

## Port of Townsville Limited (POTL) Community Liaison Group Minutes of Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 28 June 2017 - 5pm to 6.50pm  
**Venue:** Quayside Terminal, Lennon Drive, South Townsville  
**Chair:** Ranee Crosby, Chief Executive Officer, Port of Townsville Limited

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### Attendees

1	Ranee Crosby	POTL, CEO	9	Judy Newman	Community Rep
2	Sharon Hoops	POTL, Manager Corporate Affairs	10	Keith Noble	Community Rep
3	Annie Ilett	POTL, Community Engagement Officer Magnetic Island	11	Ken Dunlop	Sun Metals
4	Adam Hinks	Community Rep	12	Kim Gebers	POTL, GM Infrastructure
5	Brendon Nolan	Community Rep	13	Leon Kippin	Community Rep
6	Dale McKenzie	Community Rep	14	Lloyd Whitby	Community Rep
7	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep	15	Melinda Louden	POTL, Manager Environment & Planning
8	Ian Ferguson	Community Rep	16	Paul Crocombe	Community Rep
Guest	Claudia Brumme- Smith	POTL, GM Business Development	17		

### Apologies

Adam Smith	Local Marine Advisory Committee	Sharon Marks	Conservation Volunteers Australia
Dale Brooker	Community Rep	Scott Hayles-Stanley	Community Rep
Julie Carmody	Magnetic Island Ratepayers Association	Stephen Ellis	Community Rep
Chris Miegel	Community Rep	Taryn Krawczyk	Community Rep

### 1. Welcome/apologies (Chair)

Chair Ranee Crosby welcomed the members to the CLG's fourth meeting, and introduced guest Claudia Brumme-Smith, POTL's General Manager Business Development.

## **2. Minutes of previous meeting – 31 May 2017**

The Minutes of the previous meeting (Draft 2) held on 31 May 2017 were adopted without change. The status of action points from those Minutes was noted:

- Discussion and review of scientific presentations made at the Magnetic Island Knowledge Forum on 29 April – discussion of first presentation by Professor Peter Ridd included on today's agenda.
- POTL presentation on PEP benefits and summary Business Case when it is made publicly available – update included on today's agenda.
- NQCC (Gail Hamilton) was advised of acceptance into the CLG and was provided with a copy of the Terms of Reference. It was noted that NQCC has subsequently advised that it is withdrawing its request for membership of the CLG.
- POTL provided a written response to Julie Carmody on questions raised on behalf of a Magnetic Island community member.
- Minutes of May White and Grey Ship Attraction Committee meeting were circulated to CLG members, together with next meeting date.
- Presentation on the Harbor City Development proposals included on today's agenda.
- Details of what commodities are moved through Townsville Port included on today's agenda.

## **3. Membership**

A CLG membership request from Anne Williams, Environmental Officer for Glencore has been received. Members unanimously agreed to accept Anne as a Port Customer member of the CLG.

**Action:** Sharon Hoops to advise Anne Williams of acceptance and send Terms of Reference.

The withdrawal of NQCC's request for membership of NQCC was noted.

## **4. Enhancement of the Port Operation Dashboard to include Environmental Indicators**

The sub-group met and compiled a list of common components which could be included on the expanded Operations Dashboard. Water Quality has been selected as the first indicator for more detailed work as to how to present the data simply, in a meaningful way and also provide the opportunity for the public to delve into further if required.

A CLG member raised the issue of recent unavailability of the Dashboard sub-group leader.

**Action:** Melinda Loudon to ascertain when Adam might be back in Townsville, his near future capacity to move the sub-group agenda forward and any assistance the Port may be able to provide.

## 5. Knowledge Forum Video Presentation

The CLG viewed the video presentation “Movement of Sediment & Sources in Cleveland Bay” made by Professor Peter Ridd at the Magnetic Island Knowledge Forum on 29 April 2017. Discussion points arising from the presentation included:

- Ken Dunlop stated that the community in general probably had very little appreciation of the natural inputs of turbidity of Cleveland Bay, i.e. what is a wind-driven event versus other influences.
- Melinda Loudon noted that it was challenging to find suitable control sites in Cleveland Bay for monitoring, however POTL now has 3 years of AIMS data from 5 monitoring sites on background turbidity and during periods of dredging. These sites are at Florence Bay, Geoffrey Bay, Picnic Bay, Virago Shoal and south west Cleveland Bay seagrass area. It was raised by a CLG member that the monitoring equipment was not placed at sites where tourism operators were putting people in the water.
- Raneer noted that current monitoring locations are selected with regulatory and scientific agencies due to significance for environmental purposes, measuring turbidity rather than water visibility, however noted that it may be helpful for further monitoring of alternative sites for visibility.
- Adam Hinks tabled an image of the flats which he said challenged Professor Ridd’s statement regarding coral demise timeline.
- Melinda stated that further sites are being considered for placement of 3 sets of turbidity monitors (“Bobby” monitors) which will provide real time data and be publicly available (similar to the Port’s Air Quality monitoring program).
- A question was raised about the differences in times of re-suspension of the “fine sediments” – does it depend on depth of water, currents, locations, stabilised seabed areas (e.g. consolidated clay layer, algae and plant cover)?
- Adam Hinks suggested the placement of the maintenance dredge material at the designated site south east of Magnetic Island means that resuspended sediments are moved by wind and wave action onto Magnetic Island’s south eastern beaches e.g. Florence, Picnic and Geoffrey Bays.
- Paul Crocombe stated that plume from wind is understood, but there doesn’t seem to be any data round “big disturbance” events (such as cyclones) and how long the Bay takes to settle after such events. Also queried where stabilisation of material at the bottom of the bay makes it more vulnerable to resuspension – i.e. is material placed at sea more prone to resuspension?
- NQ Dry Tropics is currently working on identifying land change management practices and their impact on sediment run-off.
- Leon asked if there was any available data on how long it takes dredge plumes to disperse.
- Ian Ferguson asked if there were any images or information on the seismology of the channel.

**Action:** Sharon to forward the CLG the slide and information about dredge plume timing dispersal.

**Action:** CLG members to send to Sharon questions that would most likely be of interest to the community regarding Cleveland Bay turbidity and dredging to enable a FAQ document to be produced.

**Action:** The Dashboard Environmental Indicators sub-group to consider what information is of most relevance and interest to the community (e.g. visibility / water clarity around tourism sites and relationship to dredging; relative contributions from various sources to Cleveland Bay turbidity; resuspension at depths and dispersal rates etc) and how best to communicate this information (i.e. fact sheets etc in addition to the scorecard).

**Action:** CLG members to provide further questions around water quality to POTL (Sharon Hoops).

**Action:** Include follow up discussion in the next Magnetic Island Knowledge Forum on 16 September to identify ideas about the next “Quantum leap” in best dredging practices, including the disposal of and location of maintenance dredging material.

**Action:** Melinda to arrange a presentation to the CLG on the National Science Environment Program Project relating to research onto the movement of sediments from the Burdekin River.

**Action:** Melinda to distribute seismology information of Cleveland Bay to CLG.

## **6. Harbor City Development**

Claudia Brumme-Smith, POTL GM Business Development provided an update on the planning and development concepts for the Harbour City Project on 11 hectares of port lands on the eastern and western sides of Ross Creek within the Waterfront Priority Development Area. POTL’s overall concept will see developments that activate the waterfront, that embody the history of the port, and make the waterfront more attractive and user-friendly to residents and visitors. Current key projects being investigated include:

- new Strand Ferry Terminal on the West Bank with a “City Cat” ferry operating along the Ross Creek to key activation nodes;
- a redevelopment of the Reef HQ precinct on the West Bank;
- development of a supply chain centre on the East Bank (commercial offices and supporting retail/hospitality);
- development of a new Marine Science Precinct on the East Bank.

**Action:** A copy of the CLG to be made available by Claudia to CLG members. Further presentations to CLG regarding proposals by key proponents (e.g. Sealink) to be arranged as individual projects progress.

In response to members’ questions Claudia confirmed that it would retaining ownership of POTL land and would be calling for open market tenders for development proposals in line with current practice.

## 7. Port Updates

A “Port update” document was circulated to all CLG members the day before the meeting.

Claudia Brumme-Smith made a presentation detailing trade coming through the Port, including:

- current commodities handled;
- berth occupancy levels compared with global industry standards for optimum utilisation;
- new projects (e.g. handling of 10,000 containers of solar panels for the 8 solar projects in the region, project cargo and fuel for Adani, new NW Queensland zinc, lead, copper mining ventures coming on line, biofuels and Agripower projects).

Ranee Crosby provided further information regarding the Port Expansion Project, including:

- \$75m funding has been secured from the Queensland Government for the Channel Capacity Upgrade component of the PEP, conditional upon the final EIS and balance of funding.
- The Business Case (BC) for Stage 1 Channel Capacity Upgrade has been submitted to shareholding Ministers, and POTL is working closely with the State Government to finalise funding arrangements. The Executive Summary will be circulated to the CLG once finalised.
- It is anticipated that the EIS and funding arrangements will be finalised by September this year, with project works possibly able to commence next year, noting that any conditions for construction will be determined through the approvals process.

**Action:** POTL to present to the CLG on the project benefits and summary business case at the next CLG meeting, and Sharon Hoops to circulate the Executive Summary of the Business Case to CLG when it is ready to be made publicly available.

Melinda Loudon advised that the final PEP EIS / AEIS has been forwarded to the State and Federal Government regulators for final assessment of the Project. In accordance with the statutory process the final PEP EIS/AEIS (code coloured green) will be made available for public viewing within 10 business days. Townsville viewing sites will be at the Townsville and Thuringowa Libraries and the Magnetic Island Golf Club. Adverts will appear in The Australian, The Courier Mail and the Townsville Bulletin soon.

**Action:** Sharon Hoops to provide a copy of the advert to CLG members when it is ready.

Melinda Loudon provided further information regarding Environmental Monitoring, including:

- A new PM 10 monitor is being installed tomorrow at the coastguard site. Real time air quality data from the monitor can be obtained from the Department of Environment and Heritage website.
- Ross River maintenance dredging commences next week. POTL undertakes Ross River dredging as far as the bridge, then the responsibility of DTMR and TCC upstream of the bridge.

- A pH meter has also been fitted to “Bobby” the trial real-time water quality monitor, and several additional turbidity monitors have been purchased to further expand POTL’s monitoring network.

**Action:** Melinda Louden to provide dredging data to next CLG meeting.

Sharon Hoops provided further information regarding Stakeholder Engagement, including:

- A letterbox drop for residents around the Enviro Park was completed on Wednesday regarding the acoustic fence installation.
- Ranee Crosby went through the TEARC community consultation process being undertaken by Building Queensland and tabled a copy of the information flyer.

**Action:** Sharon Hoops to provide a copy of the letterbox drop flyer and TEARC Facts Sheet to all CLG members.

#### **8. General Business**

- In response to a member’s question about the Berth 4 upgrade, Ranee Crosby advised that the operator was to be announced in July.

#### **9. Meeting Close**

The Chair thanked CLG members for their participation in the meeting and encouraged CLG members to contact POTL representatives at any time if they require any further detail.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday 26 July 2017 at 5pm, Amaroo on Mandalay, Magnetic Island

Meeting closed 7pm