

NEWS from your Local Councillor

Redland Shire Council



Councillor Craig Ogilvie
Representing Division 2
Cleveland/North Stradbroke Island

General Inquiries (07) 3829 8999
Council After Hours (07) 3829 8633

Business Hours (07) 3829 8607
Mobile 0409 645 672
Facsimile (07) 3829 8781
Email craigo@redland.qld.gov.au

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Dear Residents

Hello everybody. I hope the summer is treating you well. There have been a number of good things happening on Stradbroke from a Council perspective and I hope you find that this newsletter is informative.

Ministerial Regional Forum

It was pleasing to be able to welcome State Government Ministers Rod Welford and Judy Spence to the island recently. Regional forums are a State Government initiative aimed at taking government to the people to get information from the people who know best - those on the ground. They are a good initiative and I hope those people who attended found it worthwhile. Marine facilities and a 'place' project for Stradbroke Island were on the agenda. For those people not familiar with 'place', it is an initiative of State Government where various agencies of State Government meet with community and Councils to discuss the locational area needs. It is a way of getting around the left-hand/right-hand nature of government bureaucracy to deliver real results and respond to the real needs of the community. I hope that this project gets off the ground.

Point Lookout Hall

Council has recently appointed Donovan Hill architects to design a refurbishment of the Point Lookout Hall. This architectural firm is one of the leading firms in QLD and has been involved in some of the State's biggest and best urban planning projects. Brian Donovan, one of the principal architects, is a great friend of the island and he is taking a personal interest in the project. The architects will be contacting local groups to get their comments and ideas. Then they will present concept ideas at a community meeting for full public consideration, before finalising the plans.

It is highly unlikely the Council will be able to find a large bucket of money to do a major refurbishment of the Point Lookout Hall. However, I expect some money will be available next year to take a small step towards realising the community's vision.





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Youth Initiatives

I was pleased to be able to attend a youth day in Dunwich. This was a good opportunity to talk with local young people and find out about the kind of facilities and programs they would like to see in their town.

Planning Scheme

There is a new Redlands Planning Scheme. This scheme outlines development in the Shire for the next 15 years and will from March 30, 2006. There were over 6000 submissions received during the community consultation phase. Many of these submissions were from the island raising issues like the industrial area at Sturt Street, Dunwich and shifting of the level of assessment for particular uses from impact to code assessable. I did not vote for the scheme. My reasons are outlined in more detail online at <http://www.craigogilvie.com/planningSchemeSpeech.htm>.

Pest Management

Council recently adopted a pest management plan for the Shire. It has a lot of relevance for the island, given the problems we experience with invasive weeds and feral animals. Council is involved in a number of ways in trying to combat this menace to the environment. Our conservation crews are constantly weeding in areas around the island and we are in a partnership with State Government to try to eradicate Groundsel from the island. On top of this, we have initiated a multi-agency attempt to manage feral foxes on the island. Residents will soon receive more details on this matter. Residents too can play their part by keeping their land free of weeds.

Dunwich Streetscape and Foreshore

Planning for the Dunwich streetscape has commenced. Residents in Dunwich will hear soon about opportunities to provide their comments.

Land Management Plan

John Wood Consultancy has been engaged to prepare land management plans for the sporting reserves at Dunwich Rugby League and All Sports Club and the Amity Point Community Association. The aim of the management plans is to identify appropriate uses to guide future planning for both reserves. Interested residents and community groups will soon be invited to provide input and comment as part of the process.

Water Commission

Premier Beattie recently announced the formation of a "Water Commission" which will administer water arrangements in South East Queensland. It is early days, but "watch this space" for future developments.

As usual, two pages is not enough with all the Council news happening. If there are any questions, or ideas you may have for Council, don't hesitate to call me on the numbers listed.

Until next time



Craig Ogilvie
Councillor for Division 2
Redland Shire Council

