FLYING-FOX ADVISORY COMMITTEE QUARTERLY REPORT

Brett Spencer | 10/23/37 | #5666156v1

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council:


2. Approves expenditure of $2,500 to assist with Dr Martin Cohen’s attendance at the 18th Australasian Bat Society Conference and AGM in Richmond (Sydney) 3-6 April 2018.

3. Submits a bid to host the National Flying-Fox Forum to be held in Cairns October 2018 with sponsorship up to a maximum of $6,000.

4. Approves a grant to the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (Inc) up to a maximum of $3,500 to engage Tania Bishop to provide Basic Bat Care Training in April 2018.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Flying-Fox Advisory Committee (FFAC) was established in September 2015 as a key strategy to support the management of Flying-Foxes within the Cairns Regional Council area. The focus of this Advisory Committee is to develop marketing and communication strategies to assist in increasing community awareness and understanding about Flying-foxes. This report provides the minutes of the past four FFAC meetings, recommendations to Council arising from those minutes and the activities of the committee generally.

COMMENT:

General Meetings

Minutes of the meetings of 11 August 2017, 13 October 2017, 19 December 2017 and 1 February 2018 are listed as Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

Key matters arising from recent committee meetings

- Bat Chats at the City Library over the school holiday period proved successful with an average of 30 people at each session, and at times up to 70 people attending.
The Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (BatSoc) is incorporated and has obtained Public Liability Insurance through LandCare. This non-profit organisation can now apply for funding to conduct flying-fox educational activities and projects.

Flying-fox statistics showing a higher than average rate of orphans and deceased young than previous years and bat carers are continuing to submit this information to Department of Environment and Science (DES). As at 3 February 2018 the Cairns colony update is total dead/orphaned 1003 (Live 499 and Dead 504).

**Completed Operational Works**

Various operational activities have been occurring during the last quarter including:
- Deterrent works under appropriate approvals (using noise) predominately at the Esplanade Plaza entry.
- Lake Street car park renovations have been completed with no reported effects to the CBD colony.

**Key maintenance planned for the next quarter**

- Maintenance prune of Abbott Street trees will be conducted after breeding season.
- Removal of dead palm at City Library will be conducted after breeding season.
- Nursery tree bracing will be assessed after breeding season.
- Maintenance of trees on Library site will be conducted after breeding season.
- Replacement of tree (allegedly poisoned) in Lake Street in front of the Oasis will be considered following infrastructure renewal to be aligned with the CBD Master Plan.
- Review of contract monitoring operations by Parks Operations.

**Key marketing strategies planned for the next quarter**

- Flying-fox Living Under One Sky content update on Cairns Regional Council Website.
- Preparation of interpretation brief for Cairns City Library to include cultural and ecological aspects of the site.
- Production of Flying-fox brochure and fact sheets.
- Development of Social Media strategy for the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (i.e. information sharing for events, Bat Festival, Bat Chats etc.).
- Continued media and promotional support of Bat Chats.
- Review of community engagement requirements in relation to other possible roosting sites in Cairns e.g. Murray Street.

**Advisory Committee Recommendations**

**Australasian Bat Society Conference and AGM**

In regard to Recommendation 2 of this report, the FFAC is requesting that Council provide support to fund the Chairperson Dr Martin Cohen to attend the 18th Australasian Bat Society Conference in Sydney 3 - 6 April 2018. Attachment 5 is the summary of the paper that Dr Martin Cohen is proposing to present called The Current Status of the
population of Spectacled Flying-foxes at the Cairns CBD. This follows a paper that Dr Cohen presented two years ago when the establishment of the FFAC was being undertaken.

National Flying-fox Forum

In regard to Recommendation 3 of this report, the FFAC requests that Council provide sponsorship for the National Flying-fox Forum in October 2018.

The 2018 National Flying-Fox conference is expected to attract over 100 delegates nationwide from all levels of government and the ecological community to network and share information in flying-fox management strategies. Cairns Regional Council has been invited to be the host City along with Townsville and Rockhampton. This conference has a possible economic value of $100,000 to the Cairns economy. The sponsorship proposal is listed as Attachment 6.

The forum explores:

- The effectiveness of dispersal programs.
- Presentation of data to support alternative measures.
- Factors that affect the effectiveness and success rate of camp management measures
- Preparing a draft National Strategic Vision for Flying-fox Management
- Community engagement techniques

Two quotes have been sourced and the preferred option is in proximity to the Cairns City Library Roost site. The quote is for $5,870 and Council will be offered ten free of charge registration places that are valued at $1,950 as shown in Attachment 6. There is minimal Council officer support required to host this event as it is largely conducted by a Conference Organising Committee.

Cairns Bat Festival

The primary role of the FFAC is to develop education and awareness strategies. The FFAC recommends that Council provides a grant of $5,000 to the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns to hold the fourth annual Cairns Bat Festival 2018 as part of community awareness and understanding of flying foxes in the local area. Council has for the last two years, sponsored this festival via an R&P agreement with the Australasian Bat Society. However, a grant agreement can now be entered into with the local Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (Inc) as a local incorporated not for profit entity.

The Bats and Trees Society of Cairns must provide a final report to Council containing the following in respect to the event:

- A financial statement (including evidence of expenditure reports).
- A report quantifying the performance of the event (both financial and otherwise) against the projections for the event contained in the recipient’s application form.
- Any other pertinent information in regard to the performance of the event (including but not limited to copies of media coverage, date list of television and radio interviews and publications about the event).
The Cairns Bat Festival will take place in April 2018 and proposed to be held on the Western Event Lawn at the Cairns Esplanade. A detailed update on the festival will be provided in the next Council quarterly update.

**Basic Bat Care Training Course**

In regard to recommendation 4 of this report, the FFAC has requested a grant of $3500 to the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns to organise a two day Basic Bat Care Training Course in April or May 2018. The trainer is Dr. Tania Bishop, the Chief Wildlife Veterinarian at the Australia Zoo Wildlife Park with over 17 years of veterinary experience. Her full bio is shown in Attachment 8.

It is expected to have 50-70 participants and Council staff is invited. A summary of the course is as below and the full outline of the course with the benefits and outcomes are in Attachment 7.

- **Basic bat care**
  - what makes a flying-fox different to other species?
  - stabilisation of common injuries - netting, barbed wire, fractures, raptor attacks
  - interpretation of neurological signs - ABLV or other causes of neurological signs in a bat
  - housing a sick flying-fox safely

- **Orphans**
  - common problems
  - stabilising newly acquired orphans
  - things to monitor
  - common congenital problems

The grant will cover the costs of the trainer to travel to Cairns, accommodation, transfers and two days training. It is requested that Council provide a facility for the training such as the Civic Room or Botanic Gardens function area. The grant does not provide funding for catering; this aspect would met by The Bats and Tree Society of Cairns.

The Bats and Trees Society of Cairns must provide a final report to Council containing the following in respect to the event:

- A financial statement (including evidence of expenditure reports).
- A report quantifying the performance of the event (both financial and otherwise) against the projections for the event contained in the recipient’s application form.
- Any other pertinent information in regard to the performance of the event (including but not limited to copies of media coverage, date list of television and radio interviews and publications about the event).

The Bats and Trees Society of Cairns will provide a detailed round up on this event and will be provided in the next Council quarterly update.
OPTIONS:

Option 1 (Recommended)

It is recommended that Council:


2. Approves expenditure of $2,500 to assist with Dr Martin Cohen’s attendance at the 18th Australasian Bat Society Conference and AGM in Richmond (Sydney) 3-6 April 2018.

3. Submits a bid to host the National Flying-Fox Forum to be held in Cairns October 2018 with sponsorship up to a maximum of $6,000.

4. Approves a grant to the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (Inc) up to a maximum of $3,500 to engage Tania Bishop to provide Basic Bat Care Training in April 2018.

Option 2

That Council seeks additional clarification or information.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Corporate and Operational Plans:

The undertakings of the FFAC are consistent with Council’s Corporate Plan 2017-2022 Strategic Objective 2. - That our iconic natural assets are maintained, enhanced and connected; and Strategic Objective 3 - A safe and secure city that is easy to live in and connected to the world.

Financial

All the requests for funding were anticipated in the development of the FFAC budget for 2017/18 and as such funding is available to accommodate the requests. The current expenditure for the support of the FFAC is as follows:

- PMD9183 budget for 2017/18: $40,000
- Expenditure to date: $20,332
- Balance available: $19,668

Statutory:

- Flying-Fox Roost Management Plan Activities – Code of Practice #4200182
- Cairns Spectacled Flying-Fox (SFF) Colony Roost Management Plan #4026496.
Policy:

General Policy for the Management of Flying-Fox Colonies #4191916.

CONSULTATION:

The minutes of the committee meetings are published on Council’s web site.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Minutes August 2017
2. Minutes October 2017
3. Minutes December 2017
4. Minutes February 2018
5. Summary of paper by Dr Martin Cohen
6. Sponsorship Proposal National Flying-Fox Forum 2018
7. Outline of Basic Bat Training Course
8. Bio Tania Bishop

Brett Spencer
Manager Parks and Leisure

Linda Kirchner
General Manager Community Sport and Cultural Services
# ATTACHMENT 1 – MINUTES AUGUST 2017

## Meeting Minutes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Finish Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meeting Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 August 2017</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Chambers</td>
<td>Flying-Fox Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Attendees
- Maree Treadwell-Kerr
- Stephen Bailey
- Brett Spencer
- Marcelle Kentwell
- Cr John Schilling
- Sera Steves
- Rebecca Koller
- Dion Eades
- Cr Ritchie Bates
- Dr David Westcott
- David Parsons

### Apologies
- Dr Martin Cohen
- Simon Booth

### Observers
- Nil observers

## Actions and Agreements

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<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Completed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Meeting opened by Dr Martin Cohen with welcome and acknowledgement of traditional owners, councillors and committee members.</td>
<td>Maree Treadwell-Kerr</td>
<td>11/8/2017</td>
<td>complete</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</td>
<td>Maree Treadwell-Kerr</td>
<td>11/8/2017</td>
<td>complete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recommendation:
Minutes of the meeting held 15 June 2017 were adopted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

**Moved:** Cr John Schilling  
**Seconded:** Cr Ritchie Bates
• Brett Spencer welcomed Dion Eades to the committee as the new Communications and Marketing Officer.

• Steve Bailey updated the committee on the recent trimming works at the City Library advising that NRA was on-site to monitor the flying-foxes and operations went smoothly to plan.

• Ray Plasto updated the committee on works at the Lake St Carpark Building. The project is now 30% complete and the new lift will be on-site shortly. The project is expected to be completed in mid-November. NRA is engaged to monitor the impacts on the library roost with no issues to date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 New and General Business</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Committee provided draft response to Tony Nastasi. Dion Eades to review and send to Tony Nastasi.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| • Maree Treadwell-Kerr advised the committee that she is doing a presentation to The Animals and Society Association (TASA) Melbourne 18 & 19 September “From Bat Wars to Living under one sky” for the Australasian Bat Society. |

| • Basic Bat Care Training course by FNQ Wildcare is planned and financial support for vaccinations has been requested. It was suggested that a criteria be created by BatSoc to evaluate Carers that are eligible to receive financial assistance and to apply for a grant. |

| • Sera Steves advised the committee that she had been interviewed at the City Library for the TV show Totally Wild with Ranger Stacey the wildlife presenter regarding flying-foxes and will advise by email when the episode will be live to air. |
- Dr David Westcott provided a synopsis on the Science Informing Decision-Making Seminar in June regarding Flying-foxes in Australia and will email the committee a copy of the presentation.

- Maree advised the committee that the Australian Bat Society and BatSoc will have a stall at World Cassowary Day and Carnival on Collins.

- Update on Bat Tourism Trail - Sera/ Maree presented at the Wildlife Interpretative workshop in July and will be presenting at the Interpretative Australian conference, October in Sydney. FFAC to nominate a representative to attend.

- Update on formation of non-profit group;  
  - Maree & Sera have lodged the application and waiting to hear back from Australian Fair Trading and will update next meeting.  
  - The Name of the non-profit group is "Bats and Tree Society of Cairns (BatSoc)".

- Update of Bat Chats  
  - FFAC to prepare draft flyer and email to Marcelle for graphic design and print  
  - More Bat wipes and bat magnets which have FNQ Wildlife Rescue phone number 4053 4467 to be provided by Dion.  
  - QLD school holiday dates have been provided to Dion.  
  - Rebecca is investigating the possibility of sourcing a taxidermy Flying-Fox.  
  - FFAC would like to produce QR codes and beacons at the City Library

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<tr>
<th>Person</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr David Westcott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maree Treadwell-Kerr</td>
<td>11/8/2017</td>
<td>Complete</td>
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<td>FFAC</td>
<td>Next meeting</td>
<td>In progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maree Treadwell-Kerr &amp; Sera Steves</td>
<td>Next meeting</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcelle Kentwell, Dion Eades, &amp; Brett Spencer</td>
<td>Next meeting</td>
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for interpretative, Brett and Marcelle to scope an interpretative signage plan.

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Council Chambers – Friday 11 August 2017  9.30am to 11.00am</td>
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- David Parsons

### Apologies
- Dr Martin Cohen
- Simon Booth
- Sera Steves
- Dr David Westcott

### Observers
- Two observers

### Actions and Agreements

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</table>

### Recommendation:
Minutes of the meeting held 11 August 2017 were adopted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

**Moved:** Cr John Schilling  
**Seconded:** Cr Ritchie Bates
### Business Arising

- Brett Spencer updated the FFAC on the installation of the solar panels at the City Library were successful installed. And noted that there are a few flying-foxes in Murray Street Park and Munro Martin Park.

- David Parsons updated the FFAC on the plan for bracing the Nursery Tree after birthing season and provided advice on what contingency Council is considering to replace this tree given the opinion of several independent arborists that this tree is likely to fail in the near future.

- David Parsons will provide advice on timing for planting of the new tree in Lake Street (in front of the Oasis) which will need to be aligned with the CBD Master Plan.

- Steve Bailey updated the FFAC in regards to Mark Watson operations and monitoring of the flying-foxes. Advising that these operations are professionally operated and collecting data on the movements of the flying-foxes.

- Ray Plasto updated the FFAC on works at the Lake St Carpark Building. The project is now 70% complete and has been delayed due to unforeseen repairs on the building internally. The car park is expected to be open 1 January 2018. NRA is engaged to monitor the impacts on the library roost with no issues to date.

- Dion Eades is looking at producing a brochure/fact sheet for the Cairns City Library and will run the draft by the FFAC when ready. Next meeting Dion will provide stats on the CRC flying-fox website pages.

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<td>Dion Eades</td>
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# New and General Business

- Maree Treadwell-Kerr advised the FFAC that her presentation to The Animals and Society Association (TASA) Melbourne 18 & 19 September “From Bat Wars to Living under one sky” for the Australasian Bat Society was well received.

- Basic Bat Care Training course and vaccination process is under review by FNQ Wildcare. Rebecca Koller will work closely with FNQ Wildcare and advise the FFAC of their progress.

- Maree Treadwell-Kerr, Dr David Westcott and Marcelle Kentwell will be attending the National Flying-Fox Forum in Sydney 24 & 25 October. Maree and David will be doing presentations. Marcelle Kentwell to organise marketing collateral for the forum with Dion Eades.

- Maree Treadwell-Kerr advised the FFAC that the Australian Bat Society, and Bats and Trees Society of Cairns will have a stall at Health and Well Being Festival in Kuranda 14 October 2017 and will look at attending the CRC Tropical Tree Day Event on 3 December 2017.

- Cairns Bat Festival 2018 - Bats and Tree Society of Cairns to set a date (March/April 18) and location suggested site were Fogarty Park, Salt House, and Cairns City Library.

- Taxidermy flying-fox is in progress and Rebecca Koller will update at the FFAC next meeting.
• Rebecca Koller tabled information regarding the birthing season and advised that 72 dead flying-foxes have been counted to date. Rebecca would like to meet with the local ecologists to discuss identification of baby bats and baby bats sounds. Brett Spencer will organise this meeting.

• Update on formation of “Bats and Trees Society of Cairns”;
  o Have received letter of Incorporated and obtaining PLI through LandCare.
  o Working on membership costs and ideas to generate promotion of the Society.

• Update of Bat Chats
  o Nine bat chats were conducted in the school holiday all with excellent numbers.
  o Advised that the new signage is working well.
  o FFAC to advise Dion Eades of their Christmas school holiday dates.

• Interpretation at the Cairns City Library – preparation of brief to engage a consultation for an Interpretative Plan and Signage Suite.

5 Next meeting date:
• Council Chambers – Tuesday 19 December 2017 9.30am to 11.00am

6 Meeting Closed: 11.00am

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<td>Minutes of the meeting held 13 October 2017 were adopted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Moved: Maree Treadwell-Kerr</td>
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<td>Seconded: Rebecca Koller</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Business Arising</td>
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</table>
- Ray Plasto updated the FFAC on works at the Lake St Carpark Building. The project is now 99% complete and expected to be open 23 December 2017, earlier than previously reported (1 January 2018). NRA has been engaged to monitor construction impacts on the library roost with no issues to date, their commission is now completed. By Saturday the contractor will be completely demobilised from adjacent the library roost and all parking reopened to the public (including library parking).

- Steve Bailey updated the FFAC that mesh has been installed on two aerial roots as a trial to assist the carers to reunite the juvenile Flying-Foxes with their mothers. The understory vegetation will be thinned out in certain locations in the near future following standard horticultural practices at the Cairns City Library. Understory vegetation will be thinned out to assist the Flying-Fox carers carrying out routine inspections and improve safety for the public and CRC staff.

- Dion Eades advised that the Cairns Regional Council Flying-fox web page had 4,076 page views from 1 January 2017 to 6 December 2017, with an average time on the page at 1:36 minutes.

4 New and General Business

- Rebecca Koller presented the latest flying-fox statistics from the Wild Life carers which showed a higher rate of orphans and deceased young than previous years. Rebecca is submitting this to EHP.

- Temporary signage on Lake and Abbot Streets will be erected to inform drivers to be aware that flying-foxes might fall on to the road. Dion to draft design and wording.

- Brett Spencer to provide information regarding Council’s planning process for
Development Applications and to outline the State and Federal Governments responsibilities in relation to flying-foxes.

- Maree Treadwell-Kerr and Sera Steves presented, *Consistency in Community Messaging*, highlighting the need for a flying-fox identity and to promote the bat colony as a significant tourism and economic opportunity for Cairns.

- Bat Care training course and vaccination process. Rebecca Koller would like to invite veterinarian Tania Bishop to Cairns to provide Bat Carers with training in March 2018. Rebecca will provide program and costs at the next meeting.

- Maree Treadwell-Kerr and Marcelle Kentwell updated the committee on the National Flying-Fox Forum 2017. Marcelle Kentwell to prepare a report to Council to look at Cairns Regional Council to host the National Flying-Fox Forum October 2018 in Cairns.

- Cairns Bat Festival 2018: Bats and Trees Society of Cairns to set a date in April 2018 and venue location.

- Update from the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns;
  - Have received letter of Incorporated and has obtained Public Liability Insurance through LandCare.

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<th>Name(s)</th>
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<td>Maree Treadwell-Kerr &amp; Sera Steves</td>
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<td>Rebecca Koller</td>
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**BatSoc**
Membership costs will be tiered and made available to the public in the near future.

Update of Bat Chats
- School holiday bat chats have excellent numbers.
- Advised that the new signage is working well.
- Interpretation at the Cairns City Library – preparation of brief to engage a consultation for an Interpretative Plan and Signage Suite is still in progress.

Marcelle Kentwell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5</th>
<th>Next meeting date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Council Chambers – Tuesday 1 February 2018 9.30am to 11.00am</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| 6 | Meeting Closed: 11.00am |

Note: These minutes are considered to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. Should you not agree with this record of the meeting please advise by return email within 48 hours of the time of receipt of these minutes.
# ATTACHMENT 4 – MINUTES FEBRUARY 2018

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 1 February 2018  
**Start Time:** 9.30am  
**Finish Time:** 11.00am  
**Location:** Chambers

**Meeting Purpose:** Flying Fox Advisory Committee

**Attendees:** Maree Treadwell-Kerr, Brett Spencer, Marcelle Kentwell, Cr John Schilling, Rebecca Koller, Dion Eades, Dr Martin Cohen, Mel Tortike, Dr David Westcott

**Apologies:** Simon Booth, Sera Steves, Stephen Bailey, Cr Ritchie Bates

**Observers:** Three observers

### Actions and Agreements

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<td>Meeting opened by Dr Martin Cohen with welcome and acknowledgement of traditional owners, councillors and committee members.</td>
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<td>01/02/2018</td>
<td>Complete</td>
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<td>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>Recommendation:</strong> Minutes of the meeting held 19 December 2017 were adopted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.</td>
<td>Dr Martin Cohen</td>
<td>01/02/2018</td>
<td>Complete</td>
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|    | **Moved:** Maree Treadwell-Kerr  
|    | **Seconded:** Rebecca Koller |
| 3  | Business Arising  
|    | • Brett Spencer advised the committee; | Brett |

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**Agenda – Sport and Community Services Committee 21 February 2018**  
#5635955
- The trees at the City Library will be trimmed after breeding season. The fig trees in Abbott Street will be trimmed up to 20% after breeding season. Mel Tortike will organise the necessary permits for both trimming maintenance projects.
- Murray Street Park has approximately 400 to 500 flying-foxes roosting on-site. Council has erected signage to advise the community not to touch bats and to call Wild Life Rescue for assistance if flying-foxes have fallen out of a tree.
- The replacement tree on Lake Street is in progress however the infrastructure in this area needs to be completed beforehand.

- Steve Bailey updated the FFAC via email. Flying-fox movements in the CBD over the last fortnight have been fairly consistent. Numbers are now down to less than 50 per day attempting to roost in the Woolshed fig tree after numbers swelled previously to approximately 400 over the Christmas period. These smaller numbers are easily being moved on using lights and noise. Our contractor reported a noticeable shift in flying-fox movements the day after the recent pile driving commenced in town causing approx. 200 flying-foxes trying to settle into the large mango tree opposite Rattle n Hum on a daily basis. The contractor is currently spending considerable time to discourage them from roosting in this tree. There is also lots of activity in the large fig opposite McDonalds which is covered in fruit. There have been no recent customer enquiries or complaints from the community regarding roosts outside of the city. Numbers of flying-fox have increased in the Anderson St Conservation Park.

- Dion Eades advised that he is in the process of developing a Flying-fox brochure and reviewing the content of the Council Flying-fox web pages. Sera Steves and Maree Treadwell-Kerr will email Dion draft material for both before the next meeting.
## New and General Business

- Rebecca Koller presented the latest flying-fox statistics from the Wild Life carers showing a higher rate of orphans and deceased young than previous years and submitting this information to EHP. As at the 3rd February 2018 Cairns colony update is total dead/orphaned 1003 (Live 499 and Dead 504).

- Temporary signage on Lake and Abbot Streets will not be erected to inform drivers to be aware that flying-foxes might fall on to the road. Dion Eades advised this is not possible due to Council policy and obstruction to drivers.

- Bat Care training course. Rebecca Koller would like to invite veterinarian Tania Bishop to Cairns to provide Bat Carers with training in March/April 2018. Marcelle Kentwell to follow-up with Tania Bishop and prepare funding agreement with Bats and Trees Society of Cairns. (Refer to Resolution 7).

- Marcelle Kentwell to prepare a report to Council to look at Cairns Regional Council to host the National Flying-Fox Forum October 2018 in Cairns. (Refer to Resolution 6).

- Cairns Bat Festival 2018: Bats and Trees Society. Proposed date of festival is either 21st or 22nd of April 2018 on the Western Event Lawn at the Cairns Esplanade. Marcelle Kentwell to prepare funding agreement and new supplier form. (Refer to Resolution 8).

- Update from the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns;
  - Have received letter of Incorporated and has obtained Public Liability Insurance through LandCare.
1. Membership costs will be tiered and made available to the public in the near future.

2. **Update of Bat Chats**
   - School holiday bat chats have excellent numbers.
   - Advised that the new signage is working well.
   - Marcelle Kentwell to purchase mini binoculars and light weight marquee.
   - Maree Treadwell-Kerr to provide to Marcelle Kentwell the reference book list for purchasing.
   - Maree Treadwell-Kerr to provide to Brett Spencer the photo/specs for a promotional trailer.
   - Maree Treadwell-Kerr has provided Dion Eades with the dates of the next school holiday bat chats.
   - Dion Eades to investigate a social media platform for people to write a review of their Bat Chat experience and proposes that BatSoc create a Facebook Page.

3. **Interpretation at the Cairns City Library – preparation of brief to engage a consultation for an Interpretative Plan and Signage Suite is still in progress.**

4. Brett Spencer proposed that Dr Martin Cohen attend the Australasian Bat Conference in April 2018 to provide a follow up paper and represent the FFAC and provide a presentation to the FFAC. (Refer to Resolution 5).

5. Brett Spencer to contact the Hockey Field management to investigate the installation of high visual flagging along the barbed wire to discourage Flying-foxes.

6. Maree Treadwell-Kerr advised on the meeting with Department of Environment and Energy and will update the committee after they investigate and assess the situation.
1. FFAC would like to hold a workshop with Council to discuss options to revegetate new camp site or improve the existing camp sites that are outside the CBD area. Brett Spencer to discuss further with Councillor Shilling.

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2. Committee recommends that Cairns Regional Council to sponsor to the National Flying-fox forum in Cairns October 2018 to a maximum of $6000. Marcelle Kentwell to consult with Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc. and Ecosure with this proposal.

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<th>9</th>
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<td>Council Chambers – Thursday 29 March 2018  9.30am to 11.00am</td>
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<td>Moved:</td>
<td>All</td>
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<td>Meeting Closed:</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
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Note: These minutes are considered to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. Should you not agree with this record of the meeting please advise by return email within 48 hours of the time of receipt of these minutes.
ATTACHMENT 5 – SUMMARY OF MARTIN COHEN

The Current Status of the population of Spectacled Flying-foxes at the Cairns CBD
By Dr Martin Cohen (presenter), Maree Treadwell-Kerr and Rebecca Koller

At the Australasian Bat Society conference in Hobart in 2016 I presented a paper entitled ‘The challenges associated with managing a large breeding camp of Spectacled Flying-foxes in the Cairns CBD’, which outlined the pressures on the current camp of Spectacled Flying-foxes in the Cairns CBD and described a new association with the local Government aimed at raising bat issues in Cairns with the local community.

Two years on and I report on the progress of this association that has included the ongoing success of Bat Chats during school holidays, the continued growth of the Cairns Bat Festival and the establishment of a not-for-profit group – BatSoc – that will facilitate bat education in schools and training for new bat carers.

In addition to describing the progress of the education programs, I will also discuss the current status of the Cairns CBD flying-fox camp and discuss the on-going development pressures and associated challenges that the camp is currently facing. As a result of these pressures I will discuss the need for a change in State and Federal legislation to better protect a vital species to rainforest diversity where their populations are in severe decline.
Sponsorship Proposal
National Flying-Fox Forum 2018

Thursday 23 October 2018

Cairns Regional Council
Cairns, Queensland
EVENT SYNOPSIS

Forum synopsis

Flying-foxes, bats, fruit bats, megabats, whatever they are called they are one of the most recognisable species in Australia. They are a common sight in many regional and urban areas at dusk as they leave their camps along waterways or dense vegetation to forage up to 50 kilometres away in their search for food. They are pollinators of a variety of native plants and a dispersal agent of seeds. Flying-foxes are gregarious animals that can disrupt people sleeping and camps produce strong odours, which make adjacent living difficult. They are also protected species, including some that are threatened, and management of camps requires approaches that are ethical, humane and will not negatively impact on each population. Areas of concern about flying-fox camps that will be addressed in this forum:

- Public perception – Flying-foxes are seen to some as pests akin to cane toads and rats;
- Residents have been told that dispersal is the only option to manage flying-foxes and that the problem will go away;
- Ethical considerations about dispersing camps and impacts on individuals and social order;
- Lack of a national approach to management of camps and placing the burden of management on local governments.

This forum explores:

- The effectiveness of dispersal programs based on the speakers' experiences.
- Presentation of data to support alternative measures.
- Factors that affect the effectiveness and success rate of camp management measures
- Preparing a draft National Strategic Vision for Flying-fox Management

2018 Forum

The Third National Flying-fox Forum will be held at a location to be decided, possible locations for consideration for the 2018 forum are Cairns, Townsville or Rockhampton. The program will be developed in line with the conference location.
Who Attends the Event?
Target audience for the forum;

- Local government environment officers
- State government departmental officers
- Federal government departmental officers
- Academics and researchers
- Ecological consultants
- Flying-Fox community groups and carers
- Local community groups

SPONSORSHIP

Ecosure were the sponsor of the 2016 and 2017 National Flying-fox Forum in partnership with the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc. (EIANZ) and Logan City Council. Ecosure invites local Councils to be a sponsor to cover the part cost of the forum so the registration fees can be kept to a minimum.

It is proposed that Cairns Regional Council provide sponsorship and cover the cost of the venue and catering services.

Amount
- The principal Sponsorship is valued at $6000 (inc gst).
- Payable to the Hotel of Council’s choice to provide venue and catering services

Sponsor Benefits
- Promotion across all conference PR activities as principal sponsor in the lead up to the conference.
- Sponsor acknowledgement in all conference related industry advertising and promotion
- Sponsor logo and 100 word company description on the conference website.

Registration
- Ten (10) x delegate registrations including all catering, conference session and social function.
- Opportunity to create an entrance feature at the conference registration desk.

Verbal Acknowledgement
- Acknowledge at the Welcome and closing

Sponsor and Logo Recognition
- Sponsor logo on programme alongside the conference logo
VALUE

Economic Value

The average business traveller to Cairns;

Average Stay: 5 nights
Average daily Spend: $207.00

100 interstate attendees: (5x$207.00) = potential for $103,500.00

Intangible contribution

As well as the significant expenditure and economic contribution, business events also bring in significant indirect and intangible benefits to Cairns Regional Council Officers and Cairns.

Networking: Business events are essentially communication mediums - a place for delegates to network and enhance business relationships.

Education: The majority of the program is educations, affording Council Officers the opportunity to gain exposure to learn best practices in flying-fox management and also to profile themselves before their peers.

Research: National scientific and professional meetings are prime drivers in exposing original research which is being conducted into flying-fox management, which can leverage Cairns into the spot more research grants and assistance.

Prestige: This will allow Cairns to lift its profile in the business and conference tourism market. It will be a "showcase opportunity" to show Cairns its infrastructure, innovation and quality of service. Success of one event often leads to testimonials and word of mouth publicity within the market and more events as a result.

Benefits to the leisure tourism sector: Leisure tourism is often a by-product of business events. That is, business conventions can substantially raise the profile of a city and lead to prosperous tourism growth.
ATTACHMENT 7 – OUTLINE OF BASIC BAT TRAINING COURSE

Benefits, outcomes and objectives of the Basic Bat training:

- How to coordinate a disaster response with relation to flying-foxes
  - Human safety PPE, quarantine and the importance of data collection and information collection during a response
  - Basic assessment and triage
  - Stabilisation - best techniques for giving fluids - assessing what fluids are needed and best delivery
  - Assessment, triage and stabilisation orphaned pups
  - What cases need to be seen by a qualified veterinarian and

- Basic bat care
  - What makes a flying-fox different to other species?
  - Stabilisation of common injuries - netting, barbed wire, fractures, raptor attacks
  - Interpretation of neurological signs - ABLV or other causes of neurological signs in a bat
  - Housing a sick flying-fox safely

- Orphans
  - Common problems
  - Stabilising newly acquired orphans
  - Things to monitor
  - Common congenital problems

The biggest holes in group knowledge that I come across is stabilising a patient in an emergency situation - there is a lot of mixed information about fluid therapy and the best methods etc, some of which are quite detrimental, but have been used for some time. Also when a disaster event hits involving flying-foxes e.g. cyclones; heat (not as common for you up the Cairns); starvation events or development etc.; the groups struggle to have a plan already in place within their groups to deal with these adequately. I’m still in the process of doing up a heat response plan for SEQ as this was badly needed and from the forum that we held, I realised even more than I initially thought that the groups really don’t understand how to respond in the event of a wildlife disaster, making their responses less effective than they could be.

They need a plan that they are very familiar with one in advance of needing to use it or the emotional side of the disaster makes them lose perspective and they can’t coordinate an effective response - so that’s why I added that part in. It’s mainly identifying roles that are needed and who may be suited to filling them as there is often a common misconception that the most experienced people should be doing site control and coordination whereas that job could be filled even by an unvaccinated person who is good at logistics and communication with the most experienced people controlling triage and rescue.

- As far as benefits go:
o Improved human safety when responding to flying-fox rescue and disaster events
o improve the ability to respond in a coordinated fashion to events and rescue
o improved success rates stabilising orphans and adults coming into care after rescue
o improving local veterinary knowledge on the best methods of treating common injuries in flying foxes after initial carer stabilisation
o increase the ability of carers and wildlife officers to communicate the importance of flying-foxes to our economy and environment to members of the public.
o to stress the need to communicate about flying-fox events to members of the public to avoid the perpetuation of fear and human-flying fox conflict
o advise on how to best protect camps from being susceptible to disaster events
o offer carers, wildlife officers and local wildlife veterinarians the skills to coordinate and efficiently respond to flying-fox rescues and disaster events

• As far as the target audience goes, from the rundown I received and the added component bout disaster responses that I suggested, the target audience would be
  o wildlife carers
  o wildlife officers
  o potentially vets and vet students, vet nurses
  o EHP has attended some talks that I’ve delivered

If you wanted to reach a wider audience I could tailor some parts to included veterinary management of many of these conditions- having some local vets keen to help is always good as it does significantly expand what you can do.
ATTACHMENT 8 – BIO TANIA BISHOP

Dr Bishop is a Veterinarian of 10 years experience, having graduated from the University of Queensland in 1999 with honours class 1A. Dr Bishop had attained the dean’s letter for academic excellence including membership of the Golden key National Honours Society for academic excellence. Having been judged the Dux of Avian Medicine and Pig medicine in her final year, Dr Bishop later sat her membership examination in Avian health and was subsequently admitted as a full member into the Australian and New Zealand college of Veterinary Scientists. Dr Bishop is a member of Wildlife health Australia and the Australasian Bat Society as an expert advisor as well as holding membership of the Australian Avian Veterinarian Association, the Amphibian and reptile veterinary association and the Wildlife Disease association.

Having worked previously at Currumbin Sanctuary Dr Bishop later spent 3 years at the RSPCA wildlife hospital where she was the Senior Wildlife Veterinarian. These days Dr Bishop can be found at the Australia Zoo wildlife Hospital.

She works extensively with flying-foxes heading up forums and delivering education packages to veterinary groups, local government, carer organisations and the general public.

The threats to flying-fox populations and difficulties faced with human/flying-fox conflict are ever increasing. Dr Bishop is devoted to improving best practice disaster response management and increasing the broad spectrum of stakeholder knowledge on the importance of flying-foxes to our environment and economy; flying-fox care and management and how we can best solve human/flying-fox conflict issues.