**Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP**

**Port Coogee Marina Winter Wine Down**

**Dome Café, Port Coogee**

**Wednesday, 4 August 2021**

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Good evening and welcome to the Port Coogee Marina Winter Wine Down event, the fourth of its type.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar nation the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered and I pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to Indigenous Australians who are with us tonight.

I acknowledge:

* Cr Kevin Allen and his wife Debra;
* Cr Philip Eva JP and his wife Michele;
* Cr Michael Separovich;
* Cr Phoebe Corke;
* My wife Patricia;
* Mr Anton Lees – Chief Operations Officer;
* Ms Gail Bowman – Chief of Community Services;
* Ms Samantha Standish – CoC Marina Manager;
* Mr Jonathan McKay – CoC Marina & Coastal Engineering Officer;
* Ms Clare Courtauld – CoC Waste Education Coordinator;
* Ms Serena Kipling – Port Coogee Community Association;
* Mr Andrew Wright – Stem 2 Stern Marina;
* Mr Glen Whisson – Aqua Research & Monitoring Services;
* Pen holders;
* One and all.

The purpose of tonight’s event is to provide marina penholders with relevant information about the marina’s activities and to provide the opportunity for pen holders to meet and socialize with other marina pen holders and those who manage the marina.

While marina’s offer a safe haven for vessels they also come with a level of responsibility for all who use them – the expectation that everyone will do the right thing, follow the rules and respect all users as a minimum can sometimes be challenging.

Leaving the marina brings about new expectations and responsibilities as one enters the open seas – interestingly the recent weather with universal whitecaps saw several rescues by the Cockburn Sea Rescue crew at a time when no-one should have been out in open waters.

Tonight’s exchange of information will continue the process of informing all pen holders and others associated with the use of the marina and the opportunity to ask questions.

Expansion of the number of pens that will commence this month will see the growing number of people take up the lease offerings and continue the need for further expansion of the pen numbers over time. Each expansion adds to the value and vibrancy of Port Coogee – there is nothing better than owning a property overlooking a marina, or just walking past, or having a coffee and seeing the number and type of vessels tied up at their moorings. Of course when I compare the coastline south of the river and the dynamics of the types of shipping using the waterways, the islands off the coast and other water based activities it is far superior to what is available north of the river.

So sit back and enjoy the presentations and the opportunity to ask questions and to network tonight. Thank you.