



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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## AGENDA

### General Meeting

**to be held at Agnes Water Community Centre, 5pm Wednesday 31 January 2024**

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Guests arrive at 5pm and sign in.

Acknowledgement to country – *we'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today. And would also like to pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*

Welcome DCTC members, distinguished guests and other attendees, thank you for joining us.

Call for Apologies - Colin Boyce MP, Cr Glenn Churchill, Josie Meng, Fabienne Wintle, Cassandra Austin, Annie McConnachie, Leanne Patrick,

Attendees - Laura, James Spicer, Anna, John Nicholson, Amber Rodgers, Gemma, Lisa, Andrea Blundell, Neil Collins, Carly Quinn online for part of meeting.

Treasurer update - bank balances are:

DCTC \$5642.

1770F \$81385.

ABRR \$303168.

DCTC's 2023 donations totalled over \$21,000 to AWSS P&C, Lions, DCEG, SES.

RSL meeting on Sat 11am at Tavern - community support sought for ANZAC march. Carly Quinn suggested to speak to NFP House for help for RSL with paperwork and grants etc. Amber wasn't aware NFP House provided that service for free??

GRC Carly Quinn Updates:

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- Carly holidayed in Agnes Water during the summer holidays and sends a big thank you to everyone. Mentioned the great new beach mat from HOA, the volunteers efforts regarding it and how very nice it was to see it used, should be very proud.
- GRC Planning Scheme review is underway - online survey open now via Conversations on GRC website, other live community engagement too. The Industry Stakeholder session held in Gladstone last week had good engagement. Was an invited session for industry. DCTC was invited and attended. Other locals who attended were via Councillor invites extended. Next in person opportunity on this topic is Sat 11th Feb 8am-noon at the SES Grounds and during the Rotary markets, a Drop In Session with GRC.
- Agnes Water main beach car park, Agnes Street - late last year the online engagement on design elements provided 58 total responses. The updated designs include 2020 feedback and recent. Design will be completed in April 2024. Followed by operational works and tender processes. The bench seating was preferred by the majority; 91% responded dual water fountain preference; the boom gate access was selected by the majority - and this security / access element was an outcome of a condition from the Planning Court, so now forms part of the conditions for the build. Bollards were selected over security/pool fencing; and public art in multiple locations was selected by survey respondents.
- Skate Park - currently GRC is finalising the scope for tender to do design and construct. Therefore no further community input probably, although Carly will check that. GRC lodged a grant in January relevant to funding for this project.
- Building Bush tourism fund - GRC is applying through this fund for a potable water station in Agnes & 1770 area. Thanks for the information gathered in the past, the report received has helped progress the topic. (GAPDL and Laura herself prepared the report).
- Paperbark Trail closure - Bush Heritage Aust Association and GRC have met. There is vehicle and road interface challenges, and some challenges that are internal. GRC has a detailed scope of the road issues now and will see if they can assist when its reopened. BH have requested time to consider options.
- Parks week is coming in March - there will be Yoga in the park in 1770 on 9 March.
- Question - Amber Rodgers - population amount at the Industry Stakeholder event in Gladstone showed only 30 people gained in this part of the region in part 12 months. Amber and Fabie have spoken with both the consultants since that presentation to assist in sources of info closer to the facts.
  - Question - Gemma Bauld Agnes Conservation Council - wasn't invited to the Industry stakeholder meeting, asking why? Carly replied that it was an invite to major industry and chambers of commerce, she advised they haven't missed any

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opportunity to have a voice as there will be more sessions. Carly will meet with Tegan in GRC and get back to us further. (Tegan phoned Amber 2/2/24).

- Question - Andy Blundell - asking if the community consultation at the 1770 markets is the only time, or will there be other opportunities? Reply - will be the Gladstone, Agnes, Calliope community drop ins upcoming and will gather info soon for distribution. This timeline is online, it will review the Planning Scheme to see if the scheme requires great adjustment, or not.
- Question John Nicholson - asking about jetty lights near VMR, needs more lighting and maintenance at the pontoon level, suggestion it is MSQ issue to look after, rather than GRC. DCTC will check with Josie of VMR.
- Questions on road sign issues and misinformation on road closures, issues with updates to signs and website. ACTUAL EXAMPLE ADDED POST MEETING - Miriam Vale to Fingerboard Roadhouse road reopened approx 11am on Thur 1 Feb 2024. Amber phoned the Traffic number at 6pm as the main, very large electronic sign on the cnr of Rocky Crossing Rd and Round Hill Rd still displayed CLOSED. 7 hours later, isn't the point of having an expensive electronic sign, that it can be updated and accurate and timely? The sign was changed to OPEN by 7pm that day, good result from the phone call. Can GRC, esp Emma Catlin, include this in their road open procedure though?
- Question John Nicolson - DCSR assoc looking for its lease renewal, its been 18months of discussions and emails, yet no final doc yet. Asked Carly if she can follow this up. Reply - yes will follow up.
- Question re the progress on releasing the tender for Workmans Beach campground area? No current update by Carly as Kylie Lee is on leave, Carly will follow up again. The party on the long weekend is an example of what occurs with the area unmanaged. It took Police and QFES resources away from their other tasks. The care taker who did not live on site operated this area very very well pre COVID. Having no care taker and managed visitor occuppants has left the surroundings very overgrown, and unsightly. Turtle nesting was not considered by the part goers. The community has asked about this and pleaded for change for too long. What is the hold up?
- Amber mentioned the GRC orgnaised Disaster Readiness event held in the community centre in December and despite Police, SES and others joining the GRC staff to be present and provide information to the community, only 2 people attended, Laura and



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Cass from DCTC. An email to Councillors and some GRC GMs from DCTC did mention this and how disappointing the event planning was.

- Agnes Blues Fest update - GRC funds approved; Bonza competition launched, posters and programs available.
- 1770 Festival update - GRC funds approved of \$38500; Uniting Care collaboration;; DCC school student survey; theme to be announced soon; stallholders confirmed.

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