



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE
No 23 (City of Brisbane) Squadron

**Minutes of
Meeting**

23SQN/L11127578

See distribution

**MINUTES OF THE AMBERLEY CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP (ACWG)
MEETING HELD AT RAAF BASE AMBERLEY, 23 SQUADRON, 14 NOV 17**

Attendees:

SQNLDR A Smith	23SQN XO	Chairperson
Mr J Craig	RAAF AMB BSM	
Cr C Pisasale	Ipswich City Council – Councillor Division 8	
Cr D Pahlke	Ipswich City Council – Councillor Division 10	
Mr I Dainer	Willowbank Area Group – Vice President	
Mr D Hooper	Winston Glades Community Group	
Mrs L Hooper	Winston Glades Community Group	
Mr B Behm	Local Resident	
Mr P Conroy	Local Resident	
Mrs R Conroy	Local Resident	
Mr M Goddard	Local Resident	
Mrs G Ashton	Local Resident	
WOFF T Connor	ABCP	Meeting Secretary

Apologies:

WGCDR Karen Breaden	RAAF AMB ABXO
The Hon S Neumann, MP	Federal Member for Blair
Ms J Howard, MP	Member for Ipswich
Mr I Rickuss, MP	Member for Lockyer
Cr Cheryl Bromage	Ipswich City Council – Councillor Division 6
Mr G McLay	West Moreton Anglican College
Mr E Dawson	Dawson's Technical Service
Mr L Wapler	PFAS Investigation & Management Branch
Ms V Glyde	PFAS Investigation & Management Branch
Mrs L Ashton-Stewart	Local Resident
Mr G Hatchman	Willowbank Area Group President

ITEM 1: OPENING

1. The ACWG meeting opened at 1703 h. SQNLDR Alex Smith welcomed all present.

ITEM 2: CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

2. All attendees acknowledged that they had received and read the previous meeting's minutes. No issues or concerns were raised with the previous minutes.

ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3. Nil business from previous meeting.

ITEM 4: AMBERLEY BASE UPDATE

4. SQNLDR Smith advised that WGCDR Breaden would be moving on and replaced by WGCDR Rosemary Dyke in mid-December.
5. Parliamentary Works Committee has agreed to progress Growler Stage 2. This is largely Apron and Runway works commencing early New Year. Construction activity will have minimal impact on the local area.
6. A decision brief from the Senior Australian Defence Force Officer Amberley is being prepared for the Chief of Air Force to present to the Secretary of Defence for the Minister for Defence, in order to put some pressure on Infrastructure Australia to assist with the funding for the Cunningham Highway Bypass. Council feedback on this initiative was that Federal and State Governments disagreed on who should provide some of the funding.
7. BSM advised that 6 weeks ago he attended a meeting with Infrastructure Australia and the Department of Transport and Main Roads and presented to them the need for the Cunningham Highway Upgrade. BSM advised that these organisations call it “Cunningham Highway Upgrade”, not the “Ipswich Bypass”. Costing for this project was to be tabled at the December meeting. Mr Dainer pointed out that this Project had slipped to a lower priority on the Government’s list of priorities.
8. SQNLDR Smith sought some feedback from Council representatives as to the amount of public complaints that Council might be receiving regarding the volume of vehicle traffic to and from Amberley. At the Amberley turnoff, Department of Transport and Main Roads figures stated 17,000 vehicles a day passed that point and 11,000 turn into Rosewood Road. It was discussed that Mr Shayne Neumann’s office has been making strong representation regarding this issue. Further contact with his office was discussed.

Noise Report for 23 Aug – 07 Nov 17

9. SQNLDR Smith summarised the Noise Report for the period in that there were 19 noise complaints for the 3 month period of which 11 had been for C-17 and 6 for jets. These complaints were primarily from outside the Ipswich/Amberley area. See Annex A for details.
10. SQNLDR Smith advised that at a recent Community Consultation at Walloon Public School, it was advised that Hansens Farm had been gazetted as a cargo drop zone during flying operations. The intent by Air Mobility Group Richmond (Public Affairs) was to engage in a wider media release as part of the community consultation process.

ITEM 5: COMMUNITY CONCERNS

11. Mr Bill Behm raised some concerns regarding a blocked stormwater drain at Behms Road Gatehouse since January. BSM advised that Contractors have started to do work on drain clearing.
Action taken: Drain now cleared
12. Mr Behm also advised that Army had cut some fencing to install gates and had left barbed wire lying around. Also other barbed wire had been dumped and he asked who was responsible for the fencing on Buffer Zones. He was concerned with a safety issue to horse riders due to barbed wire fencing lying around.
Action taken: Wire has been removed

ITEM 6: COUNCIL REPORTS ON DEFENCE ISSUES

13. Cr Pisasale and Cr Pahlke summarised a number of issues, including discussions on the concept of an Avenue of Honour. Details of this and other issues are detailed in their respective Community Update Newsletters which were provided to the ACWG.

14. SQNLDR Smith advised the meeting that Amberley had been approached by one of the Defence Association groups to ascertain if any Ipswich community groups were aware of PTSD sufferers in their community who would qualify for an assistance dog to aid in their recovery. Members of the ACWG agreed to go back to their groups with this offer.

ITEM 7: COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE'S FEEDBACK

15. Willowbank residents are concerned with the ARTC (Inland Rail). Roadworks and noise issues are of a concern as well as the railway proposal to cross 64 roads. The train is a double stacked train approximately 9 metres in height and about 2-3km in length. Although this will be a great nation building project, this freight train will significantly impact the local population. Additionally, increased truck traffic from the Mount Walker quarry was a concern as it was anticipated to be around 30 trucks per day.

16. SQNLDR Smith advised that he would follow up on a report due from the State Infrastructure Group (Canberra) regarding ANEF 2029. This was in relation to the noise associated with the RAAF Base.

ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS

17. Mr Behm discussed the issue of the 4306 postcode raised by Mr Hatchman at the last meeting. This was in relation to the Federal Government not accepting the 4306 postcode for backpack workers. The issue was that some of the rural area was not being classed as 'Rural'. It was advised that there is a dedicated website allocated to the 4306 campaign for further information.

18. Mrs Glenys Ashton discussed the issue of trucks entering the base backing up near her driveway being a potential safety hazard. BSM advised that he had submitted a Business Case to close the Behms Road Gate on a Sunday which would allow the Base to open the Rosewood Rd and Contractors Gate earlier. This would keep the larger vehicles away from the front gate. The issue with the backed up trucks was a one off event. Mrs Ashton advised that the "Keep Clear" signage in front of her driveway was beginning to fade. BSM advised this was a council issue and requested assistance from the councillors present.

19. Mrs Ashton asked if a letter box drop could be considered prior to the next base lockdown exercise. This would inform residents that it was an exercise only. SQNLDR Smith advised that he would follow this up.

For action: SQNLDR Smith to follow up

20. BSM advised that the PFAS community walk-in session was being held on 28 November at the Leichhardt One Mile Community Centre. This was an opportunity for members of the community to discuss issues with Subject Matter Experts. BSM advised that he would attend. Sampling analysis and quality plan had been completed and a base community update was also planned. A water use survey will be part of the next phase. BSM advised that he would provide the link to a Defence website for further information. Field sampling and insulation of ground water monitoring wells on the base would commence on 20 November. BSM provided PFAS hotline number to members of the ACWG.

Link is: <http://defence.gov.au/Environment/PFAS/Contacts.asp>

21. BSM advised that there is to be an upgrade to Engine Test Cell 1 (end of Super Hornet Drive) subject to referral to the public works committee which is expected to go ahead by the end of November. It is one of the smaller projects on Base but still requires public consultation. There is a planned information session on 7 December at the Ipswich Civic Centre for public discussion on this event.

22. Members of the ACWG requested that SQNLDR Smith thank WGCDR Breden on their behalf, for her efforts with the Group throughout the year.

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING

23. Next meeting for the ACWG will be held at 23SQN HQ Spurgeon Room on 13 February 2018.

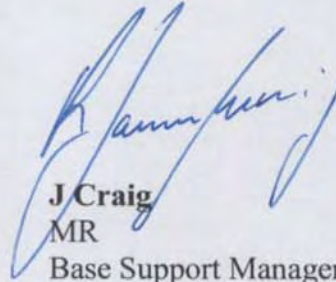
ITEM 10: MEETING CLOSED

24. The meeting was officially closed at 1800 h.



A Smith
SQNLDR
Chairperson

16 Jan 18



J Craig
MR
Base Support Manager

17 Jan 18

Annex:

A. Noise Complaints Report – 23 Aug – 07 Nov 17

