

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

Dear Residents

March 2007

Hope the summer has treated you well and that you find the following update on Council matters useful.

Water

Two things of importance are shaping on the water front.

The first is the decision by the Queensland Water Commission on the method of pricing any water put into the grid by Redland Shire Council.

The other is that Council has held talks with officers in the Department of Environment and Water Resources in preparation for lodging a referral under the EPBC Act. Early indications are that the construction of the borefield will be a controlled action and approval can only be given after suitable environmental assessments, public consultation and environmental controls have been established. This assessment may be run as part of the Water Resources Plan. The official referral was due to be lodged by the end of February.

I can confirm too that we are still on Level 2 restrictions. At last check the dam was 72% full, which means that we are unlikely to go to Level 3 soon.

Community Benefit Fund

I have decided to allocate a portion of Division 2 Community Benefit Fund towards the replacement of BBQs and the installation of some park benches. If you have a favourite spot that could do with a park bench, please let me know. Contact details are on this newsletter.

RDCOTA

Council has agreed to lease a parcel of land at 57 Wynyard Street to the Redlands District Committee of the Ageing. This will co-locate the building near the Donald Simpson Centre and Killara Place Respite Centre, and this area should become a hub for activities relating to our ageing population. RDCOTA was formed in 1971 and undertakes a range of activities relating to seniors in the Redlands Community.





News from your Local Councillor

Building Act

Towards the end of 2006 a number of key legislative changes were made to the *Building Act 1975* including the introduction of the Building Regulation 2006. One of the key changes is the requirement to achieve mandatory water savings targets that will apply to building development applications for new Class 1 buildings including dwelling houses from January 1 2007 onwards. These minimum standards include a water tank with storage capacity of 5000 litres for detached Class 1 buildings (houses) & 3000 litres for other Class 1 buildings.

Raby Bay

A successful meeting with residents was held at Raby Bay Volunteer Marine Rescue recently. The major issues covered included the foreshore park, canal levy and rates. In addition a number of 'housekeeping' issues (bins, lights, road markings etc) were discussed. It was felt that these meetings should be held a few times per year. I will advise of the next meeting date in my next newsletter. One of the positive outcomes was a petition to have Council fund work in the foreshore park in the next financial year. I will present this petition to Council soon and hope it has an effect.

Mosquitoes

The rain was good but now the swamps are flooded, mozzies are breeding in huge numbers and there's very little to stop them. Council has been doing an aerial bombardment of mozzie breeding grounds in the past couple of weeks. Over 8000 hectares were sprayed with a larvicide to control the salt marsh mosquito, which carries diseases such as Ross River virus and Barmah Forest virus. You can do your bit by reducing stagnant water in the yard where mozzies breed.

Showground

Council has been progressing the Showground Master Plan and has recently planted a large amount of trees in the showground area. Unfortunately, some of the work on reurfing the arena has caused inconvenience to touch football players and other users, which is something I regret. I can only ask that people are patient as we progress the improvements. On a positive note, it was welcome news to hear from Phil Weightman MP that the State Government has approved a \$486,825 contribution towards the Cleveland Showgrounds improvements.

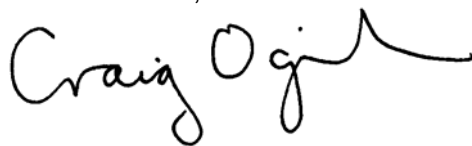
Climate Change

It seems to be the hot discussion topic at the moment and I hate to add to the noise. But the sad reality is that this is a real and urgent problem. As I said in my last newsletter, we can all make a difference. The British Government's 'Stern Report' makes it quite clear that not only is this an environmental problem but it is equally an economic challenge. Please play your part.

Hint of the Month – turn your appliances off at the wall when not in use.

Do you have an opinion or idea to share, do you have an issue that Council could be attending to or have you had an unsatisfactory experience with Council. If so, please contact me. My numbers are on this newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Until next time,



Craig Ogilvie
Councillor for Division 2
Redland Shire Council