



Discovery Coast Tourism & Commerce Inc. (DCTC)
The local tourism organisation for Agnes Water, 1770
& surrounding towns of the Southern Great Barrier Reef
Central Queensland, Australia

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Annual General Meeting held at Drift & Wood, 8am, Wednesday, 18 October 2023 MINUTES

President, Amber Rodgers opened meeting at 8.02 am.

Apologies from – Melissa Smith, Stephen Bennett MP, Cr Glenn Churchill, Cr Desley O'Grady.

Attendees – Amber Rodgers, Susie Jones, Daryl, Cassandra Austin, Anne McConnachie, James Spicer, Lorenzo Benedetto, Kylie Shaw, Liz, David Wilkinson, Jodie Richards, Annie Backhaus, Fabienne Wintle, Jane Arens, Laura den Heijer, Dan Cooper, Anna Ashman, Janina Speck, John Nicholson.

Acknowledgement to country.

Update by GRC's Carly Quinn

General Manager Strategy and Transformation

Carly was not able to physically attend the meeting due to commitments with the LGAQ State Conference taking place in Gladstone this week. Instead, she provided an update online via Zoom.

- The latest update regarding the current local bushfires has been released today. We acknowledge the tremendous work of all the firefighters.
- Carly congratulated DCTC on another successful year.
- The bridge at Tom Jeffery Park is in place again, as most people know. The work around the bridge should be finalised latest Friday 20/10/23. There is a possibility that construction is ready even before Friday. Carly also expressed her gratitude and thanked NRMA Agnes Water Holiday Park for being so cooperative in the process.
- Advanced Water Meter Installation by GRC is underway. This means you can sign up and see real time tracking of your water. This has already helped discover water leaks.
- In September, some of the GRC executive team and Councillors came to Agnes Water for a 'Cuppa with a Councillor' which was a successful morning tea, with good community engagement and they visited multiple sites also.
- The GRC Community champions program has evolved, Carly remains the GM champion of the Agnes Water & 1770 area.

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- Carly would like to inform everyone that this month is 'Seniors month'. Events are on the GRC website for those interested.
- On 18th November GRC will host 'Welcome to the region' for new residents in Agnes Water & 1770.
- A reminder that the free grant writing workshop in Agnes Water takes place 31st of October. Booking for this workshop will need to happen 3 business days in advance.
- During the last meeting Rob Huth was present in Carly's absence, and he passed on some questions that she has to follow up on:
 - o GRC has no record of a new reef operator starting up in Agnes Water & 1770.
 - o For future Free First Aid events, GRC will send this out to the local groups as well. The upcoming event on the 5th of December is fully booked.
 - o Carly will share a summary of the Planning Scheme/LGIP Review Timeline with Amber. Which is displayed below.
 - o Lighting at the VMR pontoon is expected to be inspected annually, but has in fact been done twice per year. The next inspection is planned in November. Someone reported lights not working, Carly will follow up. Carly mentions GRC relies on the community to report if anything is not working.

Planning Scheme/LGIP Review Timeline:

Whilst part of the planning scheme, the Local Government Infrastructure Plan is its own separate part that plans for infrastructure networks (e.g., roads, water, sewerage) to service areas of the region in line with future development as envisaged by the Planning Scheme zoning and strategic intent.

The purpose of the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) is to:

- 1. Integrate infrastructure planning with the land use planning identified in the Planning Scheme.*
- 2. Provide transparency regarding a local government's intentions for the provision of trunk infrastructure.*
- 3. Enable a local government to estimate infrastructure cost to assist its long-term financial planning.*
- 4. Ensure that trunk infrastructure is planned and provided in an efficient and orderly manner.*
- 5. Provide a basis for the imposition of conditions about infrastructure on development approvals.*

Work will fall into stages:

Stage 1 - is the planning and preparation of the LGIP amendment

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Stage 2 - includes the compliance check by a third-party reviewer appointed by Council from a list of consultants maintained by the State Government

Stage 3 - includes review by the State Government, and receiving permission to proceed to public notification

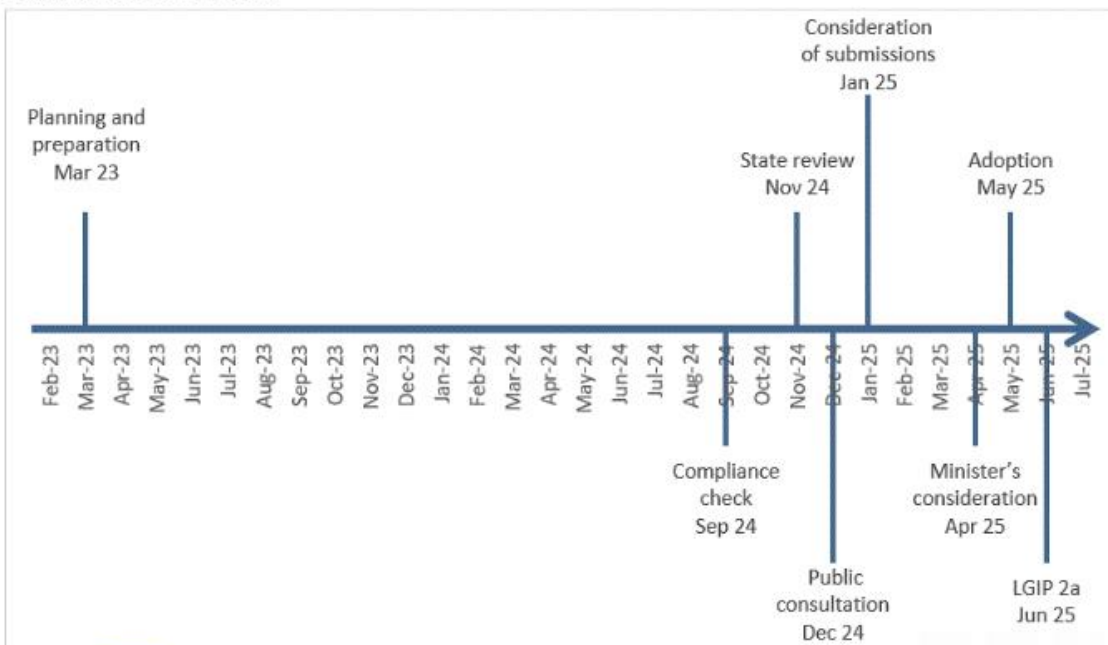
Stage 4 - includes public consultation for a period of at least 15 days business days

Stage 5 - includes Minister's consideration to proceed to adoption, and

Stage 6 - is adoption of the LGIP amendment by the local government.

Draft timeline pictured below:

Draft timeline pictured below:



Proposed LGIP amendment timeline

Questions from group to Carly:

What is the latest update about the Agnes Water skatepark?

Carly is not across the latest update about the skatepark. She believes the planning is underway this year, and funding will be finalised at the end of the financial year.

Therefore the construction can start next financial year. This information will need to be fact checked with her colleagues.

What is the latest update about Water Availability in this area, including the report that has been put together by GAPDL?

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Carly mentioned that this is something that GRC could progress on, in some shape or form. GRC has had discussions about this topic and will need to determine what option they will go for and which location.

What is the latest update regarding the Community reference group?

Carly cannot give any update. This topic will need to be followed up. Amber noted it was early October 2022 that General Manager Kylie Lee suggested this.

What is the latest update regarding a community battery?

GRC has been looking at an example of a small and remote Qld town who uses a battery and solar panels when they have a black out. For that town, it happens frequently and can last 33 days. It was an extremely expensive exercise for the local govt, and GRC doesn't see this as a priority right now, here.

Can you give an update about mandate water tanks and solar panels?

Carly is not aware that water tanks are not mandated in our council. Amber reminded her that Water tanks and solar panels are not mandated in our Council. The group provided an example that the new shopping centre with such large roof space should have solar panels and water storage.

Amber Rodgers would like to remind everyone that GRC has been and will continue to attend DCTC's monthly meetings. This is a great opportunity to keep on track with the facts. Thank you Carly for today.

Update from DCTC's Treasurer Annie McConnachie:

Annie would like to inform everyone that DCTC has been using the services of a BAS agent bookkeeper, rather than the volunteer treasurer undertake this work. DCTC being a non-profit organisation, we also go through an annual audit, done by Darren Hart in Bundaberg. This year the auditor, wanted to bring to the members' attention that gifts and donations by DCTC occurred. The festivals in 2023 made a profit and DCTC donated a portion of the profit to other community groups and also to reward head volunteers for their time into the events over many years. These decisions are minuted and were made by all executives. It is also noted that DCTC now has employees and regular contractors in the organisation, like the bookkeeper, Ryan who does the website and Laura who is taking on a lot of administrative, membership and marketing duties.

The last financial year DCTC had a financial loss of \$12,726. This is not of concern, being that it relates to the donations DCTC made to others; and the 2022-2023 Agnes

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Blues Fest, being that tickets were sold for that event since March 2021 and therefore the ticket income is not all recorded in the year that the event expenses were incurred.

Tourism Industry Resilience Program:

This Program was possible thanks to funding from the Qld Dept of Tourism Innovation and Sport. It was open for everyone in the town to attend a full day workshop at Lagoons on 1 August 2023. Subsequently DCTC members had a one-on-one session for their business. And further group workshops were held online and in person to complete the Program by October 2023. Tourism Tribe conducted the Program and fulfilled the Dept's and DCTC's requests, in order to enable business owners locally to be better prepared and better able to resume business after any disaster - be it a bushfire, flood, cyclone, hacking, or event simply if you drop and damage your laptop with all your key information.

DCTC member Cassandra Austin joined the program and shared with the AGM attendees how she found it very helpful for her business. After the program a small group of locals including Cass have worked to start a Trello board for Agnes Water & 1770 disaster information. The updating of publicly displayed disaster details will occur, especially for those newcomers who are unaware of RegionWatch and other tools. There is already a local disaster management group and protocols in place involving several agencies and council.

Update for the Agnes Blues, Roots & Rock Festival:

- Currently 447 tickets sold.
- Jane Arens has come on board as a new volunteer in the team.
- We are working to make systems and programs easier. Getting marketing ready for the next 3 to 4 months.
- So far \$6,000 income, costs will be approx \$200,000.
- 1770 Festival is getting set up as well.
- The first Rhythm's @ Rustys happened last Saturday. All are welcome to come along for the next 3 Rhythm's @ Rustys. These are on 18/11/23, 16/12/23 & 13/1/23.
- Next Agnes Blues Fest performer announcement will be next week!
- DCTC has a good relationship with Hammo from 4CC, including paid advertisements, on air interviews regularly and he is an MC during the festivals too.
- In collaboration with Boomerang Bags, you can now purchase a Boomerang Bag with the DCTC logo on it. The bags are for \$5 each and for sale now and at the festival.

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Mark Fitz update:

Last week DCTC hosted photographer, influencer and regular visitor Mark Fitz in Agnes Water & 1770. We have worked with him in the past, he has a very consistent audience following and his own posting is consistent and aligns with DCTC and the destination. We have paid him for the visit, some members have contributed financially and the roll out will continue into next year from this activity.

Facts & general updates:

- Shore Care Family Practice has moved to the building next door. The Impact Health building (that they all shared) is getting renovated and will have more health services available, timeline of this renovation is unknown.
- Kylie from The Summit would like to share the newest addition '270 The Summit'. A beautiful house, with pool, spa and media room available for holiday let. The house fits 3 couples and will be taking bookings now.
- DCTC will create a blog post of which restaurants will be open in town for Xmas lunch or dinner.

Annual General Meeting proceedings:

David Wilkinson, president of Agnes Water / 1770 Lions Club accepted the request as an impartial attendee to run the voting section of the AGM. All executives stand down and all positions are vacant. There were no nominations received in writing. Anna Ashman came forward for the role as secretary, and Cassandra came forward for the role as membership and DCTC Publicity. With the other three executive roles remaining with the previous year person.

The new elected 2023-2024 executive committee of DCTC is:

President – Amber Rodgers

Vice President: Fabienne Wintle

Secretary: Anna Ashman

Treasurer: Annie McConnachie

Membership & Publicity: Cassandra Austin.

Meeting closed at 9.07am.

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Next General Meeting scheduled – 1 November 2023.

Next Annual General Meeting scheduled – 21 October 2024.

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