

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday 29 August 2018 – 5pm
Venue: POTL Boardroom, Benwell Drive, South Townsville
Chair: Kim Gebers, Manager, Infrastructure, Port of Townsville

Attendees

1	Adam Hinks	Community Rep	7	Ken Dunlop	Sun Metals
2	Annie Ilett	Magnetic Island Community Engagement Officer, POTL	8	Kim Gebers	Manager Infrastructure, POTL
3	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep	9	Melinda Loudon	Environment & Planning Manager, POTL
4	Ian Ferguson	Community Rep	10	Norman Rains	Birdlife Townsville
5	Judy Newman	Community Rep	11	Sharon Hoops	Manager Corporate Affairs, POTL
6	Leon Kippin	Community Rep	12	Sharon Marks	Conservation Volunteers Australia

Apologies

Adam Smith	Local Marine Advisory Committee	Keith Noble	Community Rep
Brendon Nolan	Community Rep	Paul Crocombe	Community Rep
Chris Meigel	Community Rep	Ranee Crosby	CEO, POTL
David Zammitt	Glencore	Vern Veitch	Community Rep
Julie Carmody	Magnetic Island Residents & Ratepayers Association		

Actions Summary

1. The Port to combine additional comments on CLG half yearly review with those provided in the survey to complete a draft report for consideration of Chair.
2. CLG members to send any other suggestions on sectors or people who would be useful additions to the CLG to the Port.
3. The Port to provide CLG members with access to the pilot version of the water quality dashboard to try it out and provide feedback on any suggestions for improvement, prior to the dashboard being made available to the public.
4. The Port to provide CLG members with access to the detailed PFAS Report when it is publicly available.
5. CLG members to advise the Port as soon as possible if there are any cattle smell issues in the future so the Port can follow up with the vessel.

6. The Port to provide CLG members with the public aspects of the land-use plan when it is available.
7. The Port to provide some “Green Port” discussion starters to CLG members prior to the next meeting.

Attachments

- Port Update Notes

1. Welcome/apologies (Chair)

Acting Chair Kim Gebers welcomed members to the CLG’s 16th meeting and thanked members for their tireless efforts. Apologies for the meeting were noted.

The CLG noted that Julie Carmody has resigned from the Group due to increased Rural Fire duties on Magnetic Island. The Port of Townsville has thanked Julie for her contribution to the CLG.

2. Record of previous meeting held 25 July 2018

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted without change and all actions have been completed.

Further comments on the CLG half yearly review included:

- Strongly support seeing Ranees and other Port staff being seen/heard on TV/radio and other media. It shows the Port is interested and is prepared to connect directly with the community.
- CLG members are liaising with their community, sharing information as it comes up in conversation and bringing back questions or comments to the CLG. Seen as a good opportunity for a two way flow of information.
- CLG members are reporting back Port information to their groups, at their shop, in pubs and local clubs. They noted that people tend to believe the worst, rather than accepting Port activities are backed up by science.
- CLG members are doing a valuable job within their own groups. People get to know CLG members and come to them for information.
- It is important that the CLG membership reaches sectors currently missing

Action: Port of Townsville to combine these additional comments with those provided in the survey to complete a draft CLG half-yearly review report for consideration of Port Executive.

CLG members’ suggestions on sectors or people who would be useful additions to the CLG included:

- Commercial fishers

Action: CLG members to send any other suggestions to the Port.

3. Water Quality Dashboard update/trial

Melinda Loudon demonstrated the water quality dashboard for monitoring buoys *Beagle* and *Bertha*. Licence issues for the other buoys are currently being resolved.

The CLG noted:

- work in progress.

- during the recent maintenance dredging period (24 July to 17 August) there was little variance in the turbidity readings (from background 2.6 NTU to 3.9 NTU).
- the use of NTU needs to have meaning for the community user of the data – ie what does this mean in terms of clarity of the water/visibility? Perhaps an interpretive colour coded element could be added (as with the air quality dashboard) to indicate good/average/poor visibility.
- Adam Hink's anecdotal report of "significant loss of water quality" at snorkel sites around Magnetic Island a few days after the recent dredging started and in conditions of little wind. Discussion followed as to how the Port could draw on citizen science / photographs etc to "ground-truth" the collective inputs? It was suggested that Adam could provide a photographic record of the water quality over the next 10 day maintenance dredging period early in November, to be correlated with wind speed.
- It would be useful to have turbidity data for 1m and 5m depth sensors next to each other.
- Data needs to be shown with a correlation with wind speed.

Action: The Port to provide CLG members with access to the pilot version water quality dashboard to try out over the next month and provide feedback on any suggestions for improvement, prior to the dashboard being made available to the public.

4. Port Updates – as per circulated document (attached). The CLG noted the following additional points:

Queensland Nickel – Kim Gebers reiterated that the Port is not blocking access for QN, and that Berth 2 is not at the Port's discretion to give QN access as Glencore holds the lease for Berth 2 until 2024.

CLG members noted that the Port is a creditor, Berth 2 has been left as it was and the CLG member Ian Ferguson is not the Ian Ferguson authorising many of the recent TV adverts around the issue.

PFAS – Kim Gebers advised that there has been a relatively subdued response to the summary report of the results of the PFAS testing. A copy has been provided to CLG members and is also available on the Port website. A detailed report will be available in the near future.

Action: The Port to provide CLG members with access to the detailed PFAS report when it is publicly available.

Trade - CLG members noted that:

- the Port is increasingly busy. There were no spare berths at the Port for a couple of days in the last months
- the transport of the cattle required around 150 road trains
- there is some local community concern about the smell from the cattle ships - there were some delays to the turnaround of a couple of cattle ships earlier in the year which the Port took up with the vessel operators and agents.

Action: CLG members to advise the Port as soon as possible if there is a cattle smell issue so the Port can follow up with the vessel.

CCU – Kim Gebers advised that long lead time work on the CCU project (such as marine baseline studies) are going ahead, though the Port was still waiting for confirmation of Federal funding.

Many local contractors have been identified to undertake the works. CLG members suggested that news stories on the economic benefit to local businesses from work generated by the Port would be useful (e.g. soil/rocks from local quarries, trucking etc.)

Members of the Independent Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) are currently being identified. Their role is to guide the marine baseline studies, review the data scopes and assess the work undertaken to identify actions which need to be taken. The ITAC will have a strong link to the Committee reviewing the dredging, along with the State and Federal Government Regulators. The ITAC will meet at least four times a year at key project milestones, with ad-hoc meetings in between as required.

Property Strategy

CLG members enquired if the Property Strategy would be made public. Kim Gebers advised that it is Commercial in Confidence, however the public aspects of the land-use plan could be provided when it is available.

Action: The Port to provide CLG members with the public aspects of the land-use plan when it is available.

5. Green Port discussion

Kim Gebers advised that the Port aims to be Australia's greenest Port in 30 years, building sustainability into the DNA of the Port. What *sustainability* and *green* means is open to a broad range of interpretations within the community. The Port is inviting the CLG to identify what is important to their respective communities for discussion at the next CLG meeting.

Action: The Port to provide some "Green Port" discussion starters to CLG members prior to the next meeting.

6. General Business

- Adam Hinks asked if there had been any movement on the issue of possible relocation of the Dredge Material Placement Area (DMPA). Kim Gebers advised that the Port is still looking at the logic behind why the DMPA was sited where it currently is. He acknowledged that it is a slow process of locating the relevant historical documents and that this issue has also recently been raised by the Magnetic Island Community Development Association (MICDA).
- It was clarified that the Port does not own the sandbanks on the eastern side of the Ross River and the need for weed management.
- Kim Gebers and the CLG collectively thanked Sharon Hoops for all her work with the Port and wished her well for the future.

Next meeting: Wednesday 26 September 2018 at 5pm in the POTL Boardroom, Benwell Drive, South Townsville

Meeting closed at 6:45pm.

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group Updates – August 2018

TRADE AND CARGO

- Townsville trade throughput for July increased by 28% compared to same time last year due to refined mineral and mineral concentrate exports.
- Total throughput for both Townsville and Lucinda ports increased by 45% compared to July last year due to sugar exports from Lucinda.
- More than 140,000 tonnes of sugar exported from Lucinda in July (the highest sugar tonnage for July since 2009).
- July container throughput increased by 28% compared to same time last year. Container imports increased by 2% compared to same time last year.
- Solar project cargo continues to drive container imports. Project cargo for the Haughton Solar Farm and Lilyvale Solar Farm in Central Queensland accounted for 40% of full container imports in July.
- Project cargo for Agripower's processing plant in Charters Towers imported in July.
- Strong demand for live cattle exports. Five livestock vessels carrying more than 20,000 head of cattle to Vietnam and Indonesia visited the Port in July.
- The Port is undertaking a container importer survey, to better understand the local container supply chain and to identify issues or information gaps. Findings from the survey will be used to inform future strategic planning and develop an ongoing communication strategy to engage with importers and their agents.

PORT DEVELOPMENTS AND PROJECTS

Channel Capacity Upgrade (CCU)

- POTL has welcomed the new project manager (Spyridon Gerontopoulos) to the team.
- The team is growing, with two additional roles currently advertised (site administrator and project accountant)
- Tenders for the supply of demountable office, toilets and crib accommodation for the project have closed and have been evaluated. These works will be contracted shortly.
- Development of site stockpile areas on the Eastport site has continued with rock supply being secured.
- The team has been focussing on the implementation and assembly of the Independent Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC); this is a significant step in cementing the environmental protections for the project.

Berth 4 Cranes & Cargo Terminal Area

- Geophysical testing has been completed and final design works are being resolved.
- The design has focussed heavily on the overall logistics flow of the terminal, to ensure optimal use of the area with minimal impact on other port users.
- Draft crane specifications have been reviewed for use and it is expected that tenders will be internationally sought during September/October.

Cargo Laydown Areas

- Works on the first two cargo laydown areas within the port are well underway, with the first area having been completed. The second area is currently in use by a port customer, so this project has been staged to minimise the operational impact. The first stage (half the area) has

been completed, with second-stage works underway now. All work is being completed by local contractors.

Port Rail Masterplan

- Development of a Port Rail Masterplan continues and is expected to be completed in November.

Eastport Development

- Approval for the 25ha Eastport development has been granted by the POTL Board. Works on the development are progressing as part of a 5 year program to increase cargo handling capacity.
- The intermodal terminal in Eastport is currently undergoing feasibility investigations.

Maintenance Dredging

- The *Brisbane* vessel has completed the first of the two campaigns for 2018, departing Townsville on 17th August. The dredge will return for a shorter campaign during early November.
- You can read more about our dredging program and download fact sheets here: <https://www.townsville-port.com.au/environment-community/environment-planning/dredging/>

HARBOUR CITY DEVELOPMENT

Strand Ferry Terminal

- The new Ferry Terminal Project is still under investigation with Sealink under the governments Market Led Proposal Process.

Cultural Centre/Reef HQ Precinct

- The Marine Science Centre redevelopment EOI closed in July and submissions were assessed. Shortlisting is nearing completion.

Property Strategy

- A 30 Year Property Development Strategy has been developed and approved by POTL Board,

ENVIRONMENT

Boundary Air Quality Monitoring

- The Air Quality Dashboard for July is available on the Port's website. All monitoring results (metals and general dust) are well below Department of Environment and Science guidelines.

Groundwater

- A copy of the preliminary investigation report to understand the extent and nature of PFAS at the port is available on the Port's website at www.townsvilleport.com.au

30 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

- The Townsville Port 30 Year Strategic Plan project team continues work on the next stages of Plan, including a print document, interactive maps, and flyover video with the view to publish in the second half of this year.

TOWNSVILLE CRUISE SHIP COMMITTEE

- The Port will welcome 3 cruise ships over the next 4 weeks, Friday 31 August (Pacific Aria), Friday 7 September (Pacific Eden, including passengers boarding) and 11 September (Pacific Aria).
- The updated cruise schedule is available on our website.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT/COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS

- 11 Port team members participated in “Hit the Hill” earlier in August to help raise money for suicide and mental health awareness.
- Port of Townsville is an official sponsor of this weekend’s Magnetic Island Race Week Community Day on 2nd September. The port supplies free shuttle buses between Nelly Bay Terminal and the event. The port has also entered a vessel in the Beer Can Regatta.