

Taree Community Conversation – 16 April 2019

- Q1. Does Council have a proactive road maintenance schedule or is it on a reactive/complaints basis. Our local roads are in a dangerous condition.**
- A. We do have a proactive schedule for maintaining, patching and grading our roads. We do provide information on our roads programs on our website <https://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Roads>
- Q2. I would like to know why Council will not provide assistance with catching feral cats and dogs. I have been told Council does not provide this service. Will Council assist in educating landowners not to use ratsack as wild birds will die if they eat the poisoned rodents. Little booklets should be given out to landowners or information accessible on the internet educating people against the over use of poisons readily available.**
- A. Feral cats are difficult to deal with as they are dealt with differently under the Companion Animals Act to dogs. State legislation covers these issues.
- Q3. How often do the roads around the Marlee and Moorah Creek area get graded? And who ticks off on the work being done? Currently it is only done once a year, which I believe is not anywhere near good enough.**
- A. They are graded on a yearly cycle. This is a very typical timeframe for a gravel road network.
- Q4. The intersection of Cedar Party Road and Wingham Road requires attention particularly as Council is contemplating changes to Kolodong and units in Wingham Road.**
- A. This intersection is one of a number along that part of Wingham Road we are currently designing upgrades for – the others are the Potoroo Drive, Marie Avenue and Hargreaves Drive intersections.
- Q5. What is the future of beach driving at Manning Point and Old Bar/Mudbishops? Is Council aware of the driving culture on these beaches, ie because Farquhar Inlet is closed, it allows the beach to be used as a rat run to the Old Bar shops for tourists from Manning Point.**
- A. We have 196 kilometres of coastline in our local government area and driving on beaches is a popular recreational activity. We have about 7,000 beach vehicle permit holders currently. However driving on beaches has a range of issues involved, there is the compliance aspect of how people drive on beaches (and this sits with Council to enforce) and the need to balance protection of fauna and dunes. The areas where beach driving is allowed will be looked at over time.

Q6. What are the development plans for the Old Butter Factory by the river in Taree?

A. This is the Figtrees development. There has been a recent Federal Government funding announcement for this project. When progressed this will be a big development for the area, More information is available at <https://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Plan-Build/Future-Planning/Development-Sites>

Q7. What is happening with the CCTV in the Taree CBD?

A. This was installed as part of a Federal Government grant to a local Rotary Club. Its ongoing operation will be a discussion for Councillors at some point in the future.

Q8. Will Council prune the street trees in Krambach?

A. Council doesn't undertake pruning or maintenance of trees for beautification. We do undertake structural assessments on our street trees and take the advice of the arborist on any action that may need to be taken.

Q9. Are there plans to provide more footpaths in Waterman Street, Old Bar?

A. Council is working on developing a Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan for the MidCoast area. This plan will provide a framework to assess the needs of various communities. The plan will consider the existing infrastructure as well as current and future demands in an effort to prioritise future works.

Top priorities

- 1. Council advocacy
- 2. Beautification and enhancement of our region
- 3. Roads
- 4. Footpaths

Full list of priorities identified

Group one priorities

- 1. Reply to correspondence by Council
- 2. Community safety – petty crime, drugs, youngsters on the streets in school hours
- 3. Advocacy for maintenance of community housing
- 4. Council/correctional services partnership
- 5. Garbage bin designs
- 6. Enhancing riverfront
- 7. Entrance to Taree needs to be more enticing
- 8. Footpaths Old Bar
- 9. Skateboarding in Taree CBD
- 10. Ruprecht Park

Group two priorities

- 1. Roundabout Wingham Road and Bushland Drive needs to be enhanced
- 2. Road intersection design Wingham Road, Kolodong Road
- 3. Old Bar Road, speed limit
- 4. DA approval time, too long
- 5. Muldoon Street condition
- 6. Footpath management post construction
- 7. Trees overgrowing footpaths
- 8. General beautification and maintenance
- 9. Krambach also part of the area