

Hay Point Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5pm Wednesday 16 July 2025 – Meeting held at Hay Point VTS Administration Building

Chair:

Chair NQBP CEO, Brendan Webb

Attendees:

Community Representatives Kerry Flynn Tom Liddell Marilyn Maher Cathy Fredericks Daryl Townson Jeff Ridel David Mifsud Peter Dallas Stephen Schaper Tony Heath Business Representatives N/A Environmental Representatives Imogen Lindenberg (via Teams)	Mackay Regional Council Representative Cr Karen May Port Industry Representatives DBI – Peter Wotherspoon BMA - Brett Ross NQBP Representatives Brendan Webb Emilie Power Odette Langham Tim Lewis MSQ Representative Craig Longmuir Yuwi Native Title Holder Representative N/A
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Apologies: NQBP's Simon Nash and Darren Brownsey, DBCT's Steve Rae, Yuwi rep Madeline Jones and Chamber's Maree Sturdy and Judy Langdon

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Welcome to Country, Meeting open, agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting opened at 5.00pm Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair/NQBP CEO, Brendan Webb. An Acknowledgment of Country was provided by Brendan. 	
2. Welcome and introductions	Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to Craig Longmuir, newly appointed Regional Harbour Master Apologies were recorded from NQBP's Simon Nash and Darren Brownsey, DBCT's Steve Rae, Yuwi rep Madeline Jones and Chamber's Maree Sturdy and Judy Langdon. 	
3. Conflict of interest	Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion around conflicts of interest was held and Conflict of Interest register reviewed. No concerns were raised. No conflicts of interest were declared for this meeting. 	
4. Actions Register	Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb Actions Register <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 20 actions from the previous meeting and of these 12 have been closed. One action (QPS invite to meeting) will be held over for a future meeting. One action is not included in tonight's presentation (palm fronds at Louisa Creek) however as an update, this action has turned into a larger clean-up project, with contractors being organised to assist over a two-week period, to be scheduled. All the other actions we will touch on during our meeting tonight. 	
5. CEO Update	Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of NQBP's work in our four port communities was provided. Includes community infrastructure projects, corporate and community sponsorship, support of seafarers' welfare. 	

<p>6. NQBP Infrastructure and Operations</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure and Operations, Tim Lewis</p> <p>Half tide boat ramp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation has been completed into rocks located at the boat ramp. • These larger rocks are there to serve a purpose, they are part of the foundation of the boat ramp and must remain in place. • It must also be noted that the boat ramp is only a half tide boat ramp. • Emptying of the bin at the boat ramp has increased to twice weekly and the bin size has been reduced. Signage on the bin has been updated. • Guardrail replacement has also occurred on the entry into the ramp. <p>Comment – There are some issues with the rubber on the HTTH boat ramp. There needs to be some maintenance and replacement of black rubber with white (black rubber marks recreational vessels).</p> <p>Comment – The smaller bin seems to have improved the issues. There are still a few people doing the wrong thing, but this will always be the case and is difficult to manage. Hopefully in time these behaviours should settle. The smell is still an issue on occasions.</p> <p>Half Tide public access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the request for NQBP to provide the public with additional access to commercial areas when not in use, NQBP is investigating this and an action list has been created. • Some practises that might have been acceptable in the past are not always acceptable in current times with the level of security and safety legislation that is now in place. • NQBP must take the time to do our due diligence around security and safety, while still trying to balance the wants of the community. • The Port of Hay Point is an international trading port, but we will try to get the balance right between all the parties. <p>Comment – On a recent good day of weather there were 103 vehicles / boat trailers parked around HTTH. Some people were blocked from using the public car parks because 10-15 diving contractors were using the parks. These workers should use the commercial spaces available.</p>	<p>ACTION – NQBP to repair and replace rubber on HTTH public boat ramp.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to check if bin is / can be washed out when emptied.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to facilitate a site bulletin to terminal regarding parking at HTTH.</p>
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<p>7. NQBP Environment update</p>	<p>Presented by Senior Manager Environment Odette Langham</p> <p>Half Tide Beach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odette thanked CRG members for site visit at Half Tide which occurred on 10 April. • Since this meeting, NQBP has had the HTHH groynes cleaned out. • There was also a meeting held with the Parks Manager and Coastal Environment team from Mackay Regional Council to discuss the issues and request any existing data on coastal processes. • Council and NQBP then also had another meeting on site to further discuss. • Council have committed that they will clean up three of the access points and in front of the cenotaph within the next eight weeks • From a coastal assessment point of view, NQBP are looking to engage experts Alluvium. • They will conduct a Coastal Process Assessment for the Half Tide and Hay Point areas. • As part of this, CRG members will be invited to attend a site visit in August. • Alluvium will also review the groyne design suitability and make any necessary recommendations for maintenance or redesign. • Council have also committed funds in this financial year's budget to replace the roof of the shade structure. <p>Question - Why don't Council have the materials to replace items like the shade sails before they are removed?</p> <p><i>Answer – Once something is deemed as unsafe, it has to be acted on immediately to ensure public safety. Then the replacement item must be purchased, if there is allocated budget for it, and this may take some time to order and then be scheduled into the works plans.</i></p> <p>Hay Point maintenance dredging / Ambient Marine Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odette provided an overview of maintenance dredging, bed-levelling and NQBP's monitoring program to the CRG. • This included how dredging is undertaken, the vessels that are used, the approvals process and the project-specific marine monitoring that occurs in addition to our regular monitoring program. • NQBP must comply with more than 190 conditions as part of the two Commonwealth approvals and four State approvals that are issued. • There is monitoring (seagrass, water quality and coral) completed, pre, during and post dredging. This data is shared publicly in real-time on our website. 	<p>ACTION – NQBP to send information on Alluvium to CRG.</p> <p>ACTION – Provide a further update on dredging at the next meeting.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An independent auditor also assesses the project, and a Technical Advisory Consultative Committee (TACC) is formed for the project. Members of the TACC include government agencies, environmental representatives and local community. • Sediment quality assessments are also undertaken – the majority of the sediment at Hay Point is clay, sand and silt, not rock or gravel. • NQBP is fairly confident that the rocks that are washing up on local beaches in not being caused by maintenance dredging or bed-levelling activities. The coastal process assessment will assist in determining the cause of the rocks on Half tide and Hay Point beaches. • Surveys of all the port areas (shipping channels, berth pockets etc) are undertaken regularly so we understand the nature of the sea-bed in these areas. • If there are large items found (e.g. large rocks or debris) these are removed because they could be navigational hazards. <p>Question – Could the anchors used in shipping disturb the seabed? Answer – <i>This is unlikely, the seabed out at the anchorages is made from the same materials – silt, sand and clay. The anchors sit on top of the seabed and the chain rises out of the water.</i></p> <p>Question - Can you change the disposal area to further out to sea? Answer - <i>Detailed studies are undertaken to determine an appropriate location for offshore placement and this forms part of our approvals process with GBRMPA and state agencies.</i></p> <p>Question – Can the vessels be kept out to sea longer, so they only need to come in as they are ready to go to berth? Answer – <i>This is already occurring. Vessels are only coming into the inner anchorages about 72 hours before berthing. This is assisting with vessel scheduling efficiencies.</i></p> <p>Question – Are there points during the project that you might need to stop dredging? Answer – <i>Yes. During a dredging program we need to monitor turbidity levels in the water and make sure they do not exceed trigger levels at our monitoring locations . If it does, we will either change our area of focus or stop the dredging for a period of time. We have not had to cease dredging activities at Hay Point as a result of excess turbidity being generated by the dredge.</i></p>	
8. Community update	<p>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relationship, Emilie Power</p> <p>Annual CRG sponsorship</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to CRG members who nominated projects for the CRG sponsorship allocation. • Successful sponsorship recipient was the Hay Point Progress Association for air conditioning at Hector Hall. • A new round of funding will be available for this financial year. Details to come on this. <p>Recent sponsorships and donations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes Sarina Beach Cruisin' the Coast event. <p>NQBP Community Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will reopen in the coming months. CRG members are encouraged to distribution information to their networks. • \$100k will be available across NQBP's four ports. 	
9. General Business	<p>DBI – Peter Wotherspoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to the Master Plan which is on the website. The 2023 document is still current and the 8X project is still on hold for the foreseeable future. • Shiploader 1 replacement underway – fabrication currently being undertaken in Perth with delivery expected in August 2026. In preparation, DBCT have just embarked on a shutdown. Next week there will be a barge arriving to drive one pile during daylight hours (3-4 hours). • Stacker reclaimers 2 is also being replaced with reclaimer 4 replacement underway – fabrication occurring in Mackay (4 local companies). Deliveries of that machine starting in October. You can register to receive alerts about wide loads in the area. <p>BMA – Brett Ross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMA lookout is now complete and has been officially opened. • The new car park is still going through the approval process. • A 14-week blast and paint project is coming up so there will be additional traffic during this time. <p>Comment – The lookout is a credit to BMA, it is a great asset for the local community.</p> <p>MSQ – Craig Longmuir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting risk assessments for upcoming pile driving work at DBCT. 	ACTION - Peter to send CRG information on wide load registrations.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 6 tugs at HTTH however only 4 are fully crewed. MSQ are working with towage operators to ensure all tugs are fully crewed – improves safety and good for local employment. <p>MRC – Cr Karen May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update provided. <p>DBCT - Steve Rae</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update provided. <p>General business:</p> <p><i>Comment</i> – The Timberlands turning lane needs to be longer, as does the turn into Bensons Road. NQBP has provided contact details for TMR and Member for Mirani MP to investigate.</p>	
10.	Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 12 November 2025	
11.	Meeting closed at 6.57pm	