

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday 29 November 2017 – 5pm to 7.30pm
Venue: Amaroo on Mandalay, Magnetic Island
Chair: Claudia Brumme-Smith, Acting CEO, Port of Townsville

Attendees

1	Adam Hinks	Community Rep	7	Norman Rains	Birdlife Townsville
2	Annie Ilett	POTL, Magnetic Island Community Engagement Officer	8	Keith Noble	Community Rep
3	Claudia Brumme-Smith	Acting CEO, POTL	9	Kim Gebers	POTL, Manager Infrastructure
4	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep	10	Leon Kippin	Community Rep
5	Judy Newman	Community Rep	11	Sharon Hoops	POTL, Manager Corporate Affairs
6	Julie Carmody	Magnetic Island Ratepayers Association	12	Stephen Ellis	Community Rep

Apologies

Adam Smith	Local Marine Advisory Committee	Ken Dunlop	Sunmetals
Anne Williams	Glencore	Lloyd Whitby	Community Rep
Brendon Nolan	Community Rep	Melinda Loudon	POTL, Environment & Planning Manager
Chris Miegel	Community Rep	Paul Crocombe	Community Rep
Dale Brooker	Community Rep	Sharon Marks	Conservation Volunteers Australia
Dale McKenzie	Community Rep	Taryn Krawczyk	Community Rep
Ian Ferguson	Community Rep	Vern Veitch	Community Rep

Actions Summary

Action:

1. CLG members to provide any further input to POTL's Water Quality Dashboard.
2. POTL Environment team to further develop the Water Quality Dashboard to address CLG comments and present at the next meeting of the CLG.
3. Sharon Hoops to put together meeting options and a proposed meeting schedule for 2018 and circulate to the CLG for input prior to the next meeting.
4. Sharon Hoops to prepare a recap of the CLG for 2017 for POTL's community newsletter.
5. Sharon Hoops to circulate Dust Facts Sheets to CLG members.
6. Kim Geber to prepare a project framework, available alternatives and way forward for the possible relocation of the DMPA for presentation at the next meeting of the CLG.

Attachments

- Marine Water Quality Dashboard Update
- Port Update Notes

1. Welcome/apologies (Chair)

Chair Claudia Brumme-Smith welcomed members to the CLG's ninth meeting. Apologies were noted. Dale Mackenzie has tendered his resignation temporarily from the CLG for overseas family reasons and has requested to be kept in the information channel.

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

The Minutes of the previous meeting was adopted without change. All actions have been completed.

3. Membership enquiry

An enquiry regarding membership of the CLG has been received from Paul Gallagher, Queensland Branch Assistant Secretary of the Maritime Union of Australia. Following discussion and consideration it was agreed to maintain the cap on the number of CLG members in line with the decision of the CLG at its meeting on 28 August 2017 where "member numbers will be capped for 12 months with a review in September 2018".

4. Port Water Quality Dashboard - an update

Kim Gebers presented POTL's update on the Port Water Quality Dashboard project (attached).

CLG members noted that the turbidity readings around Magnetic Island are lower than that of Cleveland Bay and agreed that the turbidity data for Magnetic Island should be shown at a different scale from the rest of Cleveland Bay. The CLG also suggested that a conversion of NTU to a visibility measure, together with a more intuitive colour coding similar to *Seabreeze* data would be easier for the public to interpret.

The CLG agreed to:

- The proposed front page with click on map
- Different scales for Magnetic Island and Cleveland Bay data was not a problem
- It would be better to convert NTU to Visibility data
- Use a more intuitive format/colour code to indicate good/bad conditions

Action: 1. CLG members to provide any further input to POTL's Water Quality Dashboard.
2. POTL Environment team to further develop the Water Quality Dashboard to address CLG comments and present at the next meeting of the CLG.

Adam Hinks re-iterated his concern that the water quality monitoring was not directly at the Magnetic Island snorkel sites. CLG members were of the view that the original reason for establishing the dashboard was to establish a data benchmark for Cleveland Bay and Magnetic Island before and after dredging, it was not just for tourism.

The Chair indicated that what the CLG has set in motion in developing a water quality dashboard is a great achievement for the first year of the CLG and that more data collection sites could be looked at in subsequent stages, particularly as the buoy monitoring equipment technology develops.

5. Next year's meetings of CLG – discussion

Sharon Hoops advised of feedback received from CLG members about next year's meetings of the CLG, including combining meetings with site visits, extending frequency of meetings, ability to hook up on a conference call where unable to attend in person.

Action: Sharon Hoops to put together meeting options and a proposed meeting schedule for 2018 and circulate to the CLG for input prior to the next meeting.

Action: CLG agreed that Sharon Hoops prepare a recap of the CLG for 2017 for POTL's community newsletter.

6. Port Updates – as per circulated document (attached)

Additional discussion points:

Channel Capacity Upgrade

The CLG noted that POTL is working with the Federal Government Regulators discussing the conditions of approval at the moment. The next step, assuming Federal approvals are obtained, will be some 12 months work in constructing 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. Rock of suitable range of sizes will be obtained from the Port's quarry and transported to the Port via the Port Access Road.

Environment

The increase in general "nuisance" dust recorded around Townsville recently is believed to be largely by the dry weather as well as from truck movements during the high wind periods experienced during October rather than movement of bulk product. Fully sealing port areas such as the customer lease areas will assist to reduce "nuisance" dust. POTL has a road sweeper now operating on Hubert and Archer Street to assist with dust mitigation.

A CLG member raised the issue that the perception of dust from the Port is an issue for residential city infill projects and that POTL needs to "clear its name" on this issue. The additional monitoring sites around Townsville CBD will clarify whether the dust is entirely a Port issue or is Townsville-wide.

Action: Sharon Hoops to circulate Dust Facts Sheets to CLG members.

POTL is currently looking into the feasibility of studies "tagging" maintenance dredge material from the Dredge Material Placement Area (DMPA) similar to those studies to track movement of sediments from the Burdekin River as described by Stephen Lewis in his presentation to the CLG earlier in the year.

In regard to possible relocation of the DMPA, Kim Gebers advised that it could be useful, as a first step, for the CLG to better understand the process involved in establishing the location of the current DMPA. The CLG agreed that development of a project framework for possible relocation of the DMPA, what alternatives may be available, and a way forward to investigate alternatives would be a good project for the CLG to pursue early next year.

Action: Kim Geber to prepare a project framework, available alternatives and way forward for the possible relocation of the DMPA for presentation at the next meeting of the CLG.

White and Grey Ship Attraction Committee

Sharon Hoops advised that around 100 visitors went on pre-booked tours from the Seaborn Encore earlier in the day – with many more visiting Townsville and local attractions as free and independent travellers (FITs). Passengers, together with the US Destination Manager for Seaborn cruise ships was also on board and was impressed with the friendly welcome that Townsville provides.

Property

The Townsville Eastern Access Rail Corridor (TEARC) Business Case release has been delayed by the Queensland Government election. The business case is anticipated to be released in mid-February 2018.

Complaints

A few complaints have been received in relation to noise from increased truck traffic in relation to the transport of the increasing number of solar panels coming through the Port. POTL is mitigating the noise by restricting hours for truck movements in Hubbie Taylor Place, in addition to the acoustic fence and buffer zones recently installed and designating specific truck no-go areas.

7. General Business

The Port's next community meeting is expected to be held on Thursday 15 February 2018.

Next meeting: Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 5.05pm in Townsville, followed by a proposed visit to the Great Barrier Reef Vessel Tracking Service (REEFVTS) in South Townsville.

Close: Claudia Brumme-Smith thanked CLG members for attending and invited all members to meet informally over drinks and nibbles to celebrate the end of the year.

Meeting closed 6.40pm