



Dear Dolphins

Welcome

Welcome to the AGM. I do hope everyone is enjoying the awesome summer that our patch of paradise brings each year!

Things have been quite busy since our last meeting. My previous report opened with the welcome return of our Vice President, Neville Stewart after serious illness. I'm very pleased to inform that Nev continues to thrive in the Dolphin Sands environment and is gaining strength by the day on a diet of fresh local produce from the land and sea.

I bear some sad news that fellow committee member Danny Allford is not re-nominating for a committee position for the up-coming year. Danny will be focusing on preparation for a well-earned break after a very successful career in his chosen field. I will most surely miss Danny's wisdom and open sharing of knowledge during committee meetings. The community must pay thanks to Danny for his 'no fuss' approach to extremely effective fundraising. We will miss his presence for sure.

Committee Initiatives

A number of initiatives have been engaged by the committee over the past year, these being:

- Creation and rollout of an emergency phone tree, with new landowners becoming engaged. This demonstrates great community culture
- Very successful crowdfunding campaign to assist repairing the ground of those affected by the April bushfire
- Securing of FRRR grant for green waste mulching – many thanks must go to Steve Barrett for his hands-on coordination of all activities during "mulch week"
- Securing of Communities Environment Program (CEP) grant for the removal of Radiata pine trees at the western end of Cambria Drive and the replanting of local native species
- A total of \$20 911.40 has been raised by the DSRA committee for 2019. This figure doesn't include the \$12 000 CEP grant which hasn't been received yet
- Formal follow up to Council's regarding clearing of the road verges
- An extremely successful roadside clean-up coordinated by Gary Stoward

Fire Trailer

As advised previously, the DSRA committee, after seeking legal advice particularly in regard to ongoing liability, has removed the fire trailer out of service. The committee undertook research from local historic knowledge on the chronicle of the fire trailer. This has now concluded, and the unit has returned to community custodianship; a very pleasing result for the committee.

Bridge over the Meredith River

Whilst the working group continue to progress design and pricing, the project has progressed to the preparation of a business case to be put to GSBC.

Consultation with GBSC

Representatives of the committee met with council on October 8 to discuss all matters currently put to council by DSRA.

Significant Outcomes were:

1. Significant funds will be put into Dolphin Sands Road to repair and possibly create a widening for foot and cyclist traffic.
2. A working group has met with a consultant engaged by GSBC to update the Dolphin Sands Emergency Management Plan. Council have committed to updating the plan, providing a contemporary plan to give existing and new landowners and other stakeholders critical guidance in the event of fire or other emergency.

Other Consultation

The committee continue to follow up correspondence with Crown Land Services on the installation of a locked boom gate to access Nine Mile Beach in the case of any emergency where vehicle access is urgently required. Whilst the lack of response has been frustrating, persistence is the strategy on this matter and will continue to be throughout 2020.

I can't sign off without a reminder for one and all to remain 'fire safe' – educate your family, especially children on your own Bushfire Survival Plan and rehearse regularly. Let's pray you never need it, but being prepared is the first significant step towards survival of your property and loved ones.

Kind regards

Dave Cooper
January 2020