



Community Conversation Meeting

Minutes from meeting - 15 April 2015, 6.30pm to 8pm

Location: Bajool Hall, High Street, Bajool

Apologies: Councillor Fisher, Councillor Swadling

Attendance: Approx 20 locals. 3 Councillors and 4 Council staff

Minutes

1. Col Weeks, chairperson of the Bajool, Marmor and District Ratepayers Association welcomed Council and opened the meeting
2. Mayor Strelow thanked the community for attending.
3. Councillor Ellen Smith thanked the community for attending and also Council's senior staff
4. Wade Clark (Community Engagement Officer) outlined the Resident Satisfaction and Importance Survey Results for 2014.

Overall Messages

- Overall satisfaction with Council moving in the right direction - up 11.1%
- Top three priorities for the community are: Roads, Footpaths and Parks
- 16 services, facilities and infrastructure items that are meeting expectations
- Solid increases in satisfaction with infrastructure, but more needs to be done
- Top performers: Libraries, Art Gallery, Rockhampton Zoo and Heritage Village

Bajool Messages

- Highest priority areas for us!
 - *Roads, Footpaths, Waste Services and Street Lighting*
 - Services, Infrastructure, Facilities that are below the Regional averages (across 47)
 - Urban stormwater, Urban unsealed roads, Rural sealed and Unsealed roads, Street lighting and Parks
5. Bob Holmes (General Manager, Regional Services) outlined:

What Council has done in your area recently:

- Bodero Road, Bajool
- John & Bruce Street, Bajool
- San Jose Road, Marmor
- Ulam Connection Road, Upper Ulam
- Upper Ulam Road, Upper Ulam

Local projects Council is working on:

- Munro Lane, Marmor – bitumen seal (programmed for May 2015)
- Mt Hopeful Road, Bajool – grading
- South Ulam Road, Bajool – grade gravel section
- Punter Road, Marmor / Bajool – grade & gravel
- 12 Mile Road, Marmor – grade & resheeting

Update on priorities listed by the community at the November 2014 meeting

6. Bob Holmes (General Manager, Regional Services) provided an update on the following areas:

- i. An all-weather and safe access from the highway into Bajool (both along South Ulam Road and Ulam Road) including 80km zone is required.
 - Meetings have been held and awaiting DTMR decision.
- ii. Signage for Bajool and Marmor needs to be improved for large vehicles for example: "Please limit compression braking – residential area"
 - Meetings have been held and awaiting DTMR decision.
- iii. Clearance in/around the exit of South Ulam Road onto the Bruce Highway needs to be cleared better as line of sight is obstructed.
 - Meetings have been held and awaiting DTMR decision
- iv. Finalise the sealing of High Street (Bajool)
 - Currently not in the 2015/16 budget. Action: Council to investigate a treatment other than bitumen to reduce dust.
- v. Midgee Bin station is untidy. Request closure.
 - Council resolution: Close Midgee Bin Station, seek guidance on alternative location from local residents.
 - Bin Stations that are successful tend to: be off main roads, within community oversight and have local ownership.
 - A location in Upper Ulam seems viable, further consultation with the community will be completed. The focus of this is to be a local facility.

7. Michael Rowe (General Manager, Communities) outlined:

- i. Can Council change its operations for hazard reduction (burning) of grass on Council grounds in Bajool, and other areas (townships)?
 - Council will complete this for Council controlled roads. Contact with DTMR will be completed for main roads.
- ii. Weeds – can Council work with the community to manage weeds better?
 - Yes, Pest Management Program will cover this area in late 2015.
- iii. Wild dog baiting program – can Council assist?
 - Yes, happy to work in with the local community.

- vi. Vector management, sometimes when this is being done the spray is not going where it is intended to go.
 - Rural operations will be paying greater attention to weather conditions.
 - vii. Request for investigation for a public toilet facility for Bajool to cater for highway visitors.
 - Council could put forward the same arrangement as Westwood to Bajool. If the community wants a new facility Council can advocate to DTMR.
 - Discussion on this point indicated that the Pony Club (Bajool) may be interested.
Action: General Manager for Communities to undertake.
8. Mayor outlined Major Projects Council is working on and then closed the meeting:

Relating to Bajool

- Rockhampton Region Planning Scheme With Minister

Other Regional projects

- Cyclone Marcia Business Recovery Plan (Phase 1 Actions)
 - Agriculture Repair – Help primary producers clear their fences of debris & damage.
 - Encourage a 'Buy Local Campaign'
 - Local Procurement for Domestic Repair (encouraging local contractors)
 - Kershaw, Botanic Gardens and Zoo Repair
 - Clearing of Waterways
 - Major Bank Support (encourage major banks to establish a fund to assist small and micro business impacted by the Cyclone)
 - Online Procurement Application

9. Discussion/Questions

Infrastructure

- a. Resident asked why Bodero Road construction occurred so close to his fence. Action: Council to contact local resident to discuss.
- b. Resident outlined that washouts have occurred recently behind the Upper Ulam recreation grounds. Resident believed they may have been caused by Council activity in the area. Action: General Manager for Regional Services to coordinate investigation.
- c. Resident question for Punter Road – how much of this road is having grading/gravel work completed? Action: Council to contact local resident to outline project.
- d. Resident mentioned that on Bobs Creek Road (at the end of the bitumen) a Council culvert is clogged and needs to be cleared out. Action: Council to clear culvert. Note: Council completed action: This was checked and appears in good working order.

- e. Resident further indicated that High Street is a dust problem and four families live on this end of the Street. Bob Holmes indicated that Council will investigate a potential alternate treatment. Action: Council to investigate a treatment other than bitumen to reduce dust.
- f. Resident requested clean-up of local (Council owned) drain close to Bajool Pub. Action: Council to organise clearing of drain.
- g. For the Upper Ulam Connection Road there was rubbish (from a road construction) stacked up against a residents fence. Action: Council to investigate and remove as deemed necessary.
 - i. Council completed action: This was checked and is not up against fence.

Environment

- h. Midgee Bin Station discussion, there were various thoughts as to what was necessary once this was closed, this included some form of barriers/bollards and signage so that it was absolutely clear that Midgee was closed.
- i. Resident asked if Council could provide 12 month permits for fire wardens to burn off locally. Action: Council to consider request and inform the local fire wardens.
- j. Resident requested a fire break around Council blocks in Bajool. This was agreed to in principle.
- k. General clean up - Resident asked if Council could clean up local urban Council owned land blocks in Bajool. This was agreed to. Action: Council to place this into works schedule.
- l. Community Facilities – Public Toilets - Resident indicated that the Pony Club would be interested in discussing a potential agreement for the utilisation of their toilet facilities for the public. Action: General Manager, Communities to make contact to discuss potential arrangements.
- m. Coal Dust Issue, the trains that are coming back from offloading are causing the greatest issues for the Bajool community. There are also silting issues on some adjacent private infrastructure. Community requested further community advocacy on the matter. Action: Council to contact Aurizon and advocate on behalf of the community.

Leadership & Partnership

- n. Another special thank you to Council for the road assistance in the Upper Ulam area.
- o. Local community was thankful of work completed by the community for the tree clearing after Cyclone Marcia.

People|Places|Planning

- p. Planning Scheme/Subdivision request for information. Action: Council to contact local resident to discuss.