

Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.30pm Thursday 12 November 2020 – Breakwater Bar & Restaurant

Chair:

NQBP CEO Nicolas Fertin

Attendees:

<p>Community Representatives Elizabeth Warren Edan Stolberg Charlie Camilleri</p> <p>Aboriginal Party Representative N/A</p> <p>Recreational Group Representative Michael DePinto Alison Jones</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 Tim Lewis Amanda Blines Kevin Kane Emilie Power Simona Trimarchi (via teleconference)</p> <p>Guests Jason Britton, Maritime Safety Queensland Anthony Lee, NQBP</p>
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Apologies: Di Hatfield, Deb Netuschil, Dave Mann, Brendan Webb, Justin Durant, and Neville Duncan.

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>1. Meeting open and apologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.32pm • Community Reference Group (CRG) members were welcomed by NQBP CEO and Chair Nicolas Fertin. • Formal apologies received from Neville Duncan, Di Hatfield, Deb Netuschil, Dave Mann, Justin Durant and Brendan Webb. • Welcome to guests Jason Britton (Maritime Safety Queensland) and Anthony Lee (NQBP). <p>No conflicts of interest declared.</p>	
<p>2. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register</p>	<p>CRG correspondence and questions received since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request to approve the installation of a Containers for Change bin at their Mackay Marina base was referred to Department of Transport and Main Roads as the landowner. • A request to approve the installation of a new footpath at the Mackay Marina boat ramp car park was referred to Department of Transport and Main Roads as the landowner. • A noise issue was raised around a recent shipment of scrap metal on Wharf 1 (closest to the Mackay Marina). Usually these vessels are berthed on Wharf 5 (furthest from the Marina) however this was unable to be facilitated on Wharf 5 due to an unavoidable shipping schedule conflict. It is anticipated that scrap metal shipments will continue to occur on Wharf 5 in the future. However, if this circumstance presents again, NQBP will look to install noise monitoring equipment to capture data which will assist NQBP in the future management of these types of shipments. <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Refer to Actions Items Register for further details. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions occurred around the importance of the next stage of the Ring Road. NQBP understands that the State now has funds from the Commonwealth to progress the design. There will be stakeholder engagement around the design and NQBP will be involved in this. 	<p>Action: NQBP to provide CRG members with information on nomination period and applications.</p>

<p>3. NQBP Overview</p>	<p>Presented by Chair Nicolas Fertin</p> <p>COVID-19 and NQBP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NQBP's Emergency Management Team continues to monitor COVID-19 and works with Maritime Safety Queensland and Queensland Health. <p>Question: Have there been any ships' crews with COVID-19 in Mackay? Answer: (Jason Britton) Yes, there was one instance where there were two positive crew, they were treated and then returned to their vessel. MSQ worked with NQBP, Queensland Health, Queensland Police Force etc to manage appropriately.</p> <p>NQBP highlights FY 2019-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights from the Annual Report were discussed including trade figures, new safety policy, new Vision, Mission and Strategy and the introduction of a ship simulator for our marine pilots. <p>Community Reference Groups – finalisation of Terms of Reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicolas thanked group for their feedback on the CRG Terms of Reference. These Terms of Reference will now be used during the next term of the CRG. Nomination period for 2021-24 opens 24 November 2020 and closes 5pm Friday 20 January 2021. 	
<p>4. NQBP Operations</p>	<p>Presented by Chair Nicolas Fertin</p> <p>Trade figures and end of financial year results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights from the Annual Report figures were shared for the Port of Mackay and Port of Hay Point. \$17M in projects announced for the Ports of Mackay and Hay Point including upgrades to Wharf 1, Wharf 4, Western Revetment, Hay Point Vessel Traffic Services building and maintenance dredging in Mackay. <p>Question: Have you noticed decline in trade due to new China import restrictions? Answer: NQBP hadn't noticed any impact in our results by the end of the last financial year. NQBP did start to notice trade declining in the months since, and NQBP are now seeing a slow recovery from Japan and India.</p>	

<p>5. NQBP Projects</p>	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure and Land Operations Tim Lewis and Emergency Manager Anthony Lee</p> <p><i>Emergency management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP's Emergency Management Team has been in effect since January due to COVID-19. • Bushfire management and cyclone preparations are underway. • Recent works includes fire breaks in Bedford's Paddock, Slade Point. • Disaster management training and exercises have been held recently. • Discussions held around seasonal outlook and how to prepare for emergencies. <p><i>Major works update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wharf 1 extension – Contract awarded to Davbridge Constructions. Site set up underway. Works imminent. Will allow Port to accept over length cargoes between 85-95 metres in length. • Wharf 4 eastern access deck replacement – Contract awarded to V2R Projects. Works underway. Will allow for larger (in weight and width) RORO vessels. • Mackay Tug Berths – Tender for design and construction advertised, closes 27 November. • Western Revetment – Stabilisation works to improve safety. Works awarded to MGN Civil with site set up underway. <p><i>Minor works update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water reservoir demolition – Mount Bassett – expected early 2021. • Streetlight replacement – Southern Breakwater – expected early 2021. 	
<p>6. Environmental update</p>	<p>Presented by Director Environment Kevin Kane</p> <p><i>JCU partnership</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with JCU was extended in October for another 5 years. • Focus will continue on monitoring and will use improved and advanced technology. • NQBP are continuing intern program but has also added a scholarship program for undergraduate and postgraduate marine science students. Applications are open now. 	

	<p>Reconciliation Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP has launched its first Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). • The RAP was created with guidance from Reconciliation Australia and NQBP's internal working group. • RAP is available on our website for download. <p>Coral Dashboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP's coral dashboard will be available by the end of the year. • NQBP are also working on a new water quality dashboard which will be live in 2021. <p>Seagrass report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019 Seagrass report is now available on our website. • Offshore seagrass coverage is above 30% which is up 10% from the previous and is the densest NQBP has seen in 10 years. <p>Port of Mackay maintenance dredging project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP will now conduct maintenance dredging at the Port of Mackay in early December 2020. <p>Question: How much material will be dredged? Answer: Between 120,000m³ and 140,000m³. The siltation trench instated in the 90's has worked effectively and reduced the frequency/amount of dredging needed.</p> <p>Alison Jones commended Kev Kane and NQBP on the significant improvements in approach to environmental management and monitoring since her involvement in the CRG. Mick De Pinto seconded Alison's comments.</p>	<p>Action: NQBP Communications to send RAP website link to CRG.</p>
<p>7. Community update</p>	<p>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relations Amanda Blines</p> <p>Media report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall media - Significant media around Port of Mackay \$17M project announcement. • Trade media – BMA containers. • Environment media - New JCU partnership. • Community media – Alligator Creek State School Water Safety partnership. 	

	<p>CRG annual evaluation survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRG members were thanked for their input into the survey. • There were 7 respondents out of 11 members. • Results were very positive, with all results except one improving from last year. • CRG members were encouraged to provide any feedback or suggestions if they could think of any rooms for improvement. <p>Suggestion: It would be good if the CRG group could work together on a long-term project so that at the end of the next CRG term CRG members could back on their accomplishment. The Great Northern Clean Up was highlighted as one possible project – branded as Port to Point clean-up from the Port to Slade Point.</p> <p>Sponsorships and donations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 Nude Lunch • Great Northern Clean Up • Mackay Community Foundation • Mackay Tourism 2021 Visitors Guide • Stella Maris seafarers care packages • Ronald McDonald Family Room <p>10,000 steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is progressing and there have been discussions with Mackay Regional Council on possibility of any joint opportunities. • Estimated delivery January 2021. • CRG members were encouraged to be involved in the media announcement. 	
<p>8. General Business</p>	<p>Jason Britton, Regional Harbour Master, Maritime Safety Queensland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing information and awareness on cyclone preparedness for boat owners and those on the water. • Working with Mackay Marina to distribute information and safety checklists. • One shipwreck has been removed from Mackay waterways in the recent months. • There is a Harbour Master's direction to remove a burnt-out vessel at Blacks Beach. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The yellow tide marker buoy just outside of the Mackay Marina has been relocated slightly out of the path of recreational vessels. • COVID-19 response and relationships and engagement with NQBP and other agencies has been fantastic. • NQBP was thanked for its support of the Stella Maris seafarers care packages. • Explanation given on how crew changes are undertaken in Mackay with assistance from Queensland Health, Queensland Police and NQBP. • While Border restrictions may change, shipping restrictions are still in force. <p>Other business</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Meeting closed 7.15pm.</p>	
<p>9. Proposed next meeting dates</p>	<p>Next Meeting scheduled for Thursday 11 March 2021</p>	