

# CONNECT WITH YOUR COUNCIL

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#### A Message from the Mayor

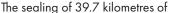
As we look back and reflect on the past 12 months that's been, it's safe to say that it was a year that presented a variety of challenges for many members of our community, as well as both nationally and globally, but it also provided an opportunity to stop and appreciate the small fortunes we often take for granted.

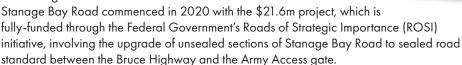
The resilience of our community in tough times has always shone through - and this year has been no different.

In Livingstone Shire, the region has been fortunate to experience only some of the impacts of COVID-19, and has seen a positive boost in tourism and economic development across a number of sectors and industries.

**Mayor Andy Ireland** 

## Stanage Bay Road Upgrades





Completion of this project will provide a nationally recognised 'fit-for-purpose' road corridor, appropriate for the scale and volume of the growing number of military and associated heavy transport vehicles that are currently traversing this Council maintained road.

The entire project is expected to be completed within three years, with potential interruptions to normal traffic flows during various stages of the works.



### Emu Park Community Arts Centre

The Emu Park Community Arts Centre will be located in the main street of Emu Park. Constuction of the centre commenced in March and will provide a vibrant new premises for the local and regional art communities and a functional gallery space in which to host travelling exhibitions.

Council was successful in obtaining \$1.1 million in Works for Queensland (W4Q) funding to provide a new Arts Centre containing an exhibition gallery, workshop spaces, and commercial space. This is on top of the \$200,000 funding already allocated to the space by Council.

Council would like to thank the Queensland Government for its valuable funding support towards the project through the Works for Queensland programme.



AN ONLINE PLATFORM FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL TO CONNECT, SHARE IDEAS AND WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE EACH LOCALITY.

#### ONE SHIRE, ONE LIVINGSTONE

**REACHING OUT TO RESIDENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY** 

Livingstone Shire Council has launched its Resident Reach program - a new digital resource allowing residents to remain up to date with news in their locality, participate in conversations, contribute to surveys, share their ideas, and have a direct online dialog with the Mayor and Councillors alongside the Engagement and Events Team, and project teams where relevant.

Livingstone Shire is made up of 65 localities that have been condensed into 19 'Cluster Groups' based on geographic locality and similar services. You can find out which Cluster Group you belong to and start reaching out to us at **getinvolved.livingstone.qld.gov.au/residentreach** 

Start the conversation on RESIDENT REACH today!



# Have your say on the Livingstone Shire Council Draft Budget for 2021/2022

Council has an ambitious vision for the future of this Shire as well as a strong commitment to deliver the best possible service. We believe that the draft budget achieves this balance.

Before the budget is adopted mid-year, it is important to know what our residents think of the draft budget. This follows on from two previous community consultation activities held through our Get Involved website and highlights Councils commitment to openness and transparency.

Council encourages everyone to take the time to have a look at our Draft Budget and then participate in the survey by heading to getinvolved.livingstone.qld.gov.au or visit any library or Customer Support centre for a hardcopy version of the survey.













# Fig Tree Galleries

Current expansion works of the Fig Tree Galleries (formerly the Mill Gallery) are progressing well, as construction begins on the new gallery building. In association with the recent refurbishments to the Old Post Office building, the completion of the new gallery will create vibrant new spaces for artists and visitors to enjoy.

The construction contract for the new gallery building has been awarded to local building contractor Griffin Builders with a mid-year forecast completion date.

The expansion and upgrades were made possible after Livingstone Shire Council received \$250,000 in funding through Round 4 of the Queensland Government's Building our Regions (BoR) programme. The project is also supported by \$850,000 from Livingstone Shire Council, bringing total funding to \$1.1 million.



#### Straw No More www.strawnomore.org

Council is considering a bid from the Livingstone community towards a "No Plastic Straw Policy', following a moving deputation by eight-year-old Charlie Erlewein at a Council Meeting. Charlie is the youngest 'strawbassador' in Australia and highlighted the negative impacts single use plastics have on our marine life and the environment.

The Queensland Government will ban single-use plastics and straw from September 2021.

### **Our Living Coast**

In late March, the Our Living Coast Livingstone Coastal Hazards Adaptation Strategy was adopted. Portfolio Holder of Water, Waste Management and the Environment, Councillor Andrea Friend, said this marks a significant milestone for the community.

Our coast is made up of pristine wetlands, estuaries and inlets, extensive sandy beaches and offshore islands that underpin our unique community and lifestyle, and attract many tourists to the area. But this also means that we're exposed to coastal hazard impacts such as erosion and storm tide inundation driven by cyclones and storm events. Unfortunately, these hazards are expected to increase with climate change. This is why we need to act now to prevent, prepare for, and respond to these risks.

The strategy will inform decision making and guide the management of Livingstone's coastline. Ecosystem and dune management, developing coastal monitoring systems, and raising community awareness of current and future coastal hazards are key short-term priorities within the plan.



### Livingstone Shire Council welcomes Rhodes Watson as new Councillor on 8 March 2021

Runner-up candidate from the 2020 local government election, Rhodes Watson was officially sworn in yesterday at Council Chambers as the new Councillor for Livingstone Shire Council, following the resignation of Councillor Tanya Lynch on 4 March.

At a special meeting on 8 March, Council resolved to seek consent from the Electoral Commission of Queensland to approach the next runner-up from the 2020 local government election to fill the vacancy.

Mayor Andy Ireland said he was pleased to welcome Councillor Watson as the newest elected representative for Livingstone Shire Council.

"Councillor Watson comes to the role with a vast knowledge of the Shire having grown up here and he certainly understands the community's needs and aspirations. We're looking forward to his contribution to the Council table," Mayor Ireland said.

Councillor Watson said he was looking forward to working for the community and sharing their issues and concerns with Council.





# Barmaryee Sports Precinct

# Official Opening of the Ladies Amenities Building

Livingstone Shire Council Mayor Andy Ireland, Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga and members of the Capricorn Coast Netball Association officially opened the new amenities block at Barmaryee Multisport Precinct on 5 March 2020, thanks to a \$500,000 investment under the Queensland Government's new Activate Queensland Strategy.

The new block includes 15 toilets, a disability access cubicle with change table, a multi-function room, and store, giving the sporting grounds a significant and much welcomed boost.

Female participation in sport is continuing to grow on the Capricorn Coast and it is important that we fund programmes that encourage more girls and women to become active.



# ICare Community Project Fundraiser for International Women's Day a huge success!

Over 60 local women banded together to celebrate International Women's Day and raise much needed funds for The Community Centre's ICare Community Project yesterday. Since the project commenced in 2017, it has received \$53,295 in generous contributions, issuing \$39,005 in grocery and fuel vouchers to those in need to date.