

The next BeCA Public Meeting will be held at Bellvista Meeting Place on Monday September 6th at 6:45 pm (Covid19 restrictions permitting). All residents are welcome to attend.



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Bellvista and Bells Reach Community Association

Covid19 Restrictions Hamper BeCA

With Covid19 related lockdowns and restrictions, BeCA's Management Committee is finding it difficult to have any Management Committee Meetings.

There are important issues to consider and it is crucial a full Management Committee can meet to discuss options which may impact on Management Committee Elections due by November's Annual General Meeting.

Currently Management Committee members need to be full members of BeCA, that is a resident or an employee who works within the area of Bellvista or Bells Reach (which includes Arbour). There are also Associate members but unlike full members, associate members do not have a vote.

So as soon as a resident moves out of Bellvista or Bells Reach they no longer qualify as a 'full voting rights' member of the association.

With residents coming and going from the area, this can mean a

valuable, experienced and skilled resident who moves to Baringa is ineligible to be on the BeCA Management Committee.

Associate Members are individuals, businesses or other associations who are neither residents nor owners of Bellvista and Bells Reach who have an interest in the objects of the association. These members do not have full voting rights and therefore would not qualify to stand for the BeCA Management Committee.

Finding interested and sometimes skilled residents to become involved with the management committee can be a battle.

The BeCA Management Committee always seeks people from many backgrounds and with a variety of skills. Management skills, computer and website management skills, an interest in putting this Newsletter together, finance skills, an interest in fostering the development of this community, experience and interest in all issues relating to Parks and Gardens, all along with having the time to carry these volunteer duties.

Both resident and associate member applications are ratified at a BeCA Management Committee, perhaps in future Associate Members could be required to have their membership

renewed annually.

BeCA has lost a previous Treasurer as the family moved just a few kilometres away. The resident was keen to remain involved but the current requirements precluded him from continuing on as Treasurer.

Is BeCA in a position where it can lose valuable members because they no longer reside within the boundaries of Bellvista and Bells Reach?

Any changes to the BeCA Constitution would need to be ratified at a Public Meeting.

September Public Meeting

The September Public Meeting will go ahead as long as the major Covid19 restrictions are relaxed.

We do not wish to over tax our hard working volunteers who set up the facility prior to getting underway with an extended range of Covid19 requirements.

At the time of writing Federal MP Andrew Wallace is the major speaker arranged for this meeting.

Our regular and informative presenters Cr Barberowski and Senior Constable Peter will provide updates from Council and the QPS focussing on issues which affect our area.

All are welcome to attend and we are hopeful of a great attendance.



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Increased Ibis Population At Canavan Gracie

Concerns and interest has been raised regarding the increased number of Ibis now visiting the lakes at Canavan Gracie Recreational Park. Council has offered the following information on the increase in Ibis numbers at Bellvista.

Find an update below from Council's Environmental Operations team relating to Ibis management at Canavan Gracie Recreation Park.

Council undertake monthly Ibis surveys at a range of sites across the Sunshine Coast including at Canavan Gracie Recreation Park through an appropriately licensed contractor 'Ecosure'.

The surveys include foraging numbers (Ibis feeding / grazing) and egg and nest removals under required permits.

Egg and nest removals ensure that breeding is limited at sites – as Ibis breed most of the year with several eggs per bird per nest – bird numbers can grow significantly without intervention.

Eggs and Nests can not be removed

if chicks or other species are actively using.

From the recent June 2021 foraging survey, 45 Ibis were counted at this site. This is an increase from the May survey of 15 birds. No Ibis nests or eggs are currently at this site.

There are a various reasons for the increase in Ibis numbers including:

- * Caloundra landfill are actively engaging in Ibis dispersal – this activity is to reduce breeding at the landfill however Ibis will often move to a quieter location to avoid disturbance during the day before returning to roost at the landfill at night.

- * Development at Caloundra South has also disrupted sites where Ibis have been observed including a wetland area where new road development is occurring. The Aura sites are also being monitored for activity and Ibis foraging and nesting.

- * General movement of Ibis around the region seeking new roosting sites for late July/ August breeding.

How the Community can assist:

As Ibis use the grass fields for foraging, ensure all food and litter is disposed into bins to discourage scavenging.

High use of the fields by the community will actively discourage Ibis grazing through passive disturbance.

Please note that Ibis should not be actively disturbed by the community through non passive activities without appropriate training or permits.

Council will assist by:

Continuing the Ibis monitoring program and remove eggs and nests should this occur.

Engaging with Ecosure for possible

future dispersal activities based on monthly survey numbers.

Cleaning of deck and installation of bird disturbance wires on the deck around the Bellvista Meeting Place – these do not harm birds but discourage from sitting on the deck railings reducing usage and faeces in this area.

BeCA Management Committee Elections for 2021.

There are current members of the BeCA Management Committee who will not be standing for election in 2022. This means there are definite vacancies for next year.

If you wish to be involved feel free to flag your interest to the BeCA Secretary who can provide you with the timeline and procedures and ensure your nomination is included in the election process.

Life Member Presentation Confirmation

Former Caloundra M.P. Mark McArdle was elected a Life Member of the Bellvista and Bells Reach Community Association at the November 2020. AGM

There has been a few problems finding a mutually convenient time for the official presentation .

Covid19 restrictions, Meeting cancellations and a busy first year in retirement have played their part in finding a suitable date.

But we are delighted to confirm the presentation will occur at the November BeCA Public Meeting and AGM, 6:45pm, November 1st Bellvista Meeting Place.

This will also be the BeCA Annual General Meeting.



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But Now They Have Disappeared Again!

Look who was back!

These two swans were spotted enjoying a good swim around the top lake at Canavan Gracie Recreational Park back in June.

But their stay was only short-lived .. Unfortunately.

Some say they were possibly the offspring of a pair of swans who previously made the lakes their home while the female hatched out her eggs.

Anyway, it was great to have them back to join the multitude of birdlife which now calls the lakes home.

But you never know, they may just return again!

From Our Councillor.

Councillor Barberowski is a regular attendee at BeCA's Management Committee Meetings. It is at these meetings that the Management Committee can request follow up on concerns raised by the community. As our July Meeting was cancelled owing to Covid19 concerns, replies to previously raised queries are listed below.

There was a consideration of widening a small part of Lomond Drive at the entrance to Unity College to do one small thing to alleviate traffic

congestion during school pick and drop off times. The request and reply is listed below:

Suggestion to widen Lomond Cres in front of Unity College to allow their buses to be able to exit the driveway easier without holding up traffic as much.

A Council officer suggested that widening the section of Lomond Crescent would not address the internal congestion created by buses queuing to turn right onto Lomond Crescent as they still would not have priority over westbound traffic.

There is insufficient road reserve available to undertake any widening works.

An option which may assist would be to stagger bus arrival times so they are arriving before/after the main school traffic, however we understand that this can also create issues with scheduling other bus services.

Unfortunately there does not appear to be any feasible engineering solutions as this is an issue directly related to the size of the school exceeding the capacity of the nearby infrastructure at peak times.

A second query also to address concerns over traffic congestion was for an update on any planned duplication of Bellvista Blvd. The

request and reply are listed below:

Traffic movement during school drop off/pick up / suggestion that duplication of Bellvista Boulevard between Dumbarton Drive and Bells Reach Drive trigger points have been reached by now

The obligation for duplication of Bellvista Boulevard rests with Stockland and pursuant to the Caloundra South Infrastructure Agreement is based on traffic volume counts of which are undertaken periodically by Stockland and Council.

Generally speaking duplication works along Bellvista Boulevard are broken into stages with duplication required prior to traffic volumes between each stage exceeds 9,000 vehicles per day per lane in the existing carriageway.

Currently traffic counts are approximate 7,000 vehicles per day per lane just south of the Dumbarton Drive roundabout and drop to about 4,500 vehicles per day per lane south of Bells Reach Drive roundabout and Emerald Drive roundabout.

Council understands that Stockland have commenced the design work for the duplication works of those stages nearing 9,000 v/pd per lane. Council have requested Stockland to provide a detailed program for works at their earliest convenience.

Thanks to Councillor Baberwoski and his staff for following up on these concerns.





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Location Of Unity College School Crossing

While recently discussing traffic issues around the estate, and especially during school pick up and drop off times, a suggestion was made from a community member to move the current Unity College School Crossing to a spot where traffic would be able to move more easily.

BeCA understands that during the application to install the crossing it was mandated there was a minimum 'line of sight' requirement for either side of the crossing. The current positioning of the crossing was almost the only spot it could be installed and fulfil all requirements.

The crossing cannot be moved to another position along Lomond Cres.



Around The Estates



The Council Gardening team has begun to mulch gardens and trees around Canavan Gracie Recreational Park.

Mulching delays the growth of weeds and also helps to retain moisture in the ground during those hot summer months.

BeCA is keen to update its website by removing pages which appear to require much maintenance for little result.

The whole BeCA website needs a general tidy up and update. To cover these costs we will be applying for grants, especially a Community Grant

available via Stockland.

There has been no further action on a possible 1/2 court basketball court to be constructed, possibly in Canavan Gracie Recreational Park.

Currently youths wanting to throw 'hoops' use an area of the tennis court. When the basketballers are at play, tennis players are unable to use the courts.

As the only 'free' public tennis courts in Caloundra, tennis players find the basketballers a hindrance to being able to readily access the courts to play tennis.

A resident has informed BeCA of a 1/2 Court Basketball court over towards Meridan which has been constructed of a rubberized material which deadens the repetitive sound of basketballs being bounced.

BeCA has received an invitation from Council to be involved in the management of the Community Garden in Active Park in Bells Reach which it has declined.

Many years ago, BeCA was invited by Stockland when the garden was originally planned. BeCA declined the invitation at that early stage as well.




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