

News from your local councillor Cr Peter Mitchell

Division 2: Cleveland edition



Dear resident,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents of Division 2 an extra special Christmas and hope that you all have an enjoyable holiday season.

I especially hope that you all stay safe, whether you are taking a well-earned break after a second COVID-affected year or will be working through the holiday season.

While COVID has hit many families hard, it has also shown we are a resilient and caring community and you are to be congratulated for playing your part in keeping Redlands Coast safe.

Community safety is something that is always a high priority for Council, which has an active working relationship with Queensland Police to help deal with issues affecting our lifestyle, such as anti-social behaviour and crime.

A clear message to come from Queensland Police is that it is important residents report state policing issues directly to them as this is the quickest way to get action. It also helps them to get a picture of where resources need to be directed, so if you see or hear anti-social behaviour, you need to make a report to police.

If there is a threat to your safety, always call 000 if you require police, ambulance or a fire crew to attend immediately. This applies to when a crime is in progress, someone is seriously injured, a life is threatened or the offender is still in the area.

Non-urgent reports relating to hooning and antisocial behaviour can be made through the Policelink service, either online at **police.qld.gov.au** or by calling 131 444. You also can call the dedicated hoon hotline on 13HOON (134 666).

Please provide as much information as you can about the incident, including the time and date, location, nature of the incident and, when it comes to hooning, details of all cars involved, including registration plate details if possible.

Hooning, which has been a particular issue at the William Street boat ramp, is defined as any of the following: speeding and street racing; "donuts" and burn-outs; screeching brakes; revving of engines; skidding, drifting and fishtailing; and driving so as to cause unnecessary noise or smoke.

All of this behaviour can be dangerous and the culprits risk having their vehicles impounded. By reporting incidents you will help police to identify and target hotspots and help make the roads safer for everyone.

Non-urgent police matters, such as a break and enter, property damage and vehicle or property theft, can be reported to police online via the Queensland Police Service website or by phoning Policelink on 131 444 (24 hours, 7 days). You can also call Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 if you have information about a crime.

Non-police matters can be reported to Council for action on 3829 8999. These include issues such as graffiti and vandalism of Council property (which can be reported via Vandaltrak mobile app), illegal dumping and littering, abandoned vehicles and shopping trolleys, animal-related complaints, potholes and faulty street lights.

Where you need my assistance, I am available on email at **peter.mitchell@ redland.qld.gov.au** or you can call me on 3829 8607 or 0412 638 368. For matters relating to customer service and direct Council support, contact Council direct on 3829 8999 or at **rcc@redland.qld.gov.au**.

I will continue to keep you informed of Council's decisions, activities and planning of specific interest to our area. In the meantime, have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and I look forward to working with you in 2022.

Cr Peter Mitchell
Division 2 - Mainland

New lychgate returns historic feature to Cleveland Cemetery

Council has completed an important upgrade at the historic Cleveland Cemetery, including the installation of an impressive lychgate that is a replica of the original placed at the Clarke Street entrance in 1927.

This will help to preserve the 148-year-old cemetery for future generations while respecting local history.

Unfortunately, that original structure – commissioned by George Randall, of Birkdale, in memory of his wife and two sons and modelled on the gates of St Martin's Church in Canterbury, England – had to be removed in 1998 as it was infested with white ants. The new one is made of hardwood, with terracotta tiles on the roof.

There are also two new granite columbarium walls on either side of the lychgate, which will increase the capacity for the interment of cremated remains.

This upgrade will ensure Cleveland Cemetery continues to meet the needs of our community and provide a place where residents can comfortably honour their loved ones.

The upgrade also included reconstruction of the Randall Walls and Garden with the addition of a shelter with table and seating, and the old gravel paths replaced with concrete pathways and a new avenue of trees.

A new lawn burial section was created along Clarke Street.

In a separate project, the lawn cemetery section on Russell Street also received an upgrade, with the installation of new turf, garden edging and rocks around headstone beams, new plants and cleaning.

Leave no trace and manage waste

Council always encourages residents to reduce their waste, recycle right and to dispose of waste responsibly.

Litter and waste that is not disposed of properly can end up in our environment and is not only expensive to manage through clean-ups, it is not a good look. Rubbish can also block drains, which can cause flooding, and harm our local land and marine wildlife when it ends up in waterways, the bay and on our beaches.

It's estimated that 80 per cent of marine debris comes from land-based activities and more than three-quarters of waste found on beaches is made of plastic.

With our parks sure to be popular over the holiday season, I encourage everyone to use the bins provided and, if a bin is full, please find another option or take the rubbish home. Also take any excess recycling to a

Recycling and Waste Centre and do your best to "leave no trace".

Keeping our community clean relies on a partnership between us all – Council, businesses and residents – as we need your help to look after our naturally wonderful Redlands Coast.

Council provides kerbside waste and recycling services, public place bins and a recycling service at eight different Recycling and Waste Centres across our city, so everyone has the opportunity to dispose of their waste responsibly.





Helping our koalas

We can all help improve the health and wellbeing of our local koala population by joining Redlands Coast Koala Watch. It's so easy.

Find out more on Council's website and join Redlands Coast Koala Watch at **redland.qld.gov.au/koalawatch**

Council's research and conservation partners do an amazing job tracking our ambassador koalas but they can't be everywhere.

Next time you're out on a walk, riding your bike or picnicking and you spot a koala, take a photo and answer a few questions on the online Koala Watch survey. You can also check to see if the koala is ill or injured and get help for it if needed. There are resources available to teach you how on the website.

William Ross Park upgrade has something for everyone

William Ross Park in the heart of Cleveland will see a fabulous renewal in the New Year.

Listening to locals revealed the need for better connections and improved accessibility in this central and wellloved community park.

New pathways across and around the park will make it a little easier for everyone in our community to enjoy this space. Picnic facilities including seating, a shelter and table and a water bubbler will encourage visitors to rest for a while. Existing trees will be carefully protected and enhanced by additional plantings.

To better support intergenerational connections there'll be new play options with a bike skills track with traffic signs, intersections, corrugations, a service station and even a train station with a train track rubber pathway.

Plans also show toddler and primary play units with climbing elements and slides, a separate higher-skilled climbing unit, a basket swing and spinner toy, and the basketball half-courts will be renewed.

I look forward to seeing these improvements bring new life to this wonderful park, providing something for everyone.

Support for Straddie

On the back of Council's tourism marketing campaigns, cinema advertising, lifestyle television coverage and the State Government's Minjerribah Futures' "always on" campaigns, visitation to Straddie has been consistent, even during traditionally low seasons.

Also in support of the island, Council has earmarked \$41 million over the next 10 years on capital works.

With island job creation and employment support a focus, Council is committed to advocating and working with other levels of government to ensure Straddie can realise its immense potential and continue its transition from sand mining.

The Minjerribah Visitor Research Program conducted by the University of Queensland has identified three major improvements required: transport connectivity, customer service and enhancing food and beverage offerings.

A growing issue is the lack of staff accommodation, which is affecting customer service delivery and consistency in services due to a shortage of workers on the island and an inability to house them on the island. This is particularly problematic for hospitality staff, especially those who generally work after-hours. There's no late ferry service to get them off the island to the mainland either, with the last ferry

at 7.55pm. These are also issues we are addressing with the State Government.

The Brisbane 2032 Games offer a fantastic opportunity for tourism across the region, including on Minjerribah and indeed across the broader Redlands Coast.

Council believes for this to succeed there must be a consistent approach and message for the future of Minjerribah. There are currently many different state bodies dealing with different things – from land-use and permit arrangements to land rezonings - so we will continue to work with the state to encourage further clarity and consultation on the island's future.

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