

Minutes of the Port of Brisbane Corporation Community Consultative Committee meeting

**Held at the Visitors Centre, Port of Brisbane
Wednesday 14 May 2008**

Present:

Rick Morton (Chairman), Rosie Field (Convenor), John Dobson (Moreton Bay Environmental Alliance), Jill Greenhill (Bayside Creeks Catchment Group), Sandra McLeod (Hemmant Community), Pamela Pavey (Manly Chamber of Commerce), Dennis O'Neill (North Point Residents Group), Barry Wilson (The Rivermouth Action Group), Simon Baltais (Wildlife Preservation Society), Ian Hill (Bayside South Development Forum Inc), Christine Briggs (Bayside South Development Forum Inc), Bill Benham (Rotary Club of Port of Brisbane), Ted Slater (Pinkenba Community Association), Brad Kitchen (PBC), Scott McKinnon (PBC), Roz Perry (PBC).

Apologies:

Margo Canavan (Pinkenba Neighbourhood Watch), Phil Saunders (Wynnum Districts Chambers of Commerce), Mark Hulme (Port community)

1. Introduction and apologies

Rick noted the apologies and welcomed Ted Slater from the Pinkenba Community Association, and Scott McKinnon, the Corporation's new Senior Environmental Coordinator.

2. Approval of minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of 14 February 2008 as being a true record of that meeting.

3. Business arising

Pamela asked if any consideration had been made to raising the rock wall at the Manly Boat Harbour.

Rick informed the Committee that Queensland Transport had commissioned a wave penetration study in 1995. The study indicated that raising the height of the breakwater would have very limited impact on the wave conditions within the harbour. The study indicated that the maximum wave height was somewhat less than 0.24 metres.

Rick also said that wave attenuation devices would be fitted as part of the new marina development.

Pamela said that a model had been made that established the height of the rock wall should be raised, but all the money had been spent on the model. She also said that small sailing craft were most affected by the wave action and had to sail into the harbour, before taking down their sails inside the harbour.

Roz said that she would investigate and see what had been included in the current design proposals for the single channel. Roz will advise Pamela.

4. Jon Coleman (member of the Queensland Wader Study Group) Presentation on Shorebirds and Swan study

Jon gave a presentation on the work that he is doing with the Queensland Wader Study Group in banding, monitoring and understanding the behaviour of the shorebirds that migrate to the Moreton Bay area every year.

The majority of the monitoring work is done at the Manly Boat Harbour shorebird roost, as between 2,000 and 3,000 birds visit this site every year.

Jon also presented on the monitoring study he is doing with black swans at the Visitors Centre lake.

The results of the shorebird monitoring to date indicates that the birds return to the same site, fly very long and direct flights and have a range of different behaviours. As more data is collected, it will be published.

5. Stevedores report

There was no stevedoring representative at this meeting.

6. Manly Boat Harbour

Roz advised that the contract to construct the EPA building at the harbour had been awarded to GVG Design & Construct. Work had commenced on the rock wall, with the construction of the building itself to begin in June. Completion is expected before Christmas.

Roz also said that there was no progress on the single channel since the last meeting. We continue to work through a number of issues with the negotiations

Pamela said that there is a problem with the fencing that had been erected as part of the EPA building site. The fencing has blocked off the sandy beach area near the public boat ramp, which is required in the process of launching or pulling the boat up the ramp to the car. This has particularly affected a weekend fishing programme.

Roz said that the area of fencing had been increased to ensure the safety of the number of children, who had been playing around the construction site. Roz said she would talk to the project manager to see if there was a possibility of the area fenced being reduced.

ACTION: Roz to speak to the project manager of the EPA building and inform Pamela of the outcome.

7. Port West update

Rick updated the Committee on the reclamation works at Port West and the Corporation's investigation into the feasibility of developing this area as a motor vehicle precinct and hub.

To date 1.2 million cubic metres of sand had been pumped into the area and the sand will sit there for a number of years to consolidate the land.

The investigation will also look at the possibility of constructing wharves to import the cars. The issues involved in constructing wharves in this area included the restriction of Lytton Rocks and the passing of ships that could "suck" a ship off the wharf.

Bill asked why wick drains were not used at Port West. Rick explained that the geotechnical conditions were different at Port West to the Future Port Expansion area. Wick drains were expensive and were not required at Port West.

John asked if the cars would be transported to Sydney by road or rail. Rick said there were a number of constraints with rail including the priority of passenger trains, and the insufficient amount of rolling stock in Queensland.

8. Port employment initiative

Rosie gave an update on the port employment initiative, informing the Committee that the Corporation was the major sponsor of the Wynnum North State High Industry Breakfast later in the month.

She advised that we had started to talk to tenants about the jobs in their industry, and that the information for the employment portal was being collected.

A new careers port tour had been developed and advertised on the Corporation's website, and a number of schools in the next month were focusing on port careers.

9. Green mussel update

Rick advised that new regulations were requiring that all overseas dredgers entering Australia needed to be checked for green mussels

(and other marine pests) and that vessel hulls and areas, such as internal seawater systems, need to be cleaned.

Also, AQIS recently agreed to be the agency responsible for hull fouling and ballast water in Australian waters.

10. Other business

Port history book

Jill asked why Peter Ludlow was writing a history of the Port of Brisbane, when the publication - *Harbours and marine: port and harbour development in Queensland from 1824 to 1985* - written by Win Davenport and published in 1986, was an excellent publication.

Rosie agreed that Win Davenport's publication was an excellent reference book and history of the all the ports of Queensland.

The Corporation had commissioned Peter Ludlow to write an anecdotal book of the Port of Brisbane, so that the memories and stories of the people who had worked, or had been associated with the port, were captured.

Captain Bishop Bridge

Rick advised that work to duplicate Captain Bishop Bridge would commence in the next few months. This work, and the duplication, will mean that the fishing spot, near and under the bridge, will no longer be accessible.

Bendigo Bank

Ian advised that the Bendigo Community Bank goes to prospectus on 28 May at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club.

Lighting

Barry raised the recent boat accident at the bund wall, and asked if there was sufficient lighting.

Rick advised that Maritime Safety Queensland had declared the area had sufficient lighting. There is a clear channel marker and some lighting on the wall.

Maritime Safety Queensland and the Police were currently investigating the accident and we would comply with all of the recommendations of that investigation.

Many Boat Harbour

Pamela asked if port-a-potties could be installed at the northern boat ramp, using the new EPA building's sewerage connection.

Roz said that she would investigate.

ACTION: Roz to investigate the possibility of installing port-a-potties at the northern boat ramp, once the new EPA building is completed.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 August at 6.00pm for 6.30pm at the Port of Brisbane Visitors Centre.