

NEWS from your • Local Councillor

Redland Shire Council



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Cleveland/North Stradbroke Island

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Dear Residents

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

Koala Inventory

Council will be working with CRL to do a koala inventory on North Stradbroke Island. This will assist with future environmental management and will provide a more complete picture for our Redlands Planning Scheme.

Point Lookout Lighting

Council has been investigating the installation of pedestrian lighting on East Coast Road between the Cylinder Beach turn off and the Domayne Resort. Solar lighting is being considered to manage safety concerns, the 'night sky' concerns and environmental impact.

Point Lookout Speed Limit

Council has been advised by Department of Main Roads that following an assessment of the road conditions that a new 50km speed limit will be applied to the Booran to Snapper Streets section of Mooloomba Road. They have also advised that the section from George Nothing Drive to Booran Street will change after some modifications have been made.

Burnoff

Natural Resources and Water will undertake a hazard reduction burn from 19 to 23 of March on North Stradbroke Island. The burn, subject to favourable weather conditions, will be conducted near Point Lookout and Beehive Corner, affecting East Coast Road and Beehive Road.

The hazard reduction is part of North Stradbroke Island's Fire Management Plan and will be conducted in conjunction with Queensland Fire Rescue Service, Redland Shire Council, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Consolidated Rutile Limited and the Quandamooka Lands Council.

Hazard reduction burning helps to lower the intensity and spread of bushfires during summer. Most burns are held between autumn and spring when there is lower risk of burns escaping and becoming wildfires.





News from your Local Councillor

Courtesy Bus

Apologies for failing to acknowledge in my last newsletter the contribution made by many businesses around town which financially supported the courtesy bus. Let's make it a goer again next year.

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. Council believes that the presence of Ramsar wetlands on Stradbroke Island means that any increased water take must pass stringent environmental tests. 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.

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 effective 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 all other Class 1 buildings.

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.

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.



Craig Ogilvie
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Redland Shire Council