

MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN MIDLANDS LOCAL RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE LONGFORD COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 4TH APRIL 2023 COMMENCING AT 4PM

1. **PRESENT:** Cr Dick Adams (Chair), Jonathan Galbraith, Lisa McEachern, Owen Diefenbach, Roderick Cuthbert, Maureen Shadbolt
2. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Mary Knowles, Lorraine Green, Linda Little
3. **APOLOGIES:** Nil
4. **DECLARATION OF ANY PECUNIARY INTEREST BY A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL** Nil declared
5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting of the Recycling Committee held on 25 October 2022 were confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings Moved J Galbraith, seconded O Diefenbach CARRIED
6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

ISSUE	BACKGROUND	CURRENT STATUS/WAY FORWARD
1. Recycling trailer	Council acquired the trailer in 2020/2021. How to publicise and where to locate the trailer has been discussed regularly at meetings. Suggestions have included liaise with Tourism Officer re usage of trailer at events; committee members to generate suggestions of possible location for the trailer; maybe put the trailer at the front of the Council Offices: maybe at Evandale Market; discuss use with schools; develop a campaign to raise awareness of the trailer – including a flier. Noted regularly that the trailer needs to be ‘manned’ to ensure it is used correctly.	New Engineering Office to develop a flier, follow up with Council’s Tourism Officer the use of the trailer at the September Community Expo at the Sports Centre and the regular Makers Market held at Riverlands Centre Longford. Maybe Council advertises for community members willing to be trained to be recycle trailer champions – to take the trailer to events, schools etc... and stay with it to provide education?
2. Single Use Plastics Policy	Issue raised at April 2022 meeting. Issue to be tabled on Council Workshop agenda. At October 2022 meeting it was decided to research other Councils’ policies.	Suggested at April 2023 meeting that state government needs to take the lead on this. Mayor Knowles asked why Northern Midlands

		Council couldn't lead the way for other Councils?
3. Volunteer Induction	Issue raised at June 2022 meeting as a new committee member had not completed the induction. Noted at October 2022 meeting that a new WHS system will soon be implemented by Council	Noted at April 2023 meeting that there is a link to the online induction on Council's website
4. Recycling apps	Issue raised at October 2022 meeting and it was agreed to review the 'recycle mate' and 'recycle coach' apps	Agreed at April 2023 meeting to also review 'photo coach' app
5. Recruiting new committee members	Raised at June 2022 meeting after resignation of R Heathcote, and an ad was to be prepared for facebook and the Courier.	Jonathan to discuss the advertising campaign with Lorraine Wyatt.
6. Plastic bin toppers	Issue raised at October 2022 meeting after a presentation by Daniel Stearnes. These alternatives to bin covers, allow labelling of different types of bins. They are easy -clean plastic and simple to install. Jonathan or Daniel was to order 10 red and 5 yellow toppers and contact neighbouring Councils to see if there was any interest in ordering green toppers as they can only be supplied as a minimum of 20.	Noted at April 2023 meeting that Council is to implement a policy.
7. Longford Recycling Shed Data	Issue raised at June 2022 meeting: question being how effective is the new Longford recycling shed and has it resulted in less recyclable material going to landfill? Noted at October 2022 meeting that when the next contract is renewed that the terms of the contract will be varied to require the supply of waste management data.	Agreed at the April 2023 meeting to discuss this issue with Brighton Council
8. WMRR Forum	Noted at April 2023 meeting that Owen and Roderick attended this Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association (Tas Branch) forum on 23 November 2022. Forum provided an opportunity for Assn reps to provide updates, learnings and outcomes on initiatives including the proposed container refund scheme and FOGOs.	Questions raised: should the committee join the Association? Can the committee get regular newsletters from the Association? Owen and Roderick to put together a brief report on the forum.
9. Recycling at other waste transfer stations	Issue raised at October 2022 meeting. It was agreed unanimously committee members supported extending recycling services to all waste transfer stations in the next waste transfer station contract. Jonathan to table this decision with Council.	Has this decision been tabled with Council?
10. Recycling document for fridges	Issue raised at June 2022 meeting – noting that Launceston City Council has a fridge magnet that shows how products can be recycled. Discussion	At April 2023 meeting it was noted a number of promotional resources are available and it's a matter of deciding what is required and

	<p>as to whether NMC could use the same magnet and place the order alongside LCC. Could the magnet be sent out with rates notices? At October 2022 meeting it was discussed that maybe a one-page recycling information sheet could be produced rather than a magnet.</p>	<p>what budget is allocated for such promotional materials.</p>
11. Schools involvement in recycling	<p>Noted at October 2022 meeting that Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group has a program for school recycling participation. Maybe the committee can create school events or 'challenges'?</p>	
12. Using tyres in Asphalt	<p>Discussion at April 2023 meeting re the bitumen plant at Mowbray</p>	
13. Compostable doggie poo bags	<p>Issue raised at October 2022 meeting. Decision that Council investigate costing of implementation of compostable doggie poo bags. Noted at April 2023 meeting that compostable bags cannot be put into FOGO bins</p>	
14. Use of plastic bottle at Council	<p>Issue raised at April 2022 meeting. It was decided to discuss with Taswater the supplying of water fountains to refill containers and thus eliminate throw away plastic water bottles. Noted at June 2022 meeting that a drinking fountain is to be installed at the front of Valentine's Park at Campbell Town. Mayor Knowles report at April 2023 meeting that Council is retuning to use of water jugs to replace the current plastic bottles once the current stock of plastic bottles is exhausted.</p>	
15. Encouraging recycling at events	<p>Noted at October 2022 meeting that recyclables at the Longford Show are going to landfill. Is there something Council can do to support improved waste management at events?</p>	<p>At April 2023 meeting Lorraine Green floated the proposal of creating a Recycling Team who can attend events and encourage recycling – that suggestion being that the team members undergo an induction to be "Do the Right Thing" ambassadors dressed in full doggie costume (especially for children so they aren't be identified in photos). The team members in costume stand by the bins and when people do the right thing and use the correct bin, they get a friendly woof and tail wag; if they go to do the wrong thing, they get a growl and a</p>

		paw stops them lifting the lid of the wrong bin. Would make great social media coverage for events and awareness raising re recycling. Action: Lorraine to develop project plan for this proposal.
--	--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ISSUES ON HOLD

ISSUE	BACKGROUND
Recycling at Sports Clubs	Has been on the 'future ideas' list since December 2020
Recycling bins at Council parks and reserves	Has been on the 'future ideas' list since May 2021
Labelling on clothes for business	Noted at December 2020 meeting that clothes made from polyester cannot be recycled. On 'future ideas' list
Plazrok Advancements in Queensland	At February 2021 meeting Gavin Grace made a presentation on the Plazrok product that processes waste onsite at transfer stations. Gavin was offering to lease machines to Councils across Australia. Gavin was asked to prepare a proposal for presentation to Council. This information has not been forthcoming. Matter now on hold.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1. 2023 Meeting dates

30 May (apologies Lisa McEachern)

27 June

25 July

29 August

26 September

31 October

28 November

19 December

7.2. Meeting quorum

At the April 2023 meeting, Roderick raised the matter of the February 2023 meeting when only four people turned up and the meeting was after an hour postponed to 4 April. He requested that in future members be given adequate notice of when there will not be a quorum and therefore a meeting is to be postponed/cancelled.

7.3. Visit to Mowbray Recycling Centre

Action: Jonathan to arrange a visit for committee members.

7.4. Purpose of the Recycling Committee

At the April 2023 meeting Roderick noted that the purpose the committee was established by Council was to generate measures to reduce the cost to rate payers of waste management. He asked if the committee is achieving this? Jonathan reported ratepayers are not paying for the FOGO bin service, and that the cost of accessing the waste stations in Launceston are on the rise.

The Chair closed the meeting at 5.05pm