



## Community Conversation Meeting

Minutes from meeting - 12 May 2015, 6.40pm to 8.10pm  
Location: Gracemere Community Hall, Gracemere

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Apologies: Councillor Swadling and Councillor Belz

Attendance: Approx 23 locals. 4 Councillors and 5 Council staff

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### Minutes

1. Wade Clark, (Community Engagement Officer) opened the meeting, introduced the Councillors and Council officers. An outline of the agenda was completed.
2. Divisional Councillor Ellen Smith thanked the community for attending.
3. Bob Holmes (General Manager, Regional Services) outlined:

What Council has done in your area recently:

- Foster Street Reconstruction
- Middle Road Reconstruction
- Bland Street Slurry Seal
- Conaghan Street Slurry Seal
- Donovan Crescent Slurry Seal
- Fogarty Street Slurry Seal
- Holgate Street Slurry Seal
- James Street Slurry Seal
- Origano Street Slurry Seal
- Peters Street Slurry Seal
- Reservoir Street Slurry Seal
- Stewart Street Shoulder Widening
- Cowan Street Road Works
- Sunrise Crescent Road Works

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

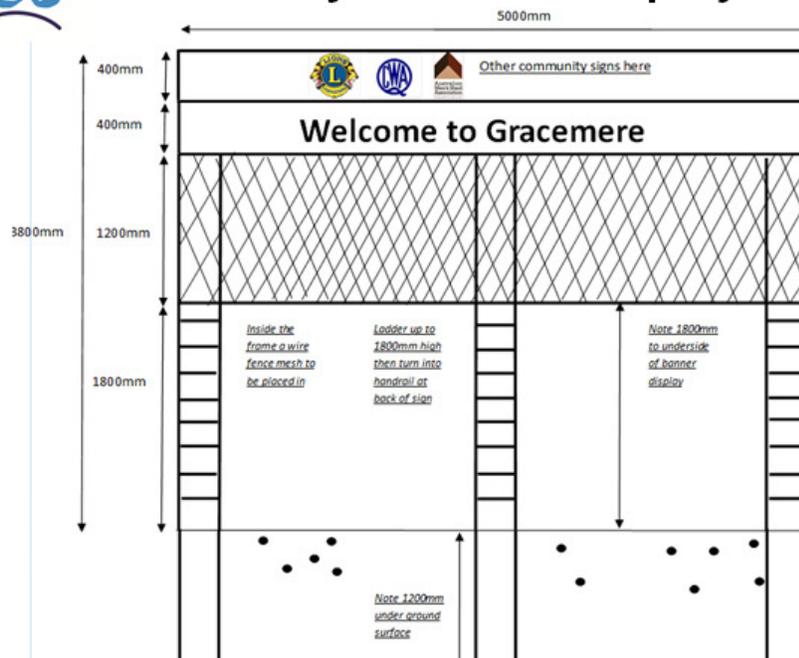
What is Council working on:

- Stage 1 Cedric Archer Park to be completed by 17 July 2015
  - Stage 1 is currently being delivered.
  - Site works commencement 18.05.2015.
  - Indicative cost \$375K
  - Comprising of:
    - Installation of play equipment
    - Installation of play fort
    - Installation of rubber & sand soft fall
    - New paths and sealing

- Remaining stages:
  - Stage 2 – Design & construct new Skate park
  - Stage 3 - power reticulation /BBQ re-commission
  - Stage 4 – Touch of Paradise/ upper lake development
  - Stage 5 – New amenities and picnic shelters in central playground.
  - Stage 6 – Touch of paradise redevelopment
- Community Banner Pole project (draft design below and preferred location on next page)



## Community Banner Pole project





## Community Banner Pole project



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

5. General Manager for Regional Services provided updates on the priorities listed by the community.

SES at 10 Barry Street outlined that they have outgrown their facility and they are working with Council officers in developing a submission

- The SES Local Controller is investigating the matter and developing a business case for this to be advanced.

Request for improvement at Lucas Street for traffic leaving school

- Investigation to be undertaken.

Request for a more integrated pathway system in Gracemere

- Costs for these links will be considered in the development of the 2015/16 budget and future works program.

6. General Manager for Communities provided updates on the priorities listed by the community.

Request for beautification of Laurie Street, continuing area from Ranger Street.

- Council is waiting for the Department of Transport and Main Roads to complete works before beautification works can commence.

Request for maintenance, bridge of "Touch of Paradise" burnt, repair requested.

- Pending on the costs this may need to be considered in the development of the 2015/16 budget. Bridge repairs included in Cedric Archer Master Plan.

Toilets locked at Cedric Archer Park, request to be open from 6am to 6pm.

- Toilet opening hours to be considered through the Cedric Archer Master Plan process.

7. Mayor / General Manager for Regional Services outlined that Council has advocated to various private organisations and State Government Ministers on a variety of requests including:

i. Coal dust still an issue for the Gracemere community, also noise complaints as well. Request for Council to undertake advocacy to improve the situation.

- Letter received from Aurizon on the matter, March 2015
- Aurizon indicated:
  - Mines have implemented veneering stations that places a polymer layer to prevent dust lifting from the trucks.
  - Other practices such as flat bedding is undertaken to reduce dust lifting.
  - There are various dust monitoring stations along the Central Queensland Coal Network.
  - They are willing to explore natural barriers as an option along the rail corridor and some local discussions have already taken place.
  - Council will be seeking a formal deputation from Aurizon to discuss.

ii. Request for advocacy, safety fence for Armstrong Street (Aurizon).

- Aurizon indicated that this fence has now been fixed.

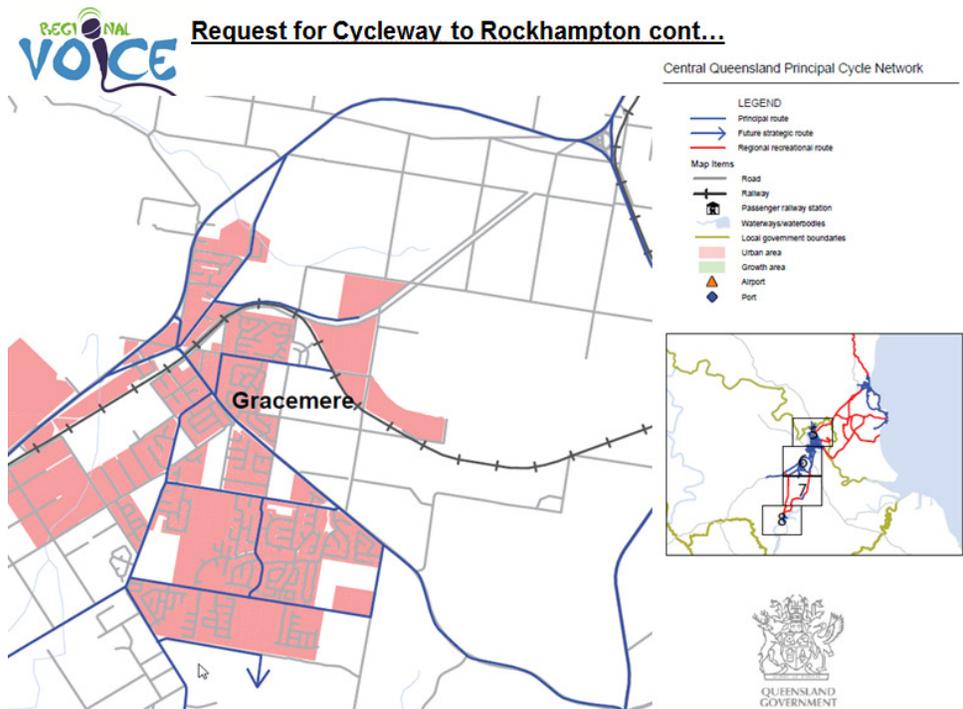
iii. Request for advocacy. Pedestrian crossing on Laurie Street

- Letter received from the Minister for Main Roads, Safety and Ports on the matter, May 2015.
- The Minister outlined that:
  - Acknowledgement of traffic increasing on Lawrie St (10,000 vehicles a day).
  - When the zebra crossing was previously in place there were five crashes (four involved rear-end collisions).
  - Since the completion of local projects including a speed reduction and installing pedestrian refuges no crashes have been recorded.
  - Traffic and Main Roads position is that pedestrian refuges are the preferred method in places like this.
  - Council will review this position with its internal experts as the letter was received yesterday. There maybe other options

such as traffic lights that could be placed forward as suggestions.

iv. Request for Cycleway to Rockhampton

- Letter received from the Minister for Main Roads, Safety and Ports on the matter, May 2015.
- The Minister outlined that:
  - As part of the \$85 million Yeppen north and \$296 million Yeppen south projects, a number of cycling treatments including signage, surface treatments and road widening is being provided.
  - During the preconstruction phase consultation with local cycling groups took place.
  - Use of the Old Capricorn Highway between the Yeppen Roundabout and Fairy Bower Road is considered safe and suitable alternative for the Bruce Highway.
  - Council will be requesting further clarification on the details of the State's plan for cyclists including the recently released Principal Cycle Network Plan (April 2015).



v. Council Advocacy to State Government on other matters, waiting for responses for the following areas:

- Request for advocacy. Council to request for a 5 day a week police presence at Gracemere.

- Request for advocacy. Council requested to continue support for the Gracemere High School.

8. Mayor outlined Major Projects that Council is working on:

Relating to Gracemere

- |                                      |                       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Rockhampton Region Planning Scheme | With Minister         |
| • Gracemere Industrial Area          | Works being completed |
| • Cedric Archer Master Plan          | Works to commence     |

Other Regional projects

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| • Cyclone Marcia Business Recovery Plan | Phase 1 Actions    |
| • CBD Revitalisation                    | Requesting funding |

9. Discussion/Questions

Infrastructure

- Resident mentioned that the railway fence at Platen Street was also in disrepair and asked Council to advocate for this. Action: Council to advocate on the communities behalf to Aurizon.
- Resident mentioned that there have been many near misses near the Gracemere State School. Resident indicated that a more structured traffic management approach is required. Action: RRC to review correspondence received from DTMR and ascertain whether this is in the best interests of the community considering the situation.
- Two young residents that have issues with sight requested Council advocate on behalf of them to have either a pedestrian crossing placed in Lawrie Street or some others means to cross this busy street in a safer manner. Councillor Smith mentioned that she was pushing for traffic lights in Lawrie Street. Action: These residents will be invited to attend with the Mayor, Councillors to Community Cabinet to voice their concerns to Ministers directly. Note: This action has been completed.
- Resident mentioned that due to the congestion around school drop off/pick up times there seems to be a significant amount of cars “rat running” on Broadhurst Drive. There are also major hold ups from the Gracemere State School to the Shopping Mall.
- Resident asked, if a contractor completes road works for Council is there a cross check of the works. Answer: yes.

### People|Places|Planning

- Local resident and employee at one of the local State Schools requested Council to also advocate to Aurizon to involve schools as part of a noise reduction strategy. Action: Include this in the next correspondence to Aurizon.
- Resident asked if the “Tropic of Capricorn” could be flood lighted in the evenings. Action: General Manager for Communities to consider.

### Environment

- Resident asked: what is occurring behind the sewerage treatment plant? Answer: trees that were felled because of the Cyclone Marcia were being mulched there. Resident also questioned why trucks that had hauled dangerous materials such as asbestos were being used. Answer: the trucks had been cleaned thoroughly and were double checked and were in line with current practices to ensure vegetation loads were safe for mulching.

### Living|Learning|Leisure

- Resident asked for the development timeframes for Cedric Archer Park. Action: When ready General Manager for Communities to forward to the Gracemere Voice/place on Council website
- Resident requested library services for Gracemere. Mayor outlined that this was not in the upcoming budget however thought needs to be given to other models to allow greater access to Gracemere residents to these resources. Action: General Manager of Communities to consider.

### Leadership & Partnership

- Resident thanked Council for their hard work to get the community back on its feet. The clean-up of trees was exceptional.
- Another resident mentioned that the service to schools by the Council through the Cyclone clean-up was fantastic.