Group Meeting Details

Round 3 Community Meeting – GKI
Date: 5 September 2015
Meeting Leader: Cr Scott
LSC Community Meetings
Start Time: 10.30am
Duration: Location: Hideaway resort

Attendance Record

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cr Scott</td>
<td>Lincoln Bertolli</td>
<td>18 Community Members</td>
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<td>Cr Hutton</td>
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<td>Cr Kelly</td>
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<td>Cr Mather</td>
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<td>Trish Weir</td>
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<td>Meegan Armstrong</td>
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Discussion Items

Council welcomed everyone along and introduced Councillors and Staff.

An update on Council’s progress since the last community meeting was provided and included:

- Corporate Plan and operational Plan are now both adopted by Council which inform and link to the budget
- Large capital works program - $60m ($190M over next 3 years with some 430 individual projects not counting the insurance claims works)
- Focus on long term financial sustainability, intergenerational equity, managing debt and ensuring cost of running council is as efficient as possible
- Currently exploring smart technology and how that can benefit the community from a liveability as well as economic development perspective
- Second Alternative Learning Space has been opened in Emu Park, to complement the one in Yeppoon. Accommodates children who struggle to integrate into the traditional school system. Waiting lists now exist for both.
- Extension and refurbishment of the Emu Park Library and Customer Service Centre now complete.
- Work is due to commence on the next stage of the Barmaryee Sports Complex. Six hard surface and eight grass surface netball courts and an amenities building for netball and rugby league.
- New planning scheme expected to be submitted to the State for its review in October 2015. Public notification of the scheme is expected in early 2016.
- Council has secured funding for 1.5 fulltime positions to assist with the social recovery of the shire and with the continued strengthening of community resilience. These positions will continue through to 30 June 2017.
Mayor provided an overview of the 2015/2016 budget which included:

- $32.5m for Roads, Pathways, Transport Infrastructure and Bridges –
- $14.4m improvements to Amenity and Tourism and Economic Development Projects
- $4.4m Water, Sewerage & Waste Management Infrastructure
- $2.3m Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements
- $4.0m Beach Restoration and Rehabilitation
- $2.0m Sport and Recreation and Communities
- $0.6m New cemetery and improvements to Open Spaces

An update on the recovery post TC Marcia was provided and included:

Taskforces were set up post cyclone Marcia
- Regional and Economic Recovery and Resilience Taskforce
- Environmental and Regulatory Resilience Taskforce
- Community Development Resilience Taskforce
- Built Environment Resilience Taskforce

Feedback is that we are bouncing back and we are doing well but it is a work in progress

Issues raised by Residents

Issue:
Residents raised issue about a lack of Directional signage on the island to show people where to go etc.

Response:
Council will log this request – *Pathway Request #398142*

Issue:
Residents also raised that there is no “No Camping” signs as well. Campers are normally well behaved and clean up after themselves except for the fires they leave them hot and smoking

Response:
Council will log this request – *Pathway Request #398142*

Issue:
From the minutes of the Public Forum, GKI 27/03/2015 . . . *Fires on the beach / dunal areas: There needs to be a clear warning signs erected at a strategic locations, advising of the dangers and the penalties.(suggest one at the distal end of the beach access from the boat.) Has any action been initiated to prepare and locate warning signs re fires on beaches?*

Response:
Council advised it will log this request to follow up – *Pathway Request #397574*
Issue:
Residents asked if they could finalise the Emergency & Disaster Plan for the Island –

Response:
Council advised that it will get an electronic copy of the north Keppel plan to the residents and/or remote locations example of plans Pathway Request #400379

Issue:
The community asked if a ‘Community Sign’ could be installed – best place would be in front of the rainbow hut. Depending on how much information is go to on the sign will depend on the size of the sign. Some initial suggestions would be ‘Welcome To Great Keppel Island” what and where (main business), map, community notices, place for rules (maybe on the back). Suggestion put rules/regulations on the back of the sign and generic tourism type information on the front.

Response:
Council will log this request – Pathway Request #397524

Issue:
Residents advised that they understand that waste services for GKI are to be reviewed this financial year to identify the range of needs, explore the viable options, and make recommendations for an effective and efficient service;
Our community has firsthand knowledge of the complexities of waste management on GKI and believe any review of waste management should involve close consultation, in particular with key island residents.
There is now a small barge that can operate once a week to remove rubbish from the island – would Council consider this option

Response:
Council advised that a waste survey is about to come out to give Residents the opportunity to have their say. Council will consider the barge option once the survey is complete it can collate all the information and the results can be workshoped at a Council meeting.

Issue:
During the last 8 years in particular, many residents of GKI have volunteered their time to provide services which dropped out following the closure of the old Resort, and continue to provide their time, experience and expertise voluntarily.

Services involve first aid & medical emergencies, search & rescue, rural fire brigade, green waste management, cleaning public toilets, maintaining walking tracks etc.

As GKI community is re-vitalised with structures and processes put in place to manage the services, there will still be a role for community members to volunteer assistance to enrich our community.

Does LSC have a system of support for volunteers? Are volunteers across the Shire recognised e.g. through annual awards, presentations, dinner? How would GKI Community link into Shire initiatives?

Response:
Council advised that yes it has a great program to its volunteers through the Community Centre. A thank you celebration is organised at the end of each year as well as a function during “volunteer week”
Issue:
Minutes of Meeting with Councillors, 03/06/2015 . . . “John Watson raised the issue of ‘street’ addresses for Island properties. ‘Securing insurance for properties requires an address recognised by the national locations database.’”

Increasingly Insurance Companies, Emergency/Disaster personnel and other agencies require precise location details as per the national geo-locations database.

Response:
This has already been addressed with LSC Officers to initiate inclusion of Great Keppel Island properties on the national locations database.

Issue:
- the goat numbers of the Island have built up now to over 200;
- goats are causing considerable damage to grasses and foliage across the island;
- erosion of headlands is an ongoing problem particularly during dry periods.

Would Council initiate action to cull or relocate the numbers of goats on Great Keppel Island.

Response:
Council advised that as most of the goats are on private land, there is nothing they can do about it. It will speak to the largest owner and see if it has any plans to cull them in the near future. Pathway Request #400378

Issue:
- Our Community appreciates Council’s start of maintenance & cleanup of public areas.
- Please understand however, that many residents have spent many hours over many years caring for Island flora and fauna in public areas and some were upset by the apparent disregard of their concerns during cleanup.
- There have been a wide range of rumours about what is going to be done & unnecessary angst due to lack of ‘official’ information about LSC plans.

Could Council’s proposals for regular maintenance / development and clean-up on the Island be made available to residents with opportunities for input and suggested priorities?

Response:
Council advised that it will log this request with the Open Spaces Unit – Pathway Request#397574

Issue:
- From the minutes of the Public Forum, GKI 27/03/2015 . . . “Current firefighting vehicle is old and needs replacing. A previous application some years ago failed to bring results – The island needs a reliable vehicle (with capable water storage to defend fire outbreaks. There is no ability for backup assistance on the island. The local volunteers were encouraged to resubmit another application. Council needs to get behind this application if it’s to be successful.

Response:
Fire Warden from the island advised that this is already happening; a new second hand vehicle is currently being serviced to be provided to Island.
Issue:
Residents asked for porta loo at the southern end of the Island where the water sports business is located. There is no water and showers in this area.

Response:
Council agreed and will look at some options – hiring v purchasing, environmental needs, solar etc. Pathway Request # 397582

Issue:
Front end loader needs a service

Response:
Council will log this request – Pathway Request #397555

Issue:
Residents advised that a copper log has been put through the pipe – near the water sports area

Response:
Council will log this request – Pathway Request #397574

Issue:
Resident advised that a community mower was left here after the Council did their clean up but we aren’t sure who is looking after it, What areas are we to mow, who will service it, who will fuel it etc.?

Response:
Council will log this request – Pathway Request # 397483

Issue:
The Solar lights along the main pathway aren’t working

Response:
Council will log this request – Pathway Request #397574

General Discussion

Need to get a core group of council people over the island for a hands-on consultation and collation of issues both open spaces/infrastructure/local laws/Environment