

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.30pm Thursday 6 August 2020 – Meeting held via Zoom

Chair:

NQBP CEO Nicolas Fertin

Attendees:

<p>Community Representatives Elizabeth Warren Neville Duncan Edan Stolberg</p> <p>Aboriginal Party Representative N/A</p> <p>Recreational Group Representative Michael DePinto</p> <p>Business Representative N/A</p>	<p>Port Industry Representative Rachael Haycock – Viva Energy</p> <p>Mackay Regional Council Representative Cr Pauline Townsend</p> <p>NQBP Representatives Brendan Webb Tim Lewis Amanda Blines Kevin Kane Emilie Power</p> <p>Guests Jason Britton, Maritime Safety Queensland Simona Trimarchi, NQBP</p>
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Apologies: Cr Alison Jones, Di Hatfield, Deb Netuschil; Justin Durant, Dave Mann, Charlie Camilleri

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Meeting open and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.40pm • Community Reference Group (CRG) members were welcomed by NQBP CEO and Chair Nicolas Fertin. • Formal apologies received from Cr Alison Jones, Di Hatfield and Deb Netuschil. • Welcome to guests Jason Britton (Maritime Safety Queensland) and Simona Trimarchi (NQBP) <p>No conflicts of interest declared.</p>	
2. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register	<p>CRG correspondence and questions received since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request to fill in some potholes at the North Wall beach was completed by our Maintenance team. • Questions were received around the maintenance and protection of the Port's conservation/buffer areas near Slade Point which will be addressed in this meeting. • A request to clarify if NQBP are considering closing the Southern Breakwater to vehicles permanently was received. At this stage, we are not considering this. We understand that many community members appreciate being able to access the breakwater in cars due to physical disabilities etc. and to date have not received any reports of safety incidents between pedestrians / vehicles. • NQBP was asked to install lighting in the rotundas at Old Mulherin Park. At this stage this hasn't been budgeted for in this financial year, however we will consider this suggestion in future planning. <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Refer to Actions Items Register for further details. 	

<p>3. NQBP Overview</p>	<p>Presented by Chair Nicolas Fertin</p> <p><i>Confidential discussion – Tenancy update</i></p> <p><i>COVID-19 and NQBP</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff in Mackay, Brisbane, Weipa and Bowen are now back in the workplace. • NQBP’s Emergency Management Team continues to monitor the situation and has recently increased meeting frequencies due to escalation of situation in NSW/VIC. • Following all advice from Queensland Health. • Strict instructions for staff to stay home if they are symptomatic. Where practical, NQBP staff can work from home if needed. <p><i>Community Reference Groups – finalisation of Terms of Reference</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Terms of Reference to were circulated ahead of this CRG meeting. • Only one CRG member responded with feedback. • Emilie to resend email to members to seek final feedback as a majority response is preferred. 	<p>ACTION - CRG Terms of Reference to be resent to group for final comment.</p>
<p>4. NQBP Operations</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Trade and Marine Operations Brendan Webb</p> <p><i>Trade figures and end of financial year results</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Mackay had recorded 3.1Mt trade throughput for 2019-20. • This is the Port’s second-best result. • In 2019-20 there were 11 RORO vessels, demonstrating new monthly trade route. <p><i>Washdown facility test run</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New, larger washdown facility has been completed at the Port, expanding our capabilities. • Modernises the washing down and storing of imported goods subject to biosecurity controls. • Supports future growth in the mining and agricultural machinery market. <p><i>Container cargo through Port of Mackay</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final batch of container cargo in support of a BMA project to decommission a trestle and conveyor from the Hay Point Coal Terminal will be transported to the Port of Mackay between 5-7 August 2020. • Over 300 containers in total to be transported to Indonesia this month. 	

	<p>Question – Have there been any passenger vessels in at the Port of Mackay? Response – <i>No passenger vessels have come into the Port. There was a vessel transporting two ex-Sydney passenger ferries on top of the deck, so may have looked like a passenger ferry.</i></p>	
5. NQBP Projects	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure and Land Operations Tim Lewis</p> <p>Engineering Focus for FY 2020-21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackay Tug Berths –New design being finalised and will then go out to tender. • Western Revetment – Stabilisation works to improve safety. • Wharf 4 eastern access deck replacement –Received tenders and evaluating, will allow for larger (in weight and width) RORO vessels. • Wharf 1 extension – Currently out to tender. Will allow Port to accept over length cargoes between 85-95 metres in length. • Maintenance dredging. <p>Recently completed projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerlines and water mains project – undergrounding of powerlines allows for free movement of cargoes around the Port. Increased water pipeline size to create extra capacity. • Mackay Marina emergency egress – new emergency route through the Port. • Southern Breakwater minor rock works. <p>Upcoming minor works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water reservoir demolition – Mount Bassett. • Streetlight replacement – Southern Breakwater. <p>Question – Will the tug berths be located on the inside of the Port? Will NQBP need to strengthen any of the breakwater walls? Response – <i>Yes, the berths will be located inside the Port near Wharf 5, with no need to strengthen the Northern Breakwater.</i></p>	
6. Environmental update	<p>Presented by Director Environment Kevin Kane</p> <p>Port of Mackay maintenance dredging project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP will undertake essential maintenance dredging at the Port in September 2020. • First-time since 2013, as NQBP has been able to manage with bed-levelling until now. • Dredging will take up to fourteen days. 	<p>ACTION – NQBP to email to CRG to seek representative for TACC.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to send link to Land</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP has the State and Commonwealth maintenance dredging permits. • NQBP staff and contractors will be working within these permits which outline strict environmental conditions. • Communications and engagement plan has been developed and is under final review. • NQBP will be engaging with key stakeholders including the Mackay Technical Advisory and Consultative Committee (TACC) as the project progresses. Members of the TACC include conservation groups, Traditional Owners, scientists, CRG member, port users and Commonwealth and State governments. • A nomination from the CRG is needed, further details will be distributed to CRG. <p>Question – Where will the dredge material be relocated to? Response – <i>There is an approved at-sea dredge material placement area approx. 2 nautical miles off Slade Islet. Extremely fine silt so the material can't be placed on land.</i></p> <p>Question – Could we see the same issues around fishing as the Port of Gladstone? Response - <i>Very low risk. NQBP has lots of water, coral and seagrass quality monitoring in place and use this data to detect/manage any issues.</i></p> <p>Conservation/buffer areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are buffer/conservation areas on NQBP landholdings at a number of our ports. • These areas are protected through statutory land use plans, developed under <i>Transport Infrastructure Act 1994</i>. • NQBP is responsible for ongoing weed management with all activity conducted in accordance with Weed Management Plans. • NQBP will not gift these areas to the community as it is important they are maintained as a buffer between Port operations and residents and NQBP is responsible for the maintenance and liability for these areas. <p>Healthy Rivers to Reef partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership released its 2019 report card. • NQBP's longstanding and extensive marine monitoring program with the James Cook University's Centre for Tropical Water and Aquatic Research contributes valuable data. • NQBP is among 31 members sharing an interest in the health of region's rivers and the reef. 	Use Plan to CRG.
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7. Community update	<p>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relations Amanda Blines</p> <p>Media report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade media coverage – specifically around Port of Mackay end of financial year results. • CRG project - 10,000 steps on the Southern Breakwater. • Sponsorship – Dymock’s Children’s Charities (DCC) Library Regeneration Partnership. • Media benchmark score. <p>Sponsorships and donations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP and DCC Library Regeneration Partnership - Slade Point State School’s 200 students received 260 new library books, worth \$3,997. 	
8. General Business	<p>Jason Britton, Regional Harbour Master, Maritime Safety Queensland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSQ have been busy with COVID-19 restrictions and have facilitated over 30 crew changes between the Port of Mackay and Hay Point. • Priority is ensuring quarantine corridors around crew. There are 250,000 displaced seafarers who can’t get home, in some cases spending more than 14 months at sea – suffering fatigue and mental health issues. MSQ is providing support where possible. <p>Other business</p> <p>Question – Great Northern Clean Up will be held in September, would NQBP like to be involved? Response – <i>Information to be sent to CRG member on sponsorships and donations program.</i></p> <p>Meeting closed 6.46pm.</p>	ACTION – Send Mick DePinto sponsorship application.
9. Proposed next meeting dates	<p>Next Meeting scheduled for Thursday 12 November 2020</p>	