

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Date	Wednesday 30 October 2019	Time	6 - 8pm
Location	Lockyer Room, Ipswich Civic Centre		
List of Council Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)			
P	Greg Chemello – Interim Administrator (Convenor)		
P	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure and Environment (Facilitator)		
P	Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment & Sustainability		
P	Samantha Smith – Coordinator (Sustainability), Environment & Sustainability Branch		
P	Darryl Porche – Senior Planning Officer (Strategic Conservation Planning), Environment & Sustainability		
P	Nick Hughes – Acting Interim Administrator’s Executive Officer, Office of the Administrator		
P	Community Engagement Team Member (Danni Jansen)		
Community Reference Group Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)			
A	Sonia Brown	P	Luise Manning
P	Ian Dainer	A	Joseph McLeod
P	Billy Diehm	A	Robert Otjen
P	Jim Dodrill	P	Stephen Phillips
P	Amber Dupouy	P	James Prentice
A	Angus Evans		Gaby Ricketts (withdrawn)
P	Bob Hampson	P	Peter Surgeoner
NA	Esther James	P	Paul Sutton
P	Pam Lenton	P	David Trezise
P	Alex Mair	P	Conny Turni

Agenda Item		Participants	Minutes
1	Convenor’s welcome	Greg Chemello – Interim Administrator	<p>Mr Chemello welcomed members to the meeting and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.</p> <p>Mr Chemello updated the group on Land Applications, in particular a Lantrak application that has been refused approval, and that council is in the process of providing reasons for refusal. An independent review has confirmed the way in which the planning instrument has been applied. Mr Chemello conveyed that council planning officers should be complimented for their work on this, and to ‘watch this space’.</p>
2	Group question time check-in	Greg Chemello – Interim Administrator	A CRG member voiced that ‘council is telling us what they are doing but we are also here about what council is not doing’. Open group discussion included questions and

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p> <p>Community Reference Group Members</p>	<p>comments from members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife corridors particularly in and around new developments are inadequate - Enviroplan is dated - Glass recycling is unresolved – what is the plan to address? (e.g. have to pay \$15 for the privilege of taking glass to be recycled rather than ending up in landfill, case study to watch; Redland Council trial of glass into bitumen roads) - Are school programs that feed into carbon neutral goals being considered? (although we don't have – or know enough about – carbon neutral targets) - Concern that CRG are not being set tasks, in sub groups, being sent action plans to feedback on e.g. CRG could come up with how we deal with creeks, urban and rural areas, protecting environment - Difference between approaches; conservation, preservation <p>Another CRG member voiced that as community representatives members also needed to step out of own local networks and take a 'helicopter view'.</p> <p>Charlie Dill reflected that the CRG meetings have been focussed on informing and consulting with the group at high strategic level with the intent that actions born out of well developed, community informed strategies and policies will look to address a variety of more detailed concerns on the ground.</p> <p>Greg Chemello added the need to step up problems to policy level e.g. rather than look at creek in need of rehabilitation, need to look at policy that dictates health management of creeks and waterways. Mr Chemello also suggested a possible agenda item in future could include</p>

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		<p>discussion about 1. How does Environment Authority work? and 2. How can we change it?</p> <p>Mr Chemello indicated that there is 'no easy solution to waste in the short term', that council needs to collaborate with other councils and that council is participating in a sub-regional alliance which is likely to incorporate a variety of different solutions, 'it's good stuff, at scale and with a long term view'. In general development of and seeing the results of policy / strategy work takes time.</p> <p>A CRG member asked 'can we store in the meantime, so that at least we are doing something'? This was acknowledged as a 'good question' for further deliberation.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Standing Agenda Item: Declaration of potential or actual conflicts of interest</p>	<p>Community Reference Group Members</p>	<p>Environment CRG member; Conny Turni repeated previous meeting declaration that her husband intends to run for Mayor.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Actions from last meeting</p>	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p> <p>Danni Jansen – Community Engagement Team</p>	<p>4.1 Correspondence between meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Danni Jansen provided a brief look at council's new Shape Your Ipswich online community engagement platform, and encouraged members to access the closed group space where it is intended the CRGs work can continue outside of meetings. Ms Jansen confirmed that council's Community Engagement mailbox would continue to be used for the distribution of draft minutes and agendas. <p>4.2 Key priorities for the City of Ipswich</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charlie Dill indicated that whilst work continues on key priorities that the CRG has focussed on to date; Waterway Health, Waste Management, Environment, Sustainability, other priorities included in the Environment CRG scope;

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		e.g. Sport and recreation, Disaster management and planning, will be discussed in coming months, next year.
<p>5 Presentation & Discussion – Natural Environment</p>	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p> <p>Darryl Porche – Senior Planning Officer (Strategic Conservation Planning), Environment & Sustainability</p>	<p>Darryl Porche presented the CRG with an overview of council’s Natural Environment Policy; in the next 12 months, council will be reviewing and updating its approach to the natural environment, first step involves developing a new policy, Council will be seeking input from stakeholders in shaping this policy. This meeting the first of many opportunities for the Environment CRG to provide input.</p> <p>The presentation included a snapshot of Ipswich/regional natural environment (ecosystems, dominant and endangered flora and fauna species, terrestrial corridors, mountain peaks, watercourses, rivers, catchments and sub-catchments). Strategies and plans are also informed by extensive local, state and commonwealth data including soil types, land types, regulated vegetation, bio-condition assessment of the Natural Area Estate. Of note, data is used to help council prioritise effort and investment.</p> <p>Mr Porche conveyed that policy sets out council’s strategic position, viewpoints and values, and assists in decision-making relating to matters that impact on or are a concern to the local or wider community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Policy – position on what the levy is allocated towards. <p>Policies can be supported by supporting documentation i.e. procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example: Ipswich Enviroplan Program and Levy Procedure– outlines how levy is managed <p>In addition to policies and procedures, Council has adopted strategies and plans that contain the vision, direction, priorities and approach e.g.: Nature Conservation Strategy,</p>


Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		<p>Koala Conservation and Habitat Management Plan and Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby Recovery Plan.</p> <p>Except for the levy element, Council has not documented into a policy its position on other natural environment elements. Key strategic documents are due for review in the next 12 months. These reviews will benefit from a community informed council position on key elements.</p> <p>The following two questions were discussed by the group:</p> <p>Question 1. <i>What are the key priorities for Ipswich's natural environment over the next 5-10years?</i></p> <p>CRG members' discussion themes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No more loss of environment (currently 'wholesale slaughter', people have a right to have contact with natural environment, and for recreational purposes, implicated; weed control and waterway health, recognise what we've got and need to keep, need to differentiate between preserve and conserve and include in town planning, keep large areas in natural condition alongside urban areas, clash between wider and urban areas needs to be resolved by policy). - Nature corridors (maintain and enhance connectivity between corridors, need to be wide enough to sustain animals, small areas not enough to sustain wildlife, map and record fauna and flora species, key areas / buffer zone increased, associated penalties increased) - Development (e.g. residential, commercial) (look at cumulative impacts, not losing natural gems e.g. White Rock to development, wildlife transfer does not work, Developers should be required to use independent / council approved consultancies ie. no longer appoint own environmental consultant, developers corridors

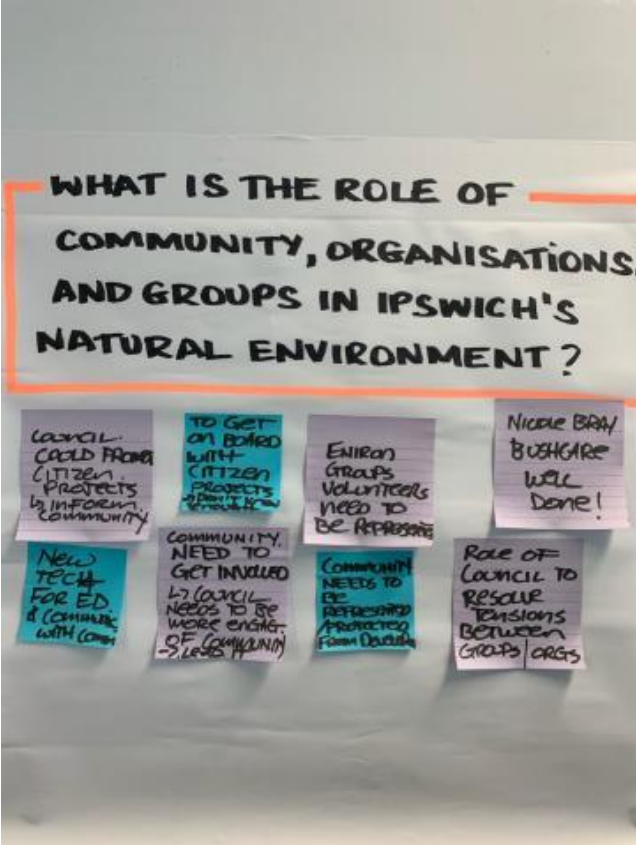
Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		<p>need to be widened, more control on development e.g. tree cutting, do we have a regulatory framework?)</p>  <p>To view full size image, see attachment 1.</p> <p>Question 2. <i>What is the role of community, organisations, and groups in Ipswich's natural environment?</i></p> <p>CRG members' discussion included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council's engagement with the community (inform the community about citizen projects, community does not know enough about, council to lead the community, role of council to resolve tensions between groups and organisations, use of new technologies for educating and communicating with community)

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community involvement (community, environmental groups, volunteers need to be represented and protected from developers, community members need to get involved / 'get on board' with citizen projects)  <p>To view full size image, see attachment 2.</p> <p>Mr Porche advised the CRG that next steps in Environment Policy development project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information will be kept and used along with other information gathered from community and stakeholder consultation to inform policy development. - A draft policy and overview of consultation will be tabled at a CRG meeting in 2020.

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
<p>6 Presentation & Discussion – Sustainability</p>	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p> <p>Samantha Smith – Coordinator (Sustainability), Environment & Sustainability Branch</p>	<p>Sam Smith presented the CRG with an overview of council’s Sustainability Policy including definitional background, complexities, and analytical tools. 2017 Strategy identified 4 pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education, awareness and community involvement - Protection of urban ecology and the natural environment - Corporate sustainability - Supporting sustainable industry <p>Sustainability Policy development plan from draft to council adoption Oct2019-Jun2020. Stakeholder engagement and consultation currently planned for Nov 2019 –Feb 2020 and May 2020.</p> <p>The group briefly discussed principles under consideration to guide the policy. The draft sustainability policy principles presented had captured two concepts that had been spoken about by CRG members; intergenerational equity and think global, act local.</p> <p>It was agreed that policy framing questions would be posted to the online closed group for members input:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does a sustainable city mean to you? 2. What do you see as council and community’s roles in becoming a sustainable city? <p>Discussion also identified a need for monitoring processes/frameworks to mature; baseline measurements and data collection (e.g. air quality, pollution, carbon).</p>
<p>7 Close & check-out</p>	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p>	<p>Charlie Dill asked members to answer the following check-out question: <i>What did you get out of tonight’s meeting?</i></p> <p>CRG member responses generally reflected the following themes:</p>

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Agenda Item	Participants	Minutes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appreciation for group members, different perspectives and increased sense of working together - Recognition of council departmental interdependencies - Appreciation for information shared - Increased recognition of complexity and long term view of strategic/policy level projects that CRG members are engaged in <div data-bbox="778 1055 1401 1883" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="778 1892 1262 1921">To see full size image, see attachment 3.</p>

Meeting closed: 8.15pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11 December 2019

Attachment 1:



Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Attachment 2:



