

**Minutes of the General Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting of the
Mission Beach Community Association held on Tuesday 10th February 2009
at the Mission Beach Resort.**

Meeting opened: 7.30 pm

Apologies: Andrew Cripps MLA, Cr. Jennifer Downs, Michael Johnson, Peter Johnson, Sgt Dan Gallagher.

Attendance: 25 including CCRC Mayor Bill Shannon

Welcome: The Chair reflected on the bushfires and Warwick moved that MBCA donates \$250.00 to the Victorian bush fires appeal. Seconded: John Hillary. Warwick reminded the meeting that the Red Cross training day will be on the 14th of March and in the event of over subscription an extra day will be scheduled. Cr Downs had send in a report of her recent work regarding Mission Beach and it has been sent to all members and is on the website.

Bill Shannon:

- Re Planning. The existing planning schemes for North and South will need to merge when the 2025 plan is finalised and then there will be a two year lead time.
- The EPBC Act (*The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the EPBC Act) is the Australian Government's central piece of environmental legislation. It provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places— defined in the Act as matters of national environmental significance*) .is actually an International Treaty with other countries and is under Foreign Affairs powers to protect the environment.
- The Mayor explained the rhetoric behind the reason CCRC only received \$357,000.00 of the Federal Government handout:
 - a. Every Council received a base amount of \$100,00.00
 - b. They receive more if they were a growing area based on the recent senses which was post Cyclone Larry and therefore showed a static population.
 - c. Financial Assistance Grants from the Commonwealth to the States depend on our high UCV land valuation of \$5000 per acre which penalises our region because we are supposedly not paying enough rates. This equation is unfair as our rates are high and wages lower per capita than the average. Cr. Shannon has written to the Commissioner requesting a review.
- CCRC does rely on grants out of the 3 levels of Government, Local and State are cash strapped, the Federal Government is the only one that can raise money.
- It is essential that CCRC employs a qualified Economic Development Officer. Cr Shannon said that there are two types 1. Big picture person 2. Working at micro level. The latter is his preference. This will be in the next budget.
- Council has a backlog of \$180 million dollars of works to be done before the replacement of the Jubilee bridge (\$20 million). The upgrade of the Innisfail water & sewerage systems (on the edge of failure and heading for 3rd world conditions) are of utmost importance and can only be achieved by going into debt. Main Roads will contribute \$10 million towards a new bridge.
- The impression is given that all monies are spent on necessities in Innisfail but Council is also spending some money over the remainder of the Region. \$30,000 towards the Clump Point Pontoon; (thank you James Mort) Bikeways and shade cloth for play grounds and a

Community Arts Centre besides C4 and Visitors Centre. Three demountable's are being moved from the Innisfail prison camp to the site as temporary housing.

- Bill said that he still hopes to be able to commence on a Mission Beach Pool by the end of this term but he prefers the simpler Kuranda pool option. (2.5 million). He urges the community to have a look at it.

Questions to the Mayor:

- James Mort suggested Innisfail needs more employment but this will not happen with the town being in its present state. Infrastructure needs to be done to bring people into the town.
- Allan Ogden questioned staffing levels as a percentage in the budget, which is higher than the Queensland average. Bill said that there is a change in the ethos and work ethic of the staff. Council is seeking subsidies but there is only 30-40% available instead of the 50-60% that we need.
- Truus Biddlecombe asked whether Capital Works is going to be sub-contracted as Council does not have the expertise in some areas. They should be concentrating on general maintenance (4852 report issues) not new projects.
- Sharon Lord asked about street lighting in particular Wongaling Beach Road and Holland Street.

Peter Kellet spoke on the newly proposed Multi purpose Arts Centre (Mission Beach Arts)

- Committees have been set up and more help is needed with sub committees.

Minutes of the 9th of December 2008 meeting were moved by Pete Faulkner.
Seconded James Mort.

Annual General Meeting:

- Minutes of the AGM 22 February 2008 were moved by Truus Biddlecombe. Seconded Allan Ogden.
- Presidents report; on website. Moved Warwick Jull. Seconded Linda Hannah
- Treasurer's Report. Moved by Warwick Jull, Seconded Allan Ogden. (\$2.145.35 balance)

Appointment of Acting Chair person: Allan Ogden.

Election of Office Bearers:

- President: Warwick Jull
- Vice President: Lynda Hannah
- Secretary: Allan Ogden
- Treasurer: Peter Johnson
- Minute Secretary: Wanda Lowe
- Communications Officer: Truus Biddlecombe
- Rates & Services: Michael; Johnson
- Planning: Pete Faulkner
- Ordinary members: Warren Giffin
More needed

Meeting closed: 8.30 pm.