

<b>ORDINARY MEETING</b>  <b>8 SEPTEMBER 2015</b>	<b>6.1</b>
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NOTICE OF MOTION – CR MELCHERT

ROCKY POINT BOAT RAMP

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

I hereby give Notice of my intention to move the following Motion at the Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015:-

“That Council confirm that the design, construction and the provision of funding for the Rocky Point Boat Ramp has been the sole responsibility of the State Government Department of Transport and Main Roads and, given recent concerns raised by members of the local boating community Council request the Member for Cook Mr Billy Gordon to facilitate a workshop with users of the ramp to facilitate the clear documentation of the concerns they have with regard to what they perceive are the design flaws with the new facility, and to seek further funding to allow the ramp to be modified in a way, as far as possible to address these issues.”

**BACKGROUND**

My understanding is that community consultation, design and funding arrangements for the Rocky Point Boat Ramp occurred under the previous State Government and even at that early stage, despite consultation having been carried out, local ramp users were concerned that they were not being listened to in terms of their needs and aspirations.

Now the works on the ramp are complete the users feel the operational problems they raised during the consultation and design phase have come to fruition.

Councillor Clarke and I inspected the new ramp last weekend and were able to visualise some of the concerns which have been raised, such as the narrowness of the ramp and the placement of rock at the end and sides of the ramp which is likely to do significant damage to vessels during the launching and retrieval of trailer boats, especially during rough weather. The issues appear to one of design, as the construction of the facility seems to have been carried out to a good standard.

I also understand that Member for Cook Mr Billy Gordon, who has “inherited” the design issues, has conducted a preliminary inspection of the ramp and this motion seeks to add support to the notion that a formal process needs to be undertaken by the State Government to see what can be done to address outstanding design issues which are likely to cause real and ongoing operational and safety issues for users.

**OFFICER’S COMMENT:**

The Council’s Infrastructure Group can confirm that the design, construction and the provision of funding for the Rocky Point Boat Ramp has been the sole responsibility of the State Government Department of Transport and Main Roads.

This boat ramp has been delivered in accordance with the provisions of the *Transport Infrastructure (Public Marine Facilities) Regulations 2011 section 7 (2)* which states that the state government is responsible for replacing of public marine facilities including boat ramps.

Douglas Shire Council, as the facility Manager under the Regulation, is responsible for maintaining roads, parking areas, maintenance dredging and all other aspects of managing the facility.

The Member for Cook Mr Billy Gordon or a representative of the Department of Transport and Main Roads may wish to conduct a workshop or other public engagement process. This is a matter for the Member and the Department and Council should not become involved in the review of the design as this is not part of the facility manager's responsibility.