

Woodgate and District Residents Association
General Meeting 8th August 2026

Meeting Opened: 9.00 am

Attendance: As per sign in book

Apologies: As per sign in book.

President welcome:

Minutes of previous meeting held on the 13th June read and proposed by Glenda Campbell and Seconded by Deb Rowe.

Amendments to previous Minutes:

The responsibility of bushland behind your house is the responsibility of the Land Owner where the bushland is.

The 2% increase in Sewerage and Water Rates is incorrect – Bill was not sure what % it is, but will get back to us on that.

Business Arising From Minutes:

Police Report: For the month of June As Reported in the ChitChat

Welfare check x 2, Domestic Violence x 1 Traffic Crash x 1 , Community assist x 1,
Disturbance x 2

History Project: Having made the decision to remove any cultural material the BRC have agreed to allow the project to progress. We still have obstacles to overcome but John and Pauline are working hard at this end. Steps to go:

- Getting the Council Logo set to their specifications. The WRDA Logo is brighter than Councils. We have agreed on a compromise.
- When the locations were transferred to large maps it highlighted the distance between some signs. This requires more posts and signs to be developed. In progress.
- Once all signs are completed and double checked they will be submitted to the Grants Department.
- From there they have to be approved by the Design Dept and then the Communications Department.
- Pauline was also informed this week that the PCCC (the Bundaberg Indigenous Council) have contacted the Cultural Officer. Some of the material submitted requires correction and they are happy to do this. Pauline has offered to meet with them to ensure the information is in line with Indigenous truths.

Pauline has also spoken with her liaison people on the Grants committee and the Parks Dept. and asked them to advocate on our behalf with the South Sea Islander Elders re the City Of Melbourne.

Pauline has asked if we can place small stakes along the Esplanade to indicate where the posts will be so that we can physically check our spacing and align information. Parks are checking BRC regulations before it can be considered.

Once we have jumped all the hurdles Grants will release the \$4,310.00 so that we can start placing orders. No doubt costs have gone up in the last 12 months since we received quotes and the extra signs required will add to the overall cost so a new budget will have to be drawn up.

Memorial Wall:

Pauline has heard back from Stephen Bennett's office. The latest is:

- The land is Government Land zoned Reserve.
- All reserves come under the care and responsibility of the local council.
- Stephen has contacted the council three times but has not had any formal reply.
- Stephen has a face to face meeting with the Mayor on Monday and his staff have added this to the agenda.

Trilogy Care:

We have met twice with Gary from Trilogy Care and have agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the WDRA and Trilogy Foundation. This means:

- Trilogy Care will offer residents of Woodgate the opportunity to have their home care package handled locally.
- We will also be able to offer employment to local residents.
- The role of the WDRA is to provide a suitable administrator for Woodgate and we are pleased that Lorraine Elsmore has accepted this role. Once Lorraine's application has passed all the checks and balances we will then work toward a date for an official launch when the Trilogy Team will address a community meeting.
- This model of community supporting community is being rolled out across small towns and regional and rural centres across Queensland.

Hall Floor:

To date there has been no decision made by Council to re-coat or replace the floor. If they decide to replace, then it will be a big budget item and will have to be featured into a future budget.

Correspondence: Tabled by Glenda and seconded by John Trevor

Treasurers Report: Tabled by Heather and seconded by Devina Murray

General Business:

- Management of the Childers Doctors Surgery in Ashby Lane has now passed from The Rural Health Service located in Biloela to Dr Vish a resident Doctor at the practice. He has engaged two new full time doctors for the practice. The books are now open to welcome new patients.
- Boat Ramp. At long last the Walkers Point Boat Ramp opened on Friday. Five months to the day the new construction began.
- Community Expo. The Woodgate Men's Shed has initiated a Community Expo. Open to all community organisations, clubs, and volunteer groups. In addition groups such as Beach Fit, Karate, Tai Chi, Line Dancing and others will hold displays on the day.
- It is an opportunity to increase awareness of all that Woodgate has to offer.
- Showcase activities and services
- Connect with new residents and potential volunteers
- Build relationships with other local organisations
- Date Saturday 12th September from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm

A Community Bush Fire Preparedness Presentation will be offered at the hall on Wednesday the 9th September from 6.00 pm till 7.00 pm.

This is being offered by the Bundaberg Regional Council and presented by Tai Burgess Community Recovery Resilience Office. Pauline would encourage everyone to attend this event. More details will be made available when I receive them. Please spread the word to friends and neighbors.

Christmas in the Park: Sunday 20th December. There will be:

- Twilight light market stalls from 4.30 till late
- Carol singers from the Childers Wesleyan Church choir
- Entertainment to follow
- Food court
- Santa

More information to follow. Staging an event such as this takes time, money and the help of volunteers. In line with Health and Safety regulations we will be hiring a stage from a reputable hirer. The cost of this alone is \$2,750.00. We will then need to purchase lighting and pay for entertainment. This will be an annual event so outlays for the initial event are always high. We have a planning committee who are overseeing the organisation and budgeting for the event. We will be approaching businesses to ask for sponsorship but residents are also welcome to become a supporter by way of small donations. Closer to the event we will be looking for volunteers to help us string lights, set up and pack up.

From the Floor:

Paul Rogerson from the Woodgate Rural Fire Brigade thanked the Woodgate community for their support for Bush Fire Week, this will be an annual event.

Paul in conjunction with the PCYC in Bundaberg are wanting to start an Emergency Service Cadet Unit in the Woodgate area due to the growing number of young people in the area. The only cost to parents will be a pair of boots, PCYC will cover all other costs. Training will be at the Emergency Services building Woodgate once a week for 2 hours. The Police and SES are also interested to help. On 12 September Gin Gin Emergency Services Cadets will be in Woodgate.

Sue Hollier asked what age the Cadets had to be – its 12 to 17 years.

Mike pointed out that people are parking in the rigging lanes at Walkers Point Boat Ramp, so could people be aware of this and park in the correct area.

Bills Report:

Walkers Point Boat Ramp is now open well ahead of schedule. On Monday morning they will start to repair the road due to the heavy truck usage.

Bill has had a lot of phone calls from residents who have been hit with a 40% rate increase for a “Non Principal Place of Residence “ There is a form you can fill in if you have a complaint but it has to be into Council by 29 August, 2026 and sent to the CEO at Council. If anyone has a complaint regarding their rates fill in the form or write a letter of complaint or an email to the CEO. Wendy Gearside asked if you write to Council will they reply – Bill would hope so.

In 3 weeks work will start on the beach erosion project, weather permitting.

A bigger sign will be erected at the southern end access to beach re driving on the beach.

Someone asked if the exercise equipment at Banksia Park is serviced – Bill said it has been although there is another piece of equipment that needs attention and will be fixed shortly. A Shade Cloth cover will also be erected over equipment shortly.

Regarding a Retirement Home, a landowner has enquired to Council about this, but as yet Council has not received an application.

Mike asked if Frizzles Road is being extended. A Cul de sac will be put at the end of road where the private land starts. He also asked if any further development is happening at Kinkuna or Woodgate – Not at this time.

The new Hospital in Bundaberg is progressing well, they have 100 men on site and its anticipated to be completed in 2031.

Pauline mentioned that there is a Myna Bird problem in Woodgate. Bill will talk to Council about it this week.

Pauline also mentioned the Community Expo on 12 September and it will be good for the area.

Meeting Closed: 10.25 am

Next Meeting: 10th October