

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group



Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 26 May 2021, 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Venue: Board Room, Port of Townsville

Chair: Ranee Crosby, CEO, Port of Townsville

Attendees

1	Ranee Crosby	CEO, Port of Townsville (Chair)
2	Elaine Glen	Manager Environment and Planning (presenting)
3	Kim Wheatley	Manager Corporate Affairs, Port of Townsville (presenting)
4	Ken Dunlop	Sun Metals (presenting)
5	Sarah Mathiesen	Corporate Affairs Advisor, Port of Townsville (minutes)
6	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep
7	Ian Ferguson	Community Rep
8	Rick Vernon	Magnetic Island Ratepayers Association
9	Norman Rains	Townsville Birdlife
10	Sharon Marks	Biodiversity Australia

Apologies

1	Marissa Wise	GM Infrastructure and Environment, Port of Townsville
2	Vern Veitch	Community Rep
3	Keith Nobel	Community Rep
4	Leon Kippin	Community Rep
5	Adam Smith	LMAC
6	Bevan Lord	Townsville Ross River Marina
7	Adam Hinks	Community Rep
8	John Cordingley	Glencore
9	Adam Smith	Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC)
10	Leslie Sampson	President of Magnetic Island Community Development Association

Actions Summary

Actions from this meeting:

ACTION: Elaine Glen to follow-up on whether an OzFish and Tangaroa Blue partnership exists.

ACTION: Port of Townsville to invite CLG members to see the Woomera when it arrives.

ACTION: Invite CLG members to the launch of the Port Exhibition at the Maritime Museum of Townsville.

ACTION: Sarah Mathiesen to invite CLG members to the commissioning of the Crane and Cargo Terminal. (COMPLETE)

ACTION: Contact Youth Climate Council regarding potential young members.

ACTION: Arrange an outing on the Osprey.

ACTION: Confirm new date for August meeting and notify CLG members. (COMPLETE)

Outstanding actions from previous meetings:

ACTION: Kim Wheatley to extend an invitation to Jill Abel to present at a future CLG meeting.

ACTION: Statement of Proposal for Townsville Land Use Plan to be discussed at a future CLG meeting.

ACTION: Environmental advisor to talk about dredge management plan at upcoming CLG meeting

1. Welcome/Apologies

Chair Raneë Crosby welcomed members to the CLG's 30th meeting at 4.04pm.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (3 February 2021)

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 February 2021 were adopted without change.

All actions have been completed or were addressed during the meeting. Some outstanding actions will be covered as part of the agenda for future meetings when relevant updates are available.

3. Environment Update, Elaine Glen

Tree Inventory

The Port of Townsville's Environment team recently completed a Tree Inventory of the Port of Townsville and the Port of Lucinda. More than 4,000 trees were surveyed. Information recorded includes each tree's species, GPS location and measurements. The data is recorded in the Port's GIS System.

Information collected for the Tree Inventory will help the Port understand how much carbon is being taken up by the trees and assist in identifying species that are already doing well at our Ports for the One Million Tree project, as part of Port Vision 2050.

Further information about the Tree Inventory and the One Million Tree project will be presented to the CLG as it becomes available.

Zero Waste

The Port of Townsville is aiming to be Zero Waste by 2050. The Port has already halved the amount of waste going to landfill since 2016.

Being in a regional centre, the Port does not have the same level of access to waste reduction facilities that ports in major metro areas may have. This is a challenge that we will need to overcome.

The Port is now one of four ports in Australia certified as an EcoPort.

Internally, the broader Port team is being encouraged to contribute to the Zero Waste goal by establishing small daily habits such as using reusable cups over disposable ones. New recycled plastic chairs have recently been purchased for Little Lucinda Jetty. Solar lighting will also be installed on jetty.

Marine Debris

Marine debris is a key focus area for a lot of stakeholders in Townsville. Community clean-ups in 2019/20 resulted in the removal of 150,000 pieces of marine debris, however the Port wants to eliminate litter make its way into waterways in the first place.

The Port of Townsville and Townsville City Council partnered on the Strain the Drains project to install approximately 40 litter baskets around the Townsville CBD. The Port is directly responsible for five litter baskets in Palmer Street and has just recently installed another 26 along Archer Street, Hubert Street and Benwell Road. Litter captured in these baskets is surveyed regularly to identify and record changes in the types of litter being trapped.

As part of Clean Up Australia Day, the Port cleaned up lands around Ross Creek and Ross River. Staff volunteers collected approximately 50kg of litter in a matter of hours.

The Port has ordered a Seabin, a device that gets installed in a marine environment sucks water and floating debris in. This is the first Seabin north of Hervey Bay. It is unknown how the Seabin will perform in our tides, so the Port will complete trials with this first one.

Discussion:

- The group discussed making bins available at boat ramps to collect fishing gear. CLG members discussed that several programs around disposal of fishing lines have been challenging.
- A series of posters targeting fishing waste had been very effective.
- It is believed that OzFish and Tangaroa Blue may have a partnership running that may be useful to tap into.

ACTION: Elaine to follow-up on whether an OzFish and Tangaroa Blue partnership exists.

4. Channel Upgrade project update, Raneë Crosby

As a result of discussions with the Independent Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC), some of the environmental monitoring programs associated with the Channel Upgrade project may be expanded to include additional data collection locations.

MSQ has awarded a contract to Pacific Marine Group to relocate some of the Aids to Navigation. The pilots are using virtual aids in lieu of the old ones. New Aids to Navigation will be installed once channel widening is complete.

The rock wall is nearing completion. There has been some rectification work on the wall following minor slippage during the Summer spring tides. The weir box pipes have been installed.

Hall Contracting has been awarded the capital dredging work. They will need to construct an unloading facility along the rock wall before dredging begins.

CLG members will be invited to see the Woomera dredge when it arrives.

There has been a slight delay to start of dredging, however this is not expected to delay the overall project delivery.

Discussion:

- The Port is looking into options for retaining the temporary unloading facility on completion of reclamation works.

ACTION: Port of Townsville to invite CLG members to see the Woomera when it arrives.

5. Community Update, Kim Wheatley / Sarah Mathiesen

Community Fund

The Port's new Community Fund was launched in February 2021 and applications closed in April. A total of 31 applications were received, requesting a combined total of more than \$200,000 in support. Applicants included a broad range of organisations and requests.

The Community Fund panel is currently assessing all submissions. The panel includes CLG member, Leon Kippin, and four managers from the Port. The panel is looking for applications that align with Port Vision themes and values.

Maritime Museum

The Port is currently working on a permanent Port Exhibition for the Maritime Museum.

It is hoped the interactive exhibit will help to increase visitation by attracting more school and community groups. The display includes a 14-panel timeline, four VR experiences, an interactive table, a Learning Wall, video and more.

The Port is aiming to launch the exhibition in July. Members of the CLG will be invited to the Official Launch.

Complaints Handling

The Port is about to implement a new complaints procedure to accelerate the speed at which we solve complaints and to improve satisfaction.

There was an increase in complaints in 2019 and 2020, with key issues including cattle odour, Environment Park maintenance, noise / reverse beepers, boat ramp parking and the fodder facility in South Townsville.

Complaints almost halved in the second half of 2020. It currently takes an average 2.5 days to resolve a complaint.

The Port will institute a Complaints Handling Group with internal staff and follow up with a customer satisfaction survey to allow for continued improvements.

Quayside Terminal

The Port has launched an online booking system designed to save time, answer enquiries up-front, and streamline service for hirees.

The Australian Cruise Association Conference will proceed in Townsville on 8-10 September 2021. The industry is keen to get together, network and plan for the return of cruising.

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Work on the RAP is currently underway.

The Port will hold a breakfast for internal staff for National Reconciliation Week as part of engaging internal staff in our future RAP.

Discussion

- Quayside Terminal Hire fees are benchmarked against other venues and are consistent with comparable venues.
- The Port is working through approvals in the Townsville Waterfront PDA before additional areas along the Ross Creek foreshore can be remediated and made available for public enjoyment.

ACTION: Invite CLG members to the launch of the Port Exhibition at the Maritime Museum of Townsville.

6. Ark Energy, Ken Dunlop

Ark Energy Corporation has been established to help Sun Metals Corporation (SMC) with its renewable energy journey.

Korea Zinc is the overarching company of SMC, and also owns Townsville Logistics (trucking), Townsville Marine Logistics and now Ark Energy.

Currently, Sun Metals' refinery at Stuart draws approximately 22 per cent of its energy from its own \$200m solar farm established in 2018. In 2020, Sun Metals joined the RE100, making a commitment to be 100 per cent powered by renewable energy by 2040. In addition to establishing Ark Energy in 2021, Korea Zinc purchased a stake in a windfarm in South East Queensland which will supply 68 per cent of the Sun Metals refinery's power by 2024. Korea Zinc has also invested in Hyzon Motors, which will assist in transitioning their fleet to hydrogen-power.

Korea Zinc's focus on hydrogen comes from the scale of the opportunity and the organisation plans to capitalise on Asia's future demand. The company has a 20-year plan to become a major global player in Hydrogen.

Sun Metals' next step is to replace five diesel-powered trucks with Hyzon Motors hydrogen-powered trucks. The trucks are big enough to tow a triple road train and are expected to start running between SMC and the Port of Townsville by October 2022. Sun Metals is also looking to change out forklifts when they can find a supplier. A hydrogen refuelling station to be located at SMC refinery.

Discussion:

- SMC is just in the first phase and is starting small, proving small concepts work effectively and safety.
- Hydrogen trucks are already being used commercially overseas for public transport. Hydrogen buses were trialled in Redlands area domestically.
- There are no linkages between SMC and the Lansdown Precinct at this stage. Phase one and two can be accommodated at the current refinery. Next phases will need to be accommodated elsewhere. Unrelated hydrogen proponents are based at Lansdown.

7. Port Updates

The Port has just last week finished its Corporate Plan and budget.

Trade remains steady.

The Channel Upgrade project will dominate the Port's capital expenditure for next few years.

The new ship-to-shore crane is now finished. Official commissioning of the Crane and Cargo Terminal will be held in the coming month, and the CLG will be invited.

The Maritime Industry Consultation Group has been established by the State Government to look at increased capability of Queensland's maritime workforce. There is \$21 million available to incentivise shifting trade onto ships on an intrastate service and in training incentives for local crew and maritime workforce capability.

The new Truck Staging Area is nearing completion. Line marking, landscaping, a new entrance statement, signage, and call-up system on LCD screens are still to come.

There was an incident on cattle ship Polaris. Australian Border Force was in control of the situation, with support of Queensland Police. One person left the Port (and later turned in to QPS), another 11 left the vessel and refused to reboard. Border Force has strong controls in place to monitor.

The Port is looking to increase the diversity of CLG members, particularly with focus on growing diversity including indigenous and youth representation. The Youth Climate Council was suggested as a possible source of young, interested members.

The CLG members agreed they are happy to continue with 5pm meetings. They enjoy the Port Tours and would like a return to a Magnetic Island meeting as well.

ACTION: Sarah Mathiesen to invite CLG members to the commissioning of the Crane and Cargo Terminal.

ACTION: Contact Youth Climate Council regarding potential young members.

8. Around the Table & General Business

Norm asked whether the Port has any input into education and curriculum.

Ports Australia has been working on getting into the National curriculum, and on local level the Port is looking at engaging more with schools. The Port welcomes school tours, attends Career Days, is partnering with the Maritime Museum and MSQ, and takes a number of university interns and work experience students from high schools.

The group was interested in the make up of the Port's workforce.

The Port directly employs approximately 150 people including an internal IT team, environment team, marine pilots, engineers, security, port services officers and a range of professional and administrative roles. Experienced marine pilots are particularly important to retain as it takes a long time for the required qualifications to be obtained.

The CLG asked for an update on the Mantaray.

The Mantaray has been deployed to Bowen, where it will service Abbot Point. The Port offered to host a trip on the Osprey for CLG members in the future.

ACTION: Arrange an outing on the Osprey.

Meeting closed at 6.30pm

Next CLG Meeting scheduled for 4 August at 5.00pm. This meeting will have to be rescheduled due to the Chair's availability.

ACTION: Confirm new date for August meeting and notify CLG members.