

Woodgate and District Residents Association

General Meeting 14 June 2025

Meeting Opened:

Attendance: As per sign in sheet.

Apologies: As per the sign in sheet including. Max Henke

Minutes of previous meeting: 12th April Read and Proposed by Glenda and Seconded by Fiona Rankin

Business Arising from Minutes: Nil

Defibrillator: Has been installed outside the pharmacy and registered with the QAS

ATO/ NFP Reporting: Has been finalised.

Volunteer program: Despite sending a request directly to the Mayor and CEO asking for a decision I have had no reply. As a result in consultation with Bill we have taken the decision to continue with the program regardless. To date the volunteers Andy and Alison have improved the overall appearance on the park and surrounding gardens, gurnied the picnic tables and concrete surrounds, trimmed up path edges and weeded and tidied the gardens. They are currently working at Banksia Park and already you can see improvements.

Digital Sign: As David Batt was only officially recognised a few days ago by the AEC we will wait for him to settle into his office.

Police Report: Covering the period April and May There was one each offence recorded for Woodgate:

Fire works incident, Welfare Check, Traffic Offences, Bail Check, Type 1 Hooning, Hit and Run Traffic Crash, Assault, Nuisance Offences, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, Drink Driving, Domestic Violence, Break and Enter, Unlicensed Driving. (13)

Aged care Facility: No progress on this to date.

Share the Dignity, It's in the Bag Drive: Donated goods can be left at the hall and at the Post Office from this week.

Correspondence: Tabled by Secretary seconded Dale Greer

Treasurers report: Tabled by Treasurer and seconded by Val Walkington

General Business:

Walkers Point Boat Ramp Update: The latest information from Stephen Bennetts office.

Unfortunately the planned upgrade has been held up by a Cultural Heritage and Native Title dispute. The problem is the rock groin that projects into the river. The Butchulla People have Native Title over the Burrum River . Negotiations are underway to resolve the dispute however until a resolution is sort tenders cannot be called. The Govt are confident that a resolution will be found and they are still hopeful of the project being completed by year's end.

History:

Residents are invited to share their stories, memories and photos of Woodgate. I have put a form on the table for anyone who may wish to contribute to leave their details. I will contact people in the following weeks to organise a catch up.

New Markets for Woodgate:

The hall has been hired for a market on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month in line with the existing carpark market at the Club. A group of locals have set this up as a NFP group, it has been registered under the name Woodgate Markets, has an ABN and a bank account. The organisers invite locals who might like to have a stall or even just a table to showcase and sell their wares. The emphasis is on making this a community market, Once the hall hire charges have been covered through stall holders hiring a site excess money will be banked and once sufficient funds have accumulated these funds will be returned to the community through donations to community groups. Similar to the monthly Just Books Sale.

Woodgate Community Bus:

It costs in excess of \$20,000 a year to keep the Woodgate Bus going. Expenses include running costs, services, repairs, tyres, insurance, council rates to name a few. The community could help by patronising the bus on its regular trips to Bundy and Childers and the Markets. Donations of cash or raffle prizes would be gratefully received. Also volunteers to help sell tickets at the monthly pub raffle. Sponsorship is also sort.

General Business from the floor. Nil

Guest Speaker: Call on Wendy Gearside to introduce Lino _____ a retired Paramedic of 50 years to speak on what is required to get an ambulance substation at Woodgate. Lino has drafted a letter to the Commissioner and said that there has to be lots of letters of support from the local community of Woodgate – emails can be sent to Pauline Greer or dropped off at the Post Office. Wendy and Lino have a meeting with Stephen Bennett next Saturday to discuss what steps are to be taken next. There was a show of hands to make sure that everyone was in favour of an Ambulance to be working out of Woodgate – everyone was in favour. There is already a block of land (near the Club allocated for the Ambulance Station owned by Queensland Health.

Bills Report:

Forest View have a \$48M application for a 45 bed Aged Care Facility in Childers at the moment. The Government has put aside \$25M for Childers Hospital extension but this is on hold at the moment.

Money for the Buxton Road repairs has been allocated, but nothing is happening at the moment.

Sand restoration on Woodgate Beach is still being discussed. Stephen Bennett advised Bill that the legislation for Marine Parks has to be changed to move the sand, this has started to be done.

The sand on the beach from 1st to 2nd Avenue has started to settle.

Works on the Culvert on Woodgate Road is being done at the moment, the damage was due to all the trucks using the road to bring in all the sand for the beach restoration.

Discussions regarding the Walkers Point Boat Ramp and Cultural Heritage have started.

Bill talked about the Council Budgets and told us that all costs are going up.

Banksia Park works are being finalized at the moment.

Questions from the Floor:

It was asked if you could use your vouchers for the levy on Green Waste – the answer was yes.

The extension of Pathway will continue when funds are available.

A gentleman enquired what was happening regarding the funds that were given to Council for the Table and Chairs along the foreshore, this is still in discussions.

A lady said in 1980 photos of the foreshore had no dead fallen trees and branches, could people go and clean the area – the answer was no because of who owns the land, Bill said that a new legislation will be passed in September and we may be able to do it then.

It was asked who was responsible for the maintenance of the yellow fire hydrants in the streets. Bill advised it was The Fire Department and he will follow up on the problem.

Meeting Closed: 10.50 am

Next meeting : Saturday 9th August 2025