

Brooweena Community Briefing



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Dear Residents,

Thank you for attending the first of the Community Briefings. We plan to hold these across the region to hear your concerns and keep you up-to-date with what is happening within Council and particularly your area.

We decided very quickly after the March 15 election that one of our main priorities as an amalgamated Council was to create a two-way dialogue with residents.

We live in a large region so it is important we get out and about to the many different communities to hear your ideas and concerns and to keep you informed on what Council has planned for your area.

In response to the matters raised at the meeting the attached information is provided with a brief explanation of what the Council is doing.

I hope that these responses assist in answering some of the issues raised and I encourage you to make contact with the officer listed if you have any queries.

I feel that the meeting was very successful and I would like to extend my thanks to the Woocoo Historical Society for hosting the meeting and providing morning tea and Laurie Walker for kindly offering to deliver this letter.

I look forward to future community briefings in Brooweena.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mick Kruger
Mayor Fraser Coast Regional Council

Q: *Is there a regular program to cover waste at the Brooweena and Dunmora refuse sites? A regular clean up is needed because people are not placing rubbish in the trench and leaving a mess. What is being done about residents from outside of the Brooweena and Dunmora areas dumping large amounts of rubbish at those tips, especially old TV's and computers (14 in one week) at the Brooweena and Dunmora refuse sites?*

A: The Brooweena tip is covered on a regular basis (fortnightly) by the Brooweena depot staff. Council is investigating how best it can change the way the tip is currently managed to comply with licence conditions and to provide waste disposal services to the residents of the Brooweena area.

There is nothing Council can do about residents from other areas using the waste disposal facilities at Brooweena and Dunmora but a tender for the site supervision, recycling and management of all waste facilities will address all Council waste sites.

Council has a regular team inspecting and cleaning up all the waste sites and is monitoring how much waste is going into them and what type. **Contact:** Executive Manager Fraser Coast Waste Martyn Walton

Q: *What is the future of the Brooweena depot?*

A: The Brooweena depot will remain open.

Q: *What is happening with the maintenance of the following roads- Boobyjan Road, Walkers Flat Road, Old Gayndah Road, Doongul Stock Route and North Aramara Yarrabine Road?*

A: Council will undertake an inspection of the roads and if maintenance is deemed necessary enter into this year's grading program. **Contact:** Executive Manager Capital Delivery Davendra Naidu

Q: *Bulldust on Walkers Flat Road. Traffic counters needed to determine actual use patterns*

A: It is extremely difficult to attach traffic counters to gravel roads however a visual inspection of the road will be undertaken for recommendations on remedial work. **Contact:** Executive Manager Strategic Asset Planning Darren Bell

Q: *Will ratepayers be given input into prioritising roads identified for works by Council?*

A: Ratepayers can alert council to the condition of roads by telephoning customer service, email from the webpage or community briefing. The number of customer complaints/comments on a road is incorporated as part of the assessment criteria when prioritising the years work.

Council has \$300,000 this year for bitumen resealing for sections of the following roads – Bidwill, Mayfair, Clifton Ck/Right Rd, Old Gayndah, Kaurie St, Mungar Tce, Lockett Cl, Woocoo Dr, Teebar Hall Rd, Five Mile Rd E & W, Four Mile Rd E, Nerada Rd and Glenbar Rd.

In addition a further \$1.073 million has been allocated for Rural Road Construction. A full list of proposed capital works for Woocoo is available at www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au. **Contact:** Executive Manager Strategic Asset Planning Darren Bell

Q: *Can passing lanes be installed at the entrances to Brooweena tip and entrance to Brooweena?*

A: A letter will be sent to Main Roads outlining the Community's concerns and asking if passing lanes on the Biggenden Road could be considered. **Contact:** Executive Manager Strategic Asset Planning Darren Bell

Q: *Will the plywood and bitumen covering on Powers Creek Bridge be fixed? The seal has broken away and the plywood is breaking up.*

A: The Principal Officer Contracts - Capital Delivery Bryan Hart will have the bridge inspected and make recommendations on methods to rectify the problem.

Q: *Will the wages of Council staff be covered by Council if they are used to fight fires coming in from a 000 call?*

A: A Memorandum of Understanding is being developed with Queensland Fire and Rescue for staff to be trained in fire fighting. Under the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement staff will be given some paid leave to undertake fire fighting activities, after receiving adequate training. **Contact:** Director of External Services Ron Smith

Q: *Can the council support putting Boobyjan Road on the Regional Roads of Significance?*

A: Team investigating LRRS roads post amalgamation has been requested to consider the inclusion of this road as part of the FCRC submission. **Contact:** Principal Engineer Asset Planning - Strategic Asset Planning Gary Tremul

Q: *Can council request that Gympie Regional Council finish seal the section of Brooweena Woolooga Rd within their jurisdiction?*

A: The Chief Executive Officer will write to Gympie Regional Council with the request. **Contact:** Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Brien

Q: *Can the speed limit on Glenbar Road be reduced to 80kph and speed signs installed?*

A: Assets Investigations Officer - Asset Planning Mark Pavey to assess the road and report by the end of October on any proposal.

Q: *What can be done to improve the quality of maintenance work on gravel for the roads? Could mobile crushing plant be bought by Council to service outlying areas rather than freight in gravel? Can Council find a better source of gravel, there is too much clay and gravel and the rock too big in current supply?*

A: The Council is using a mobile crushing plant and Council is always reviewing its gravel sources and crushing plant operations to obtain optimum gravel. **Contact:** Director of External Services Ron Smith

Q: *Can a public toilet be built at Brooweena?*

A: There is no current budget allocation for a construction of a toilet. Further investigations will be required to determine need including alternatives such as installation of directional signs to the public toilets at Aramara. **Contact:** Executive Manager Recreation and Open Space Helen Carroll

Q: *What can be done to improve the job opportunities for residents of Woocoo?*

A: Council advertises all its vacant positions locally and on its website. Due to amalgamation Council is required to comply with the Local Government Code of Practice with the main principle on ensuring job security for its existing workforce particularly through this transitional period. Future job vacancies and work location will be dependant on the rationalisation of workplaces and operational requirements.

Q: *Can a Fraser Coast Welcome sign be placed at the entrances of Elliot and Musket Flat?*

A: Council is progressively rolling out signage incorporating the new regional and corporate brand throughout the region. Regional welcome signs planned for 2008/09 budget include: signage at major road entrances - Bruce Highway (south), Bruce Highway (north), Cooloola Coast Road, Biggenden Road. Other welcome signs will be dependant on 2009/10 budget and Main Roads limitations on signage placement and numbers. **Contact:** Marketing and Communications Manager Lisa Stephenson

Q: *Can gardens be placed at the entrance to the town of Elliot?*

A: There is currently no budget allocation for this works however will be listed for consideration during the deliberations of the 09/10 budget. **Contact:** Executive Manager Recreation and Open Space Helen Carroll

Q: *Will there be regular mowing of the Town of Elliot?*

A: Currently vegetation maintenance at Elliot/ Musket Flat consists of roadside slashing carried out by Rural Operations at Woocoo. There is no move to lower service levels or standards across the region although some operational matters are still being sorted out after amalgamation. **Contact:** Senior Officer - Parks Open Space & Bushland David Roberts

Q: *Can representations be made to Telstra for the installation of Repeater Station to assist with mobile phone reception, especially for emergency services?*

A: This issue will be raised at the next meeting of the Regional Disaster Management Committee to gain support for additional Telstra infrastructure in the region. **Contact:** Community Safety Manager Heide Nelson

Q: *Can Council help emergency services identify and log (with GPS marks) landing sites for the rescue helicopter?*

A: The Council and emergency services have already met to ensure the transfer of GPS data from one service to another is in a form that all services can use. **Contact:** Director of External Services Ron Smith

Q: *Can Council alert Emergency Services that mobile phones will not work in the area and that they will need other forms of communication?*

A: The Local Disaster Management Group and the District Disaster Management Group met on 14 October to discuss telecommunications. Satellite phones will be used in remote areas. **Contact:** Community Safety Manager Heide Nelson

Q: *What is happening with maintenance of Park Reserve at Town of Elliot – Musket Flat?*

A: Any council owned parkland in this area will be maintained on a programmed schedule with the frequency of visits dependant upon available resources. There is no move to decrease services or maintenance standards in this area. **Contact:** Senior Officer - Parks Open Space & Bushland David Roberts

Q: *Can a barbeque and lighting be installed at Brooweena Park and a barbeque installed at Aramara?*

A: There is currently no budget allocation for this works however it will be listed for consideration during the deliberations of the 09/10 budget. **Contact:** Executive Manager Recreation and Open Space Helen Carroll

Q: *Can Council help put a case for a bus service to Brooweena and Aramara?*

A: The Mayor will write to the Minister for Transport and Wide Bay Transit. **Contact:** Administration Officer - Councillor Support Jenni Oort

Q: *Can Council oppose the sale of land in Yarrabine Road for the creation of a four wheel drive park?*

A: Council has no legislative power to stop the sale of private land. Any rights to use the subject land for a '4x4 park' stay with the land and are not attached to any particular owner. Under the Integrated Planning Act 1997, the existing lawful use of land is protected and cannot be further regulated or conditioned by any subsequent planning legislation, including a new planning scheme.

If the new owners sought to materially change or intensify the existing use, then they would have to comply with the current town plan including obtaining any necessary development permits. **Contact:** Executive Manager Development Assessment Michael Ellery.

Q: *Can Council make representations to the state government to restore rail services to cut heavy vehicles on the roads?*

A: The Mayor will write to the Minister for Transport outlining the case for rail services. **Contact:** Administration Officer - Councillor Support - Jenni Oort

Q: *How is the Council intending to communicate with its ratepayers and informing them of what is happening?*

A: The Communications Team are currently developing a strategy to ensure that information is sent to community groups and progress associations across the region. Other communication mediums include a monthly Fraser coast matters article, quarterly newsletter and the recently distributed Our Fraser Coast magazine. Additional information on Council activities and services is available on Council's web-site www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au. **Contact:** Principal Officer Corporate Communications Kevin Corcoran

Q: *How much of my rates are used to subsidise development in Hervey Bay or Maryborough*

A: As part of the reform process the Queensland Treasury undertook an assessment of all Local Governments financial situation. As a result the predecessor Council's that now form the Fraser Coast Regional Council were ranked as follows:

Hervey Bay	Moderate
Maryborough	Moderate
Tiaro	Weak
Woocoo	Very Weak

Council collects \$1.35 million in net General Rates from ratepayers living in the Woocoo area.

Council spends \$2.3 million on operational works including road maintenance, planning services, community recreational & development support, environmental health services, vector control, park operations and community events. In addition Council has budgeted to spend \$1.4 million on road resurfacing and rural road construction during 08/09. **Contact:** Director Organisational Services – Lisa Desmond