

Costing it all out

By Lea Guy

CONSULTANTS have been engaged to determine the costs of three major infrastructure projects vying for Federal Government funding.

A new Innisfail library, an aquatic centre for Mission Beach and replacement of the grandstand at Tully Showgrounds will be investigated in the next six weeks, with Cassowary Coast Regional Council to use the information gathered to determine its highest priority.

"There are three horses in the race," Mayor Bill Shannon said at Thursday's council meeting, moments after an-

Consultants to investigate grandstand, pool, library

nouncing the process was not a horse race.

"At the moment, we don't know which horse is ahead."

Consultants have been given until Christmas Eve to complete their assessments of the projects, with councillors to make their decision in January.

Former Johnstone Shire councillor Wayne Kimberley asked the council why such an investigation was necessary for the Mission Beach pool.

"Hasn't it been consulted to death?" he said. "They had a site, they had costings — everything's done."

But Cr Shannon said amalgamation opened up more options, including the ability to stray from the originally proposed site of Marcs Park.

CCRC community services director Julie Murphy said three potential sites for the pool would be looked at, with the Mission Beach Primary School so far earning support.

"(The consultant) will provide us with site plans and concept designs to give us a good idea of what's going on with the sites and a cost estimate," she said.

"On the library, we've sourced a consultant who will work with us to identify the best site and do an analysis on site.

"They will look at co-location options and possible enterprise components."

Ms Murphy added that a master plan for the Tully Showgrounds might be needed before the grandstand design could be finalised. A progress report on the consultants' work will be provided to councillors next month.

Library? Pool? Grandstand? Which would you choose?

Wednesday, 4.30pm, Mission Beach Central



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**KAREN HOWELL,
WONGALING BEACH**

The pool. People have been trying so hard to get the pool. It's been years since we've been waiting for a pool — well before Cyclone Larry.



**LUDING STRIKE,
MISSION BEACH**

The pool because there is a pool in Tully and it would be more convenient if there was a pool in Mission Beach.



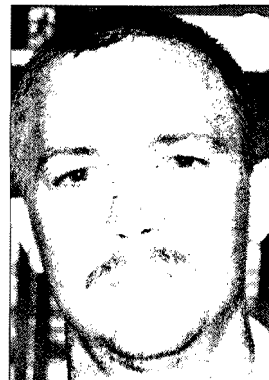
**AMILIA ROBINS,
BINGIL BAY**

We need a pool because of the stingers. It's a bit of a cruise to Innisfail or Tully for the pool. My son was killed seven years ago by a stinger.



**TRACEY STRAZZERI,
MISSION BEACH**

There is no pool here. Every other town has a pool except for Mission Beach. I'd use it, and I've got two kids and they can't swim during the summer because of the stingers.



**MARK BENNETT,
MISSION BEACH**

The library because you can never have enough books. So many people rely on those resources for their education. It's the most important thing people need.



**LIZ LANG,
WONGALING BEACH**

The pool because I teach swimming at Tully and it's really overcrowded and overused there. I believe Mission Beach will one day outpace Tully in size. The pool will be a good thing for tourists to have.



**JO TURNER,
EL ARISH**

Pool because of safety. It's needed because of the stingers in the summer season. And all the tourists want to come here and swim, but at the moment there is nowhere for them to swim.



**SALLY THAIN,
MISSION BEACH**

I think the pool because we have so many tourists here. It would increase the tourist numbers all year round. There is nothing for locals to do.



**JANINE EWENS,
MISSION BEACH**

It's a big enough community — so a pool. All other smaller communities have a pool. There needs to be more infrastructure here because this is a growing community.



**LINDA SUDDABY,
MISSION BEACH**

The pool because there are hundreds of kids here and they can't swim in the ocean. Even Tully's got a pool.