

**Minutes of the
Port of Brisbane Corporation
Community Consultative Committee meeting**

**Held at the Visitors Centre, Port of Brisbane
Wednesday 11 November 2009**

Present:

Rick Morton (Chairman), Karen Weatherburn (PBC), Mary Patchett (Moreton Bay Environmental Alliance), Ross Boyce (Manly Chamber of Commerce), Barry Wilson (The Rivermouth Action Group), Dennis O'Neill (North Point Residents Group), Ted Slater (Pinkenba Community Association), Bill Benham (Rotary Club of Port of Brisbane), Pamela Pavey (Manly Chamber of Commerce), Jill Greenhill (Bayside Creeks Catchment Group), Ian Hill (Bayside South Development Forum Inc), Christine Briggs (Bayside South Development Forum Inc), Phil Saunders (Wynnum Districts Chambers of Commerce), Mark Gough (DERM), Brad Kitchen (PBC), Ros Perry (PBC)

Apologies:

Rosie Field (PBC), John Dobson (Moreton Bay Environmental Alliance), Simon Baltais (Wildlife Preservation Society), Mark Hulme (DP World)

1. Introduction and apologies

Rick noted the apologies and welcomed Mark Gough.

2. Approval of minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of 5 August 2009 as being a true record of that meeting.

3. Business arising

Rick gave an update on the issue of navigational lighting along the FPE seawall, following the accident earlier in the year. The Harbour Master recently ruled that the lighting was adequate.

Rick also followed up on a question from the last meeting about the location of a local fishing competition in Manly Boat Harbour. Rick confirmed that the competition was not located in the harbour itself, it was located at Rose Bay.

4. Artificial reef in Moreton Bay (*Mark Gough, Department of Environment and Resource Management*)

Mark gave a presentation about the Trial Artificial Reef Program in Moreton Bay. He gave an overview of the changes to the Moreton Bay Marine Park Zones, the research done to determine the trial reef sites, and subsequent consultation with interest groups. Three sites are currently underway – an area north east of the North

Banks, North Moreton Island Area, and the existing Harry Atkinson artificial reef – targeted stakeholder meetings were held to further refine these three sites.

Each of the locations will provide for different user groups. The North Banks site is being considered for game fishing and larger pelagic species; the Moreton Island site is more accessible for recreational uses including spear fishing; and the Harry Atkinson reef site is more protected and thus more attractive to recreational fishers.

DERM used PBC's multi-beam surveying capabilities to assist with site ground truthing. Non-polluting materials, such as concrete, quarry rock and fabricated structures, are being investigated for construction of the reefs. Materials must be heavy and stable enough to provide for required usage. PBC has also given some rock to the project, and DERM are also looking at recycled concrete pipes etc.

DERM will continue to evaluate the physical, socio-economic and environmental factors for each site. PBC is also providing land for a staging area over the next six months to store materials that are to be used in reef construction.

Bill Benham asked about how triangular materials are structured under the water, and Mark gave some further explanation on this.

Dennis O'Neill asked about how successful the sunken vessels are in the Tangalooma artificial reef, and whether any further vessels will be sunk there. Mark said DERM is continuing to evaluate this, and vessels are quite costly to prepare for sinking.

Ian Hill asked Mark about the depths of the sites.

See presentation: Artificial reefs.

5. Perrin Creek project

Brad gave an overview of the Perrin Creek flood mitigation project. PBC used a gabion stabilisation method (rock filled wire baskets) to line the creek banks. PBC has also undertaken a revegetation program in the area, including extensive tree planting and weed removal. The second stage will involve mangrove transplanting into the gabion baskets. PBC will continue to monitor the progress of the mangroves, as this is the first time such a technique has been used in a project of this nature.

Bill Benham asked if the water in the creek was salt, and whether it could be fished by the public. Brad responded that the creek is salt water, and there could be potential for public access in the future.

Barry asked who would look after Perrin Creek if it was taken off PBC in the privatisation. Rick and Brad advised that it is unknown who will be responsible for Perrin Creek in coming years, but environmental monitoring is part of the development approval.

See presentation: Perrin Creek-November 2009.

6. FPE Rock Wall Habitat

Brad was unable to show the video footage of the rock wall habitat, as originally planned.

Brad advised that PBC had been contacted by a researcher from Seattle, who is travelling the world on a scholarship to look at how rock walls can provide important marine habitats, not just engineering solutions. She will be visiting the Port of Brisbane to see the marine habitat along the FPE seawall.

7. Marina magic-marina madness (Pamela Pavey, Wynnum Manly Yacht Club Marina Ltd)

Pamela (and Ross Boyce) showed some historical photos from the 1980s of Manly Marina. She also showed an image of the marina before the new berths were constructed.

Pamela explained the different facilities at the Wynnum Manly Yacht Club Marina, including a recent landscaping project around a new section of the slipway area.

Pamela discussed the Clean Marinas certification and advised the committee that all marinas within the Manly Boat Harbour (from Manly Marinas Inc.) and including the Port of Brisbane marina, now fly the Clean Marinas flag. She advised the marinas' certifications were now in the fourth year of six years granted. She discussed the various extensive and strict requirements to obtain and hold this level of environmental certification. She further advised that Manly Boat Harbour was the first harbour in Australia with all marinas certified, and in the first 20 flags given out – now after 4 more years there are 77. Pamela then thanked PBC for its assistance in pursuing this target.

Pamela discussed new fire fighting regulations for marinas, which involved extensive negotiation with Qld Fire & Safety and the industry. She also explained the arrangements in place at WMYCM for fire safety, including training programs for members.

Pamela showed an example of a bilge 'rat' – used for containing oil onboard vessels.

See presentation: WMYC Marina – Marina Magic and Mayhem.

8. Port projects

The Captain Bishop Bridge duplication project is due to start construction in March 2010. This is an extremely important project for the future of the port.

The port's new General Purpose Berth is now complete and in operation. It will be used to accommodate a range of cargo types, like building products, cement and scrap steel.

The new Multi-user Terminal at the Grain Berth is complete and in operation. It will mainly be used for cruise ship visits to the port, for vessels that cannot be accommodated at Portside Wharf (Hamilton).

The Perrin Creek project is nearly complete – as presented by Brad Kitchen.

Work is continuing on the Pinkenba public boat ramp, although ownership is now likely to transfer to council. Plans are currently being drafted and Ted asked if he could please be contacted as soon as a final plan was available.

Ian Hill asked how many wharves the port now has in operation. Rick advised that we are currently building Berths 11 and 12, so there will be nine container berths on the completion of that project. Across all of its landholdings, the port has 28 operating cargo berths.

Rick advised that last month was very positive for trade through the port, which is very encouraging in light of the downturn this time in 2008. Christine Briggs asked if there was potential for Brisbane to become the sole motor vehicle port in Australia. Rick advised that was not a likely scenario, but there is potential for Brisbane to grow market share. Christine also asked whether the increase in trade had seen a return of some of the casual port workers who lost work in the downturn. Rick advised that there have been positive signs in this area.

Bill Benham mentioned the port's recently released Annual Report, and said that he thought it was an excellent summary of the year. Rick explained some of the reasons why this year's report was quite different from past editions, particularly in light of reduced budget for production.

9. Privatisation update

Rick gave an update on the port sale. The government has completed the scoping study, and should decide before Christmas what parts of the business will be included or not included in the sale. The Port of Bundaberg has already been transferred to Gladstone. Rick will continue to update the committee in future

meetings, but for now everything is proceeding on schedule, and it is still unclear what parts of our business will remain.

Mary Patchett asked for clarification with regards to newspaper articles on the status of the Sailability lease and the fact that it had now transferred to Queensland Government, and a commitment made by Paul Lucas. Roz clarified that at this time the Boat Harbours were still with Port of Brisbane but that they would transfer over to Government in the first quarter of 2010. Government confirmed that Sailability and Darling Point Sailing Squadron would have security on the current site for three years while a review of activities is undertaken and to enable the clubs to have some certainty going forward.

10. Other business

Dennis O'Neill has had communication with Wynnum North post office. They are the closest post office to the port and can offer a range of services, and they would like assistance in promoting this to the port community. Dennis passed on some flyers and asked that PBC assist.

ACTION: Rick to ensure PBC assists in promoting the post office.

Barry Wilson said that PBC should seek publicity about the Perrin Creek project in the local paper, as it is a positive story for the community to know.

ACTION: Rick to speak with PBC's media team about trying to get some publicity on the project.

Barry also asked about whether payments had been made for last year.

ACTION: Rick to follow up on what payments have been made.

Ted Slater wanted to express his thanks to PBC for their extensive support of the Pinkenba historical trail. After many years of work the project is now complete and the community is extremely happy with the result.

Barry raised concerns about particulate emissions from the Caltex refinery, and the possible affects on the local community. Brad referred Barry to some information on the issue, and Rick indicated that any enquiries should be directed to Caltex.

Christine Briggs asked about the port bus service, and whether it is still operating. She also asked if PBC had recently surveyed the use of the service. Rick advised that the bus service is still operating, and PBC surveys still show very low usage. PBC is continuing to provide the service despite the high cost. Christine asked how the increasing number of casual workers on the island would be

affected if PBC ceased the service. Rick advised there are no plans to cease the service at this point in time.

ACTION: Rick to provide an update on the bus service at the next CCC meeting.

Pamela Pavey informed the committee that the marina had recently undertaken its regular E.coli testing, and results showed a very good quality of water in the marina, consistent with the port's own sampling. Pamela also gave a brief update on the recent dragon boat racing event held at Manly.

11. Next meeting

The meeting dates for 2010 are:

10 February, 12 May, 4 August, 10 November