

NEWS from your • Local Councillor

Redland Shire Council

December 2007



Councillor Murray Elliott
Representing Division 7
Alexandra Hills

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Dear Residents

Well it has been a big year for all communities in the State, especially those in South-East Queensland, with amalgamations, water asset takeovers and electoral boundary redistributions. It is particularly hard work for Councils when the State takes an “aggressive approach” to negotiating on issues, which really means “take it or leave it”.

As the year goes by, several issues arise particularly at this time of year with the holidays. The following are the key problems and I have indicated how to address them.

Motorbikes in parks and conservation areas

While a lot of residents have motorbikes/quad bikes and in particular junior trail bike types, one should be reminded that it is illegal to ride them in the above areas. Council officers and the police have fined many of the users (\$325-\$600 per time) for operating them in this way.

Most riders are responsible but they may not know they are breaking the law. It is causing great concern and agitation to those residents who live next to these locations and to walkers using the trails for what they are designed. Any resident who knows the address of offenders can either contact me on the above numbers or the Capalaba police on 3433 3333. Details and description is a great help. Please do not confront riders yourself. Leave it to Council officers or police.

Vehicles parking on footpaths

Residents are reminded that parking on footpaths is illegal and can incur a fine of \$150 by Council officers. I have witnessed all manner of vehicles including boats, trailers, cars, caravans and other equipment, which can cause access problems for the general community. Even parking in a driveway across the footpath causes great concern to others who have to walk on to the road to get by.

In a recent Council report 54% of residents have indicated walking as their major fitness regime. Having a parked vehicle in the way can reduce both the momentum and the enjoyment of this activity. Where residents have a concern regarding this type of problem they can contact Council on 3829 8999 and lodge a complaint, which will be dealt with promptly. Make sure you ask for a Customer Request Number for follow up of your complaint if required.

Blocked Drains and Catchpits contact 3829 8528



News from your Local Councillor

Speeding in streets

I would remind residents that sole responsibility of enforcing laws with respect to speeding on all roads rests with Queensland Police. Only continued writing to the police, or phoning them on 3433 3333, will provide the resources we need "on the ground". There is simply no other way to achieve this police presence. Residents also have a responsibility to their own neighbourhood in monitoring their own speed when driving, and encouraging others to do so as well. It all helps in having a safer road environment. Also in response to the many enquiries Council receives on road safety and the 50kph speed zones on residential streets, a Road Safety Kit is currently being produced. Copies of the Kit should be available in the New Year.

Community Benefit Fund

I had great pleasure in providing funding contributions for the following projects this financial year.

- **Alexandra Hills State High School - \$4,800**
 - For concreting under the shade structure on oval (see photo)
- **Alexandra Hills Sporting Club - \$24,550**
 - A trailer, office equipment, fencing, seating and irrigation system for oval - a project undertaken by RSC on behalf of the club.
- **Hilliard State School - \$10,000**
 - A four bay shed for school and before/after school
- **Alexandra Hills Sporting Club - Meteors Netball Club - \$1,450**
 - Training equipment
- **Vienna Woods State School - \$5,000**
 - A metal shade structure on cricket oval
- **Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Bayside Division - \$1,300**
 - A new marquee used for community displays.



Capital works

Footpath works have now been completed in Mantanna Street, Heffernan Road, Whitehaven Street and Alexandra Circuit. The widening upgrade of the pedestrian crossing at the Burwood Heights Shopping Centre on Vienna Road and the paving of the median strip in Heffernan Road near the school are expected to be completed shortly. The new \$40,000 irrigation system for Keith Surridge Park is now complete and has replaced the problematic system that has been in place for some 15 years.

Clothing charity bins

As we enter the Christmas period, I would remind residents that bins are located in Windermere Road opposite the Alexandra Hills High School main entrance for your convenience. Your unwanted items will go a long way in supporting our community; particularly at this time of year. This facility is so well used that six bins are now installed to cope with the demand.

Meet Your Local Councillor

I conduct my "Meet Your Local Councillor" stand at the Alexandra Hills Shopping Centre every second Saturday between 9am and 12noon. This has met with great enthusiasm and I look forward to meeting you, so drop in and say hello.

Finally, thank you to the many residents who give me information to improve our community. Your input is highly regarded. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and a safe holiday season. I look forward to working with you again in the New Year.

M. Elliott

Murray Elliott - Councillor for Division 7
Redland Shire Council

