



## Notice of Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting will be held in the Ballina Shire Council Committee Room, Ballina on **Thursday 31 March 2016 at 4.00 pm.**

### Business

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes from Port Ballina Taskforce meeting held 3 December 2015 (attached).
4. General Business
  - (a) Ballina Boat Harbour Precinct – Master Plan
  - (b) Ballina Bar
  - (c) NSW Boating Now Program – 2015/16 Priority Projects
  - (d) Ballina Boat Harbour - Dredging
  - (e) Marine Rescue Centre
  - (f) Martin Street Boat Harbour – Master Plan
  - (g) North Creek - Dredging
5. Business Without Notice
6. Next Meeting

Paul Hickey  
**General Manager**

1. **Attendance and Apologies**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

3. **Minutes from Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting held 3 December 2015**

The Minutes from the meeting held Thursday 3 December 2015 are included as an attachment to this agenda.

**Recommendation**

That the Taskforce confirms the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 December 2015.

4. **General Business**

**(a) Ballina Boat Harbour Precinct – Master Plan**

Council has commenced a project to prepare a master plan for the Ballina Trawler Harbour site at West Ballina (see study area map as follows).

The purpose of the Ballina Trawler Harbour Master Plan project is to prepare a plan and associated supporting documents to encourage and facilitate redevelopment of the Trawler Harbour site, inclusive of enhanced marine infrastructure.

Council has had a long standing interest in the redevelopment of the Ballina Trawler Harbour into a larger and more diverse marina.

Council's interest in this project arises from the potential economic benefits that could be derived from expanded marine infrastructure in the shire as well as consistently expressed interest from the Ballina community in the availability of a greater extent and diversity of marine infrastructure in the Ballina locality.

However, as Ballina Shire Council is not a land owner within the study area, the intention of the master plan project is to prepare a package of material to assist local and State Government as well as private interests to consider the site for investment and redevelopment.

Matthew Wood, who is the project co-ordinator within Council, will attend this meeting to provide an update on the various actions taken to date and the interest being shown by the NSW State Government.



**(b) Ballina Bar**

As previously advised NSW Department of Primary Industries has recently shown interest in dredging the bar, with a range of stakeholders having been consulted in respect to the merits of dredging.

In February 2016 Council received the following email from Crown Lands.

*I refer to previous advice from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Lands and your recent discussions with Mr Edward Couriel (NSW Public Works - Manly Hydraulics Laboratory) regarding preliminary investigations for dredging the Richmond River entrance bar.*

*DPI Lands is working with the Department of Public Works with the view to undertake a broad economic analysis and a preliminary environmental assessment to inform government on the benefits, costs and risks of a dredging intervention at the entrance to the Richmond River of up to 30,000 cubic metres of marine sand.*

*Should government support a "once off" trial dredging campaign the next steps would be to undertake the necessary detailed environmental assessments and gain all relevant approvals (including a permit from the Commonwealth Government under the Sea Dumping Act).*

*Preliminary investigations completed to date suggests that an ocean going (trailing cutter suction hopper) dredge would be required to undertake work. Both the Office of Environment & Heritage and Public Works have recommended the dredged sand be used for beneficial beach nourishment by placement in the near shore zone to the north of the river entrance to minimise south bound ingress of the dredged sand back into the entrance.*

*Public Works has suggested three options/locations and respective costs.*

- 1. Placing material directly on Shelley Beach (lowest cost option) but noting the need to carefully monitor south bound littoral transport to assess any reduced dredge effectiveness and any increased dredge maintenance requirements if some of this material returns into the entrance under persistent east and north-easterly wave climates;*
- 2. if affordable, place material north of Flat Rock on Sharps Beach, some 5 km north of the entrance, adding about \$140,000 (i.e. approximately \$5 per cubic metre) in transport costs for the proposed 30,000 m<sup>3</sup> of dredge spoil, with likely reductions in future dredge maintenance costs and improved coastal alongshore sediment transport potential towards the sediment deficient Seven Mile Beach to the north; or*
- 3. place dredged material offshore of Seven Mile Beach, some 10 km north at Lennox Head, adding about \$280,000 (i.e. approximately \$9 per cubic metre) in transport costs for the proposed 30,000 m<sup>3</sup> of dredge material.*

*Option 3 would be in keeping with Ballina Shire Council's Coastal Zone Management Plan and the intentions of the new Coastal Management Bill (2015) by returning sand directly to an area that has been deprived of natural littoral process supply for several decades.*

*Options 1 and 2 would also be consistent with the intentions of the new Coastal Management Bill (2015) by retaining dredge spoil material within the relevant coastal sediment compartment, although beach amenity benefits for Seven Mile Beach would be indirect and dependent on natural coastal processes that are likely to take several years to materialise.*

*I understand from Mr Couriel that Council may be interested in contributing to the extra cost for carting sand from the Richmond River entrance dredging project if used as sand nourishment on Seven Mile Beach.*

*I look forward in due course whether there may be interest from within council on the above.*

*Andrew Ling | Principal Environmental Officer, Crown Lands  
NSW Department Primary Industries - Lands*

This email demonstrates that the project continues to have merit and there may be benefits to Council through its Coastal Zone Management Plan to have the sand dredged relocated off Seven Mile Beach.

A report is being submitted to an April 2016 Finance Committee meeting of Council to determine whether Council wishes to make a financial contribution to the project.

The outcomes of the Finance Committee meeting will then be reported to the April 2016 Ordinary meeting of Council.

**(c) NSW Boating Now Program – Priority Projects**

Council has recently accepted a tender from Royal Haskoning DHV to undertake consultancy works for the various capital works projects that Council has received funding for under the NSW Boating Now Program.

A summary of those works is as follows:

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Council</b>
Keith Hall - Ramp / Pontoon	300,000	75,000
Fishery Creek – Pontoon	100,000	50,000
East Wardell - Pontoon	100,000	50,000
Faulks Reserve – Pontoon	175,000	75,000
Captain Cook – Wharf / Pontoon	300,000	50,000
Lennox Head - Ramp	150,000	75,000
Brunswick St – Ramp	200,000	75,000
Emigrant Creek - Access	40,000	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,325,000</b>	<b>450,000</b>

The consultancy contract is to finalise the designs for the works, obtain all necessary approvals and then oversee the construction works.

Royal Haskoning DHV has extensive experience in managing similar projects under the Boating Now Program and by having the one firm oversee all our projects it should result in operational and timing efficiencies.

**(d) Ballina Boat Harbour – Dredging**

Phil Hilliard to provide latest update.

**(e) Marine Rescue Centre**

Construction work on the new facility is well underway and a time lapse video of the work is available on Council's website.

**(f) Martin Street Boat Harbour - Master Plan**

The master plan is close to being finalised for reporting to Council. Changes have been made to incorporate the latest designs for the redevelopment of the Ballina swimming pool complex.

**(g) North Creek - Dredging**

The latest update on this project is that work on Stage 1 (Scoping Study) is now complete. The legislative review has confirmed that the scale of the project warrants the need for an EIS to accompany a development application for the project.

Project planning for Stage 2 (Preparation of Planning Application, EIS and related investigations) is now underway. Shorebird surveys have already been undertaken as part of Stage 2 - this work was brought forward due to its seasonal urgency.

A project schedule, costing and budget estimates are currently being prepared, which will then allow Council to determine whether they wish to proceed with the project.

5. **Business Without Notice**

6. **Next Meeting**

To be advised

**Attachment to Item 3 - Minutes from Port Ballina Taskforce Meeting held 3 December 2015**

**Minutes  
Port Ballina Taskforce  
Thursday 3 December 2015 at 3.00 pm**

---

**Attendance**

**Members**

Cr David Wright, Mayor, Ballina Shire Council  
Cr Keith Williams, Ballina Shire Council  
Max Ryan, Community Representative  
Craig Zerk, Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Ray Karam, Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
James Foster, Community Representative  
Phil Hilliard, Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative  
Mario Puglisi, Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative  
Darren Watson, RMS, Maritime  
Tom Bowers, Cherry Street Fishing Club

**Observers**

Paul Hickey, General Manager, Ballina Shire Council  
Paul Busmanis, Engineering Works Manager, Ballina Shire Council  
Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council  
Brendan Logan, NSW Crown Lands

**1. Apologies**

Michael Cocks, Community Representative  
Cr Paul Worth, Ballina Shire Council

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Nil

**3. Minutes from Dredging Taskforce Meeting held 16 July 2015**

The Taskforce confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2015.

**4. General Business**

**a) Tom Bowers - Matters**

Noted. Paul Busmanis provided an overview of the consent conditions for structures in the Ballina Quays.

**b) NSW Crown Lands**

Paul Hickey and Brendan Logan to talk to Public Works – NSW Water Solutions to ensure no duplication in research on economic benefits for dredging the Ballina Bar.

**c) Ballina Bar**

General discussion on current actions being taken by Public Works.

**Minutes  
Port Ballina Taskforce  
Thursday 3 December 2015 at 3.00 pm**

---

**d) NSW Boating Now Program – 2015/16 Projects**

Paul Busmanis provided an overview of state of projects.

**e) Ballina Boat Harbour – Dredging**

Phil confirmed that total extraction now reduced from 20,000 cubic metres to 8,000 due to high cost of transporting waste.

James confirmed no cheaper solution found to date.

Works likely to be in April 2016.

**f) Marine Rescue Centre**

Tenders have now closed and will be reported to the December Council meeting.

**g) North Creek - Dredging**

Noted.

**h) Martin Street Boat Harbour – Master Plan**

James provided an overview of preferred options.

**i) Ballina Boat Harbour Precinct – Master Plan**

Noted.

**5. Business Without Notice**

Nil

**6. Next Meeting**

To be advised.

**Meeting closure:** 4.30pm