

**Minutes  
Port Ballina Taskforce  
Thursday 18 February 2015 at 4.00 pm**

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**Attendance**

**Members**

Cr David Wright, Mayor, Ballina Shire Council  
Cr Paul Worth, Ballina Shire Council  
Cr Keith Williams, Ballina Shire Council  
Max Ryan, Community Representative  
Peter Carmont, Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
James Foster, Community Representative  
Michael Cocks, Community Representative  
Phil Hilliard, Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative  
Mario Puglisi, Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative  
Tom Bowers, Cherry Street Fishing Club  
Darren Watson, RMS – Maritime

**Observers**

Paul Hickey, General Manager, Ballina Shire Council  
Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council

**1. Apologies**

Nadia Elliot-Burgess, Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Nil

**3. Minutes from Dredging Taskforce Meeting held 18 November 2014**

The Taskforce confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18 November 2014.

**4. General Business**

**a) Martin Street Boat Harbour – Precinct Master Plan**

James Foster provided an overview of the project and the consultation taking place and sought feedback from the Taskforce Members.

In determining preferred priorities there was general agreement from the Taskforce members that the harbour improvements should be the first priority.

**b) North Creek - Dredging**

General discussion with update noted.

**c) Ballina Boat Harbour - Dredging**

Phil Hilliard advised that May 2015 was now the likely date for the dredging to take place.

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**d) Regional Boating Plan – Priority Projects**

In respect to preferred priorities the feedback from the members was that the Ballina Trawler Harbour, followed by Fishery Creek Pontoon and Faulks Reserve were the preferred options.

Members also identified that the need for the proposed infrastructure at Brunswick Street, Ballina was possibly not necessary and the works for the end of North Creek Road, Lennox Head are a lower priority.

**e) Ballina Boat Harbour – Project Plan**

Updated noted with Paul Hickey providing an overview of how this project may be advanced through the possible preparation of a concept development consent, that could then be put to the market to see whether there is commercial interest.

**f) Ballina Bar**

*Resolved (Tom Bowers / Keith Williams)*

That the Port Ballina Taskforce issue a media release and correspondence to the candidates for the State election highlighting the benefits that improving the Ballina Bar would bring (i.e. for example by sand pumping) to support the full use of the maritime infrastructure and potential of Ballina.

James Foster to prepare media release and Mayor to issue correspondence.

**5. Business Without Notice**

Max Ryan – asked for information on the progress of the Marine Rescue Centre to be provided in future agendas.

**6. Next Meeting**

To be advised.

**Meeting closure:** 5.20pm