



Mayors Message

June 2008 Vol 2

Organisational Structure Report Received



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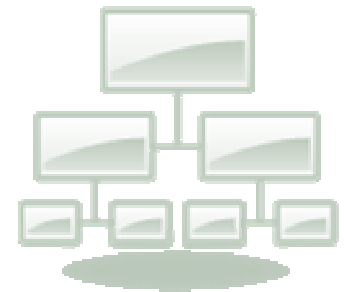
The draft report on the long term organisational structure was received by Council last Tuesday. Blackadder Gibbs presented the draft to Council at its ordinary meeting on June 10th. The report identified three options for our consideration, namely:

- Retaining the status quo i.e. the Matrix Structure;
- Establishing service centers with centralized support and control; and
- establishing service centers with specialists hubs.

The report also suggested that four specialists teams be established within the structure, namely:

- A Growth Management team;
- A Communications and Marketing team;
- A Community strategic Planning and Performance Team; and
- A Business Innovation and Continuous Improvement team.

Councillors and management workshopped this draft report the following day. Council has asked management to develop a detailed structure for options 2 and 3. We hope to have completed this task by the end of June. Once we have reviewed this detail, the draft report will be released to staff for comment.



Appointment of CEO nears

We will be in a position to appoint our permanent Chief Executive Officer at our ordinary meeting of June 24th. Preliminary interviews have taken place and a number of candidates have been short listed for a full interview. These took place on Tuesday

June 17th. Council had appointed the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cr Bob Oakes to form the interview panel.

Once the permanent CEO is appointed and has commenced employment, Council will be in a position to commence the numerous changes required

from the amalgamation. These have largely been put on hold to prevent the scenario of a new CEO reversing change implemented prior to his / her appointment.



2008/09 Budget



The development of the 2008/09 budget is well underway. Advertisements have been placed in the newspapers calling for public input, some public meetings have been held and staff should have been provided the opportunity to submit comments. The budgets will be developed by Business Unit (Belyando, Broadsound and Nebo), with a

Isaac Corporate section capturing costs / revenues that apply across the region. Council will be facing some significant reform costs, which may necessitate a conservative-capital budget in 2008/09.

Council will meet in Nebo on June 19th to consider some of the larger issues such as reve-

nue statement (rate categories, discounts, remissions to charitable / not for profit organizations etc) grants, fees and charges, I/T requirements, and accounting philosophy.

Given the complication of drafting the inaugural budget for the new Isaac entity, Council will bring down its budget in August.

Communications solution close



Telstra have advised that the installation of their Private Network will be completed next week. Access to this network will provide all offices with fast and reliable access to each other. The first application to be rolled out will be an integrated e-mail account and integrated access to Microsoft Access. This will allow the use of Task Requests and the sharing of calendars across

the region.

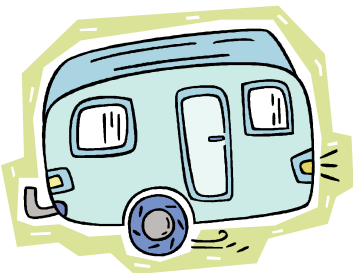
Technology One have been working on the creation of a new records management database which will contain all the historic records of the Belyando, Broadsound and Nebo Shire Council's as well as a structure for the Isaac Regional Council. Employees will be able to access and distribute records from any office

The next major step will be the selection and implementation of a common financial and property system. Other issues to be address include integration of our GIS systems and the acquisition of new software such as performance management and agenda preparation products.

The library group have chosen a new common library system that will be operational on July 1st.

Moranbah Caravan Park

There has been quite a deal of public disquiet regarding the eviction of a number of people from the Moranbah Caravan Park in Bacon Street. Council has been taking an active interest in this matter and has:



- Met with the owners to discuss the reason behind the evictions, the selection criteria for those given notice and their long term plans for Park 1 and Park 2;
- Obtained specialist town planning advice on the rights of the owner to install cabins in lieu of caravan park spaces;
- Placed a stop work notice on the owner pending the issue of a building approval from their private certifier;
- Considered ways in which temporary relief could be provided to displaced residents.

Council will do all that it legally can to ensure that there is variety in the choice of accommodation in all of the mining towns. It is holding a workshop with its consultant town planner in late June to formalize a policy position on this issue.

State Budget targets our roads

It is good to see the state government finally reinvesting some of the coal royalties into our region. The state budget handed down earlier this month provided a \$150 million funding package for central Queensland roads. \$15 million will be spend in 2008-09 on safety initiatives on the Peak Downs Highway and the Dysart / Middlemount Road.

\$4 million has been allocated for two overtaking lanes between Boundary Creek and Dennison Creek. \$10 million has been ear marked to build and seal shoulders (to provide widths of 8 to 8.5 meters) between German Creek to Middlemount and Dysart and Norwich Park.



OBEN Wide Youth Group

I had the privilege of opening the OBEN Wide Youth Group Youth Festival in Nebo on June 7th. This youth group are undertaking outstanding work in providing educational, inspirational and providing fun filled activities designed to enhance the self esteem of youth and assist them achieve personal goals.

The youth festival was extremely well organized and included activates such as skateboard competitions, touch football and horizontal bungee jumping.

The group donated all proceeds raised during the day to the Make a Wish Foundation.



Launch of Clermont Preferred Futures

During our visit to the western part of the Isaac region, Council took the opportunity to officially launch the Clermont Preferred Futures Strategy. This was a 12 month initiative undertaken by the Clermont community and Rio Tinto Coal Australia, under the leadership of the former Belyando Shire Council. The project involved a number of key partners coming together to explore the needs and challenges

of creating a preferred future strategy for the township of Clermont.

The document identifies major issues facing Clermont which are categorized under six themes. The document provides strategies to address each and clearly identifies the “primary” enablers or blockages to the future growth and development of Clermont.

Although Council has offi-

cially adopted the strategy, it has yet to prioritize the numerous strategies contained within the document. This will be undertaken within the next fortnight. Rio Tinto have generously agreed to meet 50% of the cost of employing a project officer, who’s role will be to drive the implementation of the strategies. In this regard Council look forward to working with the community for the betterment of Clermont.



Just a Minute



Each volume of the Isaac Reform Update will contain information on the decisions made by Council at its ordinary meetings.

- Council elected to be a member of the Central Highlands Regional Road Partnership group rather than the Mackay Whitsunday group;
- Council endorsed the Community Planning project which involves the training of councilors / officers in consultation, and the development / implementation of a community plan. BMA has generously donated \$40,000 p.a over three years to assist with this project.
- Council approved assistance / donations to the following: Middlemount Panthers RL club; Clarke Creek P&C; Middlemount P&C; Middlemount Race Day; and Leichhardt Ladies Bowling Assoc.
- Council endorsed the adoption of SafePlan2 as the safety system for Isaac Regional Council;
- Council did not accept any tenders for the \$6,000,000 extension of the Moranbah Industrial Estate as it required further information;
- Council approved the establishment of the Clermont Christian Family Church in Capella St;
- 19 lots of residential land in Glenden were tendered, however no tenders were received.
- Council has agreed in principle to a joint venture arrangement with MAC for the development of community gardens outside the MAC facility in Nebo;
- Council approved the creation of a full time Information Technology officer position in the Nebo Business Unit. Rosane White who was a trainee in that area was appointed to the position.
- The Broadsound Business Unit has extended its contract with JJ Richards until a regional waste management contract is let. It is hoped that the regional contract will be in place by December.
- Council approved a tender worth \$546,170 to augment the Sewerage Treatment plant in Dysart to cater for the growth being experienced by the town.
- Council adopted the Mining Trial Feasibility Report which was prepared by consultants. The report identifies possible mining trails that tourists can follow. The first step in the project will be to produce brochures and install adequate signage.
- Council approved the compulsory acquisition of native title over Lot 1 PER 4485. This is the land adjoining Councils single persons quarters in Acacia street, Moranbah. Council intends to purchase the land from the Department of Natural Resources for future affordable housing.