

Member newsletter – 5 May 2019

Table of contents

***	Candidates for Federal Election –18 May 2019	1
***	TAPP Project.....	1
***	Councillor Remuneration update.....	2
***	Divisional Boundary Reviews	3
***	Local Government Reform update.....	3
***	Sekisui House Court Appeal update.....	4
***	Upcoming events and key dates	4
***	Current “Have your Say” opportunities - SCRC.....	6
***	Current “Have your Say” opportunities - Noosa.....	6
***	Candidates for March 2020 LG elections.....	7

*** Candidates for Federal Election – 18 May 2019

Fairfax

Kylie Cowling – UAP
Jake Ryan – Conservative Nationals
Sue Etheridge – Greens
Ted O'Brien – LNP
Richard Belcher – Sunstainable Australia
Paul Henselin – PHON
Sinim Australie – Independent
Bertrand Cadart – Liberal Democrats
Julie McGlone – ALP

Fisher

Trevor Gray – UAP
Daniel Parsell – ALP
Tracy Burton – Greens
Christopher Paterson – PHON
Andrew Wallace – LNP
Mike Jessop – Conservative Nationals
Paul Monaghan – LAOL

Wide Bay

Daniel Bryar – Greens
Jason Scanes – ALP
Andrew Schebella – UAP
Llew O'Brien – LNP
Tim Jerome – IND
Jasmine Smith – Conservative Nationals
Aaron Vico – PHON

*** TAPP Project

Ken Mewburn, President of TAPP (Take Action for Pumicestone Passage Inc), has provided the following information on a recent grant they received:

The grant was provided to TAPP from the Department of Environment and Science, (DES) through their Smartygrants Environmental grants scheme. The land is owned by DES, managed by Council, above high tide and leased by Ts Onslow.



L to R: TAPP members Don Ritchie, Ken Mewburn, Lissa Ware, Carla Clynick and Brady Sullivan (Photo: Mary Barber)

The current project is being managed on our behalf by Healthy Land & Water. Engineering and development has been supported by Professor Norm Duke from Mangrovewatch, who will be on site to oversee the construction and preparation of the mangrove planting site. The mangroves have been harvested, propagated and prepared

for planting by Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation (BBCAC). A financial contributor to the project is the Caloundra Power Boat Club. The Council is contributing fencing, seagrass survey and other “in kind” support. Night Eyes has contributed time and manpower to the project for Stage 1 and is a contributor of such for Stage 2.

The important thing about the Onslow project is the community collaboration aspect.

There will be some innovation used in this section of the project, not previously tried on local coastal regions. We will use BESE, Biodegradable Eco System Engineering Elements which are constructed from Potato Starch and produced in the Netherlands. These will be used as a base for planting and retaining the mangroves in addition to the use of coir logs in a unique “fish scale” pattern which has proved very successful in Stage 1 for preventing transverse movement of the sand. In addition, it is hoped to experiment with “Dutch Wall” technique which will be used to reduce or prevent erosion at the interface between the mangrove planting site and the free flowing Passage.

The sand dredging and planting stage of the project is expected to be in the week commencing 13 May 2019.

It is a concept for erosion control that we gained approval for Stage 1 in 2015 and that has proved successful and recently there was only very minor erosion above the normal high tide mark during cyclone Oma with no loss of mangroves. In the adjacent northern section, which is Stage 2, erosion was excessive on the shoreline and required substantial installation of coir logs to protect until sand can be dredged and pumped to stabilise in May.

We have asked Ken to make a presentation at our June meeting to explain the process and progress. As a “soft” engineering process, it may be of interest other member groups looking for an alternative to “rockwalling”.

***** Councillor Remuneration update**

Councils do not set the salaries of Councillors. Rather that has been the role of The Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal. Their 2018 [Report](#) set the following rates of councillor remuneration to apply from 1 July 2019:

Role	Noosa	SCRC
Mayor	\$130,584	\$228,521
Deputy Mayor	\$81,615	\$158,332
Councillor	\$69,372	\$138,745

NB These figures are based on the size of the council and do not include the 12% superannuation contribution or expenses paid to councillors in addition to their base salary.

From 31 December 2018 the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal ceased to exist and its functions have been taken up by two new bodies:

Councillor Conduct Tribunal

The Councillor Conduct Tribunal has been established under the *Local Government (Councillor Complaints) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018* which amends the *Local Government Act 2009*.

The Tribunal is an independent body, made up of six members and a president appointed by the Governor in Council. It is responsible for dealing with complaints of misconduct by councillors.

The Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs provides administrative and secretariat assistance to the Tribunal to enable it to effectively perform its responsibilities.

The functions of the Tribunal are:

- to hear and decide complaints of misconduct by councillors as referred by the **Office of the Independent Assessor**
- to investigate the suspected inappropriate conduct of a councillor referred to the local government, by the assessor and to be dealt with by the local government
- to make recommendations to the local government about dealing with the conduct.

Local Government Remuneration Commission

To be also established this year under the *Local Government (Councillor Complaints) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018* which amends the *Local Government Act 2009*:

Part 3 Local Government Remuneration Commission

176 Establishment

The Local Government Remuneration Commission (the *remuneration commission*) is established.

177 Functions

The functions of the remuneration commission are—

- (a) to establish the categories of local governments; and
- (b) to decide the category to which each local government belongs; and
- (c) to decide the maximum amount of remuneration payable to the councillors in each of the categories; and
- (d) another function related to the remuneration of councillors directed, in writing, by the Minister.

See section 15 of the **Local Government Act 2009** and section 17 of the **City of Brisbane Act 2010** for more information.

Sunshine Coast Regional Local Government Area

On 26 March 2019 the Minister for Local Government referred a divisional boundary review of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council to the Change Commission. The purpose of this review is to ensure each division of the Council has a 'reasonable proportion of electors' (quota). In doing so, this ensures each person's vote has the same value.

The quota for each Sunshine Coast division is 22,446 electors. A lower limit of 20,201 electors (-10%) and an upper limit of 24,690 electors (+10%) is allowed.

As at 31 January 2019, one division (**Division 9**) in the Sunshine Coast did not meet the quota. For more information click [here](#).

Public suggestions on this matter are invited until 5 pm, **20 May 2019**. To make a submission please use one of the options below:

- Online Form
- Email - LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au
- Post - GPO Box 1393, BRISBANE QLD 4001
- Deliver to - Level 20, 1 Eagle Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000

***** Local Government Reform update**

On 1 May 2019 the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 was introduced to the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Bill has been referred to the Parliamentary Economics and Governance Committee who will be conducting an inquiry into the Bill. More information regarding the making of submissions, public hearings and the enquiry in general can be located on the Committee's website. **OSCAR intends to make a submission – feedback welcome.**

Should the Bill be passed in due course, these reforms will apply to local governments and candidates for the 2020 local government elections. More information will be made available in due course by the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs [here](#).

***** Divisional Boundary Reviews**

Divisional boundaries are reviewed in the year before the Local Government Quadrennial Elections, as required by law.

Each council division is required to have relatively the same number of electors so that each person's vote carries the same weight (one vote, one value). This is known as a 'reasonable proportion of electors' (quota).

Reasonable Proportion of Electors (quota)

As Queensland's population grows and shifts, the number of voters in each local government area (council) changes.

Councils must review enrolment within their divisions and notify the Local Government Minister and the Electoral Commissioner of the results no later than:

- Brisbane City Council - 1 October, two years before the Local Government Quadrennial Elections.
- Other divided councils (except Indigenous regional councils) - 1 March, the year before the Local Government Quadrennial Elections.

To determine the quota, divide the total number of enrolled electors in a local government area by the number of councillors (excluding the mayor). A tolerance of either 10% or 20% is allowed depending on the number of electors:

- For a local government area with more than 10,000 electors: 10%
- For any other local government area: 20%

Relevant documents, along with the original information paper, are available on the Department's [website](#).

*** Sekisui House Court Appeal update

Member organisations: Please circulate to your members

Many OSCAR members will be aware that, despite a record 9000 objections, in June 2018 Sunshine Coast Regional Council approved a development application by Sekisui House Australia. This intensive residential and hotel development at Yaroomba is significantly greater than any development allowed for by the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* and the Coolum Local Area Plan Code.

This is not just an issue for Yaroomba. Critically, this approval sets a legal precedent for the entire Sunshine Coast area. Anywhere on the Sunshine Coast is vulnerable, particularly older areas with larger allotments, and close to the beach, for example, Coolum Beach, Maroochydore, Warana, Wurtulla, Currimundi, Shelly Beach. It means that **anyone** living in a low density, low rise (one or two stories) residential area could have a 25 m (seven storey) apartment block built next door, across the road or down the street. Think about the difference to your quality of life with a 7-storey apartment block next door; what that means for your breezes, sunshine, privacy and views. And traffic.

Three community organisations are working together to fight this decision. Two organisations, Coolum-based **Development Watch Inc** (DW) and the region's peak environmental advocacy group, **Sunshine Coast Environment Council Inc** (SCEC), are jointly appealing this decision in the Planning and Environment Court. In addition, the Yaroomba-based community group, **Friends of Yaroomba Inc**, with its subsidiary "Save Yaroomba", has joined with DW and SCEC to raise funds to pay the considerable court costs.

The Court appeals were lodged in November last year, legal representation has been engaged and preliminary Court appearances have occurred. We are now at the next critical stage in the process where we have engaged expert witnesses across four key areas – town planning, economic need, visual amenity and marine turtle ecology. The experts' involvement is comprehensive and vital for supporting our case.

We were encouraged by last month's Planning & Environment Court ruling that a service station and fast food outlet at Mudjimba was unlawful due to it being outside the Planning Scheme. Given the calibre of our assembled team and the strength of our grounds of appeal, we believe we have a strong case and are determined to win this Appeal.

Our legal representatives and expert witnesses need considerable time and resources to prepare the best possible case. We must ensure we have sufficient funds to employ them for the duration of the appeal. **We urgently need your financial support to do this.**

The three organisations listed above are together raising funds to pay the cost of the Court Appeal through events, social nights, merchandise sales as well as donations directly to our fighting funds. If everyone who objected to the proposal donated \$50 or \$100, we would have sufficient funds to fight the Appeal, but any donation is welcome. You can donate directly to DW (Development Watch Inc, Bank of Queensland, BSB 124-079, Acc. 2281 0131) or **for further information on tax deductible donations** please contact SCEC on 5441 5747 or <https://www.scec.org.au/>.

For information on progress with the Appeal and fundraisers, watch for regular updates on the SCEC website, Development Watch website <http://developmentwatch.org.au/wp/> and Friends of Yaroomba Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofyaroomba/> or come and talk to us at *Symphony by the Sea*, on 11 May, Coolum Civic Centre (sponsored by DW) or at *WED Fest 2019*, on 2 June at Cotton Tree (sponsored by SCEC).

Estelle Blair - President, Development Watch

*** Upcoming events and key dates

11 May 2019

Symphony by the Sea

Coolum's annual "Symphony by the Sea", presented by the Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra, promises to delight the senses and evoke the emotions as never before.

Featuring young local musicians Keely LeGallez (clarinet) and Rhys Williams (violin) this concert is one not to be missed.

25-26 May 2019
QLGRA Bi-annual Conference



Saturday 25 May 2019

Public Forum 9am – 4pm
CWA Hall on Denham Street, Townsville

Dr Cameron Richards - Professor of interdisciplinary studies with extensive experience in the Asia-Pacific region

Jason Ward - Renowned anti-corruption crusader

3rd Guest Speaker – to be advised

Forum Dinner 6pm
A 335 Flinders Mall, Townsville

ALL participants and friends are welcome to join us on Saturday night for dinner at Cowboys Leagues Club Ltd. Costs at own expense.

Sunday 26 May 2019

Bi-Annual Meeting 9am – 12pm
CWA Hall on Denham Street, Townsville

RATEPAYERS DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS EVENT!

\$25 PER HEAD

PROMINENT GUEST SPEAKERS Q&A

Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea provided.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL REGISTER NOW!

QLGRA Inc.
President – Colin Hewett
0435 073 072
www.qlgra.org.au
secretary@qlgra.org.au
Please be advised that QLGRA Inc does not hold public liability insurance cover and your attendance at any QLGRA function will be at your own discretion.

2 June 2019

WED Festival 2019

World Environment Day Festival is a celebration of our unique environment with live performances, wholesome food, sustainable stall holders, a fun kids program, live art, innovative displays, community and environment groups to meet and learn from, and more activities than you can poke a stick at!

Check out the official WED Fest website [here](#).

WHERE

Cotton Tree Park, Maroochydore

You can see a list of other events that have been posted on SCEC's website [here](#).

***** Current “Have your Say” opportunities - SCRC**

Cemetery Plan 2012-2027

Sunshine Coast regional Council is currently reviewing its Cemetery Plan 2012 - 2027. The Cemetery Plan is a strategic document that conveys Council's commitment in providing cemetery services to the community.

This review provides an opportunity to plan for the emerging needs of the community, future growth and increased diversity in the Sunshine Coast region.

To help inform the future plan and strategic direction of services, Council is seeking feedback from targeted individuals and groups identified as representing community viewpoints.

Council is proposing to commence meeting with key stakeholders in early March 2019 to offer an opportunity to inform the future plan. These meetings are intended to be hosted as short, face to face conversations.

Where meetings may not be feasible, there is the opportunity to provide feedback by completing this [feedback form](#) and returning it by [email](#).

Council remains committed to delivering cemetery services that are sustainable, inclusive, respectful of those past and responsive to the needs of current and future generations.

Council has invited OSCAR to meet with staff in relation to this matter; if anyone would like to be part of our delegation please let us know by email.

***** Current “Have your Say” opportunities - Noosa**

New Noosa Plan

The New Noosa Plan is the draft planning scheme that will replace the current Noosa Plan 2006. It strives to protect the look and feel of Noosa while providing a blueprint to shape the shire's growth over the next 20 years.

The New Noosa Plan is the culmination of several years of engaging with the community. A discussion paper in October 2016 provided community feedback and that information has helped prepare the New Noosa Plan.

The New Noosa Plan will facilitate more housing and business choices, continue the place based approach of the existing planning scheme, future transport needs and opportunities for rural enterprises. It considers how we live, work and play in the future. It sets the rules for development including new or changing land uses, subdivision, building works, landscaping and clearing of vegetation and all forms of engineering works.

As required by the State Government, the New Noosa Plan differs from the current Noosa Plan with changes to the structure, zones and land use definitions in particular.

The New Noosa Plan has undergone a rigorous review by the State Government to ensure it complies with the Planning Act 2016, State Planning Policies, South East Queensland Regional Plan and other State interests.

Now is your chance to review the New Noosa Plan and have your say. The draft planning scheme can be accessed [online](#) using Council's ePlan.

Written submissions are welcome up to **Monday, 20 May 2019**, 5 pm and may be submitted via the Your Say webpage, by email or post.

Council will consider submissions and make appropriate changes before sending it back to the State Government for a final review and sign-off from the Minister.

***** Candidates for March 2020 LG elections**

OSCAR will attempt to provide the names of people who declare their candidacy for the 28 March 2020 council elections as we become aware of them.

If any OSCAR member becomes aware of someone declaring their candidacy please let us know.

It goes without saying that listing a candidate's name in this context is for information purposes only and DOES NOT imply support or endorsement from OSCAR.

Confirmed

SCRC

Division 2 – Brady Sullivan

Incumbent: Cr Tim Dwyer, Deputy Mayor

Division 5 – Richard Bruinsma

Note: Cr Jenny McKay has announced she will not be seeking re-election.

Potential

SCRC

Division 9 - Alex Watson

Note: Cr Stephen Robinson has not confirmed whether he will seek re-election at this stage.

Division 10

Note: Cr Greg Rogerson has announced he will not be seeking re-election.

Noosa Council

Note: Noosa is an undivided council so candidates stand for election for the whole LGA.

NB If you wish to unsubscribe at any time please [reply](#) with REMOVE in the subject line