

**COOLAH COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING HELD IN THE COOLAH
COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON 7 NOVEMBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 5.30PM**

AGENDA – Coolah Community Consultation Meeting

7 November 2022 commencing at 5:30pm

Welcome: Ambrose Doolan (Mayor)

Apologies:

Confirmation of Minutes

Business Arising from the Minutes

Agenda Items

a) Community Matters

Sally Edwards

1. Could Council please advise the Coolah community of the recommendations provided by Council to date, to EnergyCo/Large-Scale wind and solar developers regarding potential workcamp solutions/site locations?
2. In EnergyCo's recently released Scoping Report it states (pg 71/465):
5.7.2 Preparation of the EIS
Key stakeholders
EnergyCo will continue to work closely with councils to manage any impacts to council assets, as well as engaging with them to develop community benefit sharing opportunities and strategies to mitigate cumulative impacts to local communities and businesses
Noting the name of the opportunity: Community Benefit Sharing Opportunity (not Council Benefit Sharing Opportunity), could Council please advise Community of the process Council will take in working with community to develop any community benefit sharing opportunities with EnergyCo or other and future Developers?
Could Council please also advise Community the process it will take to develop, communicate and activate strategies to mitigate cumulative impacts to the local community and businesses? How does Council plan to involve community? What will this look like?
3. Impacts of large-scale developments and transmission line corridors:
Community is currently experiencing higher levels of angst and distress and growing levels of division within the community. Can Council make any recommendations to Community now, that may help alleviate the distress, lessen the division and work towards maintaining the active and united community that Coolah currently is? Will Council help to ensure that the one thing that is protected and actively maintained above all, is the people and the community? Coolah does not need to be another boom/bust statistic. This isn't about roads, rates or rubbish. This isn't about policy or state legislation. This is about people and community. What role will Council take in helping to ensure this?
4. Importance of Youth Development and review into past Youth Development.

Coolah District Development Group

5. VPA Update
6. Jorricks Park – the need for fencing as it is an off-leash dog area on the main road

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7. Maintenance of town defibrillators (details) and whether we can add our new defibrillator (we are seeking funding for one in the main street) to the maintenance list.
8. Flood damage assessment/study progress and an early warning system
9. Riverwalk Clean up help needed urgently. There is a lot of flood debris (logs, rocks etc) over the Riverwalk area. This is making it inaccessible to mowers. We would very much appreciate help from the Council backhoe to assist by removing the logs and debris to an area that is suitable and out of the way. It is good habitat for birds and animals. Our Landcare volunteers have not been able to get down to do mowing and whipper snipping due to this flood debris and very wet black soil. There are a couple of areas of the pathway that need clearing as water is pooling and making it inaccessible for our elderly residents. They love this space and at present are unable to use it safely. Once we get it back we will then be able to once again work alongside Council to maintain it. This is a very necessary space for our community in many ways. Many thanks for listening to our request for help.
10. Rural Aid - Coolah's week with Rural Aid and ask Council if they have had a chance to consider the help RA gave to our community. I wonder if they have had any correspondence with RA in the way of a thank you?

Jo Murphy

11. Presentation of Waste Transfer Station. - As a new resident of Mount Hope Road it saddens me to drive past "the tip" and see the state of things. In most towns the tip is set back from the road or shielded from view by trees or shrubs. The Coolah Waste Transfer is really an eyesore made worse by the recent dumping of building materials following last year's hail storm. I wondered if some of the materials could be repurposed to create a fence to shield from view the rubbish etc. Alternatively some shrubs could be planted inside the fence or an earth wall could be built to the same effect. The drive out on Neilrex road is very picturesque through the claret ashes, and up through the common is also pretty, the presentation of the tip is very disappointing.

b) Council Updates and Information

12. Council Road Network and Natural Disaster claim(s)
13. Renewable Energy Zone
14. Inland Rail
15. Upcoming calls for submissions (external budget submissions, annual donations, community financial assistance donations)
16. Doing Business with Council
17. Australia Day Nominations

General Business