven Road at the northern end of the site. An average of 40 hours per month and \$20000 per year is being directed toward the task.

A resident noted that morning glory weed had become an issue on the outside of the Beacon Road boundary of the quarry. They stated that they couldn't see any within the quarry site but suggested it might be worth checking out.

Images of the progress made with noise bunding and subsequent planting were also shown. Trees and shrubs planted in 2014 were shown to be now more than four metres tall in places, with the vegetation very thick throughout.

The regular environmental monitoring results for dust deposition, water quality and blast vibration were shared. Noted among the results was a spike in dust readings at Site 3 (Quarry Office) during December 2018 which was attributed to dam construction works immediately beside the monitor.

A similar spike at Site 4 (Beacon Road) during the same month was noted for its difference between the result for insoluble solids and ash. It was noted this result reflects the natural environment of the area which offers many different contributors to dust readings, including birds and other fauna.

Scott additionally made a comment that while no community complaints had been recorded about the quarry for the period, the issue of the speeding truck driver shared through the earlier 'safety moment' would be recorded as one.

A comment was made by a resident that he had taken a look at the small creek next to Beacon Road after recent rain and noted the water appeared entirely clean, with no evident brown colour or sediment from the quarry present. They remarked this was good to see.

## **6. Planning matters**

Paul then presented an overview of the future intentions for the quarry from a planning perspective on behalf of his colleagues from Boral's Land and Property Group.

It was explained that with the Pacific Highway upgrade program nearing its end, Boral had been assessing the role most of its northern NSW quarries would play in coming years. Teven is expected to revert to a 'normal' role given there's an ongoing need for aggregates across the region.

With the quarry's current consent expiring in 2026, but with Boral also knowing there is more rock resource available both inside and outside the current approved extraction area, work will need to commence on a new planning application in the next few years to continue operations.

Paul explained the next planning application would more than likely trigger the requirements of State Significant Development (SSD), a process overseen by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE).

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SSD requires a greater and more detailed range of studies than a local Council development application. As a result, Paul mentioned that groundwater bores had been established during January and February to start gathering the water related data required for the application.

Paul further raised that other relevant studies were likely to be started near the end of 2019 and early 2020, again to ensure sufficient data was available when the application is to be compiled.

It was emphasised that no firm timetable had yet been set up for obtaining the SSD. Rather, given the history of consultation at Teven Quarry, Paul said Boral wanted to ensure neighbours had an early opportunity to understand what the next few years will entail, and to offer any early feedback.

A comment was made by a community representative that once the quarry slows down, they would not like to see the withdrawal of any of the resources which have been dedicated to bringing the quarry up to the standard at which it operates now. This would be a source of strong objection if it were to occur.

A question was asked as to what would happen with any material which remained in place should the planning consent lapse before it is extracted. It was explained it would remain untouched until such time as either Boral or another party obtained the appropriate approval to quarry it.

## **7. Community activities and general business**

An update was given on the various community activities and groups the quarry team had supported and contributed toward during 2017-19, including TinCAN, the Tintenbar Hall floor replacement program, Immune Deficiency and Ballina Lions Children's Christmas Parties, and the local primary school.

Pictures of the quarry's entry into the Bangalow Billycart Derby held during May were also shown, the quarry having modest success against other opposition from the industry.

Paul then asked for any items of general business or comment. A resident requested that on top of raising the matter about delayed road repairs with Council, the Committee make enquiries about the rubbish pile located on land inside the intersection of Tintenbar and North Teven Roads.

It was explained that Council had recently acquired the land from an owner which had been storing old vehicles and rubbish at the site for years. This has now been overgrown with vegetation and affected sightlines at the intersection, created a hazard. Paul undertook to pursue this issue with Council.

There being nothing else raised, Paul thanked everyone for their attendance and indicated the next CCC meeting would be held before the end of the year. The next whole-of-community meeting will be planned for 2021.

**Meeting closed at approximately 7.30pm.**