



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Peter Mitchell



ISLAND  
EDITION

### Dear residents of Straddie

The North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy was released by the State Government on September 1, providing \$20 million in funding for 23 specific projects, \$3.87 million extra as "in kind" funding and a \$5 million workers' assistance scheme.

It is worth taking the time to peruse the projects. You will find them by going to [www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au](http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au) and then clicking on "industry" and going to "industry support".

It is to be administered by the Department of State Development (DSD) in conjunction with Redland City Council, QYAC,

Straddie Chamber of Commerce, the University of Queensland and State Treasury. DSD now has a staffed office at Dunwich, which is open from Monday to Wednesday. You can also get in touch via **Stuart.Cameron@dspd.qld.gov.au**.

I encourage you to look at the strategy and liaise directly with the office.

As your divisional Councillor I have been forming co-operative relationships with key players and hope to be an effective voice of the community feeding back into the identified projects.

Personally, I see an integrated transport system - not only to but,

importantly, around the island - as critical to future social and economic success. Dependence on more cars is neither desirable nor sustainable.

We need to be innovative in our transport solutions and look at enhanced public transport at peak periods or smaller loop buses, with joint business and agency funding. I also see infrastructure investment and promotion of walk-on, cycling and emerging transport options as practical and preferred alternatives. Even now, a safe and suitable park 'n' ride site for island commuters could take the pressure off our constrained entry points.

### Catch up for a chat

I am always trying to get as much time on Straddie as possible to talk with residents about local issues.

To that end, I am now trialling two-day stop-overs on the island to increase your access to me.

The first will be on 1-2 December and you can book meetings with me at [peter.mitchell@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:peter.mitchell@redland.qld.gov.au) or by calling 0412 638 368.

These stays will be monthly, so get in touch any time or check my councillor Facebook page for dates.

### VMR providing great service



TOP CREW: With Anne Millett, Lorraine Decker and Richard Dunn at Straddie VMR.

I was very proud to become patron of Volunteer Marine Rescue Stradbroke Island.

Our volunteers do an amazing job not only helping to keep boaties safe but also by being instrumental in a large number of medical evacuations from the island.

They rely almost totally on community support, donations and sponsorship, so be sure to support their fundraisers.

### Festival shows great spirit

I would like to congratulate all the Quandamooka organisations, Elders, artists and volunteers who made this year's Quandamooka Festival such a great success.

It was an amazing demonstration of a community working together to achieve a great festival in a wonderful spirit. Council is very proud to be a founding partner.

This event is exactly the type that Council is looking for to bring visitors to the region and stimulate the local economy.

I have no doubt that events such as the festival's Kunjiel are forging reputations



SPIRIT: With colleague Cr Wendy Boglary at Kunjiel.

as "must see" shows by bringing the rich culture and heritage of the people of Quandamooka to the wider community.

While it attracts visitors to the area and provides a much-needed economic boost for Straddie, it also shows the power of culture and highlights the spirit of community that we have in our part of the world.



## A solution for Shepherd Lane

A proposal to fix the locally infamous Shepherd Lane stormwater issue has been developed by Council engineers.

It is in everyone's interest to get this right and I have confidence we can get there soon.

Public consultation on the proposal was held recently and it is hoped that we can now get the work done.

Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter a construction date will have been decided.



*CONSULTATION: Residents meet in Shepherd Lane.*

## It's time to 'Get Ready'

While we were relatively unscathed by last year's storm season, we should not become complacent – as the tree which recently came down at the Little Ship Club showed.

While the bushfire threat appears lower this year, the Bureau of Meteorology is expecting an active storm season, so it is important that residents take the time now to ensure their homes, family and neighbours are prepared.

The weather experts say we can expect the formation of around 11 cyclones in and around the Coral Sea this season, with maybe four crossing the Queensland coast.

Heat waves – classified as three or more days of high maximum and minimum temperatures – are also

### Preparing an emergency kit

Your emergency kit should contain:

- a portable radio with spare batteries
- a torch with spare batteries
- a first-aid kit
- candles and waterproof matches
- a waterproof bag for valuables
- important documents including emergency contact numbers

If evacuation is likely or required:

- a good supply of any prescribed medications
- any special requirements for babies, the disabled, infirm or elderly
- strong shoes and protective clothing
- food and drinking water



likely this summer, so remember to keep an eye on more vulnerable family and friends. If you have an elderly family member or neighbour make sure they are also prepared, especially for the heat.

To ensure you can be best

prepared, information for all residents and visitors to the Redlands is available at [www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au](http://www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au).

Above are the basics of an emergency evacuation kit that you should have at the ready.

## Disability and emergency vehicle access at One Mile

Council officers, in consultation with the local VMR and others, have adjusted the access for both emergency vehicles and those with disabilities at One Mile.

In accordance with state laws, each disability parking space is marked by a "hashed" area which takes up two "traditional" spaces as shown in the photograph.

In this case, a clever use of the hashed space to allow for both drivers with disabilities and emergency vehicles when required has been devised. The bollard ensures the space remains clear for both purposes. We know parking is precious here but these are critical uses.



### Also at One Mile Jetty

Council has already installed an extra bin enclosure at the One Mile Jetty and is considering a fourth beside the bus shelter. There are also extra bin "lifts" at peak usage times.

Please help us out by using the bins wisely and

ensuring your rubbish is not left where it can look unsightly or where soft plastic can blow into the water, risking injury and death to wildlife.

Please let Council know whether bins need to be emptied at One Mile or across the island.

## Merry Christmas

My family and I would like to wish all Straddie residents a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

If you need assistance with any Council issue, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I would also love to hear your ideas on how to address issues which affect the island, as I am committed to finding long-term outcomes.

**Cr Peter Mitchell**  
Division 2 – Islands