

Meeting Notes

Pioneer Lake Advocacy Group Meeting

Monday, 1 December 2025 | Council Chambers – 2 pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country (Chair)

2. Introductions (Chair)

Invited Stakeholders:

Organisation	Representative Name
Tasmania Parks and Wildlife	Alice Holeywell-Jones (online) <i>Julian Gill - apology</i>
Anglers Alliance / Inland Fishery Advisory Group	Howard Jones
Break O'Day Sports Angling Club	<i>No representative present</i>
Mineral Resources Tasmania	<i>No representative present</i>
Scottsdale High School	<i>John LeFevre - apology</i>
Mt Cameron Field Study Centre Advisory Committee	<i>David Waldron - apology</i> <i>Craig Searle - apology</i>
Tasmania Police	Sergeant Tony Latham
Sanbar	<i>No representative present</i>
Pioneer Recreational Users' representative	<i>Rodney Bowerman - apology</i> Peter Woolley (online)
Pioneer Residents' representatives	Jenny Bellinger Linette Simpson Joy Appleby (observer – proxy member)
Pioneer Progress Association	<i>Alana Keygan - apology</i>
Inland Fisheries	<i>Paul Middleton – apology</i> Rob Freeman (online)
Marine & Safety Tasmania (MAST)	Daniel Woods (online)
Dorset Council	Mayor Rhys Beattie (Chair) Councillor Nick Bicanic General Manager: John Marik Director – Infrastructure / Dorset Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator: Kerry Sacilotto Executive Assistant: Sarah Forsyth (note taker)

3. Previous Meeting – 27 October 2025 (General Manager)

- a. Confirm attached previous meeting notes:
 - i. All present confirmed
- b. Update on Actions from previous meeting:
 - i. Noted – all listed for discussion at Meeting

ACTIONS

Who	Action
Council	Review the paragraph under reference map in Terms of Reference, particularly the word 'historically' as could be misconstrued and bring back to Group.
Response: Track changed version of the updated Terms of Reference circulated with the meeting notes of Meeting, with further discussion at December Meeting.	
PWS	To provide an update on the status of the procurement assessment for dewatering of the Dam.
Response: Listed on agenda.	

4. Terms of Reference (General Manager)

- a. All present agreed with proposed wording clarification raised at last meeting, as circulated. Updated Terms of Reference to be finalised and circulated to stakeholders and updated on Council's website.

5. Status update Pioneer Dam wall / Procurement (PWS)

- a. Advised that the procurement process is in final stages.
- b. Due to contractor availability, works unlikely to occur prior to February 2026.

6. Scope of Use | Pre / Post Closure and Access to Site (Group)

General Manager noted an informal conversation post closure of October Meeting with those stakeholders present at the Chambers regarding clarification on use post de-watering and risk mitigation. Post dewatering, will the area just revert to previous informal arrangements and access?

PWS: confirmed that the site will remain closed until the risk profile is removed, then access would revert to informal arrangements, with access across the dam wall unavailable. PWS reiterated that they don't manage the site for formal camping.

7. Question Time / General Discussion (Group)

Pioneer Residents' representatives:

What restrictions / rules to recreational boat owners have to abide by if using the Lake? Are they permitted to be on the water after dark, noise levels, etc.?

MAST: All registered boats must abide by required rules of boating and can operate after dark if they have the necessary lights, with jet ski owners having more restrictions. In relation to noise pollution, a matter for Tas Police or the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). On reopening of the area, MAST could attend at times of year to observe / along with TasPol.

Suggestion for camping at the parcel of Crown Land along Racecourse Road that has recently been used by a school, which would allow easy day use of Lake.

PWS: Regardless of location, PWS do not manage any of these sites for formal camping. Advised options to lease land with any proposed infrastructure including build and ongoing maintenance to be the responsibility of the lease / license holder, with general advice on options available to be provided to Group.

Inland Fisheries representative:

Advised that anglers using the Lake can be proactive to support the opening of this area in the future, post risk mitigation, and would do anything they can to assist, including contributing to potential future public signage, etc.

Pioneer Recreational Users' representative:

Suggested signage outlining expectations of use for the area, as most of the users are respectful, just a few out of area visitors that ruin it, with predominately day users of the area - being either anglers or water sports. There are a handful of campers who've visited the area for generations who bring everything they need for an extended stay (port-a-loos, etc.) and take everything when they leave, leaving no trace. Clarified from observations that it isn't boats that make late night noise, but vehicles and side by sides.

Anglers Alliance / Inland Fishery Advisory Group representative:

Advised that they are available to support moving forward with potential new infrastructure including portable toilet, etc. including cleaning etc. with flexible or interim arrangements.

Dorset Council representatives:

Clear ownership of actions moving forward needs to occur, especially after the risk is mitigated and activities revert to pre-closure information arrangements.

Advised the group that since the closure, those overnight visitors have migrated to the Blue Lake (eastern end), with only 5% of them being the issue, with the suggestions that a couple of random visits by Tas Police could make a huge difference to behaviours.

Tasmania Police representative:

Advised group of rules and regulations around anti-social behaviour, noise, etc. and avenues to contact if there are issues.

8. Next Meeting

- All agreed with a March meeting – late in the month suggested by PWS but prior to Easter.
Monday, 30 March 2026 @ 2pm.

ACTIONS

Who	Action
Council	Terms of Reference to be updated, circulated to stakeholders and updated on Council's website.
PWS	Provide general advice on lease / licence options available which include infrastructure.