

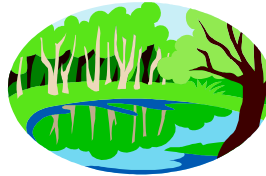
# HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

## Lower Herbert Flood Study Impacts of Levees

### MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011

AT 9:00 A.M.



A. ATTENDANCE - Present were Mr. W.H. Pickering [Trust Chair], Cr. G.P. Gianotti [Trust Member], Cr. P.D. Lynch [Trust Member], Mr. Bruce Mahony [Community Member], Mr. Vince Russo [Canegrowers], Mr. Graham Dickson [Sucrogen], Dr. Mark Jempson [BMT], Mr. B.E. Leach [Trust Engineer], Mr. RW Clark [Trust Secretary].

B. APOLOGIES – Mr. David Carr [Community Member], Mr. Brian Tabone [Canegrowers].

C. BUSINESS

The Meeting considered the results of the community consultation session held at the Halifax Community Hall on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2011 including the ideas and feedback received from the various groups.

It was noted that several questions from attendees referred to sand extraction including the consequence of extraction upstream, and also question regarding the impact of the sand island ustream from the Halifax Washaway.

The Steering Committee considered the ideas and feedback from each of the individual tables which identified various views including:-

- Recognition that a Local Law may be necessary but it should protect everyone not a select few, and not disadvantage people who have not leveed.
- Issues with CSR floodgates blocked at Cordelia Railway Bridge.
- To control levees, a fill level should be established for all existing and new levees.
- Partial removal of sand islands including commercialisation of sand extraction.
- Recognition that levees are a problem and need some form of control and sharing of impacts.
- Recognition that existing levees may need some relief mechanisms installed to protect water velocities and minimise damage.

The Steering Committee believe that the following issues should be acknowledged in the final report:-

- To do nothing is not an option.
- Further studies are necessary to identify where spillways or relief valves could be installed in existing levees.
- Need to engage / involve landowners who have not built levees and consider how a more equitable solution can benefit them.
- It appears that a combination of levee "equity" and Local Law authority to manage the situation is required.
- Development of a Local Law would need to connect with further studies to establish the parameters and justification for how, when and where a Local Law would apply.
- Early commitment / support to be sought from Council regarding the development of a Local Law.
- Consideration of an interim measure that will control existing levees and prohibit the construction of new levees pending the finalisation of further flood modelling studies and development of an appropriate Local Law.

The Committee will wait for the draft final report from WBM to give final feedback and allow delivery of final report.

D. CONCLUSION: Meeting closed at 11.00 am

Mr. W.H. Pickering  
TRUST CHAIRPERSON