

Report on CCRC Meeting Thursday 10 June 2010

Mayor Bill Shannon is on leave until 17 June. Deputy Mayor Mark Nolan presided.
Meeting opened 9.10am due to late arrival of Crs Silvestro and Sorbello.

Items of interest were;

- 1) **Backyard Blitz site Innisfail:** At the 27 May meeting it was successfully moved that the Regional Council take over trusteeship of the Backyard Blitz site in the grounds of the Innisfail High School with the Johnstone Landcare group to take over maintenance of the site at no cost to the Council.
- 2) **Water and Sewerage Capital Works program:** The water pump at Bingil Bay had to be replaced as an emergency. The design plans for a new reservoir on Wheatleys Hill have been completed. The replacement of the 10 steel generation set covers at the Mission Beach sewerage pump stations with powder coated Aluminium covers is more than 75% complete, with further upgrade works to follow in 10/11.
- 3) **Capital Works Program:** The upgrading of the intersection of Alexandra Drive and Cutten St is underway. Widening and sealing in Conch St is due for completion June 10. Traffic calming on Reid Rd is proceeding. The design for the replacement bridge in Wheatley Rd is nearly complete. The Cassowary Drive bikeway/walkway through Marcs Park is awaiting approval from the Federal Govt.
- 4) **Council Fees and Charges:** This item took some time but the short version is that reconciliation of fees and charges across the region is nearly complete. Increases were around the 5% mark.
- 5) **Draft Operational Plan:** it is a legislative requirement that the Council has an operational plan for each financial year which details how the activities proposed will work towards achieving the strategies in the corporate plan. The most interesting item that emerged from this was over the issue of what is happening on the ground with the managed forestry investment schemes that are now in receivership. Feral weeds and animals are proliferating within the forest areas and the attitude of the State Government appears to be that as Council approved the applications for change of use to Forestry it is the Council's responsibility to deal with the pest problems. Not unreasonably Council has the view that it does not own the land nor does it have the resources to manage the problem.
- 6) **Operation Poseidon:** Last week Council participated in a state wide emergency response exercise which was very demanding and Cr Downs thanked the Council staff for their participation.

Warwick Jull