



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Peter Mitchell

### Dear resident of Straddie

Transportation reform is vital to Straddie's economic and social future.

As part of the process, I have been engaging widely on and off the island, seeking options for strategic improvements, as well as feedback on how to address today's needs.

Transportation reform will benefit new and existing businesses, boost employment, improve life for residents of all townships, particularly commuters, and even help to keep wildlife safe.

Transport reform is not only about cars, ferries and parking. It is behavioural change of residents and tourists and also looking for new technologies and trends that will benefit the island and make it more enjoyable. I do not believe it is our shared vision to have an island full of cars and carparks.

Primary infrastructure for mass transportation should

be State Government-led and funded, with Council as a willing supporter.

At a State level, I encourage a review of TransLink and other services, based on accurate data. We need to recognise that a flexible island-specific solution is needed. Perhaps TransLink and existing policy is not adaptable enough for the peaks and troughs experienced across the island's tourism seasons.

To this end I have asked that Council request that ferry operators, Surf Life Saving Queensland and other collaborators combine data to inform transport and infrastructure policy at the State level. This data will also help determine whether Council is meeting its responsibilities and better direct projects and funding to correct deficiencies in areas as diverse as parking needs and waste management

to the need for beach taps and showers.

Accurate data will also help Council and businesses discover and take advantage of opportunities, such as a shuttle bus service. What such a service would look like in terms of routes, funding and staffing is all on the table. Very early discussions are underway and I invite individuals, clubs and businesses to contact me or Council's transport policy team with their ideas and comments.

A trial service facilitated by Council is being investigated. It is possible that there will be hits and misses while the formula for a sustainable service partnership is found, so please work with us.

Council and I have also had some success in improving parking at Toondah Harbour. So far, 75 new parking spaces have been found through a review



OVERFLOW: Extra parking at Toondah Harbour.

of current resources. This includes 25 boat-and-trailer spaces now able to also be used by cars and motorcycles as a shared resource. Another 50-70 spaces have been opened up using previously under-utilised Council land at the rear of Redland Water. This is a good result and a pressure release ahead of decisions on Toondah Harbour's future.

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**Cr Peter Mitchell**  
Division 2 – Island

### Catch up for a chat

I am always keen to hear your ideas and discuss your concerns, so please stop for a chat if you see me at my regular consultations on the island.

Keep an eye on my Facebook page for details of where and when.

I am also available by phone and email seven days a week, so don't hesitate to get in touch.



LISTENING: I recently caught up with, clockwise from left, local police officer Peter Twort at Dunwich, coffee man Michael Bulloch at Cylinder Beach and Murray Taylor of North Stradbroke Island Surf School.



## Funding assured for coastal strategy

The development of Council's comprehensive Coastal Adaptation Strategy has been backed with \$195,650 in funding from the State Government's QCoast2100 Program.

This is great news for Straddie as it will support phases 1-5 of Council's strategy to identify and develop management plans for erosion-prone areas

and put us on the front foot in tackling coastal erosion.

It recognises that we face significant issues as a relatively small council with about 220km of coast to manage.

Phase 1 of the Redland City Council Coastal Adaptation Strategy was adopted recently, providing a rigorous assessment methodology

for identifying current coastal hazards.

When finalised, the overall strategy will provide a consistent and transparent approach to managing existing and emerging coastal hazards, as well as informing future planning.

With Phase 1 adopted, Council is now about to begin community engagement as part of

Phase 2, which looks at emerging risks.

This will address long-term concerns for areas of our coastline as well as community expectations.

This will then allow us to better plan for the long-term sustainable management of our coast and foreshores.

I will keep you posted on how you can be involved.

## More on transport

*from previous page*

Parking at One Mile ferry terminal and Junner Street remains a challenge, particularly as Council has little jurisdiction or land holdings at either site. As such, we must work patiently with landowners on agreed outcomes. I am looking to the State Government's promised masterplan for Dunwich to provide suitable parking and transport infrastructure.

It also is important that residents show the way in behaviour change and innovative solutions. Today we can look to car pool or share drop-offs and pick-ups that reduce the need for parking. Some of us have embraced two-wheeled transport, while public transport is an excellent option when possible.

An opportunity exists for the island's first Uber service, perhaps in collaboration with local business.

Transport reform is a long and winding road (pun intended). I recognise the issues and am representing your needs wherever and whenever I can.



*SUPPORT: Presenting the grant for the wheelchair.*

## Grant for all-terrain wheelchair

I was pleased to join with Mayor Karen Williams to help the North Stradbroke Island Aboriginal and Islander Housing Co-operative Society with \$2612 towards an all-terrain wheelchair so residents of Nareeba Moopi Moopi Pa Aged Care Home can enjoy the beaches and lakes on the island. This special wheelchair is able to carry people through sand or over rough terrain directly to areas which would otherwise be inaccessible to them.

## New beach showers on the way



*RESULT: Better beach facilities are on the way.*

A combination of this Councillor's desire, local input and respectful negotiation will see new beach showers installed at up to five key beach locations.

This will benefit locals and tourists alike and so are sensible pieces of infrastructure.

Exact positioning is still being determined.

Local boardriders have challenged me to have a much-loved "tap shower" returned to Cylinder Headland. I hope to do better than that.

## Sewering Point lookout

Council intends to eventually sewer all of Point Lookout township.

The new multimillion-dollar treatment plant, pictured, has excess capacity to cover expected peaks at holiday periods and for new residents. However, this is a complex and costly task so careful planning will continue, including public consultation throughout this year and beyond.

I would expect construction to start next year.

