

Hay Point Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5pm Tuesday 3 March 2026 – Meeting held at Hay Point Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Administration Building

Chair:

Chair NQBP CEO, Brendan Webb

Attendees:

<p>Community Representatives Kerry Flynn Marilyn Maher Cathy Fredericks Daryl Townson Peter Dallas Tony Heath Stephen Schaper</p> <p>Business Representatives Maree Sturdy – Chamber of Commerce Judy Langdon</p> <p>Environmental Representatives Emma Barrett – Mackay Conservation Group</p>	<p>Mackay Regional Council Representative Cr Karen May</p> <p>Port Industry Representatives Dalrymple Bay Infrastructure – Peter Wotherspoon BHP Mitsubishi Alliance – Brett Ross DBCT – Steve Rae</p> <p>NQBP Representatives CEO Brendan Webb General Manager Infrastructure and Operations Tim Lewis General Manager Commercial & Maritime Services Darren Brownsey Senior Manager Environment Odette Langham Senior Advisor Community Relationships Emilie Power Community Relationship Advisor Ange Julian</p> <p>Maritime Safety Queensland Representative N/A</p> <p>Yuwi Native Title Holder Representative N/A</p> <p>Guests N/A</p>
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Apologies: Yuwi representative Madeline Jones, MSQ - Craig Longmuir, Imogen Lindenberg, Tom Liddell, David Mifsud

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Acknowledgment of Country, Meeting open, agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting opened at 5.04pm • Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair/NQBP CEO, Brendan Webb. • An Acknowledgment of Country was provided by Brendan. 	
2. Welcome and introductions	<p>Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to Emma Barrett, proxy for Imogen Lindenberg, Mackay Conservation Group. • Apologies recorded from Regional Harbour Master – MSQ representative Craig Longmuir, Yuwi representative Madeline Jones, Imogen Lindenberg, Tom Liddell and David Mifsud. • About NQBP – a Queensland Government Owned Corporation managing the ports of Mackay, Hay Point, Abbot Point and Weipa. • The ports support regional industries, handle a significant proportion of Queensland’s international trade and operate within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. • NQBP operates commercially on behalf of Queenslanders and is accountable to its Shareholding Ministers. • NQBP’s Shareholding Ministers are the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training and the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. • Overview provided on the role of the CRG as a two-way engagement forum providing community insight to inform NQBP decision-making. • Members were encouraged to share information between the CRG and their community organisations and to contribute agenda items or feedback where relevant. • The importance of active participation and information sharing was noted. 	
3. Conflict of interest	<p>Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb</p> <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	<p>Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb</p> <p>Actions Register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were six actions from the previous meeting and of these four have been closed. • All the other actions we will touch on during our meeting tonight. 	
5. CEO Update	<p>Presented by CEO (Chair), Brendan Webb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the Port of Mackay container depot project - construction commenced 27 January 2026 and completion expected late 2026. <p>Question – Kerry – What refrigerated container capacity will the depot support?</p> <p>Response – <i>Initial capacity is expected to support approximately 40–45 refrigerated containers, with potential peak capacity of around 90.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgment of outgoing apprentices and appreciation extended to their mentors. • Welcome to the 2026 apprentice intake, with apprentices now employed directly by NQBP. 	
6. NQBP Infrastructure and Operations	<p>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure and Operations, Tim Lewis</p> <p>Half Tide public access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP has provided temporary pedestrian fishing access to Lease Area D at Half Tide with CRG members noting the area is being utilised by the community. • Risk assessments completed with several safety actions identified and actioned prior to opening. <p>HTTH public boat ramp carpark and fencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works are underway to relocate equipment and realign fencing in Lease Area 3 to allow additional car parking; access will be removed when site leased for operations. Access due to open in March 2026. • Discussion regarding fencing design and impact on operations and available carparking. 	<p>ACTION – NQBP to ensure land across from the caravan park is included in maintenance schedule.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to provide advice on button weed management practises.</p> <p>ACTION – NQBP to review weed</p>

	<p>Comment – Peter Dallas – The new fence line should be relocated for further efficiencies for the port and the community.</p> <p>Response – <i>Appreciate the feedback, however NQBP will continue with the fence line as currently designed. The land will be made available for public parking when operational use allows, however the area will continue to be used by NQBP when required.</i></p> <p>Hay Point and Louisa Creek Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP confirmed ongoing maintenance of areas at Hay Point and Louisa Creek. • Maintenance delivered by NQBP’s internal team with contractor support where required. • Mowing schedule confirmed as approximately every two weeks during peak growth season and every four weeks during the low growth season. <p>Comment – Peter Dallas – Raised concerns regarding mowing frequency at the old caravan park site at Hay Point and advised areas had not been mown for approximately 40 days between December 2025 and January 2026. Goats Head Weed appears to be a major issue. Peter also raised that NQBP land across from the caravan park needs to be mowed at the same time (often missed).</p> <p>Comment – Louisa Creek representatives - Raised concerns regarding mowing quality and weed spread when mowing is not undertaken properly. Weeds are spreading to private residences, particularly button weed.</p> <p>Suggestion – Members suggested seeking advice from the Department of Primary Industries regarding weed management options.</p> <p>Snap Send Solve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of the Snap Send Solve mobile application was provided. • The application allows residents to report local issues such as dumped rubbish, graffiti, potholes and overgrown vegetation. 	<p>management practises.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackay Regional Council representative advised the platform has recently been integrated with Council’s customer service system to improve reporting and response times. <p>Port Land Use Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP is updating Land Use Plans to align with the Queensland Government’s Port Master Plan. • Preparation of the Statement of Proposal is underway with government consultation to follow prior to public consultation expected mid-2026. <p>Question – Peter Dallas – Could land at Dudgeon Point or Louisa Creek be used for residential development?</p> <p>Response – NQBP advised land use is guided by the State Government Master Plan, and these areas are zoned either for port-related and environmental purposes. While there are no current commercial plans for this area, it is key strategic land for future generations of Queenslanders. The Port of Hay Point is classed as a priority port (meaning as there will be no new ports developed in Queensland, it has been earmarked as a priority port for future development).</p> <p>Comment – Karen May – Noted that Dudgeon Point has never been identified for residential development within town planning frameworks and lacks supporting infrastructure. There are other areas within Mackay and Sarina that would be developed first to connect with existing infrastructure.</p>	
7. NQBP Environment update	<p>Presented by Senior Manager Environment Odette Langham</p> <p>Half Tide & Hay Point Beaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP engaged coastal consultants Alluvium to review coastal processes at Half Tide and Hay Point beaches and assess the effectiveness of existing groynes at Half Tide Tug Harbour. • Assessment found rock and sand movement is driven by natural coastal processes including seasonal sand movement, storm activity and wind, and is not related to port operations. • Rock present at Half Tide Beach includes some quarry rock from the harbour wall and naturally occurring cobble rock. 	ACTION – NQBP to deliver updated report at next CRG meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting was held on Wednesday 25 February with interested CRG members who raised concerns that only current port operations were considered in the report, and that the BMA HPX3 expansion was not reviewed or included as part of the report. • Next steps are to consider the potential gap in the report and seek additional information from BMA. <p>Comment – Peter Dallas – Expressed concerns regarding the findings and questioned whether all relevant information had been considered in the consultant’s assessment.</p> <p>Response – <i>NQBP advised additional scope requested by members will be provided to Alluvium for further investigation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NQBP confirmed the updated report will be circulated to CRG members once received. • Discussion on Mackay Regional Council’s responsibility to improve beach access was also held. NQBP will raise with MRC, but CRG members also encouraged to continue to raise concerns directly with MRC. <p>Response – <i>NQBP advised the focus will be on understanding the science and identifying the root cause before considering any potential management actions.</i></p>	
8. Community update	<p>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relationship, Emilie Power</p> <p>Recent sponsorships and donations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent sponsorship and donation recipients include Galaxy Netball Club Mackay, Bobcats Sporting Club Mackay, Women’s Social Smash (Mackay Cricket Association), Toastmasters Northern Division Conference, Art on Show (Mackay Art Society), Mackay Marina Run and the Mackay Mayor’s Charity Ball. <p>Community Fund Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recipients were announced at NQBP’s End of Year Stakeholder event in November 2025. • 13 organisations across Mackay, Hay Point, Bowen and Weipa shared in \$100,000. • Funding supports initiatives focused on women’s health, youth wellbeing, disability inclusion and mental health awareness. • Applications for the 2026-27 Community Fund will open in March 2026. 	

	<p>CRG Sponsorship Allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRG members have an annual allocation of \$5,000 for community donations and sponsorships. • No nominations had been received at the time of the meeting. • Nomination period extended to Friday 13 March 2026, with successful recipients announced the week of 23 March 2026. <p>CRG Feedback Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of the 2025 CRG feedback survey were presented. • Thank you to our CRG members for their participation and ongoing feedback. 	
<p>9. General Business</p>	<p>DBI – Peter Wotherspoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advised the reclaimer and shiploader projects are progressing well. Shiploader commissioning will commence in Perth shortly with delivery expected between September and November 2026. <p>BMA – Brett Ross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update provided <p>CR – Kerry Flynn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide load text alerts appreciated, early morning timing effective. <p>DBCT - Steve Rae</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update provided. <p>General business:</p> <p>Question – Maree – Will a permanent customs officer be based at the proposed container depot? Response – NQBP advised Customs are already based locally, however additional training may be required as operations expand.</p> <p>Comment – Kerry – Illegal dumping found on Louisa Creek Road. Will have some signs made up and cameras installed.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRG member Judy advised this would be her final meeting after 17 years on the group following the sale of her property and relocation. • Members thanked Judy for her contribution to the CRG. 	
10.	Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 14 July 2026	
11.	Meeting closed at 6.30pm	