



# News from your local councillor

## Cr Peter Mitchell

Division 2: North Stradbroke Island/Minjerribah edition



November 2021

### Dear Straddie resident,

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

I especially hope that you 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 the Queensland Police Service, as this is the quickest way to get action and also helps police 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](https://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 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](mailto: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](mailto:rcc@redland.qld.gov.au)

I will continue to keep you informed of Council's decisions, activities and planning of specific interest to Straddie. 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 – Island

### Point Lookout Gorge Walk update

The Point Lookout Gorge Walk restoration is well advanced, with the reconstruction of a 25m section of the boardwalk that was damaged earlier this year.

I am pleased that it will be all done ahead of the busy Christmas holiday period so residents and visitors can once again enjoy the full 1.2km circuit uninterrupted.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience while the work has progressed. This walk, with all its viewing platforms, is a huge drawcard for both the island and Redlands Coast in general as there are few places anywhere with such amazing views and opportunities for marine wildlife encounters, particularly one so accessible and free.



## Amity Point SEMP Implementation Plan update

Council has allocated more than \$550,000 this financial year to implement actions under the Amity Point Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP).

Council officers have started work on delivering some of these actions, with this year's project funding going towards planning foreshore protection works, a university-led coastal research project and two surveys of the rock wall (also known as a flow slide barrier), which runs along the coastline behind public land and private properties.

The SEMP's Implementation Plan identifies a suite of recommendations to be carried out across Amity Point's three coastal sections or "reaches", recommending Council carry out beach management actions to protect public land and assets and assist foreshore landowners in defending their properties from coastal hazards such as erosion and

flow slides, sometimes informally referred to as "sinkholes".

The plan, which was adopted by Council early this year, suggests Council deliver several seawall projects, undertake beach monitoring surveys and sand nourishment activities, apply for preliminary approval of the whole rock wall structure, and maintain sections of the rock wall protecting public land and assets. Additionally, the plan outlines the obligations of foreshore property owners in the central reach who are responsible for funding and maintaining sections of the wall that protects their land, including sourcing and transporting rock material.

The SEMP recognises the effectiveness of the placement of rocks against coastal hazards in the central reach. Obtaining preliminary approval of the rock wall will help landowners secure the development permits they need to maintain sections of the rock wall protecting their properties.



*Council also completed emergency works at the Amity Point' basin as part of its foreshore management.*

## Leave no trace and manage waste

Council always encourages visitors to Straddie and island 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 Straddie to see increased visitors over the holiday period, I encourage everyone to use the bins provided in the parks and, if a bin is full, please find another option such as the bin at your accommodation or home. Also take any excess recycling either to the island's Recycling and Waste Centre or, if you are visiting, take it off the island with you and do your best to "leave no trace".

Keeping Straddie 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.

## 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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