

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday 25 October 2017 – 5.05pm to 6.45pm
Venue: Quayside Terminal, Lennon Drive, South Townsville
Chair: Claudia Brumme-Smith, Acting CEO, Port of Townsville

Attendees

1	Adam Hinks	Community Rep	11	Judy Newman	Community Rep
2	Adam Smith	Local Marine Advisory Committee	12	Keith Noble	Community Rep
3	Anne Williams	Glencore	13	Ken Dunlop	Sunmetals
4	Annie Ilett	POTL, Community Engagement Officer Magnetic Island	14	Leon Kippin	Community Rep
5	Chris Miegel	Community Rep	15	Melinda Loudon	POTL, Environment & Planning Manager
6	Claudia Brumme-Smith	Acting CEO, POTL	16	Paul Crocombe	Community Rep
7	Dale McKenzie	Community Rep	17	Sharon Hoops	POTL, Manager Corporate Affairs
8	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep	18	Sharon Marks	Conservation Volunteers Australia
9	Ian Ferguson	Community Rep	19	Stephen Ellis	Community Rep
10	Janet Robino	Birdlife Townsville	20	Vern Veitch	Community Rep

Apologies

Brendon Nolan	Community Rep	Lloyd Whitby	Community Rep
Dale Brooker	Community Rep	Taryn Krawczyk	Community Rep
Julie Carmody	Magnetic Island Ratepayers Association		

Actions Summary

1. Sharon Hoops to write a letter thanking Dale Brooker for his contributions to the CLG and take up his offer to continue passing on information to his customers on Magnetic Island.
2. Update on Cleveland Bay sediment tagging research to be listed as a standard item for future CLG meetings.
3. Update on possible relocation of the DMPA to be listed as a standing agenda item for future CLG meetings.
4. Feedback any comments of the conduct of CLG meetings to Sharon by email before the next meeting.

Attachments

- Buoys *Beagle* and *Endeavour* being prepared for deployment in Geoffrey Bay and Arthur Bay, Magnetic Island
- Port Update Notes

1. Welcome/apologies (Chair)

Chair Claudia Brumme-Smith welcomed members to the CLG's eighth meeting. Apologies were noted. Dale Brooker has tendered his resignation from the CLG due to work pressures requested to be kept in the information channel so he can keep his customers on Magnetic Island up to date.

Action: Sharon Hoops to write a letter thanking Dale for his contributions to the CLG and take up his offer to continue passing on information to his customers on Magnetic Island.

2. Record of previous meeting held 27 September 2017 on Magnetic Island

The Minutes of the previous meeting was adopted with a minor typographical change. All actions have been completed.

3. Trade through the Port of Townsville – an overview

Claudia Brumme-Smith, POTL's Acting CEO gave an overview of the first quarter results for trade through the Port of Townsville.

4. Magnetic Island Reef Recovery Program - update

Adam Smith of Reef Ecologic presented an update on the "Great Barrier Reef Recovery Project, Magnetic Island."

CLG members noted that there are many possible causes of algal growth including increased nutrients, overfishing, water quality, climate change and that there is more algae observed around Magnetic Island than there used to be. Where the algae has been removed it is replaced by coralline algae, suitable for recruitment of coral larvae following coral spawning in October and November of each year. Left unattended, the algae grows back within 12 months.

It was suggested that, as the algae dies back in winter, would it be useful to concentrate efforts in the winter months to prepare for coral spawning later in the year. Adam agreed that this is one of the issues the project is considering for future "fine tuning" of the project.

5. Port Water Quality Dashboard – update

Annie Ilett advised that following agreement at last month's CLG the buoy positions have been established within the parameters of the monitoring equipment at Geoffrey Bay 1 and Arthur Bay 2.

The buoys *Beagle* and *Endeavour* (named by the CLG) are being prepared for deployment this year. Photos of the 2 buoys were circulated and are attached to these Minutes. CLG members also noted that the Bertha buoy is also being prepared for deployment in Cleveland Bay at a site yet to be finalised between the Dredge Material Placement Area and the Port Channel.

The Port's Environment team is also working through the process of getting the data from the buoys onto a dashboard on the Port's website. The first version will be a more limited version than what the CLG has discussed before. Essentially it will, in the first instance, consist of graphs of the live stream data from the buoys with hyperlinks to other data (such as wind speed). Subject to a range

of approvals currently being sought it is due to be available to the public online by the end of December/early next year.

Melinda Loudon advised that the Environment team is currently preparing a mock-up for presentation at the next CLG meeting for CLG input on a range of issues, including scale of the turbidity measurements.

Adam Hinks raised his concern that the water quality monitoring was not directly at the Magnetic Island snorkel sites. Recognising the selection of sites was limited by the size of the monitoring equipment it was suggested that there may be other options for measuring water quality directly at the snorkelling sites, including a 'citizen science' approach using secchi disc or other measures. Melinda advised that the real-time monitoring by the two new buoys is part of a broader monitoring program using a variety of methodologies to establish water quality data around Magnetic Island and across Cleveland Bay.

6. Port Updates

Discussion points:

Channel Capacity Upgrade

The CLG noted that the Federal Government approvals for the Channel Capacity Upgrade project have been delayed. Next steps, assuming Federal approvals are obtained, will be further State environmental approvals and construction of the rock wall to retain the dredge material before any dredging takes place. Expression of Interest for construction of the rock walls is ready to be released once approvals are obtained.

Environment

Adam Hinks asked if the "tagging" of sediment material from the Burdekin River as described by Stephen Lewis in his recent presentation to the CLG could be applied to the movement of maintenance dredge spoil for the Dredge Material Placement Area. Melinda Loudon advised that though this was challenging to undertake in the GBRMP there are POTL research funds available to undertake similar studies in Cleveland Bay to that done in the Burdekin.

Action: Update on such research to be listed as a standard item for future CLG meetings.

Paul Crocombe asked about the possibility of relocating the Dredge Material Placement Area (DMPA) further offshore as indicated at the recent MI Community Information Forum. Melinda Loudon advised that POTL is in preliminary discussions with the Queensland Government and other agencies about relocating the current DMPA, including to a site further offshore.

Action: Update on possible relocation of the DMPA to be listed as a standard item for future CLG meetings.

Vern Veitch noted that although the air quality monitoring results are well within the guidelines, some specific sites have been very dusty. Melinda Loudon agreed that some specific sites have been very dusty, noting that with the first rain more dust material is tracked onto the roads as mud, which dries out and adds to the dust. After a high volume of rain the levels of dust decrease.

White and Grey Ship Attraction Committee

Sharon Hoops advised that the cruise ship company *Carnival* have undertaken an inspection of Townsville Port in preparation for the turnaround of the *Pacific Eden* in September next year. They were impressed with the service provided by Port of Townsville and ticket sales for the first cruise out of Townsville Port are going well.

Sharon Marks asked about the proposed cruise ship attraction workshop. Sharon Hoops advised that it had been delayed pending a planning meeting between Townsville Enterprise, Townsville City Council and POTL regarding leadership on development of the cruise industry and products offered in the Townsville region, including Magnetic Island.

CLG members noted that the two grey (defence) ships, HMAS Choules and HMAS Avatar (Singapore) visited Townsville for two days rest and recreation and reportedly liked what the region has to offer.

Stakeholder Engagement

A new website on the Channel Capacity Upgrade has been developed: awaiting Federal Government approval on EIS to launch.

CLG noted that once the State Government elections are announced the Port will be in “caretaker mode”.

Claudia Brumme-Smith was guest of honour at the recent Rotary Club of the Port of Townsville Annual Awards. A member of POTL’s environment team was awarded the *Pride of Workmanship Award* in recognition of a number of things including this Employee’s consistent achievement of high standards in a demanding role, willingness to assist and support others, combined with high level of self-motivation and a modest, quiet achiever attitude.

The CLG noted that the POTL has nominated in two categories of this year’s Australian Shipping and Maritime Awards – Port or Terminal of the Year, and Seafarer Welfare Award – a joint submission with the Mission to Seafarer of Townsville.

Property

Upgrade of Berth 4 is currently being completed, with opening planned for February 2018 (weather permitting).

A decision on the Eastern Access Rail Corridor project (TEARC) proposal is due by the end of November. More in next month’s CLG update.

Planning and concepts for the new Sealink ferry terminal at the end of the Strand continue.

With a 40% increase in rail traffic a GHD Traffic Management consultant has been engaged to look at streamlining the rail and road traffic within the Port to reduce waiting times at the berths and rail crossings.

7. General Business

Magnetic Island State School input to the Port Expansion Program – Adam Hinks has been fielding questions about the Port Expansion Program from students at the Magnetic Island State School. He will forward them to the Port. Sharon Hoops suggested that it might be useful to make a presentation to the Magnetic Island students if they would like that.

Meetings next year - Sharon Hoops invited CLG members to review the structure of CLG meetings held this year, the locations, timings etc. She invited input about whether CLG members would like more visits to places of interest eg Sun Metals, tour of Magnetic Island, Mission to Seafarer of Townsville, social activities and whether the ability to dial into meetings would be useful.

Action: Please provide your feedback on the conduct of CLG meetings to Sharon by email before the next meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday 29 November 2017 at 5.05pm, Amaroo on Mandalay, Magnetic Island

Note that this meeting will include Christmas drinks and members were asked to consider catching the later ferry back to the mainland to enable a social catch up in addition to the meeting. The next ferry leaves Magnetic Island at 7.45pm, arriving at the Townsville Breakwater Terminal at approx. 8.10pm.

Close: Claudia Brumme-Smith thanked CLG members for attending and their contribution to better mutual understandings.

Meeting closed 6.45pm