

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.30pm Tuesday 28 June 2022 – VMR Base Mackay / Microsoft Teams

Chair:

Chair NQBP Chief Executive Officer, Nicolas Fertin

Attendees:

<p>Community representatives Neale Proctor Shane Hamilton Neville Duncan Edan Stolberg Elizabeth Warren</p> <p>Yuwi Native Title Holder representative Patricia Corrie</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 N/A</p> <p>NQBP representatives Tim Lewis Kevin Kane Emilie Power</p> <p>MSQ representative N/A</p>
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Apologies: Simona Trimarchi, Katrina Dent, Charlie Morgan, Lindsay Richardson, Jason Britton, Wayne Tonga, Cr Pauline Townsend and Ash Sinha.

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Meeting open and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.34pm • Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair NQBP Chief Executive Officer, Nicolas Fertin. • Nicolas welcomed Patricia Corrie to the CRG as the new Traditional Owner representative. • Patricia provided a Welcome to Country to open the meeting and provided a short introduction. • Apologies were received from Simona Trimarchi, Katrina Dent, Charlie Morgan, Lindsay Richardson, Jason Britton, Wayne Tonga, Cr Pauline Townsend and Ash Sinha. • Nicolas welcomed new Chamber of Commerce representative Maree Sturdy to the CRG. Maree has filled the vacancy left by Geoff Berger who has relocated to Tasmania. Maree provided a short introduction. • Nicolas also announced Wayne Tonga as the new port industry representative taking the place of Justin Durant, who has relocated to Brisbane. • Nicolas thanked both Geoff and Justin for their contributions to the CRG during their time as members and wished them well for the future. 	
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>CRG correspondence and questions received since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have received an email from a community member through one of our CRG members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The community member lives at Lambert's Beach and works within the Mackay Marina precinct. ○ The member has requested that the CRG discuss the possibility of closing the Southern Breakwater to vehicles permanently. ○ We believe this request has come from concerns around speeding and hoons, but also a social and tourism perspective. ○ We can consider this further internally and provide an update on our initial thoughts at a 	

	<p>future CRG meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NQBP would carefully consider any changes to the existing access, and an extensive public consultation process would be required if any changes were recommended. <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The recreational fishing community would not be keen for the breakwater to be closed and I am personally against it.</i> • <i>It would be good to see the breakwater closed at night-time to stop the noise from hoons. The number of people who use the breakwater for walking/riding etc when it's closed to traffic increases.</i> • <i>I am personally against closing it, this would be extremely divisive in the community.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP have also received a request to address the DMTR / Mackay Regional Council boat ramp issue which will be addressed in General Business. <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Actions Items Register for further details. 	
4. NQBP update	<p>Presented by Chair and NQBP CEO Nicolas Fertin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of NQBP's vision, mission, values, and strategic themes was provided. • After recent consideration of the CRG Terms of Reference and frequency of CRG meetings, the decision was made to hold three meetings each year from this year onwards. The next meeting will be held on 13 October. • Nicolas asked the Group if all members were happy to change the meeting time to 5pm for a 5.15pm start – all attendees were in favour. • Nicolas provided an overview of the Queensland Premier's visit to the Port of Mackay on 31 May 2022. • An overview of NQBP's strengths and challenges was provided. • High-level results from the stakeholder survey were discussed. 	
5. NQBP trade update	<p>Presented by Chair and NQBP CEO Nicolas Fertin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record trade at Port of Mackay - More than 3Mt of cargo handled at Port of Mackay for FYTD (as of May) - 24% more than last year. Queensland Premier announced results during visit to Port. Breakbulk cargo volumes for FYTD were also 25% higher than the same period for 2021. The Port is on track for best-ever record > 3.3Mt. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest trade data also available on NQBP website. 	
6. NQBP infrastructure update	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure, Tim Lewis</p> <p>Port projects update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wharf 5 upgrade, western access trestle is being replaced. \$4.2 million project, contract awarded to V2R Projects. Steel beams were fabricated and painted in Paget, supporting local jobs. Some shipping will need to move to Wharf 1 which may see a future scrap metal shipment increase noise for a short period. • \$1.7 million water network upgrade underway – aims to rectify issues with water pressure within the Port. New water booster pump station will also be installed, contract has just been awarded to Fergus Builders. • \$8.5 million project tug berths project is almost complete, with the installation of the pilot berths / donut fender. • Hydrographic surveys are currently underway at the Port and within the Marina. Seabed levelling is scheduled for August/September, weather permitting. Surveys of the breakwaters are scheduled for September/October, weather permitting. May include the use of drones. <p><u>Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q - Does NQBP test for Legionella? • A - Yes, NQBP regularly tests and flushes dead ends. There is only one dead end left due to water network upgrades. • Q - Who is responsible for the sign with the flashing lights as you enter the Port area from the Marina? The angle of the sign makes it hard to read. • A - MSQ is responsible for this sign, RHM to address at a future meeting. 	ACTION – MSQ RHM to address question on flashing entry signage.
7. Sustainability and environment update	<p>Presented by Director Environment, Kevin Kane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaugural 'Ayling prize in Marine Science' and NQBP scholarship awarded to JCU graduate, Caitlin Kelly, in April. • Two JCU interns and one scholar will undertake placements at NQBP. • Report on Mackay seagrass monitoring (conducted in late 2021) shows seagrass is in good condition. Data also available on NQBP website. • Water quality loggers have recently been upgraded to further increase reliability and confidence in water quality data. 12 loggers that were distributed between south of Sarina to Keswick Island have been consolidated to 7 of the upgraded loggers. 	ACTION – NQBP to respond to CRG around bee monitoring and provide an update on invasive pest monitoring at the next meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 10 years NQBP renews its Commonwealth sea dumping permit approvals. NQBP has just submitted our most recent application, using the Sustainable Sediment Management (SSM) process. The supporting documents are available on the NQBP website. <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Thanks for Public Information Package, it's helpful in conversations with community members, especially around the inability to use dredge material for reclamation etc.</i> <p><u>Question</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q – There is an invasive bee issue in Newcastle at the moment. Does the Port have sentinel hives? Is this an issue of concern in Mackay? • A – Yes, NQBP has sentinel hives and conducts inspections regularly. NQBP can provide a response to CRG members with more detail and will provide an update on invasive pest monitoring at the next meeting. 	
<p>8. Community update</p>	<p>Presented by Community and Stakeholder Advisor Emilie Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent media coverage for NQBP included Premier's visit to Port of Mackay and announcement of projects, record trade and retirement of long-term marine pilot Bryce Bathe. • Social media has been performing well, with the recent crocodile post (spotted at Wharf 5) producing an excellent rate of engagement. • NQBP recognised National Reconciliation Week with employee events held in Mackay and Brisbane. • NQBP proudly supported the Mackay Marina Run including the Indigenous Marathon Foundation RAW championships for the first time. • Update on CRG grants was provided with installation of furniture and promotion planned for July/August. • NQBP's Port Communities Program is still under review with new program to be launched in coming months. CRG members will be kept informed of launch plans/announcement, with full update to be provided at October meeting. 	
<p>9. General Business</p>	<p>DTMR / MRC boat ramp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP is aware of the recent issues experience by boaties when attempting to use the Mackay Marina boat ramp during exceptional weather. • The boat ramp is owned by the Department of Transport and Main Roads and is managed by Mackay Regional Council. Mackay Regional Council also managed the land-based facilities including the car parking and amenities. 	<p>ACTION – CRG to meet at 5.15pm for all future meetings, effective from October meeting; NQBP to update</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP has strategic port land close to the boat ramp, which is earmarked for future trade, including wind farms. • NQBP has met with wind farm proponents and has prepared shovel-ready designs to prepare the land for use. A successful securing of this trade will see the area developed quite quickly. <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Mackay Marina ramp rage package was successful, boat owners could put their boat in at the Marina a few days before and avoid the chaos.</i> • <i>The overflow carpark is underutilised, even in busy times, perhaps Council needs to look into making this more attractive.</i> • <i>The issue with the overflow carpark is that its too far away and people that have inexperienced friends or family with them have to leave their boat tied up to the floating pontoon to park their trailer, which exacerbates the congestion due to the long walk there and back.</i> • <i>Council should consider installing signage around boat ramp etiquette.</i> • <i>The congestion wasn't just felt at the Marina, Eimeo, Dunrock and other areas were also impacted that weekend.</i> • <i>The resolution is to lobby Government for a new all-tide boat ramp at either East Point or Cremorne.</i> <p><u>Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q - Would NQBP consider handing the port land to a not-for-profit to manage on those good weather days? • A – No. This is not a long-term solution. • Q – Would NQBP consider installing some signage on the fencing to educate the broader community on what the land is needed for? It could illustrate the wind farm blades and that the area is reserved for future port expansion. • A – Yes. <p>General business</p> <p><u>Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q - What's happening with AMSA tower along Slade Point Road? • A - <i>AMSA have vacated the site and as part of their lease exit, have remediated the site.</i> 	<p>CRG materials and communicate change to all members.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to check Yuwi involvement in TMR Master Planning and respond to interested CRG members.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to look into signage of the strategic port land near the Marina boat ramp.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q – There has been no update from TMR on their Master Planning, when does the public consultation open? • A – <i>TMR has advised the public consultation will begin in October.</i> • Q – Has Yuwi been involved in discussions with TMR on the Master Planning? • A – <i>NQBP will check with TMR and respond to interested CRG members.</i> <p>Meeting closed 7.11pm.</p>	
10. Next meeting date	Scheduled for 13 October 2022.	