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## **CONFIRMED MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING held on 30 MAY 2017**

**Meeting opened:** 6.30 pm at Cardwell Library Meeting Room

**Present:** Chaired by Mark Sheahan (President), Jenny Green (Minutes Secretary), Kathy Sheahan (Vice President), Phil Gruber (committee member), Chris Stoter, Kevin Lockhart, Christine Ihle (Treasurer), Angelina Brazier, Robyn Smith, Stephen Darwen, Dean Beech, Amanda Payne.

**Apologies:** Gareth Davey (committee member), Cr Glenn Raleigh, Kaylea Chard-Tilles

### ***SUMMARY OF MEETING***

Members have asked that a summary of what was discussed at each meeting be provided, and that the detail in the meeting minutes be reduced. The summary of this meeting is below.

- Correspondence out and in
- Treasurer's Report
- Business arising from previous meeting on 9 May 2017
  1. Mountain bike tracks
  2. Signage for Cardwell spa pools and Forest Drive
  3. Cassowary Coast Economic Development Inc (CCED)
  4. Sign "Historic Cardwell by the Sea"
  5. Town map
  6. Balliol Street
  7. Bowen Street
  8. Airline Survey
  9. Kirrama Range Plaque
  10. Jetty Improvements
  11. Chamber's Annual Budget
  12. Chamber policies or position statements (like MBBT has)
- Agenda Item
  1. Degrading Cardwell as a destination by the president and vice president of The Cardwell Chamber of Commerce.
- General Business
  1. Phil Gruber – Gardens in front of businesses
  2. Robyn Smith – Jetty Markets
  3. Stephen Darwen – Herbert River Express
  4. Christine Ihle – Sullivan's Track, Australian Geographic, Wet Tropics Management Plan
  5. Chris Stoter – Speed Limit
  6. Mark Sheahan – AGM



## PREVIOUS MINUTES

Unconfirmed minutes of the previous general meeting held on 9 May 2017 were distributed to members prior to the meeting. The minutes were moved for acceptance.

**Moved:** Mark Sheahan      **Seconded:** Phil Gruber      **Result:** Carried

## CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARD:

- Email to CCRC Vince O'Brien re: maintenance of the "Historic Cardwell by the Sea" sign on the southern approach to Cardwell. – dated 16/5/17
- Email to CCRC Councillor Glenn Raleigh re: agenda items for the LG meeting to be held on 25 May – Cardwell Swimming Pool upgrade, Balliol Street upgrade, Bowen Street upgrade. – dated 16/5/17
- Email to CCRC Councillor Glenn Raleigh re: lack of signage for Cardwell Spa Pool and Forest Drive. – dated 21/5/17

## CORRESPONDENCE INWARD:

- Email from CCRC Vince O'Brien re: response to our email "Historic Cardwell by the Sea" sign re: copy of our email sent to CCRC facilities manager Rob Curry.
- Email from CCRC Mayor John Kremastos re: response to our email regarding upgrades to Cardwell Swimming Pool, Balliol Street and Bowen Street. – dated 20/5/17
- Email from CCRC Councillor Glenn Raleigh re: upgrades to Cardwell Swimming Pool, Balliol Street, Bowen Street to be brought forward in general business at LG meeting. – dated 21/5/17.
- Email from CCRC Councillor Glenn Raleigh re: response to our email lack of signage for Cardwell Spa Pool and Forest Drive
- Email from Georgia Phelps Secretary, Cardwell Historical & Cultural Precinct Steering Committee re: Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2017 – dated 18/5/17
- Email from CCMC President Jeff Coward re: Cardwell MTB Challenge to be held on 13 August. – dated 20/5/17
- Email from the Cardwell Foreshore Committee re: Foreshore Walk to be held on 27 May – dated 24/5/17
- Correspondence from Chamber member Dean Beech re: Degrading Cardwell as a destination by the president and vice president of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce – dated 26/5/17
- Correspondence from Kennedy State School P & C Association re: sponsorship or donation towards the schools 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Certificate of Appreciation from CCRC Mayor John Kremastos re: contribution towards the Commemoration of the Battle of the Coral Sea 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Invitation to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> World Chambers Congress in Sydney on 19-21 September from NSW Business Chamber.
- Newsletter from Andrew Cripps Member for Hinchinbrook – dated 29/5/17
- Wet Tropics Management Plan REVIEW sent to Chamber members by Kathy Sheahan re: Survey
- SMS from Chamber member John Schmidt of Absolute North Charters re: member Dean Beech – dated 30/5/17



## TREASURER'S REPORT:

### Cardwell Chamber of Commerce Inc Profit & Loss May 1 - 29, 2017

	May 1 - 29, 17
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Jetty Markets	475.00
Jetty Shade Sails Fundraising	863.10
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,338.10</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Bank Charges	1.40
Fees and Subscriptions	20.36
Jetty Market Expenses	
JM Insurance	562.10
Jetty Market Expenses - Other	200.00
<b>Total Jetty Market Expenses</b>	<b>762.10</b>
Miscellaneous	117.27
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>901.13</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>436.97</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
Interest Received	0.47
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>0.47</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.47</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>437.44</b>

### Cardwell Chamber of Commerce Inc Balance Sheet As of May 29, 2017

	May 29, 17
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Chequing/Savings	
CCC Statement Account	8,485.69
Jetty Market Acc	730.28
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<b>9,215.97</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>9,215.97</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>9,215.97</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Other Current Liabilities	
Tax Payable	1,057.68
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,057.68</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,057.68</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,057.68</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>8,158.29</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Opening Bal Equity	26,507.44
Retained Earnings	-22,732.45
Net Income	4,383.30
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>8,158.29</b>

Moved: Christine Ihle

Seconded: Mark Sheahan

Carried

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

The members agreed to donate \$100.00 to the Kennedy State School P & C Association towards the schools 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING on 9 May 2017

#### 1. Mountain Bike Tracks –

*Update: Mark Sheahan advised that Jeff Coward will apply for new grants. Money donated by Bendigo Bank will be held and will be available for the future. Dean Beech mentioned that he spoke to visitors from Cairns that they loved the bike trails.*

This will be put on hold and be discussed when information comes to hand.

**Postponed**

#### 2. Information Signage –

Send letter to Cr Glenn Raleigh to ask about the signs for the Cardwell spa pools and Forest Drive.

*Update: Somehow the signage item for Cardwell was taken off the last agenda of the TCC meeting but both Glenn and Ben Heath have requested a prompt response from DTMR for permission to erect the signs at the next meeting. I believe there is a budget amount allocated but will confirm tomorrow. (Action GR)*

**Ongoing**

#### 3. Cassowary Coast Economic Development Inc. (CCED) –

Mark Sheahan to attend the next CCED meeting.

*Update: Kathy Sheahan and Christine Ihle will attend the next CCED meeting which will be held on 18 July 2017 at the Tully CCRC Chambers. (Action KS and CI)*

**Ongoing**



#### 4. Jetty Improvements –

Chris Stoter will put together a costing for the shade sail to go over the foreshore stage

*Update: Chris presented to the members a design for the plaques for Vic McCristal and Eric Moller.*

*The Cardwell Sportfishing Club like the concept and Marina Hoare will present to CCRC's Vince O'Brien. Chris will email a quote for the foreshore stage shade sail to Kathy Sheahan so it can be pushed through to CCRC budget. (Action KS)*

**Ongoing**

#### 5. "Historic Cardwell by the Sea" sign south of Cardwell on Bruce Highway –

The Chamber will contact CCRC's Vince O'Brien to ask if Chamber can do maintenance on the sign and install some solar-powered lights.

*Update: Mark has spoken to CCRC and they will lend the Chamber the gear to clean the sign.*

*Mark will inspect the sign and see what other maintenance is required such as painting and gardens. Also look at where to install the solar lights. (Action MS)*

**Ongoing**

#### 6. Town Map –

Gareth Davey and Jenny Green will take photos and gather information to send to CCRC.

*Update: Amanda Payne has some great photos and is happy to liaise with CCRC to organise the Cardwell map. (Action AP)*

**Ongoing**

#### 7. Balliol Street Upgrade –

Cr Raleigh will arrange to put this onto the Local Government Meeting agenda to be held on Thursday 25 May 2017

*Update: This was put onto the agenda at the meeting and discussed.*

*There are some issues regarding the parking and access to the Marine Hotel for the loading and unloading of trucks. The concept plans put forward by CDCFF must have 100% support from businesses. Peter Topen from CDCFF is happy to discuss with Chamber about the changes implemented to the concept plan.*

*Although funding could take 12 months for approval the members of Chamber agreed that repairs are required now.*

**Ongoing**

#### 8. Bowen Street Upgrade –

Cr Raleigh will arrange to put this onto the Local Government Meeting agenda to be held on Thursday 25 May 2017

*Update: The new Bowen Street upgrade will be made public shortly.*

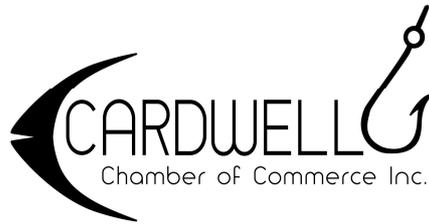
*Once the new upgrade is available this will be raised at future meetings.*

**Postponed**

#### 9. Airline Survey

Gareth will be leaving surveys at the Cardwell Newsagency and will approach Cardwell Butchers if surveys could be put at their business.

*Update: As Gareth could not attend this will be carried over. (Action GD)*



#### 10. Kirrama Range Plaque -

Christine Ihle has reported that the plaque installed at the beginning of the Kirrama Range Road is incorrect and will contact CCRC to have this corrected.

*Update: Christine has received a letter from Manager Civil Works CCRC David Goodman which stated:*

*"the wording on the plaque was proposed and accepted at a Council meeting on 13 November 2014 and that the wording was agreed by all parties. It would be inappropriate to retrospectively change the approved plaque."*

*Christine will again write to CCRC as this is unacceptable. (Action CI)*

**Ongoing**

#### 11. Chambers' Annual Budget -

Kathy Sheahan responded that there was no budget for the Chamber as there were no funds but has agreed to put a budget together now that funds are available.

*Update:*

**Ongoing**

#### 12. Chamber policies or position statements (like MBBT has) –

Gareth presented to Chamber the position statements that Mission Beach Business and Tourism has and are policies. The Chamber agreed that this is a great idea and will discuss this at the next Chamber meeting.

*Update: This has been carried forward as Gareth could not attend the meeting.*

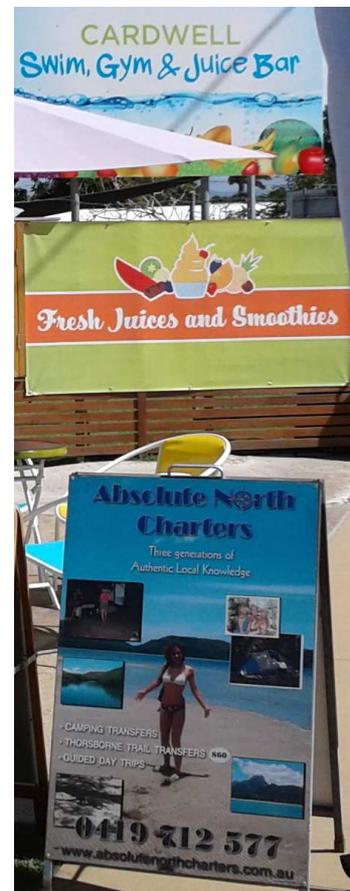
### AGENDA ITEM

#### 1. Dean Beech – Degrading Cardwell as a destination by the president and vice president of The Cardwell Chamber of Commerce

Member Dean Beech from *Hinchinbrook Island Cruises* sent a letter to The Cardwell Chamber of Commerce asking for the president and vice president to stand down as they were promoting a business that is degrading Cardwell. This refers to Chamber member John Schmidt from *Absolute North Charters*. [See Appendix 2 for a copy of the letter received with photos.]

Mark and Kathy Sheahan were very offended at this accusation. VP Kathy Sheahan took over the meeting at this point with a number of issues that she wanted heard.

- Kathy informed the meeting that John Schmidt is her brother and that everyone knows that. She said she is proud of him, the way he has grown his business, and conducts himself in a professional manner. She compared this with a business name that was improperly acquired by Dean Beech.
- Kathy said she will always support her brother's business at a personal level, and that they are entitled to do that, as is any other business in Cardwell.
- She believes the information portrayed on her brother's website is not a problem because it portrays the cold hard facts. It is not incorrect, and therefore it cannot be challenged.
- She asked why one sandwich board [adjacent] would upset Dean when he has many sandwich boards around town.





## AGENDA ITEM *cont'd*

- Kathy believed the letter from Dean stems from many disagreements with John, and that John has been harassed by Dean which is unprofessional. She suggested attendees view the *Hinchinbrook Island Cruises* website which has incorrect information on it.
- Again, the Chamber does not favour any particular businesses. To be asking the President and Vice President to step down is ridiculous, but they would if that was expressed by the meeting. The meeting was silent.

Dean said he would withdraw the demand for Mark and Kathy to stand down. He stated the letter is not about his business or the differences between the two, nor about how many sandwich boards there are. The letter is about the behaviour of a Chamber member who is degrading Cardwell. This is not the conduct expected of Chamber members.

Christine Ihle used the analogy of a competing butcher who is currently advertising in Cardwell which her son's butchery business cannot do anything about. One business cannot tell another how to market themselves.

Amanda Payne said that no one has any issue with the promotion of a business, or how much of a pedestal it was placed on, but it should not be done at a neighbouring town's expense and then expect, at the same time, to be a member of that town's Chamber of Commerce. There are facts about the boat ramp but the facts also are that it is tidal, and it is damaging to Cardwell to give the impression the tide is out all the time. Cardwell boats have to work with the tide; Lucinda less so. John's pictures are not something any Cardwell business would put up on their website.

Stephen Darwen suggested the Chamber write to *Absolute North Charters* asking John to take down the denigrating images and text from its website. The writing of such a letter was supported by Phil Gruber.

Robyn Smith was not at all happy with the image that John's website publicly portrayed and said it was not good for Cardwell. She supported a letter be written. Dean also supported a letter to be written by the Chamber, as did Amanda.

The Chamber's officeholders did not commit to taking any further action.

[Post-meeting update:

- No letter from the Chamber to *Absolute North Charters* has been found on file. Mark and Kathy Sheahan (representing *Mark Sheahan's Personal Training & Fitness*) resigned from the Chamber's Management Committee on 10 July and have not renewed their membership. John Schmidt (representing *Absolute North Charters*) resigned as a member of the Chamber on 20 July.
- Readers are directed to the Chamber's constitution which refers to action by the Management Committee if a member "conducts himself in a manner considered to be injurious or prejudicial to the character or interests of the Association". One of the Chamber's objects is "To promote the town of Cardwell and its environs generally and as one of Australia's leading tourist centres".]

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Phil Gruber – Garden beds in front of businesses

- At the Council meeting held on 25 May the issue of the garden beds was raised. The garden beds were put in place during the reconstruction of the main street after Cyclone Yasi. Many businesses feel that they take up space that could be utilised for parking.
- Motion: A letter to the business asking them for support to remove beds. Carried
- Christine Ihle will take photos of the garden beds and ask for support from CDCFF. If there is full support this will be taken to CCRC to have the garden beds removed.



#### **Robyn Smith – Markets**

- Robyn remarked that the Cardwell Foreshore Markets are great.
- Maybe more signs could be displayed coming into Cardwell.

#### **Chris Stoter – Speed**

- How do we slow the traffic down coming into Cardwell?
- Is there a type of warning to slow trucks and traffic?
- There are new flashing signs installed north and south before you come into Cardwell. These are quite effective.
- The CDCA tried to implement slower speed limits near IGA but this was rejected by main roads.
- More police presence.

#### **Stephen Darwen**

- Stephen is the Regional Manager for News Corp and also a member of Chamber. He thanked Chamber for accepting his membership and has offered any assistance.
- If there are any events in Cardwell send photos to Stephen and he will put into the Herbert River Express.

#### **Christine Ihle – Sullivan's Track**

- The first 4 kilometres of track has been cleared and now waiting for the approval of QLD National Parks.
- There was an article in the Australian Geographic about Kirrama Range Road and Cardwell.
- Christine attended a public consultation meeting for the Wet Tropics Plan Review.

#### **Mark Sheahan – Chamber AGM**

- There will be no meeting in June as President and Vice President will be away
- The AGM will be held on Tuesday 18 July at 6.30pm at the Lyndock. Jenny will organise posters and invitation to all businesses to attend.

**Meeting Closed: 8.00 pm**



## APPENDIX 1

### Help with abbreviations!

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CCED	Cassowary Coast Economic Development Inc. – a peak business/economic association based in Tully, representing all Cassowary Coast
CCRC	Cassowary Coast Regional Council – based at Innisfail
CDCA	Cardwell District Community Association Inc. – a Cardwell-based community association, no longer operating
CDCFF	Cardwell and District Community Futures Forum Inc. – a Cardwell-based community association with 2 independent sub-committees
Cr	Councillor
CCMC	Cassowary Coast Multisport Club Inc. – based in Mission Beach, membership open to all in Cassowary Coast
CSFC	Cardwell Sportfishing Club Inc. – based in Cardwell
DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads (in Queensland)
LG	Local Government
MBBT	Mission Beach Business and Tourism – a business association based in Mission Beach
MTB	mountain bike
P & C	Parents and Citizens
SMS	Short (text) Message Service
TCCoC	The Cardwell Chamber of Commerce Inc. – a business association based in Cardwell, representing business and community interests in Cardwell and its environs
VP	Vice President



## APPENDIX 2

- a) Letter dated 26 May 2017 from Chamber member Dean Beech of *Hinchinbrook Island Cruises to The Cardwell Chamber of Commerce Inc.*

Received  
29/5/17  
JG

Date 26 May 2017

To the Secretary of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce,

**RE: Degrading Cardwell as a destination by the president and vice president of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce.**

Hi Jenny,

I would like to bring to your attention that I have discovered that the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce is supporting Absolute North Charters who is degrading Cardwell as a town.

The Cardwell Pool is managed by Mark and Kathy Sheahan who are also the president and vice president of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce. They have brochures and signage outside the Cardwell Pool promoting Absolute North Charters who is clearly degrading the Cardwell area on his website.

John Schmidt from Absolute North Charters is a member of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce and I feel that the information he has on his website is inappropriate and harmful to the Cardwell district.

I would like you to pay attention to the section that says: "Why Lucinda and not Cardwell" Please see that attached link.

<http://absolutenorthcharters.com.au/hinchinbrook-island-thorsborne-trail-logistics?v=58e69a293e3d>

I feel that action should be taken to remove Absolute North Charters as a member of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce immediately. I also believe that if the President and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce continue to promote Absolute North Charters they should stand down from their positions on the Chamber of Commerce immediately.

The Chamber of Commerce is supposed to only promote Cardwell in a positive way I cannot believe that the President and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce can happily promote a company that is degrading Cardwell.

I look forward to your prompt reply as everyday Absolute North Charters and Cardwell Pool are promoting his company is hurting the Cardwell community.

Kind Regards,

Dean Beech

Phone: 0409 744 915

Email: deanbeech@gmail.com



## APPENDIX 2 *cont'd*

- b) Screen snapshots and images from a webpage of Chamber member *Absolute North Charters*: <http://absolutenorthcharters.com.au/hinchinbrook-island-thorsborne-trail-logistics?v=58e69a293e3d>

### WHY LUCINDA AND NOT CARDWELL?

I mentioned earlier about logistics and apart from it being more beneficial to Hikers to travel through the [HINCHINBROOK ISLAND](#) Channel, there are other reasons as well.

I come from here, and without any reservations, I can say that for a boat business to weigh up options as to what will suit best as an operational port, Lucinda is head and shoulders above the rest. In this case, Lucinda does not have tidal restrictions compared to Cardwell.

For that reason, we have more water for longer on any given day in Lucinda and for a transfer business to not take advantage of these undeniable facts would be not be putting our clients interest front and centre. Everything we do is logistically worked out to help you the Hiker get on and off the Island in the most convenient cost effective way, including *when* we can bring you back to the mainland.

So when you see the variations of pickup times between 2 separate transfer businesses, it is not because of the Mulligan Creek crossing or access to Lucinda, it is because **Cardwell is not optimal** to transfer from George Point because you are being picked up from George point on a low tide.

The photos below tell the story.



Cardwell Boat ramp at Low Tide.



## APPENDIX 2 *cont'd*



Lucinda at low tide

You will **save money with Absolute North Charters** because logistically, we need to drive past George Point on the way back to Lucinda.

**Our price of \$45 from George Point to Lucinda** is consistent with our logistics which we pass onto you in **better pricing**.

Useful links:

[www.wanderers-lucinda.com.au](http://www.wanderers-lucinda.com.au) Ph: 07 4777 8213 (Accommodation)

[www.lucindahotel.com.au](http://www.lucindahotel.com.au) Ph: 07 4777 8103 (Accommodation)

[www.townsvilleairport.com.au](http://www.townsvilleairport.com.au)

[agents.helloworld.com.au/helloworld-ingham](http://agents.helloworld.com.au/helloworld-ingham) (Shuttle transfers to and from Townsville Airport)

[www.npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/hinchinbrook/](http://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/hinchinbrook/)

Feel free to call me on [0419712577](tel:0419712577) for more details, or just head on over to the [booking page](#).

Regards

Absolute North Charters.

*Hinchinbrook Island*