

Coronavirus Update and Land Valuations

Coronavirus Update

Council has been undertaking preparatory planning concerning Coronavirus (COVID-19) and has had the opportunity for several briefings from State health officials on the pandemic. What is very clear is that most of us will be exposed to some degree at some stage, so we need to prepare as best we can.

What is also clear is that a vaccine to treat the virus will not be available any time soon. The facts are that the virus is not airborne, but rather relies on contact of some form with humans to spread, so we can slow the spread down by practising good personal hygiene:

- Wash your hands regularly – normal soap will suffice;
- Practice good cough/sneeze etiquette. Cough/sneeze into your elbow and not your hands. Your hands tend to touch other things which could transmit the virus.
- Reduce your contact with other people. No handshaking, hugging, kissing etc.
- Practise the same precautions as you do for influenza pandemic;
- Where possible maintain your distance from other people - 1.5 metres minimum distance is suggested if possible.
- Keep your homes and work places clean – normal detergents will kill the virus. Keep benches, tables and surfaces that may be touched by other hands clean. Remember to clean your phone if you tend to put it down on surfaces around the place. Wash your hands regularly after touching surfaces. Think about what you touch in a normal day i.e. auto teller keys, pens, door handles.
- If you are sick – STAY AT HOME – attending a work place puts others at risk;
- IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE SICK – KEEP THEM AT HOME;
- Employers need to send home sick people;
- Do not visit the vulnerable or aged if you have

flu symptoms – they are especially at risk; and

- Don't just walk into doctor surgeries, hospitals or aged care facilities if you are sick. Ring first and then take advice and follow directions.

Above all else, stay calm and practice good hygiene.

Detailed information is available by visiting the Queensland Health website www.health.qld.gov.au or by phoning the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080 which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Council is committed to responding to the Coronavirus pandemic and managing the ongoing provision of essential services to the Hinchinbrook community.

In addition to ensuring services continue, staff have increased the frequency of cleaning and sanitisation of public amenities and facilities with a higher community presence such as the Hinchinbrook Shire Library, Visitor Information Centre and the Customer Service Centre at Council's Main Office in Lannercost Street.

Over the coming weeks Council will continue to monitor the situation closely and act quickly on the advice of health authorities.

If you are feeling unwell please take care of yourself and those around you. If you prefer not to visit Council, staff are always happy to assist you with enquiries over the phone or via email council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au.

Land Valuations Effective 30 June 2020

On 4 March 2020, the Queensland Valuer-General issued annual land valuations for the Hinchinbrook Shire. The new land valuations are effective 30 June 2020. Please be aware that the new land valuations do not alter or impact on the current rates notices due for payment on or by 31 March 2020. For further information on land valuations, please visit the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy's website, *Titles and Valuations* page.

Ramon Jayo

Mayor



Positions Vacant

A career with Council offers challenging and rewarding work as we strive to shape a positive future for the Hinchinbrook community. Council is excited to offer the following opportunities to be part of a large and diverse organisation with a strong community connection:

- Project Support Officer** Vacancy Reference: 12061
- Operator - Works** Vacancy Reference: 12171
- Labourers - Works** (4 positions) Vacancy Reference: 11121, 11151, 11441 and 11461
- Treatment Plant Assistant** Vacancy Reference: 10771
- Apprentice Plumber** Vacancy Reference: 12181
- Labourer – Public Open Spaces** (2 positions) Vacancy Reference: 12091 and 12101
- Gardener Custodian** Vacancy Reference: 10391
- Executive Support Officer** Vacancy Reference: 11691
- Media and Communications Officer** Vacancy Reference: 10061

Applications close 5.00pm Wednesday 1 April 2020.

Further information is contained in the Job Application Packages which can be obtained via Council's website, *Current Vacancies* page or by phoning Human Resources on 4776 4767.

Please note: Applicants must specifically and individually address all essential and desirable selection criteria (included in the Job Application Package), provide a current Resume and two recent Referees in order to be considered for interview.

Hinchinbrook Shire Council is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

Works Notice - Mount Fox Road First Bridge Replacement Works

Council wishes to advise that planned works to replace First Bridge on Mount Fox Road with a culvert structure have commenced, with the works anticipated to be finished before the end of April, weather permitting.

Ongoing works will occur between 6.00am and 5.00pm with a number of traffic controls in place during these times.

Residents should note that there will be a temporary road closure in place from 5.00pm Wednesday 18 March 2020 to 6.00am Thursday 19 March 2020, weather permitting.

For further information on current roadworks, please visit Council's website, *Roadworks* page or contact Council on 4776 4605.

Council would like to thank you for your cooperation during this necessary phase of works.

Expressions of Interest Youth Development Advisory Committee

Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from individual members of the community and organisations to fill a number of positions on the Youth Development Advisory Committee.

This is a new advisory committee being formed with the objective to provide advice to Council on the development of Council's Youth Development Strategy, and ongoing strategic issues relevant to the youth of Hinchinbrook.

Council is seeking applicants of all ages who have broad based interest or experience in the areas of youth development, policy or general understanding in relation to the current and future challenges that will impact the youth of Hinchinbrook and are willing to make a positive contribution to this advisory committee.

For more information or to express interest in joining the committee, contact Council's Economic and Community Development area on 4776 4615 or council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au

First 5 Forever Baby Welcoming Ceremony and Family Fair

Families are invited to attend the *First 5 Forever Baby Welcoming Ceremony and Family Fair* from 10.00am **Friday 17 April 2020** at the TYTO Conference and Events Centre.

Enjoy a fun filled morning with petting zoo, pony rides, arts and crafts, reptiles and scrumptious food.

All babies that have arrived in the community over the past twelve months will receive a Welcoming Certificate, sapling and gift bag. Parents can plant their sapling to commemorate their new baby and watch as they both grow, providing for the future prosperity of the Hinchinbrook Shire.

Registrations are essential for the Baby Welcoming Ceremony, please phone 4776 4614 or email library@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au by **Thursday 9 April 2020**.

The First 5 Forever Program focuses on providing strong early literacy foundations for all Queensland children aged 0 – 5 years.



Rate Notices Due for payment Tuesday 31 March 2020

Half yearly rate notices issued for the period 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020 are due for payment on or before Tuesday 31 March 2020.

If you pay on or before the due date and have no rates in arrears, you will go into the draw to win \$2,000 to be spent locally!

Council offers a variety of payment options, including online, via telephone, mail or by visiting Council's main office at 25 Lannercost Street, Ingham.

Council encourages landowners who may have difficulty meeting payment by the due date to enter into a payment arrangement. To discuss payment arrangement options or to arrange for a copy of your Rate Notice, please contact Council's Revenue Team on 4776 4623 or council@hinchinbrook.qld.gov.au.

Interest is charged on overdue rates at 9.83% per annum (0.03% per day).

