

North Burnett News

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News from the North Burnett Regional Council



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Mayor's Desk by Mayor Cr Rachel Chambers

Question 4 in the "10 Hardest Questions to answer in Local Government". **Are we spending time and money doing things that are important to our community?**

The answer to this one is yes, no and maybe. Please let me explain.

The answer could be any of the above depending on your interests/circumstances. We get people ringing us to tell us not to worry about planting any flowers in pots as it doesn't matter as much as roads. Then we get people telling us to plant more flowers to beautify the region as it increases local and tourist satisfaction. We get people telling us to close the libraries down as they are a waste of resources, and yet we loaned 40,433 physical items to community members during 2016-17. We get people ask why on earth we upgrade sporting facilities when they themselves don't use them. (Note: these are all actual phone call received by Councillors).

Suffice to say, if each individual had the opportunity to spend the money for themselves, it would be spent in a myriad of ways. For elected council, we have an obligation to care not just for the youth, the sporty, the avid readers, the elderly, the producers and the families, we have an obligation to care for you all. As such, inevitably sometimes will make decisions to spend money on a project which you yourself will not agree with, as you yourself will not find direct value in it. Getting the right mix of functionality and livability in a community is extremely difficult, particularly with the limited resources available to us and the ever reducing

funding sources from government.

The hardest thing for those of us in council to swallow is when we must spend money and copious amounts of time on things that the community doesn't see. **Planning.** Before we can achieve support (either political or monetary) for projects which the community desire, we have to jump through many hoops. We often work on a project for months or years without the community being able to see any results at all, as we have to use this time to tick all the boxes. **Legislation.** The laws are always changing and even if we agree with them, each change will bring a change in our processes which we then spend time implementing (eg. The Biosecurity Act has taken profuse resources of council to implement) and if we don't agree with them in their entirety (e.g. vegetation management) we then spend time and resources fighting them on behalf of our community. These fights usually are quiet as they are done behind the scenes initially. Finally there are **Running Costs** of council. Insurance \$1.04 m; Software licensing \$322,000; Electricity \$1m and audit costs \$190,000 just for an example. Just like every other household and business in the region we are not immune to the costs required just to open our doors.

So are we spending time and money doing things that are important to our community? I'm sticking with my first answer - Yes, no and maybe.

Talk soon,
Rachel.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council's next **Standing Committee Meetings** will be held in **Monto on Wednesday, 2 May** commencing 9am, followed by Council's **General Meeting in Biggenden on Wednesday, 16 May** commencing 9am. Council meetings are open to the public.

All members of the public are welcome to attend Council's Public Question Time, held during **Council's General Meeting from 9:30am to 10:30am**. This is an opportunity to bring forth any items that you would like your Councillors to address. Standing Committee Deputations by appointment.

Prior indication of your question is appreciated. Please phone 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) to discuss with an Executive Support staff member or email executive.support@northburnett.qld.gov.au

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION STRATEGY

Mayor Rachel Chambers recently announced the development of a new Economic Development and Innovation Strategy for the North Burnett.

"There is so much opportunity for our region - the digital revolution, growing export markets, emerging agricultural technology, new industries and jobs. This Strategy will put North Burnett on the front foot, primed for economic growth and productivity" said Mayor Chambers.

"In developing this Strategy, we will explore how we can attract investment, encourage partnerships, increase our

economic competitiveness, open up new markets, and develop new industries. We will also face up to economic challenges of sustainability, changes in climate, distance, digital connectivity, and infrastructure."

"People, community and local business will be central to this Strategy. Real and enduring community benefits are the ultimate objective of economic development, and community input will ensure our Strategy hits the mark. We welcome the ideas and feedback of our entire community," Mayor Chambers said.

You can participate in development of this Strategy by completing a short online survey, or emailing your comments and ideas. To obtain a copy of the survey see Council's website www.northburnett.qld.gov.au or visit one of our Customer Service Centres to pick up a hard copy. For more information on the survey please contact Council's Economic Development Team on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or via email on admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au.

Community consultation is open until 21 May 2018, and Council anticipates the draft Economic Development and Innovation Strategy will be available for public feedback in June 2018.

NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL SHOWS 2018

**Mt Perry Show
Saturday, 21 April 2018**

**Monto Show, Saturday 28 &
Sunday, 29 April 2018**

Gayndah

04.30am Assemble at Gayndah Community Hall Supper Room / **05.00am** Assemble at QCWA Hall, Pineapple St followed by March to Cenotaph for Dawn Service / **08.00am** Gooroolba Parade Assemble at Gooroolba Memorial (bus supplied for Veterans leaving Golden Orange at 07:30am) / **09.45am** Assemble near Court House, Capper St / **10.00am** Fall in for March to Honour Board, Capper St followed by Public Meeting at Gayndah Community Hall, Capper St

Monto

05.45am Dawn Service at Monto District RSL and Citizen's Memorial Club / **09.20am** Form up for 9:40am march from Monto District RSL and Citizen's Memorial Club, Rutherford St to Memorial Park, Newton St / **10.00am** Laying of wreaths at Memorial Park and Commemoration Meeting in Monto Community Hall

Mount Perry

05.25am Dawn Service at the Cenotaph War Memorial, Heusman St / **10.45am** Parade assembles outside Mt Perry General Store, Heusman St followed by march to Cenotaph War Memorial, Heusman St / **11.00am** Commemoration Service at the Cenotaph War Memorial, Heusman St

Mundubbera

05.30am Dawn Service - March to Cenotaph followed by Daylight Service at Mundubbera Cemetery / **10.30am** Commemorative Service at Mundubbera Community Hall followed by march to Cenotaph for wreath laying.

POSITIONS VACANT

Nil

TENDERS / EOI

- Surplus Equipment - **Close 26-04-18**

Further information on Positions Vacant or Tenders can be obtained via Council's:

Website: www.northburnett.qld.gov.au
Email: admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au
Phone: 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or call into one of Council's Customer Service Centres / Libraries.

FLOOD RESTORATION UPDATE

Over the next fortnight, flood restoration works will be concentrated in the following locations:

Biggenden - Deep Creek Rd, Farrells Rd, Wateranga Rd

Gayndah - Aberdeens Rd, Black Horse Creek Rd

Monto - Foleys Gully Rd, Mahoon Creek Rd, Old Rawbelle Rd, Yarrol Rd, Bunns Rd

Mt Perry - Branch Creek Rd, Twin Creeks Rd

Mundubbera - Green Tree Rd



Black Horse Creek Rd, Gayndah 'under construction'.

Council acknowledges the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding is a joint Commonwealth and State Government program.

ANZAC DAY CLOSURES - 25 APRIL

Residents are advised that Council's Customer Contact Centres (including Centrelink and QGap), Administration Offices, Libraries and Depots will be closed on **Wednesday, 25 April 2018** for Anzac Day, re-opening normal business hours on Thursday, 26th April 2018.

KERBSIDE COLLECTION & WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY HOURS

Residents are advised that the kerbside collection planned for **Wednesday, 25 April 2018** - Anzac Day - will proceed as scheduled.

Waste Management Facilities will operate as per normal schedule; however will not open until 12.30pm to cater for Anzac Day Services throughout the region.

ROAD CLOSURES

Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995 Notice is hereby given that the undermentioned roads will be closed to all vehicular traffic on Wednesday, **25 April 2018** for the purpose of the observance of Anzac Day Ceremonies at the following times:

BIGGENDEN Victoria St between Edward & Frederick Sts from 8:15am to 8:45am / **EIDSVOLD** Moreton St between Mt Rose & Hodgkinson Sts from 8:30am to 9am / **GAYNDAH** Capper St between Warton & Simon Sts from 4:30am to 5:30am plus 9:30am to 11am / **MONTO** Rutherford St (between Faraday & Newton St), & Newton St (between Rutherford & Lyell Sts) from 9:30am to 10:30am / **MT PERRY** Heusman St (North bound lane) between Flora & Factory Sts from 10:30am to 11am / **MUNDUBBERA** Lyons St between Bouverie & Bauer Sts from 10:45am to 12:30pm.

Alternate routes will be available for vehicular traffic.

TENDER - SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Tender Number **291703_2017-18_QTB_32**

Interested community groups / organisations are invited to tender for the disposal (as a lot) of the following items of surplus blacksmith equipment at the Eidsvold Depot - 'As is Where is'.

• anvil • coal forge • various tools

Items can be inspected on site on **Tuesday 24 April, 2018** between 9.30am and 12noon.

Written Tenders close at 2pm, Thursday, 26 April 2018 and should be addressed to CEO, PO Box 390, Gayndah Qld 4625. Tenders can be handed into your local Council Customer Service Centre or emailed to admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au and should be clearly marked with the appropriate Tender Number. Council reserves the right to invite applicants to change their tender in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and Section 228 (7) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. No submission will be accepted after the closing date/time. All tenders will be responded to by mail.

BW Duke, Acting CEO

ANZAC DAY

Wednesday, April 25 is a public holiday proclaimed by the Commonwealth Government. The Anzac Day dawn service remembers the time and circumstances of the landing of the first Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli and their heroic sacrifice.

North Burnett Regional Council in conjunction with local RSL branches, invite you to attend an Anzac Day Memorial Service at one of the following locations:

Biggenden

05:10am Assemble for 5:20am Dawn Service at Degilbo War Memorial, followed by light breakfast at Degilbo Hall / **08.15am** Assemble at QCWA Rooms, Edward St for 08.30am march to Biggenden Memorial Hall, Victoria St followed by Memorial Service

Eidsvold

05.30am Dawn Service at War Memorial, Moreton St followed by breakfast at QCWA Rooms / **09.00am** Assemble for march from War Memorial to Eidsvold Community Hall, Moreton St / **09.30am** Community Anzac Day Service