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Edition 9



REGIONAL RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION OF CAIRNS INC. NEWSLETTER
Meeting: Tuesday December 7, 2010 - 8pm Pride Leagues Club, Irene Street, Mooroolooloo.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you to all the community for your support throughout 2010. We still have a long road ahead in 2011; keep up the good work - stay happy and safe during the Festive Season.

I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable break, and look forward to more new members support in 2011.

Issues reported to Cairns Regional Council:

- 1. Moody Creek Catchment:** Draft Moody Creek Drainage Management Plan "Have Your Say." Feedback Form 2010, completed for November 19, 2010 as stipulated. If you have not filled out the "Questionnaire" please do so as soon as possible, as it is still not too late! I will keep you informed as progress comes to hand. This will enable Council to supply the updates to the community as soon as the Consulting process has been completed due by mid- December.
- 2. Flooding Issues:** Manoora - Request to look at a three / duplex style dwelling in conjunction with a Council easement and new Multi-Unit Devolvement next door. Information on flooding issues 2009 has been requested- **Reply from Council:** Carried out opening up of old manholes covers, previously covered by road works, removed tree roots from pipes, years of silt build-up and rubbish, believe 60 cubic mtres.
- 3. Cleaning of Chinaman Creek:** Ongoing cleaning maintenance approval by DERM (Department of Environmental and Resource Management) on March 19, verbally, with further approval by email March 22, 2010. A very small portion of land under the jurisdiction of DERM, no permit required. The remainder of land is under the jurisdiction of Council. The cleaning of overgrowth and debris is a major requirement for safety purposes for the entire community. DERM have assured me there is no hold up as far as they are concerned. **Reply from Council:** November 27, awaiting my reply to Council proposals.
- 4. Lighting Manoora:** Request for assistance - Moody Creek Reserve lighting for safety purposes. Now on order, with another Park light, tree lopping and repairs to electrical box for safety issues now under urgent request for maintenance.
- 5. Lighting Mooroolooloo NHW Area:** Request for lighting upgrade to Callum. Dunbar, Koch, Swallow/Dunbar, Chattaway Streets, and Koch Street footbridge, being addressed. Update at the meeting.
- 6. Unit Development Pease, Hoare and Mayer Streets:** Public meeting was held on November 17, 2010 in regards to the 398 Unit Block proposed for development. The community was not happy, and voiced their opinions. Particularly when they were advised the land was already a Q100 level with no fill required.
- 7. Kerb & Channel:** requests from Hayward Street residents for kerb and channelling upgraded. A large volume of water flows down the north / west side of Dann Street into McCoombe and Hayward Street residents. McCoombe & Clifford Streets kerb & channelling requires upgrade.

Disclaimer: The information contained herein has been obtained from sources we deem to be reliable, however we cannot guarantee its accuracy and interested persons should rely on their own enquires.

8. News Item: approximately three weeks ago, where Commonwealth funding would have a pool of millions of dollars available for upgrade to infrastructure throughout Queensland. Could Council investigate please?

Cairns Regional Ratepayers' Association Meeting: Held at Pride Leagues Club 8pm, November 3rd, 2010
Minutes

Meeting opened 8.00pm and closed at 9.00pm

Apologies: Bill Jackson, Frank Pagram, Steve Moncrieff, Lyn Pellett, Leila Trenfield, Launa Lavering, Carol Shaw, Les and Ruth Richards, Carol Aglinskas, Mick Tiles, Linda Vogel

Previous minutes: Read by Thelma in absence of Secretary Leila Trenfield

1. Council reply to issues:

- Issues 1-5 – Lighting issues being addressed
- Issue 6 – Pedestrian crossing at Koch St near Raintrees is under investigation
- Issue 7 - Alfred St Bus Stop near Autobarn being considered
- Issue 8 –Guide posts to the entrance of Prides Leagues Club, completed
- Issue 9 – Chinaman's Creek from Gordon down to McEwen Sts. The overgrowth should have been completed for safety purposes. Approval given in an email for the cleaning of drains since 22/3/10 after a meeting was held on 19/3/10 verbal approval was given. These works still have not been carried out. Council has been reminded that the cleaning needs to be done. This is a safety issue and Police cannot access the area. Only 236m² of land is DERM land. With the remainder owned by Council with no permit required.
- Issue 10 – raising levy bank near Hutchings St is being addressed
- Issue 11 – update on the Moody Creek Consultation process. Feedback forms to be distributed. Moody St becoming a 4 lane road in the future. 800 Hectare area for the Moody Creek catchment. Send photos with feedback form regarding flooding
- Issue 12 – Swallow St. Bottlebrush trees being dealt with by the owners of the properties & council
- Issue 13 – 398 Units being considered to be built on a block facing Pease/Mayers and Hoare St.

2. Request to remove trolleys out of drains. Chinaman Creek -up to fifteen reported at the back of McEwen Street to Chinaman Creek Crossing, Mulgrave Road

3. Printer on hold

4. Treasurer advised all figures balanced and the cash balance is around \$2000

5. Guest Speaker Cheryl Helenius from the Dispute Resolution office

- This service offers a free mediation service for the community
- Runs under the Dept of Justice and Attorney General
- Level 1/10-12 McLeod St, Cairns (opp Myers)
- Cheryl has been there for 16 years
- Service has a panel of mediators that have been appointed by a National Standard. There are 19 active mediators who are called when needed. Mediators come from all walks of life being retirees, taxi drivers
- It offers a conflict resolution service for the community that is aside from the courts and police
- Mediation occurs in a safe environment
- Process can take a few hours
- Free service except for workplace disputes other than that for non for profit organisations
- Mediates for
 - (i) neighbours disputing
 - (ii) family disputes
 - (iii) commercial disputes
 - (iv) aboriginal
 - (v) community/school/teachers/students

* Criminal mediation - stealing, wilful damage, grievous bodily harm

* 98% success rate

President: Thelma Spelta

A/Secretary: Carmel Sherman

Leonie Brammall: Treasurer

