



## Mission Beach Revitalisation Project Community and Stakeholder Reference Group Meeting 3

Monday 7 November 2022

3pm

Zoom

---

**Meeting called by:** Cassowary Coast Regional Council    **Type of meeting:** Mission Beach Revitalisation Project Community and Stakeholder Reference Group Meeting

---

**Chair:** Councillor Nicholas Pervan    **Note taker:** Suzie Hamilton, C7EVEN

**Facilitator:** Sara Crowe, C7EVEN

**Attendees:**

- Nancy Lowe, Chair Tropical Coast / Cassowary Coast Tourism
- Ron Sirolli, Mission Beach Community Association Committee Member
- Sue Foley (proxy for Neil Clarke, President Mission Beach Arts)
- Peter Rowles, President, Community for Coastal and Cassowary Conservation
- Liz Gallie, Mission Beach Cassowaries
- Hal McElroy, Community Representative
- Nicholas Pervan, Cassowary Coast Councillor, CSRG Chair
- Trudy Tschui, Cassowary Coast Councillor, CSRG Deputy Chair
- Rebecca Gilding, Besttruct (Project Manager)

**Apologies:**

- Susie England, Director Tropical Property Real Estate
- Jules Conlan, Owner Plenty Bar & Restaurant
- James Teague, Owner Pirate Den Bar & Grill
- Chris May, Owner Mission Beach Workx
- Leonard Andy, Representative from Djiru Warrangburra Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC

### ***Agenda***

---

<b>3.00 pm – 3.15 pm</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> <b>Workshop purpose and outcomes</b>	<b>Cr Pervan</b> <b>Sara Crowe</b>
<b>3.15 pm – 4.00 pm</b>	<b>CSRG Feedback and Discussion</b>  - Outline of discussion items - Review actions from previous meeting - Open Q&A and discussion	<b>Sara Crowe</b>
<b>4.00 pm – 4.10 pm</b>	<b>Meeting Summary</b>	<b>Sara Crowe</b>

**CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer. PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860  
T 1300 763 903 F 07 4061 4258 E enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au W cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au  
OFFICE LOCATIONS Innisfail 70 Rankin Street Tully Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant Street

# Minutes



**Agenda item:** Previous meeting action items

**Presenter:** Sara Crowe

## Discussion:

- Sara Crowe raised the revision of options for more seating near the foreshore, alternate options for grassed pavers, alternatives to large arbour structure that do not impede the view of the ocean and final design to maintain view from the top of Village Green to the beach.
  - Rebecca Gilding responded that it was too soon to have any updates on these action items, as they are reliant on the stakeholder engagement report findings.
- Suggestion was made by Hal McElroy to have a separate sub-committee made up of business owners/operators only to discuss factors that affect them such as business incentives, rather than asking CSRG.
  - Sara Crowe responded that this group has representatives from the businesses directly impacted for this purpose, however they were unfortunately unable to attend today's meeting.
- Trudy raised that Linda Hannah has sent an email with suggestions on the business incentives.
- General discussion on the opportunities for art to reflect authentic nature of Mission Beach included Nancy Lowe raising her feelings that it is important that it all look seamless and not hodge podge based on people's feedback.
  - Liz Gallie agreed with Nancy Lowe on keeping everything flowing and not hodge podge. It can't be hodge podge and should tie together and blend with each other and the environment.
  - Rebecca Gilding addressed this noting the art briefs are in place to control the overall look and feel of the project and provide guidelines.
  - Hal McElroy raised the steel tree structures as per his email submission to the group.

## Conclusions:

- Project team will report back on the action items as listed once the stakeholder engagement report has been delivered.
- The discussion on business incentives was tabled for further consideration, review of Linda's emails and further consultation with business owners directly.
- General consensus that the art program for Mission Beach should be seamless and all fit together.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Project team to report back on the design options	Rebecca Gilding	
✓ Business Incentives to remain on agenda for discussion	C7EVEN	
✓ Review Linda Hannah email for inclusion in engagement report	C7EVEN	12 November 2022
✓ Public art program guidelines to be established for the Mission Beach project	CCRC	

## CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer. PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860  
T 1300 763 903 F 07 4061 4258 E enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au W cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au  
OFFICE LOCATIONS Innisfail 70 Rankin Street Tully Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant Street

**Agenda item:** Open Q&A and discussion

**Presenter:** Sara Crowe

**Discussion:**

- Discussed community desire for wheelchair accessibility and confusion around how this will work with changes to parking and Donkin Lane.
- Cr Tschui mentioned a discussion had been held in the MBCA that the name of the Village Green was perhaps no longer relevant, and it puts people's mind in a space where they think it should be 'Green'.
- Peter Rowles commented that the identity of Mission Beach is in fact rainforest meets the sea, however the Village Green is not meant to be a conservation area, it's our primary economic centre. It just needs to represent the rainforest rather than waiting years for trees to grow. We need a mix of natural growth and immediate built structures. Need to be realistic about what things will look like when finalised. The trees in Liz's example are not appropriate for that area. Not opposed to metal trees as per Hal's submission if done right.
  - Sue Foley suggested a green wall or vertical garden.
  - Peter Rowles responded that the problem then would be irrigation.
  - Nancy Lowe noted low maintenance is key. It also needs to be easily maintained.
  - Peter Rowles agreed with Nancy Lowe that maintenance is important. If you don't have specialised people looking after certain features, it won't look as good as it should. Keep it simple.
- Ron Sirolli noted there needs to be a focus on beach as well, not just rainforest. There's a lot of talk about trees but the beach is important. There are a couple of trees that garner a lot of interest and tourism, and they are just single trees.
- Hal McElroy raised an issue he had with MBCA including only one community group point of view. He received a response, which he read to the group stating that Patrick noted the Village Green is not a conservation area but an area for the community and business to grow and thrive. Hal continued to display his dissatisfaction with the views and opinions of others in the group and feels unhappy that the conversation is being dominated by a minority.
  - Councillor Pervan stopped this interjection and directed the group back to more constructive discussion.
  - Rebecca Gilding made it clear everyone's input is valuable and the feedback and ideas provided by Liz were directly requested by her. Anything that can't be facilitated, there will be a reason why. Understanding that everyone has differing opinions, while we ask everyone does share their ideas and thoughts, no specific idea is favoured. It's about the collective community wish.
- Ron Sirolli addressed Rebecca's previous questions around the specific items that make Mission Beach, Mission Beach. Draft concepts which included raised mounds were good, but they were removed in final concepts. Noted he has lived in Mission Beach for a long time and seeing how Cairns has done a good job in getting where they want with tourism has made him aware Mission Beach is a bit directionless. Feels minority groups block progress and economic development such as opportunities with Woolworths, Mission Beach Helicopters etcetera. Feels there is no room to move forward with small groups blocking decisions and progress. Really feels we have one chance to get it right and we need to stick to what works.
  - Rebecca Gilding addressed why some of these changes were made in final concepts - such as raised garden beds being exchanged for actual seats – as it was noted there was an unnecessary use of concrete in this space.



- Liz Gallie asked where the actual storm drain is and how it will be addressed in harmony with the foreshore given how fragile that area is. Suggested natural landscaping to handle this. Asked if the culvert would need to be changed in the future given the change in climate and the increase in tides.
  - Rebecca Gilding responded that without an engineer, we won't be able to accurately answer this. Once surveys and detailed design are underway, we will know more. Do need barrier to protect from tides.
  - Peter Rowles noted the need for a wall that can handle the waves. Understands the deck is there to hide the concrete that is necessary. Peter raised the basalt boulders as a natural, wave energy absorbing barrier for consideration. He does not believe plants are the answer.
  - Nancy Lowe noted the retaining wall and culvert is fine as long as it works and keeps people safe. She is happy with what the engineers think is best.
  - Hal McElroy noted the drainage is the primary issue to be addressed and the CSRG's approval is secondary to what is necessary to be done. Landscape architecture should be handled by those that understand.
- General feedback from the community to members of the CSRG was that the second round of designs were much better
  - Cr Tschui noted most people she spoke to like the final concepts after changes. The swing was more of a safety issue than anything else. Agrees we need a photo opportunity somewhere.
  - Liz Gallie noted that generally, people felt the second lot of concepts were better after feedback was taken on board. There is still room for improvement as to what goes ahead.
- Ron Sirolli brought up email from Chris May mentioning the change in location for the toilet block.
  - Rebecca Gilding advised latest direction was that toilet will stay where it is currently due to it blocking the view and issues with proximity to gas points. Clarified that the block would be tilted to sit flush with Village Green rather than the strange angle it's on now.
- Cr Tschui requested to know what the general feedback has been like online from the community.
  - Suzie Hamilton advised most community feedback has been neutral with a focus on information collecting and questions rather than positive or negative sentiment.
- Cr Tschui noted the community at large feel protection from rain is very important.
  - Liz Gallie responded that in the MBC presentation, they looked at shade options such as a pergola. The foundation is durable, and the material is waterproof.
  - Hal McElroy asked if Liz Gallie had seen the shade structures proposed by Sue Foley.
  - Liz Gallie noted she had seen them but personally felt it needed to be a unique option and there are a lot of potential ideas.
  - Sue Foley noted the arbour structure dominates the space and draws the eye.
  - Cr Pervan noted that Munro Martin Parklands has a good example of a shade/weatherproof structure
- Hal McElroy asked Peter Rowles how he feels about colourful flowers.
  - Peter Rowles responded that as long as it's native, local and a bit different, he's very much in favour.
- Liz Gallie noted as trees take a while to grow, we should transplant trees where possible rather than removing them totally.
  - Rebecca Gilding noted the plan is to save whatever trees we can.



- Ron Sirolli asked about what's happening with the budget/funding.
  - Cr Pervan answered that Council was not successful in the Building Better Regions grant as it was cancelled. May pursue other options however once we start work, we can't apply for funding.
- Nancy Lowe noted something needs to be done to keep businesses in the area.
  - Hal McElroy noted we need to create an economic hub.
- Cr Tschui noted everyone should be proud of the project and be kind to each other. Everyone has made some valid comments.
- Cr Pervan thanked everyone for their input and noted everyone should look forward to the future and do it together.

#### Conclusions:

- General consensus that accessible parking needs to be included in detailed design. The current location is too far to get to the end of the Village Green. And Donkin Lane access needs to be better demonstrated in designs and communicated with residents/locals who utilise the area.
- General consensus what that there is no need to change the name from Village Green
- General consensus that the barrier will be determined by the expert engineers, with consideration to natural elements being used where practical
- General consensus that the toilet block be kept in the Village Green
- General consensus that the second round of concepts were better with the changes made

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Accessible parking to be prioritised in next round of design	Rebecca Gilding	
✓ Low maintenance plants, trees and structures to be prioritised in next round of design	Rebecca Gilding	
✓ Review the community and Council's vision for Mission Beach and consider how this can be captured during detailed design	C7EVEN/Rebecca Gilding	
✓ Barrier material to be determined	Rebecca Gilding	

#### CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer. PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860  
T 1300 763 903 F 07 4061 4258 E enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au W cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au  
OFFICE LOCATIONS Innisfail 70 Rankin Street Tully Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant Street

## Other Information

---



**Observers:**

N/A

**Resources:**

N/A

**Special notes:**

Members of the CSRG are reminded of the Terms of Reference for the Group to which they signed onto. We should respect each other, and enable each member to have their say in a safe environment.

**CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Address all correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer. PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860  
**T** 1300 763 903 **F** 07 4061 4258 **E** [enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au) **W** [cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](http://cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au)  
OFFICE LOCATIONS **Innisfail** 70 Rankin Street **Tully** Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant Street