

Councillor Report

6th April 2010

1.0 Gail Sellers

1.1 Gladstone Ports Corporation - Community Working Group

The GPC Community Working Group meeting was held on the 12th March and was attended by Councillors Hansen and Sellers. There was a presentation on the Barney Point Wind Barriers. The purpose is to reduce the wind effect on the stockpile surfaces at the Barney Point Terminal and to slow the wind speed down by 50%. The height of the wall will be 15m and the length 510m. The Community Working Group will be actively recruiting new members.

1.2 Gladstone Community Hub

The Gladstone Community Hub was officially opened on 13th March. A large crowd was present for the official opening and included Liz Cunningham member for Gladstone and Councillors Butler, Brushe and Sellers. A special guest was Costa Georgiadis host of Costa's Garden Odyssey (SBS) who was very well received by the Gladstone Community. He gave demonstrations on worm farms, recycling and composting.

1.3 Central Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy Implementation

The meeting was held in Rockhampton on 19th March. Maurie Clewley from DERM spoke on Water Resource Planning and there were reports on: Fitzroy Industry, Gladstone Industry, Capricorn Coast Pipeline, Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline, Rookwood, Eden Bann Weir, Nathan Dam Project, Connors Rivers Dam and levels of service.

1.4 Healthy Active Gladstone Region

The Community Committee met last week and Crystal McGregor of Amarna put forward her proposal to promote the Healthy Active Programme. A Healthy Active Gladstone Region Forum is planned for May. Crystal will investigate funding opportunities and is planning to write and submit a paper to the Parks and Leisure Australia Conference. This will be on the Healthy Active Gladstone Region project.

Fitness Stations will arrive in late April and will be installed during May.

1.5 Queensland Population Summit

The Queensland Growth Management Summit was held in Brisbane, over two days the 30 – 31 March. The whole process was streamed live on www.qld.gov.au/growthsummit

Premier Anna Bligh opened the conference and spoke on Greener Communities, Transport, Planning and Finance.

She included comments on:

Townsville as a second capital;

speeding up of the approval process;

timing of infrastructure charges;

ULDA projects;

and regional first home owner's grants.

Australian Treasurer Wayne Swan spoke on the 3 P's – Population, Productivity and Prosperity and that the challenge was not to stop growing but to grow sustainably.

Bernard Salt believed that we should look at the bigger picture of population growth in the world and that Peak Humanity will be reached in 2070 with

9.2 billion people. Australia is resource rich and should we cap our population. His question was with 22 million people in Australia is it fair to keep our resources. He stated that it could be said that it was a white Australia Policy dressed up as a Green Australia Policy. He put forward the interesting concept of his Mosaic City, which includes a series of cells which are all self-contained. This will halt the need to travel into the city centre for work.

Jim McKnoulty believes that demand now exceeds supply in the housing area and that we need a full range of housing. One idea of his was to *Buy* the house and *Rent* the Infrastructure. He showed examples of Liveable Communities with Ripley Valley, Rochedale, Sinnamon Farm and the Veranda Estate.

The **Lord Mayor of Brisbane Campbell Newman** believes:

that we have to make the case for Taxes to fund Aged Care;
Community members must have a say on population growth;
local government must be involved in public transport;
that there must be a mix of dwellings for housing affordability; and
that we must streamline the approval process (electronically).

The participants were divided into seven groups and each discussed: Liveability, Sustainability and Prosperity. Group presentations were then made on the final day.

Some of the ideas were:

provision of transport within communities;

design communities not just buildings;

mix of medium and high density housing;

green spaces and places;

targets for electricity, waste and transport, similar to the targets for water during the drought; and

to encourage population growth in regions.

All papers will be available on the website.

It was proposed to the Premier that this be an annual event, with the same members, and that results be assessed.

1.6 Barnados Queensland Mother of the Year

Mrs Charmaine Mann is the Queensland Mother of the Year. Mrs Mann was chosen from the three finalists in Brisbane on 31st March. She was nominated by her two daughters' Emma and Larrena. Mrs Mann has six children, four boys and two girls. This is a first for the Gladstone region and Mrs Mann will now represent Queensland at the Australian finals on May 6th.

Recommend:

That Mayor George Creed write to the Mrs Charmaine Mann congratulating her on this wonderful achievement.