

AKZONOBEL -- COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

DATE	Wednesday, 16 th August 2023	MEETING #	2
CHAIR	Peter Black, AkzoNobel	TIME	6:00 – 7:00 PM
VENUE	AkzoNobel Boardroom, 51 McIntyre Rd, Sunshine North	MINUTES	Scott Thomson, SenateSHJ
ATTENDEES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Black (Chair), AkzoNobel (PB) Ray Jreige, AkzoNobel (RJ) Lily Prowse-McKeown, AkzoNobel (LP-M) Scott Thomson, SenateSHJ (ST) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cnr. Jasmine Nguyen, Brimbank City Council (C.JN) Deby Sammut, local resident (DB) Emma Kiery, local resident (EK) Nelly Santos, Principal, Sunshine North Primary School (NS) 	
APOLOGIES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr. Virginia Tachos, Brimbank City Council 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amberlie Cameron-Smith, Sunshine Heights Cricket Club 	
1.	Welcome		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PB welcomed attendees, reiterated the purpose of the session – to solicit feedback and guidance from the community on what AkzoNobel can be doing to be a good neighbour and make a positive difference in the local community. 		
2.	Feedback on previous minutes and update on actions from last meeting		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PB invited participants again to consider and suggest additional members to add to the group, and that AkzoNobel is keen to expand group over time. PB provided an update on VCAT hearing about the noise wall. He noted that VCAT has approved the wall designs, and AkzoNobel no needs to re-apply to Council for the permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EK asked whether resubmission could cause delays – PB replied that there is not likely to be any further delays. EK asked how long construction will take – PB advised that construction of will take about 3 months. Community information/billboards – PB noted that AkzoNobel is still investigating different/better ways to keep community informed about plant updates and community activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EK suggested an LED billboard on Berkshire Road as a good, engaging example, which promotes a café off one of the side streets. AkzoNobel’s support for the local cat desexing charity – PB asked EK what AkzoNobel’s support might entail. EK suggested it could be a grant funded through team fundraising 		

	<p>activities. She noted that Brimbank has the second worst stray cat population in Victoria, and procedures cost around \$200 per cat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mural on Barwon Avenue – PB noted that AkzoNobel is still looking at costs and options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ C.JN said Council has options and artists who could be engaged to support the project. This could potentially happen as part of the Barwon Ave beautification project. AkzoNobel • Tree/shrub planting day with students – PB confirmed AN is very open to this and will liaise with NS on next steps. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>C.JN to introduce AkzoNobel to Council’s arts director to discuss potential collaboration on the mural.</i>
4.	AkzoNobel operational update & discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PB delivered a presentation providing an update on activities at the Sunshine North site, including on the management of odour and noise issues – see presentation attached. <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EK asked how big the concentrator wheel is and whether it is noisy. RJ said it will be installed in a space about as large as the boardroom, and they do not emit high levels of noise. • C.JN asked for further details about the raising of the stacks on the paint plant, and dispersal of the volatile compounds. PB explained the rationale for heightened stacks and increased velocity – it means odours are less likely to ‘settle’ and affect the community. • PB commented that concentrator wheels are a new technology for Australia and it may take time to be approved, but they are installed at other AkzoNobel locations and they are highly effective. • PB confirmed that the flashing on the powder plant roof had been fixed. He acknowledged the impact on the community during the power outage to allow this, and thanked them for their cooperation. • DS said she noticed and recorded an unusual high-pitched noise on Monday – RJ asked DS to send it to him so he can investigate it. • EK said she sometimes hears a ringing alarm noise – RJ asked that EK consider reporting this when she hears it so it can be investigated. • C.JN mentioned she had spoken to local residents who continue to experience noise concerns. Some of those residents are not native English speakers and are not likely to be receiving updates in ways they can understand. There is a large local Vietnamese-speaking population and they need a way to report issues. RJ & PB said they would look into this, and potentially engage one of AkzoNobel’s Vietnamese-speaking employees to provide a means for them to communicate with AkzoNobel. The group acknowledged that there may be cultural reasons why CALD community members are less likely to report concerns, but AkzoNobel needs to find ways around that. C.JN suggested finding ways to engage these residents. • EK mentioned that Cranbourne St residents also experience noise issues as well as Barwon – sometimes worse. • DS mentioned there’s a gap in the roof of the powder plant, and this could potentially be an avenue for the noise. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>DS to send recording of high-pitched noise to RJ for investigation.</i> • <i>EK to report high pitched alarm-like noise, for investigation by AkzoNobel in real time.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>RJ, PB and ST to explore ways to engage and communicate with local Vietnamese residents, including translation of docs/ways to source feedback and guidance from CALD community members.</i>
5.	AkzoNobel community / CSR program overview & discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP-M delivered a presentation providing an update on AkzoNobel's community, charity and volunteering activities since the previous meeting – see presentation attached. • LP-M mentioned AkzoNobel is considering another open day, like last year's. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EK gave feedback a lot of people wanted to attend last time but couldn't as it was a school day and clashed with school times, suggesting a weekend open day might have worked better. ○ LP-M said this could be explored. <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>AkzoNobel to consider weekend open day, to allow more residents to attend.</i> • <i>LP-M to look into ways for AN to get behind Emma's cat desexing initiative Emma is involved in, potentially through group fundraising initiatives, kitty litter/blanket/pet care collection drives, etc.</i>
7.	Date and agenda for next meeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ST suggested late November for the next meeting, avoiding the December silly season. All parties agreed. • ST confirmed he will be in touch with participants in advance, to schedule the meeting and circulate a draft agenda.
8.	Meeting Close.