

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.15pm Thursday 9 March 2023 – Volunteer Marine Rescue Base / Microsoft Teams

Chair:

Chair NQBP A/Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Kenny

Attendees:

<p>Community representatives Neville Duncan</p> <p>Yuwi Native Title Holder representative N/A</p> <p>Recreational Group representatives Alison Jones</p> <p>Business representatives Michael DePinto Maree Sturdy</p> <p>Environmental representative N/A</p>	<p>Port Industry/PAG representatives Rachael Haycock – Viva Energy Aaron Wood – Smit Lamnalco</p> <p>Mackay Regional Council representative Cr Pauline Townsend (via Teams, departed at 6.00pm)</p> <p>NQBP representatives Tim Lewis Emilie Power Kevin Kane</p> <p>MSQ representative Jason Britton</p>
---	---

Apologies: Patricia Corrie, Darren Brownsey, Neale Proctor, Lindsay Richardson, Wayne Tonga, Elizabeth Warren, Shane Hamilton, Edan Stolberg and Katrina Dent

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Meeting open and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.27pm • Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair NQBP A/Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Kenny. Belinda provided a short personal introduction. • Belinda provided an Acknowledgement of Country to open the meeting. • Apologies recorded were Patricia Corrie, Darren Brownsey, Neale Proctor, Lindsay Richardson, Wayne Tonga, Elizabeth Warren, Shane Hamilton, Edan Stolberg and Katrina Dent. • All present members introduced themselves to the group. 	
2. Disclosures of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members have disclosed their interests. • The register was presented, giving members the opportunity to manage appropriately. • No concerns were raised by any members. • No conflicts of interest were declared for this meeting. 	
3. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register	<p>No CRG correspondence and questions received since the last meeting.</p> <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some actions still outstanding regarding signage for the Port of Mackay, and several presentations requested for future CRG meetings. • Refer to Actions Items Register for further details. 	
4. NQBP update	<p>Presented by Chair and NQBP A/CEO Belinda Kenny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of NQBP's Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Themes was provided. • An overview of the Frontier Unity response at the Port of Hay Point was given. NQBP Emergency Management and First Strike Oil Spill Response teams provided support to MSQ. • Jason Britton and Aaron Wood also provided insights into the response, lessons learned and crew welfare. • An update on the Department of Transport and Main Roads upcoming priority port master planning public consultation for the ports of Hay Point/Mackay and Abbot Point was provided. • TMR have advised that a large number of submissions were received and that they are in the process of reviewing and considering the content of the submissions. This indicates the 	

	<p>importance of the consultation process, and we would like to thank CRG members who took part in this process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reassurance given to CRG members that there are no plans for development at North Wall. • It is also important to understand that no development can happen, Master Plan or otherwise, without all of the approvals that are required for any project. • NQBP has no plans for development of the area, and in fact in recent years have worked with the CRG and wider community on several small community infrastructure projects for the public amenity of the area (beach stair access, memorial chair, picnic table etc). • The Master Plan is the high-level overall zoning for the Port, but our Land Use Plan is NQBP's detailed plan of what happens within those zones. The last Land Use Plan was completed in 2009. A new one will be completed after the Master Plan is finalised, and the development of this will include public consultation. <p>Question – How long will the Master Plan be in place for? Response – <i>The Master Plans are 30-year plans however we believe they are reviewed every 10 years.</i></p> <p>Comment – The process has been frustrating and has damaged both TMR and NQBP's reputation as a result. It's a shame because Emilie and the NQBP team have put in so much effort over the past few years to build a lot of trust with the CRG and the community. The difference between past, historical ways the Port Authority and Mackay Harbour Board use to deal with the community to how NQBP now deals with the community is chalk and cheese.</p> <p>Comment – The Master Planning process is important to ensure sustainable port development, its intention is to strike the right balance between ports, community, environment etc.</p> <p>Comment - Really disappointed in TMR not attending the CRG meetings or responding to requests for information from community members. Suggest that letting the community know how many submissions and a rough idea on timing would assist in stemming the anger.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of recent recruitment was given. Three new horticultural recruits will work along our Maintenance team learning about plants, operating machinery, land management methodologies and cultural heritage. Will assist in the management of Old Mulherin Park. 	
<p>5. NQBP trade update</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure Tim Lewis on behalf of General Manager Commercial, Darren Brownsey</p>	

	<p>Trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results for this FY are shaping up to be another strong year. • Good grain season with significant increase in throughput. • Latest trade data also available on NQBP website. <p>Cruise ships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP is taking part in a working group to attract cruise ships to the Port of Mackay. In its very early stages. The Port of Mackay’s existing infrastructure can handle cruise-ships; however, the land-based tourism packages, and opportunities and transport logistics need to be worked through and pitched to companies first. Mackay Isaac Tourism is working on a feasibility study which will help inform a 5-year strategy. <p>Question – What size cruise ships can the Port handle? Response (Jason) – We believe the Port can take vessels up to 230 metres, possibly even 260 metres depending on the vessel, tides etc.</p>	
<p>6. NQBP infrastructure update</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure, Tim Lewis</p> <p>Port projects update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle Breakwater common user pipeline support replacement. Budget ~\$7 million. Tender award is imminent. <p>Question – Has this project been tendered locally? Response – Yes, we hope to be able to announce the successful tenderer soon. NQBP always seek to support local businesses with our projects where possible, whether it be capital, maintenance, fabrication etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wharf 5 electrical upgrades – replacement and upgrade of electrical infrastructure – tenders close on 22 March. • Old Mulherin Park – NQBP has taken back management of the park from Mackay Regional Council. For emergency repairs community can contact Port Operations on 4955 8147. For event bookings and maintenance requests email MulherinPark@ngbp.com.au Employment of new trainees and apprentices allows NQBP to bring this work back in-house. <p>Port Binnli nib wall project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Binnli / Mackay Marina / Halls contracting have started building the nib wall within the Mackay Marina. • It is being built off NQBP’s Southern Breakwater, and management of the Southern Breakwater has been handed over for the construction period. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public access (vehicles and pedestrians) maintained after hours, however no vehicle access is permitted. Community events will go ahead as normal. • Mackay Marina handling all communications to community and media. <p>Question – What is the purpose of the nib wall? Response - <i>To assist with northerly fetch / wave action that affects the Mackay Marina.</i></p> <p>Southern Breakwater</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed monitoring cameras show that 99% of vehicle movements are under the speed limit of 40km/hr. • Total of 46,518 movements recorded (incoming and outgoing). • Encourage community members to continue to report incidents to Policelink 131 444. • Comment – This is really good information, good to see the data. It shows that the people doing the wrong thing is only the minority which you'll never be able to manage completely. 	
<p>7. Sustainability and environment update</p>	<p>Presented by A/Senior Manager Sustainability and Environment, Kevin Kane JCU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on NQBP's JCU partnership was provided, including recent placement of Bachelor of Marine Science students and an exciting seagrass restoration seagrass project. <p>Sand mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand mining does occur on Reserve Tenures that exist on NQBP's Strategic Port Land. • There are three sand operators that hold permits which are issued by Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF). The Department of Environment and Science (DES) monitor the activities. • Historical approvals included requirements for 'like for like' replacement of sand on an area of designation by NQBP, which was North Wall. • There are no current modern-day approvals in place for this to occur. NQBP is seeking advice from DES in relation to this. There are also additional requirements needed including Shoreline Erosion Management Plans, Tidal Works permits etc. • NQBP conducts annual high resolution drone surveys of our breakwaters, and we will expand this to include North Wall beach so that we can begin to create baseline data of the sand movement in this area. <p>Comment (Alison) – Mackay Regional Council will undertake a Shoreline Erosion Management Plan</p>	

	<p>for all 31 beaches in the region in the next 12 months which can provide insight into this.</p> <p>Comment – This is great work, very thankful NQBP can assist with the aerial drone photos.</p> <p>Beach debris</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP was made aware of significant debris at both North Wall and Harbour Beach after the major rain events earlier this year. • MSQ is responsible for removal of ship-sourced pollution that may cause navigational/safety issues. MSQ, NQBP and Roadtek worked together to remove this type of material. • Mackay Regional Council (MRC) is responsible for all other debris and day-to-day management of the beaches as Unallocated State Land. This includes natural debris (e.g., logs, sticks, weed etc.). • NQBP received several community complaints about this debris and attempted to coordinate a response with MRC. At this stage MRC have advised they will be leaving the debris to dissipate naturally and will not be approving or allocating resources to a clean-up. <p>Comment – Flotsam = wreckage of a vessel/ship that has washed up on a beach. Jetsam = Debris thrown overboard a vessel/ship and has washed up on a beach.</p>	
<p>8. Community update</p>	<p>Presented by Community and Stakeholder Advisor Emilie Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRG survey results were positive with an average rating of 4.67 out of 5. Some great feedback received on the content of the CRGs, however NQBP is always open to ideas and suggestions. • An update on the NQBP Community Fund was provided with four Mackay-based CRG groups awarded funds. • Recent corporate sponsorships include the Resource Industry Network and Marina Run. • NQBP is a major supporter of Stella Maris Seafarers Centre who have recently purchased a new bus for seafarer transport. The average seafarer spends between 9-12 months onboard so facilities like Stella Maris are very important. • A summary of activities supported by NQBP was provided; events included the RIN International Women’s Day event, and the Half Tide Beach ANZAC Day Dawn Service. • Recent media coverage for NQBP included the announcement of Community Fund recipients. 	
<p>9. General Business</p>	<p>MSQ representative, Jason Britton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three vessels broke from anchor during flooding with MSQ responding – they were sunk, however not in navigable areas. Plans are underway to investigate salvage/retrieval if 	<p>ACTION – Add Decarbonisation to CRG agenda for</p>

	<p>required.</p> <p>Topic for next time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggestion for NQBP to present on decarbonisation plans. <p>Comment – The Mt Bassett area is looking good, the area and views are well maintained.</p> <p>Meeting closed 7.00pm.</p>	future meeting.
10. Next meeting date	Next meeting is Thursday 13 July 2023.	