

## KANMANTOO-CALLINGTON COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (KCCCC)

### KCCCC Chairperson

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### Meeting Minutes

Date	<b>Thurs 29/1/2026</b>	Time	<b>7.30pm</b>	Location	<b>Kanmantoo Hall</b>
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### 1. Welcome and Introductions

<b><u>Committee Members in Attendance</u></b>		<b><u>Apologies</u></b>	
Karlene Maywald (Chair)	Paul Johnston	Airlie Keen	
Nick Bartsch (HGO)	Melanie Reiffel	Tony Aloisi	
Mark Stewart (DEM)	Harry Seager	Robert McCauley	
Fiona Challen	Garry Duncan	Ross Oke	
Ed Thomas	Donna Twycross	Greg Sarre	
Carol Bailey			
<b><u>Contributors</u></b>			
Viv Naidu (HGO)	Peter Stanley, Cultural Trail Project	Adam Schofield, Heavy Minerals	
Annabelle Edkins (HGO)	Travis Bates – NBN	Bob Fulker (HGO CEO)	

**Gallery:** There were 12+ people in the gallery, including Lou Duncan (Community Member), Robert Schoenfish (Community Member), Steve Seal, (Quarry Manager, Heidelberg)

### 2. Previous meeting and actions arising from previous meeting/s:

- Previous Meeting Minutes: The previous meeting minutes for the last meeting were acknowledged.

Task	Action	Due Date	Status	Owner
KCCCC website	HGO to update KCCCC website as part of broader corporate website overhaul	6/3/2026 release	In progress	Nick Bartsch (HGO)
Noise Monitoring	The results of this quarter's noise monitoring event provided	29/1/2026	Complete	Nick Bartsch (HGO)

### New and Outstanding Actions

Task	Action	Due Date	Status	Owner
KCCCC website	HGO to update the KCCCC website as part of a broader corporate website	6/3/2026 release	In progress	Nick Bartsch (HGO)

	overhaul. Initial Hillgrove platform live and ironing out initial bugs <a href="https://www.hillgroveresources.com.au/">https://www.hillgroveresources.com.au/</a>			
Masterplan Sub-Committee	Schedule next meeting to circulate the Masterplan Review Committee meeting date schedule	27/1/2025	In progress	Fiona Challen
Cultural Trail Project Working Party	Schedule initial meeting	30/4/2026	In progress	Annabelle Edkins (HGO)
Bird Survey Results	Provide comparative bird survey results (trend information) year-on-year, full Fauna report to be circulated	30/4/2026	In progress	Viv Naidu (HGO)
Garnet Extraction / TFS Composition	Provide information on the composition of the TSF	30/4/2026	In progress	Nick Bartsch (HGO)

### 3. Master Planning

#### Update from Sub-Committee (Masterplan Review)

- It was noted that the Masterplan Review Committee is expected to meet soon to map the update and review process, including a forward schedule of meeting dates.
- It was confirmed that the masterplan update and review material will be made available via the website, with soft copies also available.
- The target timing discussed was for the update to be progressed mid-year 2026, with the intent of having it ready for the Callington Show.

#### Cultural Trail Project (Completed)

- Project context: The Cultural Trail concept is intended to establish a trail in the Kanmantoo and Callington region, with a primary catchment within a one-hour radius. The aims include showcasing environmental attributes and restorative work, positioning the region as a cultural and historic destination, and supporting tourism and sustainable economic growth.
- Peter stepped through the project slides and summarised the stages completed to date.
- Garry outlined the basis of the sculptures and their relationship to the rubric in the masterplan.
- Members were invited to visit the Britannia to view the prototypes and gain a better feel for the project.
- Completed items included head prototypes and a lookout prototype.
- Further work noted included conceptual design, detailed drawings (preliminary), preliminary costing and an engineer's report and costing.
- **Discussion/questions raised:**
  - Whether the concept will include water elements (including tanks) to support flora and fauna outcomes.
  - Whether geocaching could be incorporated.
  - Whether technology could be used to better engage young people and broaden reach.
  - Requested project financials from the Gallery. It was confirmed that these will be available as part of the final report.

#### Cultural Trail Project (What's Next)

- Nick stepped through the remaining items required to progress the next phase.
- It was noted that approximately \$15,000 remains in the budget to progress to a scoping document.
- The Committee discussed whether the scoping work should be completed by an external party or using in-house skills.
  - Melanie suggested a hybrid approach, using professional support to draft and consult with the Committee.
  - Paul suggested completing the initial portion in-house, then engaging a professional to polish.
  - Paul also highlighted the importance of a strong community consultation component.

- The Chair clarified that no decisions have been made, discussion is conceptual only at this stage, and no action will proceed until community consultation is completed.
- A suggestion was raised to ensure the Cultural Trail concept includes Callington, with reference to the Callington Recreation Centre (rose).
- A subcommittee was confirmed as: Peter Stanely, Paul Johnston, Annabelle Edkins, Garry Duncan, Melanie Reiffel.

#### 4. Proposed Callington and Kanmantoo Council Trail Access (Harry Seager)

- Harry provided an update following discussions with Mount Barker District Council regarding potential trail access linking Callington and Kanmantoo. Council has incorporated the concept into its open space planning, with information available on the Council website. A preliminary concept previously sketched across Back Callington Road was noted as potentially exceeding \$9 million, and therefore not considered viable in that form.
- Harry outlined an alternative concept involving the creation of an easement across the Premix land and Hillgrove land. It was noted that, in concept, Council may be able to absorb liability considerations if the trail is established under Council control.
- The intent is to enable low-impact access for walking and cycling only, with minimal infrastructure, no fencing, and low ongoing maintenance. The route is yet to be determined and would require collaboration with relevant stakeholders. There may be potential synergy between this concept and other trail initiatives.
- **Discussion/questions raised**
  - A question was raised regarding environmental impacts and how the trail could integrate with Hillgrove rehabilitation planting.
  - The Gallery queried whether the proposed trail length may be too long. Harry advised that the trail could be delivered and used in sections.
  - Karlene noted the project is more likely to succeed if progressed collaboratively and asked who would be leading. Harry clarified he is acting on behalf of the Council at this stage (rather than K4C) but hopes the proposal can be included in K4C considerations.
  - Harry noted that, due to his role on planning approval panels, he cannot participate in discussions relating to approvals.
  - Karlene reiterated that discussions are at an early stage and will require further engagement through consultation on both the trail projects.
  - Donna Twycross expressed positive support for the potential of a trail of this nature.
  - Steve in the gallery advised that he has contact details for the new owners of the Premix site, should this assist. Harry accepted

#### 5. Standing Items

##### Garnet Extraction (Adam Schofield, Director, Heavy Minerals)

- Bob Fulker (Hillgrove CEO) introduced the agenda item, noting that the Hillgrove Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) is one of the largest single garnet resources globally and that discussions have been underway for some time with key stakeholders, including government, to establish a long-term, economically viable operation that delivers enduring benefits.
- Heavy Minerals Limited (ASX: HVY) is an Australian-listed industrial minerals company focused on developing mineral projects, including waterjet garnet. Adam Schofield presented in his capacity as Director outlined the company's interest in progressing a garnet opportunity associated with the Kanmantoo site.
- Adam Schofield stepped through the Waterjet Garnet process, including intended applications, project concept and potential community impacts.
- Employment: Approximately 20 full-time employees at full operational capacity.
- Production Profile: Initial production of approximately 50,000 tonnes per annum, increasing over time toward 100,000 tonnes per annum.
- Life of Mine: Indicative life of up to 50 years at 100,000 tonnes per annum.
- Tailings Storage Facility Strategy: Placement of the TSF back into the open pit after copper mining concludes.

- Production volumes discussed were approximately 50,000 tonnes per annum, with potential to increase over time, and a long-term operating horizon was noted (presentation references up to 100,000 tonnes per annum over the life of the resource).

#### **Discussion and questions raised**

- Melanie asked how the proposal may affect the TSF over time. It was explained that TSF height may increase in the near term and reduce over time, and that the process is gravity-fed and constrained by water flow. It was further noted that no increase in trucking is expected and that noise associated with the operation is anticipated to be less than the current mine-related noise (noting water noise as the key source).
- A question was raised regarding whether garnet is present in the current dust in the area. It was clarified that garnet is a heavy mineral and not the material typically seen blowing from tailings surfaces.
- A question was raised regarding who will obtain the PEPR/licensing approvals. It was noted that approvals and licensing will be progressed, and that Heavy Minerals intends to move toward its own PEPR within an indicative timeframe (noted as approximately 18 months).
- Adam confirmed that Heavy Minerals would participate in KCCCC engagement and expressed interest in being involved. Paul emphasised the importance of community engagement.
- Carol queried rehabilitation implications and whether rehabilitation would be delayed due to any changeover. It was noted that Heavy Minerals would only take over areas required for their use, and Hillgrove would continue rehabilitation for the broader area. It was also noted that the current rehabilitation activity is significant and expected to continue.
- Clarification was sought regarding future liability. It was noted that liability arrangements (including TSF-related liability) would be addressed through the PEPR framework and approval process.
- Mark (DEM) outlined the approvals process, including assessment of the incoming organisation's capability to undertake any rehabilitation responsibilities.
- A question was raised regarding potential dust impacts. It was advised that increased dust is not anticipated, noting that material would be managed initially in a pipe and transported as a slurry (mixed with water).
- A question was raised requesting information on the composition of the TSF. Nick offered that the information has previously been presented in a KCCCC meeting, and that can be re-distributed.

#### **Hillgrove Operational Update (Nick Bartsch, HGO)**

- Nick provided an operational update and referred members to the presentation slides.
- No recordable injuries for the quarter.
- Record quarterly production of 2,962 tonnes of copper.
- Total annual production of 11,315 tonnes of copper, within guidance.
- Nugent commenced production.
- Commencement of the Emily Star Exploration Drive.
- Operations remain on track to ramp up to 1.8mtpa by June.
- A cross-sectional image of the Kanmantoo underground development and planned 2026 stoping areas was presented to provide context on current and upcoming production areas.
- Ed expressed thanks to the mine team for deploying the Hillgrove fire truck to assist with a recent fire incident. The Committee acknowledged the support provided.

#### **Hillgrove Community Update (Nick Bartsch, HGO)**

- Hillgrove staff, including families and future miners, participated in the Mount Barker Christmas Pageant, with the Jumbo Drill Rig on display. It was noted as a positive opportunity to connect with the local community and share information about activities at the Kanmantoo Copper Mine.
- Hillgrove responded with its fire appliance to assist firefighting efforts at a grass fire on Back Callington Road in early January.
- Ed expressed thanks to the mine team for deploying the Hillgrove fire truck to assist with the incident. The Committee acknowledged the support provided.

#### **Hillgrove Environmental and Compliance Update (Viv Naidu)**

Viv Naidu provided an update across environment and compliance matters and talked through the slides. The update covered the headings below.

- **Dust Compliance**

- Viv advised that controls have been strengthened through upgraded sprayers, increased monitoring, and improved communication during higher-risk conditions.
- Wind conditions between 1 October 2025 and 27 January 2026 were noted as predominantly south-west to south.
- Several dust exceedances were recorded during the period; however, following review, none were assessed as mine-related.
- Zero dust complaints were reported via the formal complaints process during the reporting period, and additional operational controls were noted, including additional water trucks/drivers during elevated risk days and proactive wetting of the TSF surface.
- **Community feedback raised at the meeting**
  - A Gallery representative raised a concern that dust appears to “hang” in the air at times (including during periods of no wind) and is visible.
  - Nick responded by outlining Hillgrove’s dust monitoring approach and advised that monitoring results have not exceeded relevant dust measures.
  - Mark (DEM) will meet with Viv and Nick offline to discuss the concern and agree follow-up.
  - Action: Mark (DEM), Viv and Nick to meet offline to review the Gallery concern, monitoring data and any further follow-up required.
- **Groundwater Compliance**
  - Viv advised the November 2025 Groundwater Monitoring Event (GME) identified reductions in standing water levels (SWL) at monitoring bores KMB021, KMB024, KMB028, KMB029 and at landholder locations 672700673, 672702459, 672700736.
  - Hillgrove is undertaking higher-resolution gauging to better understand the rate of decrease, and consultants are investigating further far-field landholder wells to better define the extent (sphere) of influence.
  - JBS&G will complete additional gauging of selected bores surrounding the site, including:
  - Fortnightly SWL monitoring of selected groundwater wells (including 672700736, 672702459, 672700673, 672703091, KMB029, KMB021) over a two-month period (four events total); and
  - A letter report summarising the gauging data and interpretation of groundwater level trends for relevant landholders’ bores.
  - The majority of locations reported concentrations consistent with historical results.
  - Aluminium, cobalt, iron, manganese, nickel and zinc concentrations at KMB030 remain reported as non-compliant results.
  - No exceedances of groundwater management objectives were observed for production wells KMB005b or KMB008b.
  - Sentinel wells KMB028 and KMB029 were reported as consistent with historical values.
- **Noise Compliance**
  - Viv advised quarterly noise monitoring was conducted by Sonus on 17 December 2025, with results reported as compliant.
- **Vibration Monitoring Compliance**
  - Viv advised no non-compliant blasts were recorded since the previous K4C meeting.
  - Reported results indicated:
  - 95% of blasts recorded vibration levels below 5 mm/s; and
  - 100% of blasts recorded vibration levels below 10 mm/s.
- **Fauna Compliance**
  - Viv advised that fauna monitoring is longstanding, noting the program is in its 15th year at the ML site, 11th year at Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) areas, and 12th year of possum monitoring at SEB areas.
  - The 2025 bird surveys recorded 924 birds from 53 species across the Project Area, including observations of Diamond Firetail (nationally and state vulnerable), White-winged Chough (rare) and Elegant Parrot (rare).
  - Results were summarised as confirming that native fauna abundance and diversity is stable, satisfying the relevant PEPR condition.
  - **Request from members**

- A question was raised regarding whether bird numbers and diversity have increased or decreased over time, and a request was made for comparative information to be made available.
- Comparative bird survey results (trend information) to support year-on-year provided below. Full report circulated to committee members.



**Table 3.1 The Presence Abundance of Bird Species of Conservation Significance Recorded at Kanmantoo Between 2011 - 2025**

Species Name	Common Name	EPBC Act	NPW Act	2011 (yr. 1)	2012 (yr. 2)	2013 (yr. 3)	2014 (yr. 4)	2015 (yr. 5)	2016 (yr. 6)	2017 (yr. 7)	2018 (yr. 8)	2019 (yr. 9)	2020 (yr. 10)	2021 (yr. 11)	2022 (yr. 12)	2023 (yr. 13)	2024 (yr. 14)	2025 (yr. 15)
<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>	Southern Whiteface	VU		6	9	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
<i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	White-winged Chough		R	22	24	16	34	97	36	45	76	58	69	85	93	57	66	44
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon		R	2	2	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>	Restless Flycatcher		R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin	EN	R	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Microeca fascians fascians</i>	Jacky Winter		R	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Neophema elegans</i>	Elegant Parrot		R	7	16	12	9	19	55	28	27	30	39	69	33	75	52	86
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	VU	V	6	16	4	-	5	-	4	13	6	11	10	10	11	7	6
<i>Zanda funerea whiteae</i>	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo		V	-	7	-	-	8	-	65	-	-	-	-	23	3	-	-
<b>Number of Threatened Species Observed per year</b>				<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

EPBC Act: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. NPW Act: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972. Conservation Codes: EN/E: Endangered. VU/V: Vulnerable. R: Rare. yr.: year.

## • Flora Compliance

- Viv advised the vegetation monitoring program commenced in 2011 and is now in its fourteenth year (excluding 2016).
- Over the life of the monitoring program, indicators have shown positive rehabilitation trends, with many rehabilitation plots reaching “self-sustaining communities” where native vegetation cover and soil stability are comparable to analogue sites after three to four years.
- The 2025 assessment included 13 sites (analogue and rehabilitation sites at varying stages). Climatic variability, including prolonged dry conditions, was noted as influencing results and contributing to dieback, particularly among planted Acacia species, reducing structural complexity at several sites.
- The results were noted as reinforcing the need for adaptive management to maintain progress and respond to climatic variability and exotic species pressures.

## • Rehabilitation and Revegetation

- Viv advised maintenance of Hillgrove’s EPBC offsets has continued along Mine Road, with acknowledgement of efforts by Steve McGovern (EBS Restoration).
- A permit requested from DEW to reduce kangaroo numbers within the ML and surrounding Hillgrove properties was granted.
- A full-time Environmental Officer will join the team (alongside John Crocker in a consultancy role) to plan and implement the 2026 rehabilitation program.
- Member question
- Melanie Riffiel asked whether Hillgrove would pursue culling or fencing. Viv advised that options are being considered and are subject to consultation.

## 6. Other business

### Kanmantoo Grassy Woodland Revegetation Program Update

- Ross Oke an apology – update tabled until next meeting

### **Connectivity improvement communications (Travis Bates)**

- Mount Barker District - NBN Co. - Kanmantoo and Callington (Travis Bates – Regional Development and Engagement Manager, nbn Local SA)
- Travis Bates provided an update on connectivity improvements across the District, including Kanmantoo and Callington.
- He advised that upgrades are occurring across the region to increase capacity and ensure infrastructure meets growing demand. Network range has been increased in parts of the district to improve service availability and performance.
- As at 28 January 2026, the Mount Barker LGA profile was presented as follows:
  - FTTB – 285 Ready to Connect (RTC), 57 activations (20% activated)
  - Satellite – 151 RTC, 97 activations (46% activated)
  - Fixed Wireless – 3,130 RTC, 1,383 activations (45% activated)
  - FTTP – 10,779 RTC, 6,986 activations (71% activated)
  - FTTN – 6,372 RTC, 5,568 activations (77% activated)
- Travis encouraged residents to check service availability at their address using the QR code provided on the slide or via the website: [www.nbn.com.au/CheckRegional](http://www.nbn.com.au/CheckRegional)

### **Department for Energy and Mining (Mark Stewart, DEM)**

- Mark advised that the Department is currently running a YourSAy survey seeking feedback from people impacted by mining, quarrying or energy projects, or those with concerns about future projects. Members were encouraged to participate, noting the group's strong engagement and experience in this space.
- The survey is open until 9 February 2026. Mark also noted that a findings report from a 2024 pilot study in the Limestone Coast is available via [Energy and Mining in South Australia | YourSAy](#)

## **7. Next meeting and close (Chair)**

### **Next meeting**

- 30th April 2026, 7pm for Committee members, 7.30pm for the public at Callington Hall
- Donna invited all to come and have a drink at the Britannia

### **Close**