



Cherbourg

Community Newsletter

cherbourg.qld.gov.au

July 2020



CONTENTS

- Council Budget 2020/21	Pg. 2
- CEOs Message	Pg. 3
- New Council Team	Pg. 4
- COVID19 Lockdown	Pg. 5
- Ready for Rapid Response	Pg. 6
- Memorial Park Upgrades	Pg. 6
- Tracksuits for Students	Pg. 6
- New Baler at MRG	Pg. 7
- Skate & Scooter Park	Pg. 8
- A.I. Project for MRF	Pg. 8

NEW MAYOR MAKES HISTORY

History was made when the community elected our first female mayor, Elvie Sandow.

'I was raised by my two grandmothers and they were strong women,' Mayor Sandow said.

'So I dedicate this to them, my late grandmothers. I am strong because of them.'

Mayor Sandow brings to the job much experience in Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council procedures having worked for the council from 1993 to 2014.

'Twenty one years as payroll officer so I actually know how the office runs. So that's a plus for me,' she said.

While working for the council, she was elected as a shire councilor in 2000 but due to new legislation couldn't do both so she resigned as the payroll officer. She took up a position in the Gundoo Early Childhood Centre where she ended up as Chief Executive Officer.

Now that she's mayor, Mayor Sandow said she can't continue at the centre.

'No, I will need to resign because I know I've got my hands full. You've got to understand being a Mayor in an Aboriginal community is a full time job, because we can't run away, cause they know where I live,' she

said with laughter.

Mayor Sandow also brings leadership abilities to the job. In the previous council term, she served as Deputy Mayor.

'I am here because the people in the community put me here and they put me here for a reason; they want honest answers and good leadership.'

'Our main priority is to get employment back into our community for our local people.'

She said that community wellbeing and mental health is essential and that people need to get back to interacting with each other face to face.

Every leader needs vision and Mayor Sandow's is about the future of the community.

'My passion is early childhood education, because you're laying the foundation for these children and you've got to understand children are our future, to make a difference in their lives, that's where you got to start,' she said.

'[Young people] need to understand education is important, getting out there doing traineeships. But it's getting out there and wanting to do it and having support from family as well.'

A mayor's responsibility is great but Mayor Sandow is not daunted by her new job.

'It's a long road but I say bring it on because I'm a community person. I know what we need here and you know, just being a community person, people know they can come and talk to me.'

Welcome to the 1st Edition of our new Community Newsletter. Our goal is to make sure everyone can read about current and upcoming projects, services, events and important news for Cherbourg.

Want to contribute?

This newsletter is for everyone, if you have events, news or notices for consideration in future editions, send an email to:

media@cherbourg.qld.gov.au

or drop into our Cherbourg Radio Station or Council Chambers



Budget 20/21

CHERBOURG ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL BUDGET 2020-2021

Building and Construction

During the coming 12 months, Council will be contracting to the Department of Housing and Public works for:

- New Housing Builds: \$2.50M
- Responsive maintenance to Houses: \$1.90M
- Existing Houses Major Upgrades: \$1.27M

Roads and Civil Construction

Council has allocated \$90,318 under the Roads to Recovery Program and \$ 39,849 under Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI).

- Operational Areas
Artificial Intelligence: \$150K

Community services:

Council will receive operating grant of \$1.03 M from Commonwealth and State Governments for the following:

- Cherbourg Radio Station: \$309,000
- Sports and Recreation: \$130,000
- Indigenous Knowledge Centre: \$21,000
- ATSI Service Reform: \$200,000
- Community Support Grant: \$80,000
- Get Ready QLD: \$6,780
- ATSI Public Health: \$175,000
- First start program: \$30,000
- Indigenous Economic Development Grant: \$80,000

Enterprises:

Council has budgeted operating revenue of \$1.54M from the following Council enterprises:

- Materials Recycling Facility including Containers for change : \$1.07 M
- Joinery: \$340,000
- Cattle and Produce farm: \$130,000
- Rental Houses, Building and Fees & Charges:
- Council has budgeted recurrent revenue of \$2.036M for Rental houses, building and Fees & Charges.
- Rental income from 316 community houses 1.19M
- Service charges 711K
- Building Rent 132K

Total 2.036Million

Essential Services Programs:

An amount of \$ 702,745 has been allocated for the areas of water supply, sewerage and parks and gardens to ensure that essential services are maintained to a standard to ensure that Cherbourg Residents receive a service equal to any other town in Queensland.

Councilors, Management and Administration:

Operating revenue for Councilor's, Management and Administration across all operations of council will receive an allocation of \$1.83 M.

Sustainability ratio:

Our budgeted key financial metrics such as assets Sustainability Ratio and Net Financial Liabilities are within or better than the targets recommended by the State Government.

- Assets Sustainability Ratio 151 %
- Net Financial Liabilities Ratio -83 %
- Operating Surplus Ratio -9.47%



Cherbourg Residents

Need repairs and maintenance to your home?

The Qbuild phone number is **1300 738 616**

Call this number for house maintenance

Qbuild will then create a work order for your repair.

Ceo's Message



Message from CEO – Chatur Zala

Welcome to our Council Newsletter. I also welcome and congratulate our first ever female Mayor Elvie Sandow and the elected Councillors including Deputy Mayor Tom Langton, A Cr Bronwyn Murray, Cr Fred Cobbo and Cr Leighton Costello.

I look forward to working with new Council and making our community Cherbourg better place.

2020 has been a very interesting and challenging year due to situation created by COVID 19 and limited travel to Cherbourg community but we're proud to tell you that under leadership of Mayor Sandow, Council and Cherbourg LDMG, we have successfully kept virus out of our community, but this job hasn't finished yet and I encourage Cherbourg community and all people traveling from outside to Cherbourg to take all the preventive measures under health guidelines including

social distancing, washing hands, staying home if you are unwell etc. Council and I understand the challenges we face and with my team, I am committed to make Cherbourg better place by providing better essential and community services as well as delivering key infrastructure projects including much needed new houses, upgrades on Water treatment plant, Cherbourg – Murgon footpath project, Major upgrade on cemeteries and more.

Our Vision, Mission and Values

- *Provide a clean, safe & healthy community. We will work to improve the health and wellbeing of our people*
- *Consistently empower the community to become self-reliant & independent*
- *Empower & encourage youth to determine their future through self-respect, education, training, cultural and traditional values*
- *providing a caring, respectful & safe environment for our elders*

Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council is committed to delivering excellent services and aspiring to be an excellent service provider. We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and we look forward to your feedback so we can continuously improve along the way.

Warm Regards,
Chatur Zala

CEO

New Council 2020

Congratulations to our newly elected councillors



The COVID19 Pandemic has been a challenge but it did not interrupt the induction training delivered by the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs.

The new and returning Councillors were welcomed by the department before taken through the Local Governance Framework, this included principles of local government, the responsibilities of Councillors, strategic thinking around policy making and collective decision making along with corporate planning, governance, anti-corruption, conflicts of interests and more.

Thanks to the use of online conferencing, movement restrictions were not a hindrance to the workshop as a virtual face to face training session was held at our Cherbourg Council Chambers.

Council CEO Chatur Zala says "Even in tough and unusual times, council are getting the important things done" by completing induction training, we are ensured our Councillors understand local government regulations and what is expected of them.



Mayor Elvie Sandow
mayor@cherbourg.qld.gov.au



Deputy Mayor Tom Langton
toml@cherbourg.qld.gov.au



Councillor Leighton Costello
leightonc@cherbourg.qld.gov.au



Councillor Bronwyn Murray
bronwynd@cherbourg.qld.gov.au



Councillor Fred Cobbo
fredc@cherbourg.qld.gov.au

Community & COVID



COVID-19

CHERBOURG LOCKDOWN

WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IF SOMEONE FROM CHERBOURG OR MURGON GETS THE CORONA VIRUS?

CHERBOURG WILL BE LOCKED DOWN!

Now that it's **WINTER** it's important we don't let **CORONA VIRUS** creep into our Community. We could be greatly affected.

BE PREPARED!!

Have these supplies stored up just in case.

- * Have food to last 4 weeks.
- * Have medications to last 4 weeks, also get repeat Scripts.
- * Make sure you have warm clothing for you and your family.
 - * Heaters/Wood (Keep your house warm).

We gotta beat CORONA VIRUS, SO:

****Don't let anyone into your house to visit unless you're sure it's safe.**

*****Wipe down surfaces with disinfectant regularly.**

PROTECT YOURSELF & THOSE AROUND YOU



STAY AT HOME IF YOU'RE UNWELL



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE, NOSE AND MOUTH



STAY 1.5 METRES AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE COUGHING OR SNEEZING



COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES



WASH HANDS REGULARLY

Keep your family safe, STAY HOME, KEEP YOUR FAMILY HOME.





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CHERBOURG: READY FOR RAPID RESPONSE

As of Friday 3rd of July, the Cherbourg community has moved to Level 3 of the Queensland Governments Easing of Restrictions Plan, this is due to no confirmed cases of the COVID19 virus in community. Stage 3 also means that Cherbourg LDMG is prepared with "Rapid Response Plans" in the event of a second wave of the virus.

At a meeting of our Cherbourg Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) held on the 8th of July, chaired by Mayor Elvie Sandow, attended by Cherbourg Councilors along with representatives of Gympie Region DDMG, Queensland Health, QPS, QFES, Local Disaster Coordinator and Council CEO Chatur Zala, it was agreed Cherbourg would relax its status from "Stand Up" to "Lean Forward". (Gympie DDMG will remain at "Stand Up" for a further 2 weeks)

With the recent easing of restrictions, and for the safety of our elders and health compromised members of community it is preferred that no visitors enter community travelling from outside of Queensland and especially not from COVID Hotspots this includes the state of Victoria.



If you are unwell PLEASE do not come to Cherbourg.

Cherbourg LDMG and Council wish to acknowledge and thank the community, workers and first responders for all your work, cooperation, and patience during the last four months in what have been very challenging times.



TRACKSUITS FOR CHERBOURG STUDENTS

Now that life in our community starts to get back to normal, Mayor Elvie Sandow and her council strongly support and encourage Cherbourg students to get back into learning ways.

Funding from Department of Communities, Disability and Seniors for projects unable to be used due the COVID19 restrictions over the last few months, have now been re-directed into supporting Cherbourg students.

After speaking with Director General for Department for Communities, Disability and Seniors, Clare O'Connor, it was agreed by council funding that had been earmarked for other initiatives could be better served supporting well-being of our young ones.

Mayor Elvie Sandow (a strong advocate for early childhood education) and Director General Clare O'Connor were strongly in favour of paying for all Cherbourg students to get a tracksuit for the school that they attend.

CEO Chatur Zala said schools in Cherbourg and Murgon have been approached to arrange ordering and delivery of the tracksuits for the eligible Cherbourg students, council will pay the invoice costs. Councilors were present when around fifty students at St Josephs Catholic Primary issued students with their new school tracksuits.

MEMORIAL PARK UPGRADES

Cherbourg Memorial park has undergone further modification and beatifications this year.

The most recent transformation has seen sandstone blocks installed for seating and decorative silhouettes added to the memorial wall that honors our communities fallen soldiers.

Council has delivered this positive project in consultation with the Cherbourg Heritage Precinct (Ration Shed Management) and Uncle Eric Law.

In an interview with Cherbourg Radio, Uncle Eric said he looked forward to seeing the new seating being utilised by community as a place of quiet contemplation or to relax with friends and family.

The project was funded through the Queensland Government Works for Queensland 19/21 program. More additions to come included shaded area and a new gate.

A big thank you to all involved in progressing this achievement, especially the council works department crew who installed the new sandstone blocks.



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NEW BALER FOR MRF

The BIG step forward for our Cherbourg Recycling Program with the recent arrival of a twin ram baler.

It is the largest baler outside Brisbane installed in a MRF. It is hoped that it will bale nearly twice the density of our previous baler and in 6-8 minutes achieve what was taking us 1.5 hours (we will see)

It also has an automated tie off which is an additional feature where we had a manual system before.



Australia Post

PLEASE NOTE!



- ⇒ Post is collected from Murgon **DAILY**, between **9:30 & 10:30AM**
- ⇒ We will serve mail between **8:45 & 9:30AM**
- ⇒ But **WILL NOT** be serving **NEW** mail until post is COMPLETELY sorted
(11AM at the latest)
- ⇒ We have a register in which details of **EVERY** package that we collect is recorded
(this is to ensure that nothing is misplaced and we can look back to see who the package/s were collected by and on what date).
- ⇒ If your package is with a **COURIER (Star Track, Toll)** it **WILL NOT** arrive at the office until after 1PM
(please be aware that occasionally, packages are not delivered on the expected date)

Your patience & understanding is appreciated
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council - Administration Staff

Cherbourg

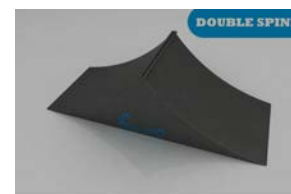
Skate Park Project



Cherbourg Council are calling on community youth to help us design the ultimate Skate and Scooter Park.

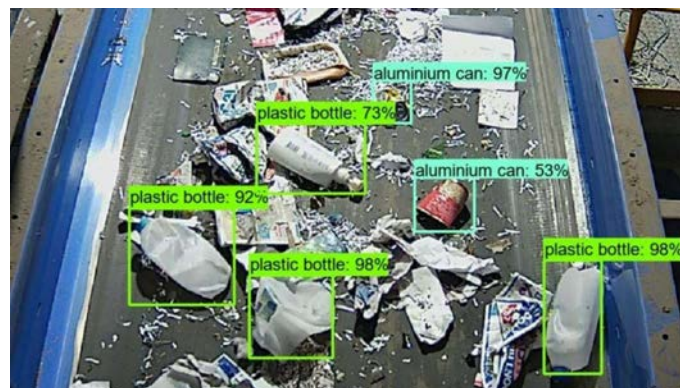
If you have ideas on what the park should include or maybe would like to be part of a project to design and decorate the new park.

Call into council before the end of August 2020 to submit an expression of interest.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROJECT

Cherbourg Council are working in conjunction with SkillCentred, Noosa Council – Peregian Digital Hub, Department of State Development Innovation and Tourism (DSDIT) and ILSC (Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation). As part of the future development of our Cherbourg Material Recycling Facility we will be needing people who are tech savvy to view images of containers and separate them into files which will be used to develop knowledge for visual computers to identify different containers to help us with automated stocktaking. We are looking for people involved with the Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) programs in the 1st instance. Watch this space for future updates.



Remaining Public Holidays for Cherbourg Community Workers 2020

- 10 August 2020 a holiday for the Shire of Cherbourg - Royal Queensland Show
- 16 October 2020 a holiday for the Shire of Cherbourg - Cherbourg Day

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG PROGRAM AT CRAICCHS

During these challenging times we are still offering phone support to people who are using drugs and would like to talk to someone about this.

We can also offer phone support to families who are dealing with a loved one who uses illicit substance by offering education and resources.



FREE CALL 1800 698 600

Sandy 0438 400 399
Adam 0436 312 780



In these tough times, reach out and yarn with us for emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing.

CRAICCHS
Social and Emotional Wellbeing
Counsellors

Jack 0438 425 345
Denise 0438 341 274

Together we are strong
Together we are deadly