



## MINUTES

### FRASER COAST MARY TO BAY RAIL TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, 77 TAVISTOCK STREET  
13 APRIL, 2023 COMMENCING AT 4.00PM

#### PRESENT:

- Cr David Lewis (Chair)
- Martin Simon – General Manager FCTE
- Max Voigt – Fraser Coast Bugs Representative
- Steve Case – Fraser Coast Cycling Representative
- John Williams – Fraser Coast Wildlife Preservation Society Representative
- Craig England – Manager (Rail Corridor Management) Department of Transport & Main Roads
- James O'Connor – Acting Manager Community Development & Engagement FCRC

#### APOLOGIES

- Phil Truscott – Councillor FCRC
- Tracey Genrich, Manager Community Development & Engagement FCRC
- Davendra Naidu, Director Infrastructure Services FCRC
- Andy Riley – community representative
- Alan Whyborn – community representative
- Kelly Adams – Wide Bay Trail Riders Representative
- Ken Diehm – Chief Executive Officer FCRC (Guest apology)
- Gerard Carlyon – Director Development & Community FCRC (Guest Apology)

#### GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

- Keith Parsons – Director Organisational Services FCRC
- David Gleadow – Department of Transport & Main Roads

#### AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement to Country

David welcomed all attendees and delivered an Acknowledgement to Country on behalf of the Advisory Committee.

2. Apologies

A full list of apologies is listed above.

3. Agenda Items

3.1 Code of Conduct (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Developing maintenance plan for 11km section with various elements such as code of conduct and risk assessment. Motivated by Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

Website <https://www.northernriversrailtrail.com.au/>

was shown on the screen as example.

Group discussed item 'e' about the website being a general introduction and geared toward the tourist market.

As Fraser Coast area is heavily marine focussed, important to focus on more land-based assets.

Committee discussed animation as a desirable approach to be investigated in conjunction with the website.

3.2 Signage (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Max advised there was an Action in last meeting for a discussion between Council and FCBUGS which happened, but no further action has occurred since that meeting.

Max also advised that Council has been given an enormous amount of information on signage.

Craig England advised that uniformity between signage for rail trails is important. If they are not uniform, this can be confusing for users. Must have some sort of branding and must be up by the launch in August, otherwise they will need to be changed later.

Craig confirmed that the Department would be willing to fund some of the signage.

**Action** – Council to invite interested members to form a working group to look at Signage of the Rail Trail.

**Action** – Craig to provide plan example and Keith to follow up with Council staff to assist.

3.3 DTMR Access Licence 11km section (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Max suggested the forming of a group to plan the opening of this section of the Rail Trail in August, 2023.

**Action** – Community Development Team to support FCBUGS with opening event.

3.4 DTMR Maintenance Funding (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Discussion on as soon as the Opening Day of August 26 is completed the FCBUG is invited to submit a request to the DTMR (Craig England) for an annual maintenance amount which will be based on a \$/km calculation. It was indicated by Craig there was no reason to expect that this request would not be approved.

**Action** – FCBUGs to submit a request to the Department for an annual maintenance grant.

### 3.5 M2BRT Website (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Domain name – Committee discussed name options.

James asked should an action be for Council to look into securing Domain names for the future rather than one organisation? Group agreed Council should own Mary to Bay name at least.

Max suggested that the Rail trail should end up having its own group/club inc which can apply for grants etc.

Martin suggested website should have more than short videos, should have vision of people using it.

Max commented FCBUGs believes that a meaningful site is achievable for approximately \$3,000. FCBUGs would apply for a grant and ask for donations on the page.

James suggested securing the url should be a primary focus until we have a stand-alone managed site.

Committee discussed time frame of getting website up and running. James clarified that Council would concentrate on securing the URLs.

Max raised concerns about the issue being left in Council's general expenditure and delays on the website.

The Committee agreed that M2BRT, marytobayrailtrail and other variables should be looked at for ownership.

Cr David Lewis commented that Council could obtain domain names then authorise FCBUGs to set up website.

Keith advised that Council has a great Comms team who could possibly assist with something simple to start.

Craig England asked if there was existing branding and a logo? This will be key for signage, website colouring and shirts etc. There is a fair body of work on the above before website could be live.

Keith suggested that a Working Group be formed to prepare a promotional strategy and not to rush branding and colouring.

Cr Lewis commented that this working group should start soon (over the next few weeks) as the launch is 25 August, 2023.

**Action** – Council to work towards securing appropriate URLs/domains for the Mary to Bay Rail Trail.

**Action** – Council invite interested members to form a working group to look marketing and promotion of the Rail Trail.

### 3.6 FCBUGs Grant Applications (Max Voigt FCBUGs)

Max advised that FCBUG has submitted an application to the QLD Government's Gambling Fund for \$50,000 for re-surfacing of gullies and for directional/safety signage.

Max also advised that FCBUGS had applied to Round 3 Council Community Grants round for \$15,000 and was waiting on advise of that funding application. Cr Lewis advised that the recommendation for the Council meeting was just short of 10,000.

FCBUGs have also applied to Councillor Discretionary Funding for \$5,445 for work to improve drainage on the rail trail surface, however no communication has been received to date. Keith advised that a response should be received in the near future.

### 3.7 Rail Trail Usage Discussion (Steve Case FCCC)

Steve asked a question relating to equal access licence with FCBUGs was received some time ago. Increasing questions coming forward as to who can use it. Seeking advice on an appropriate response from a legal standpoint.

Craig and Keith advised that once the latest section was officially opened, it would be 'open for public' use.

Cr Lewis queried event usage process. Craig advised that it is a liability and notification process rather than closing the trail down for events.

### 3.8 FCRC Funding Application – Minor Infrastructure Grants Program (James O'Connor FCRC)

James provided an update to the Committee on the application submitted by Council to the Minor Infrastructure Grants Program as requested at the previous meeting of the Committee. Council is now awaiting the outcome of the assessment of that application by the State Government.

## 4. General Business

Max commented that the Committee should request from Council 2 or 3 options to get through Stockyard and Black Swamp Creeks.

Keith advised that this will be normal practice of the design team at Council.

John Williams commented that funds for the Mary to Bay Rail Trail from Bruce Saunders MP, Member for Maryborough, has resulted in action.

Craig advised that he will provide a briefing on crossing Maryborough-Hervey Bay Rd at the next meeting.

**Action** – *'Action resulting from last meeting' to be added moving forward and Minutes regularly distributed to the Committee.*

**Action** – *Include a discussion item in relation to the rail trail gap near Aldershot and Maryborough Hervey Bay Road Crossing at Nikenbah in the Agenda for the next meeting.*

## 5. Next Meeting

15 June, 2023 – 4pm

The meeting closed at 5.34pm.