



The Connector

July Volume 2015

for the Bellvista & Bells Reach Community Association

Issue 5

Airport Management Team in 'last minute NO SHOW' for scheduled BeCA Meeting!

At the suggestion of our Councillor Rick Baberowski, BeCA invited representatives from the Sunshine Coast Airport Management Team to attend our July Management Committee meeting and report on proposed changes to the rules governing the operation of aircraft around the Bellvista/Bells Reach estates, especially in relation to the use of Caloundra Aerodrome by none Caloundra Aerodrome based aircraft and training touch-n-go's. **BeCA toiled long and hard to eventually have Sunshine Coast Airport Management team representatives nominated to attend our small 'in-house' meeting and bring those most affected by the situation up to date on the latest proposals.**



The names of representatives attending the meeting were not set in concrete until a few days prior to the meeting.

So BeCA was extremely disappointed to be informed at 4pm on the day, that

their Management team was forwarding an apology for a non attendance!

BeCA immediately forwarded a request that their representatives attend our next Management Committee Meeting in August.

By coincidence Councillor Baberowski was unable to attend our Committee Management Meeting **but provided an apology and a detailed written report, as detailed here.**

In relation to Bellvista Meeting Place he reported that Council's property management team are attending to the following:

- **installation of awnings over the current framework**
- **installation of hardwood battens to the steel framework**
- **repair/repaint of original battens**
- **installation of painted pine fascia, gutter and down pipes**
- **installation of roof sheeting and flashing to match the Eastern elevation**
- **installation of battening to ends of framework to deter birds from nesting**
- **installation of mesh to horizontal battens on base of framework.**

This work will commence early in the new financial year. Once completed, the cleaning of the deck and windows from

the bird droppings will also occur however future costs of this cleaning will be considered operational and not funded by council.

A work order has also been raised to repair the blinds and this should be attended to in the near future. The facility officer is visiting the site to further investigate the request for the door latch – if this door is a nominated fire door, it is unable to be latched back.

Council does not recommend any further expenditure on furnishings and fittings for this facility until it has established a clear management model and way forward.

It's Council's experience that an incoming management group will have their own set of requirements and will usually bring their own furnishings.

Cr Baberowski is meeting with council officers in the near future to consider going out to tender and seeking a 'not for profit' organisation to run and manage this facility.

Another issue that requires some explanation was the number of bollards in place along Bellvista Blvd. Cr Baberowski reported that the number was increased to prevent damage to the road shoulder by vehicles.

Due to the low-lying nature of the area, there is significant drainage works under the verge and therefore the shoulder is not conducive to being trafficked at all.

BeCA thanks Cr Baberowski for his informative report.

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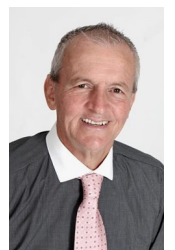
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BeCA to call for a fast reliable, internet for all

It was decided that BeCA would press Federal MP Mal Brough to have Bellvista reconsidered for inclusion in the NBN program. Local services and industries are suffering because of the inadequate and unreliable internet services available in Bellvista.

A reliable and fast internet service is an absolute basic requirement, for all businesses to operate and prosper.

There are even some Bellvista residents unable to connect to the internet because of a shortage of available ports!

Hopefully we can resolve this issue in the near future?

At this stage there has been no further action on the **Indigo Rd/Bellvista Blvd 'No Right Turn' intersection** even though numerous drivers daily 'run the gauntlet' by just ignoring the current Road Signage and risking a Fine!

BeCA understands the officer 'attending to this situation' is currently on leave.

Our appreciation goes out to the Stockland Team

As a matter of courtesy, BeCA contacted Stockland to notify them of the graffiti at the Bellcarra Place/Bellvista Blvd roundabout and that steps were taken with Council to have it removed.

However because of the Council's heavy workload, this could have taken a few days or a week to complete.

Fortunately Stockland still had some cans of the same paint and were able to remove the graffiti themselves the next day, which is always the best way to deal with these annoying episodes!

BeCA President's Report

The internet and online services are becoming the norm nowadays with most organisations having an online presence.

The Bellvista and Bells Reach Community Association is one such organisation with its own up to date website and active Facebook page. These are the places you should visit for the latest information.

Much of the information in this newsletter has been lifted directly from the News & Events page of the BeCA website.

Sunshine Council is another local organisation with a strong online presence **with residents being able to readily and easily access a range of services quickly and easily via the Council's 'My Account' pages.**

Also if you Google **'Sunshine Coast Council 'My Account' (shown below)** you will be directed to the relevant website pages **for you to register** and get direct

access to a range of services and help. You can deal with all facets of property, rates, dog and cat registrations etc, plus and a wide variety of applications as well as the normal service requests.

The **'Service Requests'** provide a quick and easy way for you to request graffiti to be removed, pruning of low lying branches to be done, removal of weeds, fixing of potholes or a wide range of small nagging problems that you can't easily fix.

Once you have made your request you are supplied with a reference number which you can use to follow up on your request if required.

If you are not satisfied with Council's response to your request, contact BeCA who may be able to follow up for you on your service request.

Les Thomas, President

The screenshot shows the 'MyCouncil Services eRequest' form on the Sunshine Coast Council website. The form is titled 'Please complete this form if you have a request for a service (for example potholes, waste, tree pruning, reporting graffiti, vandalism, or a safety issue on council land)'. It includes a 'Name Details' section with fields for Surname, Given Name, Contact Address (Street, Suburb, Postcode, Email, Contact Phone), and a 'Request Information' section with a dropdown for 'Request details' and a checkbox for 'Is this request related to a property or street?'. The form also features a navigation menu on the left with links to Home Page, Frequently Asked Questions, Payments, Customer Requests, and Property Information.

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An Update on our Estate

The playground slides have now all been installed at Arbour Park completing the equipment there. It's a great spot for families and rapidly becoming very popular across the area as well. Some removal and replanting of trees is occurring along Bellvista Blvd. A few of the trees were not growing straight enough!



Follow the BeCA Facebook page and keep up with the latest, plus another view point on what is important here on the estate. There are permanent links to the BeCA Facebook page on the BeCA Home Page ('About Us' Tab) and at the top of every BeCA website page!

It's Official

We've just received confirmation with our name change to Bellvista and Bells Reach Community Association Incorp. Now all the BeCA paperwork is to change!

If you see people damaging property or behaving badly

You are encouraged to report the incident to the Police. **Please be aware that BeCA is not your first port of call.** You may lodge a police complaint and let BeCA know at the same time if you wish. **But law infringement issues are not a BeCA area of responsibility.**

We do have excellent access to the local police and maybe able to provide support for your needs after you have lodged a complaint.

Caloundra Police Station Nos. are: 07 5439 4444 or Police Link 131 444

To Plot or Not ?

Congratulations to Hannah Williams from Stocklands for her involvement in the Bells Reach Community Garden project. She has been instrumental in getting this project off the ground and now we can all see the benefits of her management and encouragement, with everything growing so splendidly.

Some Lion's in attendance without a large roar!

Despite not being overwhelmed with numbers at the recent night's meeting, there was certainly enough interested people in attendance for an agreement to form the Caloundra West Branch of the Lake Currumbundi Kawana Lions Club.



There are also a couple of potentials who were not able to make the meeting who had indicated an interest in being involved.

Further in-house meetings will occur over the next week or so to formalize this decision. So keep your eye on the our website, the Facebook page or via a later newsletter if you decide to become involved.

Or give **Norm a call on 0404 984 455** or **Lorraine on 0419 248 548**



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When you've got to Go, you've simply got to Go!

Recently two parents of young toddlers were asked for their thoughts on the new park at Arbour. Their young children were enjoying the fantastic playground equipment there and having a great time.

The answer came that the park was wonderful but why weren't there any toilets? When a toddler needs to use the toilet they usually need to use it then and now. It is almost impossible for them to be able to wait until they get home, even if their home is across the road from the playground.

BeCA understands that Sunshine Coast Council determines which parks have toilets and which parks don't. BeCA appreciates toilets are expensive facilities to maintain for Councils, they can attract the wrong sort of person, can be a magnet for children to play around, and can be the target of vandalism.

Despite these concerns, when a two year old needs to use the toilet it is usually there and now, especially where there is some exciting playground equipment to play on.

Council classes parks as Community Parks or Neighbourhood Parks. Neighbourhood parks are provided as extra play space for families who live on compact blocks or for children from the nearby

neighbourhood to use. These parks are not entitled to have toilet facilities. One suspects that ongoing maintenance costs play a substantial part in what Council nominates as a Community Park or a Neighbourhood Park.

One also suspects that the guideline for which parks get a toilet block and which park doesn't was created by someone without young children!

Community parks are for people from the local community and for people outside that community to use. These parks therefore have toilet blocks and are provided at Council expense or for Council to maintain.

Originally there wasn't a toilet available at Canavan Gracie Recreation Reserve. It was only following BeCA agitation that a toilet block was provided using funds from the then Councillor.

During discussions with Council prior to

the provision of the toilet block, one Council representative was heard to ask, "Why wasn't there a toilet block built here in the first place?"

People are not demanding a toilet block with several cubicles and another special disabled cubicle be provided, all they are asking for is a facility similar to the one provided at Little Mountain Common and in the photo above. A simple uni-sex facility to cater for those emergencies that happen with children.

It seems too that Neighbourhood Parks can have BBQ facilities as well, as we have seen at Arbour and at Bells Reach. It certainly makes it difficult to understand why free BBQ facilities are provided at a neighbourhood park but there isn't a toilet available to use!

BeCA will continue to support the provision of toilet facilities at local parks where appropriate.



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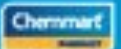
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Bellvista Market Place,
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