

# CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

## February Staff Edition



Carpentaria Shire Council

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# Message from the CEO

As we enter into Caretaker Period and prepare for the 2020 Local Government Elections I thought I would share some of the important dates in relation to the election (some of which have passed at the time of printing the Newsletter) and the limitations on the Councillors during this period.

During the caretaker period newsletters that raise the profile of a councillor are prohibited. That is the reason there is no message from the Mayor and no articles about the Councillors in this issue. The 2020 Staff Edition .

The electoral roll closed on the 28 February 2020 for the 2020 Local Government elections. Nomination period for candidates wishing to contest the position of Mayor or Councillors opened on Saturday 22 February and closed at 12 noon on 3 March 2020. Candidates also were required to undertake mandatory training prior to nominating as a candidate.

Caretaker period runs from the date of the calling of the election (22 February 2020) until the declaration of the Poll (usually up to 10 days after Polling day) likely to be 8 April 2020.

Polling day is Saturday 28 March 2020 and the election is being run by the Electoral Commission of Queensland.

Councillors are prohibited from making major policy decisions in relation to the following during the caretaker period: -

- Appointment, remuneration or termination of CEO;
- Enter into contracts greater than \$200,000;
- Establish preferred supplier arrangements;
- Make, amend or repeal local laws; and
- Make, amend or repeal a local planning instrument.

The ordinary business of Council continues and that is why the ordinary general meetings of Council continue during the caretaker period.

Throughout this edition we will advise you of the upcoming events and happenings and feature some of the work that our staff provide for the community as part of their ordinary duties, which often goes unnoticed. We appreciate the work our staff do in providing services to the ratepayers, residents and visitors to the Carpentaria Shire and this edition is to provide some recognition of that appreciation.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the monthly newsletter.

# New Speed Sign in Karumba



Congratulations to the Karumba Goose Club who have invested \$6,000 into the purchase and installation of a smiley reduce speed sign. This new addition will assist traffic in knowing their speed and to pass with caution.

The Karumba Goose Club provides support to community projects through their fundraising efforts. Make sure to get involved in their next fundraiser and support our community.

## Disaster Dashboard

Councils disaster dashboard is your central point for all updates during disasters, visit [disaster.carpentaria.qld.gov.au](http://disaster.carpentaria.qld.gov.au) to view emergency news, weather warnings, road conditions and power outages.





# QRA19 Works Make an Early Start



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## Australian Government

Restoration works on Iffley Road are well underway thanks to assistance from the joint Commonwealth and State funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).



Due to significant rainfall and flooding from the North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough early in 2019, Carpentaria Shire was activated for DRFA Counter Disaster Operations, Emergency Work and Restoration of Essential Public Assets, to restore damage after a significant hit to the shire.

Council identified an early gap in the programming of current works and worked with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) to get works started as soon as it was safe to do so.

QRA worked closely with Council to enable the restoration of Iffley Road (approximately 60km south of Normanton) resulting in an extension to the construction season and delivering a much-needed boost to local business confidence.

Following the devastating impact to the local economy from the 2019 flood event, the ability to support and extend business opportunities has kept people employed locally and significantly contributing to the stimulation of the Shire's economy.

Giving businesses comfort in being able to continue work over this period has put them and the Shire in a greater fiscal position, maintained specialist skill sets locally and developed new local opportunities. Carpentaria Shire is in a more sustainable position coming into the 2020 construction season thanks to the QRA.

Council's Chief Executive Officer, Mark Crawley said the establishment of a major works program is a massive undertaking.

"Carpentaria Shire's roads provide access to a range of local tourist destinations and regional commercial centres so ensuring our residents and tourists are safe on the roads is an important consideration for our town. It is the backbone of what we do here at Council," Mr Crawley said.

"Taking into consideration Council looks after 64,000 square kilometres, the accelerated approval process to repair damage to the road network through QRA put the council in a better position to manage quality of work and performance outcomes".

"It has also provided workers and businesses a greater sense of security to be able to provide competitive rates".

"It is important we recognise the impact this Queensland Government Funding has for rebuilding business sustainability and confidence in our shire," he said.

## **2020 Flooding**

In addition to the 2019 reconstruction program, Carpentaria has now been activated through QRA for assistance measures following the recent Queensland Monsoonal Flooding in January 2020, with damage inspections underway to ensure the road network is in a trafficable state as soon as practicable.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority administers the DRFA in Queensland, which supports communities that have been hit by natural disasters, to repair essential services and get back on their feet.



*Major flooding on the Burke Development Road 89A (Cloncurry Road) at the Flinders River as flood waters peaked over the bridge at Walkers Bend.*

# An Update From the Water & Waste Team

## Karumba Security Cameras

Carpentaria Shire Council has received funding from the State Government acting through the Department of Environment and Science to target and rectify illegal dumping in Karumba.



This funding will be used to purchase signage, install security cameras and for the education of illegal dumping activities. Council has noticed a spike in illegal dumping, with a high percentage occurring within Karumba and as a result has sought funding to assist with prevention. Council asks for your cooperation in keeping our town clean and clear from illegal dumping. Council will be issuing fines in accordance with the delegation register for people caught dumping illegally.



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## De-sludging Funding

Carpentaria Shire Council has received funding through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), a joint Commonwealth and Queensland Government Initiative for the Water and Waste Treatment Plant to be de-sludged. This will improve the effluent quality of water within the town.



# Staff Profile

## 8 Questions with Josh Grieve



Town Foreman  
Works Depot

**1. What do you find most enjoyable about your job?**

*Seeing the place I grew up in develop and prosper.*

**2. What parts of your job do you find most challenging?**

*Trying to make sure community events are presented to the community and visitors in the highest regard. Ensuring everyone has the best experience and all events run smoothly.*

**3. Describe one of your typical work days?**

*Being ready for reactive jobs that get given to the crew. This can change on an hourly basis. Getting priority jobs done, ensuring beautification of the Shire.*

**4. If you could pick any career what would it be?**

*Something that pays a lot of money.*

**5. If you could have lunch delivered every day what would it be?**

*Home cooked meals.*

**6. What is your favourite thing to do in town?**

*Spend time with my family.*

**7. Favourite Month of year in Carpentaria?**

*December for Christmas or April for Easter*

**8. If you could work anywhere, where would it be?**

*Somewhere warm, with a nice view that's safe for my family.*

# Council Improves Customer Service

Carpentaria Shire Council has recently undergone a change to their customer service system. Customer queries are now filtered through an internal reporting system. This will ensure all queries are captured accurately and are reported on in a timely and concise manner.

This new system will aim to ensure all calls and in person queries and concerns are recorded and will ensure all incoming requests are responded to within reasonable timeframes.



Council staff are committed to providing the community with timely customer service. Our customer service officers can be contacted on 4745 2200 for Normanton queries and 4745 7555 for Karumba queries or in person at our administration buildings.

# Mosquito Inspection Program

Carpentaria Shire Council has started their approved inspection program of mosquito breeding sites in March 2020 and this will run for 3 months until the end of May 2020. As part of this program Council will be checking houses, door to door for mosquito breeding. We thank you for your cooperation during this time as we inspect properties.

*\* This program will be conducted in accordance with the Public Health Act 2005*



## Disaster Recovery Funding

Carpentaria Shire Council has received funding under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) for restoration work to the damaged Normanton to Burketown Road.

Council received a further contribution under this funding through the Betterment category for a project of \$3.4 million to repair roads damaged as a result of the North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough event in January/February 2020.

This funding is a joint initiative of the Commonwealth and Queensland Government and will assist Council in repairing damage to our roads.



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# Active Infrastructure Funding

Carpentaria Shire Council has received funding of up to \$1,000,000 from the Active Community Infrastructure grant which is part of the Queensland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy. This grant funding will be utilised for the construction of new change rooms and amenities, construction of a storage shed and for the construction of a shade structure to support multi-sport at John Henry Memorial Oval, Normanton.

*“The Queensland Government provided up to \$1,000,000 to Carpentaria Shire Council to upgrade the John Henry Memorial Oval, to enable Queenslanders to participate in sport and recreation activities.*”



## Rates Notice Issued

Council would like to remind everyone that the discounted rates period ends on 25 March 2020. Payment can be made via mail, phone, Bpay or in person at one of the Council offices.

## Council's Local Spend Report

Month	Total Local Spend	Local Spend Percentage
February 2020	\$284,444.49	18%





# Council's Capital Expenditure July 2019 - February 2020

Items	Expenditure 1 July 2019 - 29 February 2020	% Funded through Grants	% Funded through Council
<b>Buildings</b>	\$65,189	99%	1%
<b>Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	\$1,339,389	1%	99%
<b>Road &amp; Bridges</b>	\$3,835,785	95%	5%
<b>Water</b>	\$1,370,724	0%	100%
<b>Sewerage</b>	\$4,607	0%	100%
<b>Other Structures</b>	\$963,702	66%	34%
<b>Housing</b>	\$196,301	100%	0%

## Summary of Capital Expenditure

<b>Council Funded Capital</b>	\$3,210,129.33
<b>Grant Funded Capital</b>	\$4,565,568.43

# Community News

Earlier this month the Normanton Sports Centre held a game of basketball that was enjoyed by all. This was just one activity that was captured by our sporting staff! Come on down and see what other activities we run each and every day. Open daily from 1pm.



## Karumba Pool Activities

The Karumba pool runs kids activities every Monday and Friday from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. What a great opportunity to cool off in this hot weather. We hope to see you all there!

\*Pool entry fee applies



For more information please call the Normanton Sports Centre on 4745 1580 and the Karumba Pool on 4745 2256

# Clean Up Australia Day

The schools and community from both Normanton and Karumba participated in the National Clean Up Australia Day on Friday 28 February 2020. Schools were provided with an essential Clean Up Australia Day cleaning kit.

This kit included:

- A box of gloves;
- Clean Up Australia Day heavy duty gloves;
- A Clean Up Australia Day sharps container;
- A roll of rubbish bags; and
- Clean Up Australia Day recycle bags and rubbish bags



All attendees who helped out came down for a free swim and sausage sizzle at the pools afterwards. Council would like to thank all those who participated and contributed to cleaning up our town.



*Kindly donated by Clean Up Australia Day and the Carpentaria Shire Council.*

**Let's Keep Australia Beautiful!**

# First 5 Forever



The First 5 Forever reading program is run every Friday morning from 10.30am – 11.30am at the Normanton Library and every Monday from 9.30am - 10.30am at the Karumba Library, all year round.

This program is open to the entire community and is suitable for children up to the age of five years old.

We hope to see you there!

For more information please contact the Karumba Library on 4747 7522 or the Normanton Library on 4747 8444.

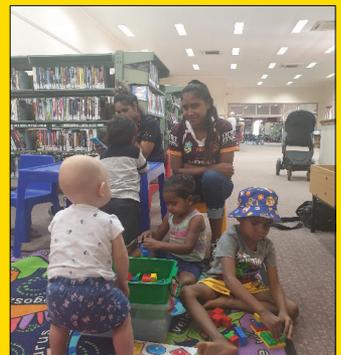
[Slq.qld.gov.au/first5forever](http://Slq.qld.gov.au/first5forever)



State Library  
of Queensland



Queensland  
Government



# Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre

The Discovery centre has lots of new merchandise available for purchase and plenty more on the way. Head down to check out the new stock.

Tours are available daily (\*demand dependant). We will also have a new tour available from the 1<sup>st</sup> April, our 'Behind the Scenes of the Hatchery' activity.

Contact the Barramundi Discovery Centre for more information on 4745 2211 or visit [www.barracentre.com.au](http://www.barracentre.com.au).

## Outback by the Sea Festival



Carpentaria Shire Council has secured a grant from the Queensland Government under the Year of Outback Tourism. This funding has been utilised to confirm Adam Harvey as the headline act on Saturday 26 of September!

It is not too late to get involved in the planning and join the festival committee – please contact Verena on 0419 692 990 or [verena.olesch@carpentaria.qld.gov.au](mailto:verena.olesch@carpentaria.qld.gov.au) for information and for sharing your ideas!



# Meeting Dates for April 2020

The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on the 15 and 16 April 2020 commencing at 9am, at the Normanton Shire Council Building.

The Mayor and Councillors will be in attendance and available for your questions, comments or any business concerning Council matters that you may wish to have discussed.

All members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Items to be considered at a Council Meeting must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer no later than Tuesday the week prior to the meeting

