

Environment Community Reference Group Minutes



Date	Monday 17 February 2020	Time	6 - 8pm
Location	Cunningham Room, Ipswich Civic Centre		
List of Council Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)			
P	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure and Environment (Facilitator)		
P	Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment & Sustainability		
P	Matthew Pinder – Emergency Management & Sustainability Manager		
P	Phil Smith – Natural Environment and Land Manager		
P	Community Engagement Team Member (Danni Jansen)		
Community Reference Group Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)			
NA	Sonia Brown	A	Luise Manning
P	Ian Dainer	P	Joseph McLeod
A	Billy Diehm	P	Robert Otjen
P	Jim Dodrill	A	Stephen Phillips
P	Amber Dupouy	NA	James Prentice
P	Angus Evans		Gaby Ricketts (withdrawn)
P	Bob Hampson	NA	Peter Surgeoner
P	Esther James	P	Paul Sutton
NA	Pam Lenton	A	David Trezise
NA	Alex Mair	A	Conny Turni

Agenda Item		Participants	Minutes
1	Facilitator's welcome	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure and Environment	Charlie Dill welcomed members to the meeting and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.
2	Group check-in	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment Community Reference Group Members	Mr Dill checked in with the group and acknowledged the meeting as the first for the year. CRG members briefly shared their experiences of the Christmas period.
3	Standing Agenda Item: Declaration of potential or actual conflicts of interest	Community Reference Group Members	Mr Dill invited members to declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest. Environment CRG member; Jim Dodrill communicated that he had been misrepresented as an electoral candidate in a January media article. Mr Dodrill expressed that when asked by the QT in a September interview he had said that

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			<p>candidacy was not something he'd considered at the time and would need to think about.</p> <p>Environment CRG member; Ian Dainer communicated his association with Willowbank Area Group around the Landtrak proposed land fill dump.</p> <p>Mr Dill thanked members for their declarations and acknowledged there were Environment CRG member/s who had registered apology and were not in attendance, per the CRGs terms of reference, on the basis of their electoral candidacy having been announced.</p>
4	Actions from last meeting	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment	<p>Charlie Dill briefly discussed results of 6month CRG monitoring and evaluation activities that were open to members at the end of 2019. Mr Dill noted members' feedback about their experiences so far with the community reference groups that included what had been working well and what could be improved.</p> <p>In particular Mr Dill discussed a recommendation that council better demonstrate the ways in which CRG feedback is used. Mr Dill indicated that one way the recommendation would be addressed in future meetings would be through the introduction of a 'Project updates' agenda item.</p> <p>Mr Dill introduced Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment and Sustainability to update the group on projects they had previously provided input to.</p>
5	Project updates	Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment & Sustainability	<p>5.1 Natural Environment Policy</p> <p>- Kaye Cavanagh advised that, further Darryl Porche's initial consultation with members at the 30 October CRG meeting about development of council's Natural Environment Policy, Mr Porche was now consulting internal Departments/Branches and would do so more broadly across the community and with stakeholder groups to seek</p>

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		<p>further input into the development of the policy, and with intention to run a draft of the policy by CRG members before it is submitted for endorsement by Council in November.</p> <p>5.2 Sustainability Policy</p> <p>- Ms Cavanagh updated members that further Sam Smith's brief introduction to the development of council's Sustainability Policy including an initial discussion around the policy principles at the 30 October CRG meeting and subsequent posting of policy development questions to the online Environment CRG closed group resource in Shape Your Ipswich. Ms Cavanagh indicated that 3 CRG members had responded. Other members indicated interest in providing input to the online questions. Ms Jansen confirmed questions could be reopened in the closed group resource accessible by member login to Shape Your Ipswich.</p> <p>Extensive community consultation with over 200 community members, had been conducted at 3 shopping centres, the Queens Park Environmental Education Centre, Rosewood Community Centre and online through Shape Your Ipswich.</p> <p>Collective feedback from the consultations indicated that participants generally rated themselves 3 out of 5, and the city 2 out of 5, when asked how sustainable either were. Participants' described sustainable actions they took in their own day to day lives (e.g. sorting waste for recycling, using less water) and indicated their top 4 priorities in Ipswich becoming a more sustainable city were waste management, protection of natural areas and waterways, renewable energy and climate change.</p> <p>Ms Cavanagh advised that Ms Smith was currently in consultation with internal stakeholders and continuing to source input to feedback into policy development. Kaye Cavanagh indicated a draft of the policy would similarly be run by CRG members later in the year.</p>

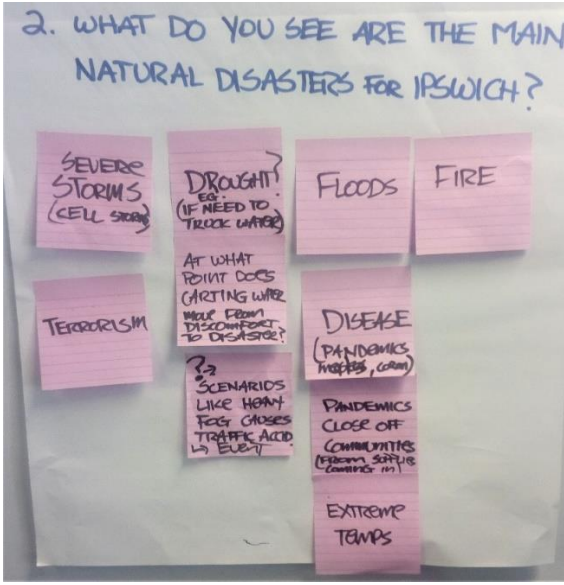
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6 Discussion – Disaster / Emergency Management	<p>Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment</p> <p>Matthew Pinder – Emergency Management & Sustainability Manager</p> <p>Community Reference Group members</p>	<p>Matthew Pinder presented the CRG with an overview and discussed aspects of council's Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP). Mr Pinder indicated that the plan followed best practice and was underpinned by the Disaster Management Act 2003.</p> <p>CRG members asked what triggers council to be involved, and what is council's role? Mr Pinder defined disaster as a serious disruption, caused by the impact of an event, which requires significant coordinated response by the state and other entities. Council's involvement is defined and consistent with the Act and its roles and responsibilities are defined in the LDMP. Dependent on the type of event, Council may take the lead, other times Council will only act upon the request of primary agencies (such as QLD Fire and Emergency Services – bushfire). Council brings together a Local Disaster Coordination Centre, and manages and coordinates operational decisions (e.g. whether centre operates 8-24 hours per day).</p> <p>In response to members question about what is council and SES relationship? Mr Pinder indicated a service agreement whereby council provides SES with infrastructure and resources.</p> <p>The group discussed council participation in mock drills along with CRG members recommendations that disaster management be embedded into core business and through normal procedures and so that any person in-field is able to follow process.</p> <p>Members also asked how often the plan is reviewed to which Mr Pinder advised an annual legislative requirement and that council also conducted risk assessment.</p> <p>Some CRG members noted that it was unclear how</p>

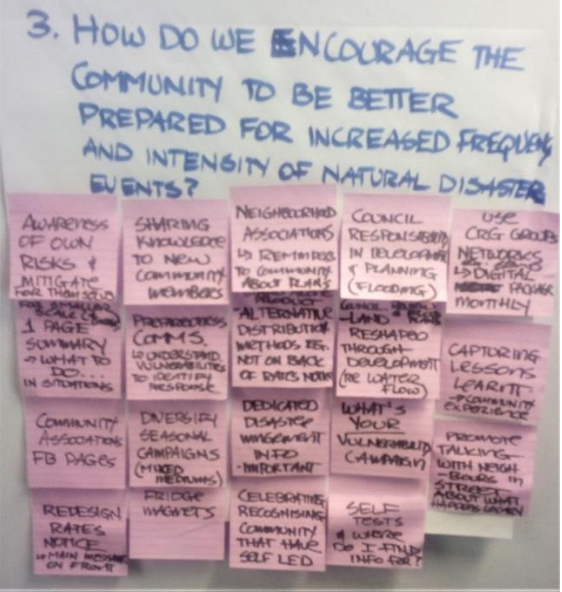
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		<p>council's policies, strategies, plans fit together (e.g. environment strategy, Bremer catchment plan etc). Kaye Cavanagh and Phil Smith acknowledged the group's feedback and advised about the consolidation process currently underway to bring these back to a more hierarchical structure.</p> <p>Mr Pinder indicated the research literature was clear that best outcomes in disaster management are those that are community led and build resilience. The following questions were discussed by the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you see are the main natural disasters for Ipswich? <p>Discussion revolved around central themes that included protracted vs short term events, along with consideration for the level of 'discomfort' and 'disruption' in 'disaster' classification.</p>  <p>To see full size image, see attachment 1.</p>

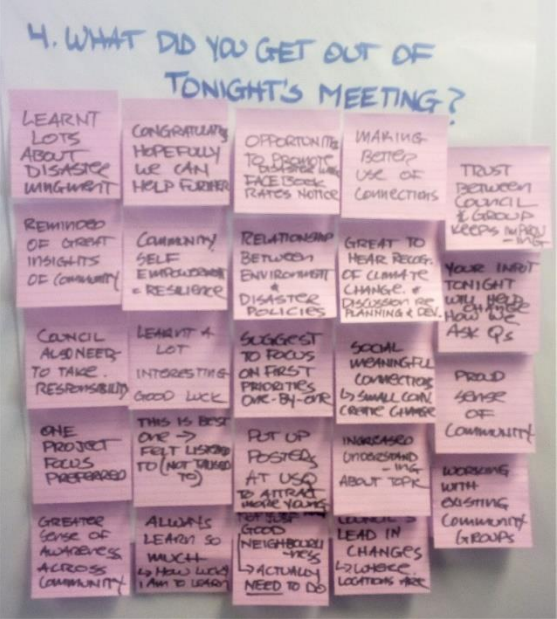
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		<p>2. How do we encourage the community to be better prepared for increased frequency and intensity of natural disaster events?</p> <p>Discussion themes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying personal and local vulnerabilities - Sharing information via local networks - Making available dedicated disaster information - Recognition and promotion of effective local disaster management initiatives  <p>To see full size image, see attachment 2.</p>

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7 Close & check-out	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure & Environment	<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>Member feedback could be summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased understanding about Disaster / Emergency Management - Importance of community insight and neighbourly connections to promote self empowerment and further develop community resilience - One project focus per meeting preferred for more in-depth discussion  <p>To see full size image, see attachment 3.</p>

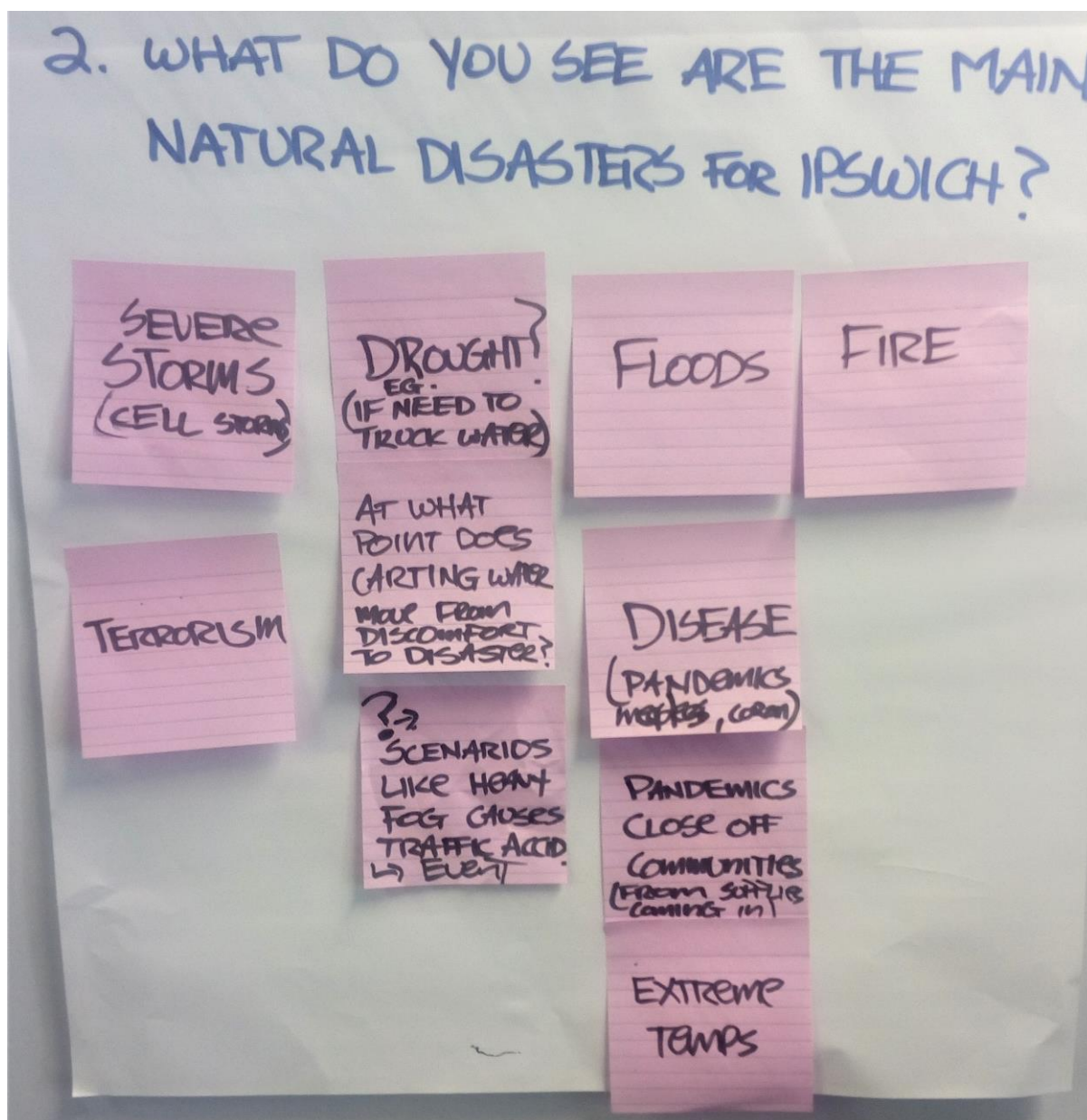
Meeting closed: **8.10pm**

Date of next meeting: **May/June TBC**

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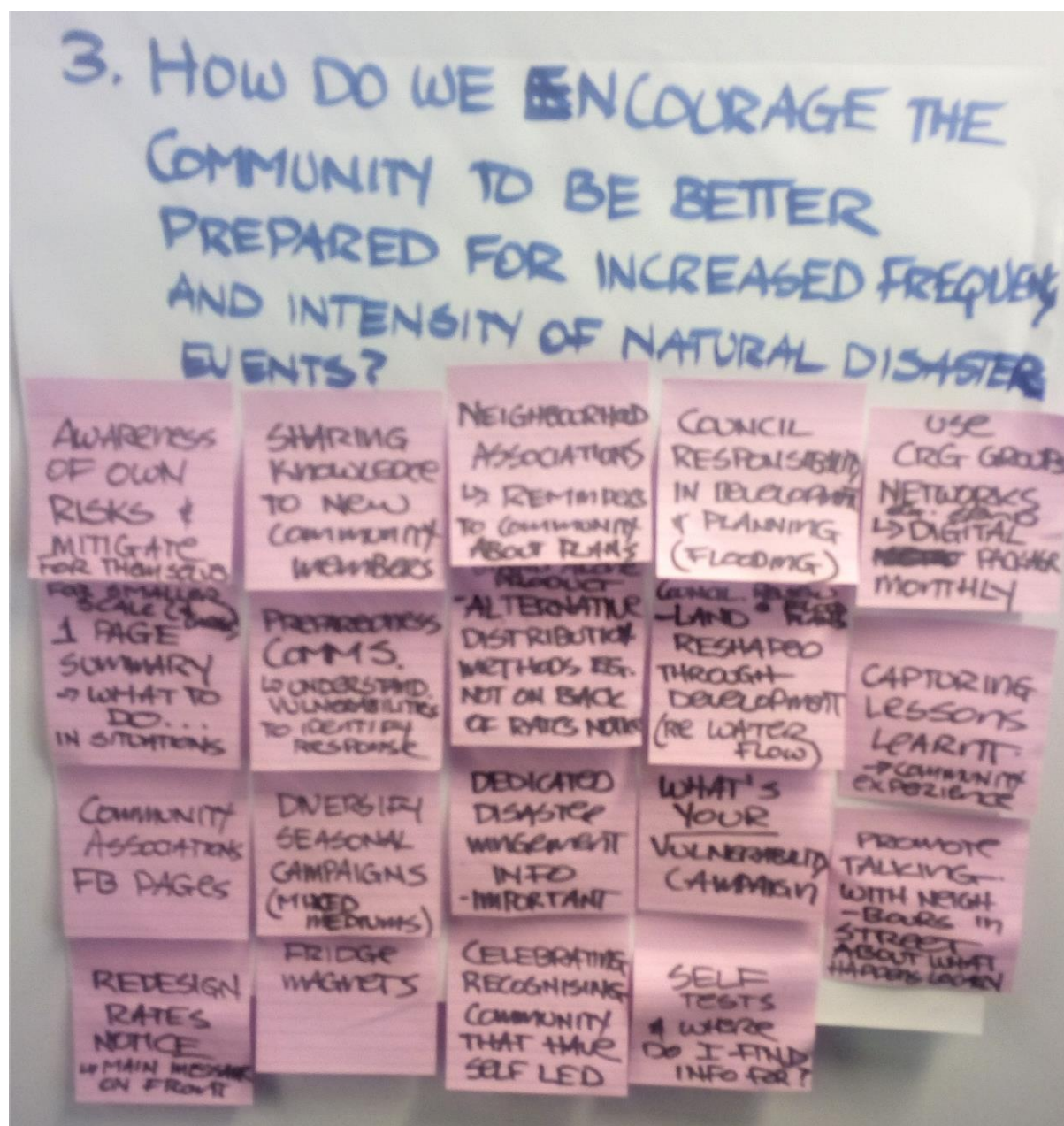
Attachment 1:



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Attachment 2:



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Attachment 3:

