

## MEDIA RELEASE

## Date: Monday, 27 August, 2018

## Community and Council work together to improve park

A group of volleyball-loving migrants received a big surprise when they turned up for their regular game a fortnight ago.

Sitting around the volleyball court they had voluntarily set-up in Biloela's Possum Park was a range of unloved concrete table and chairs.

The outdoor furniture, which had previously been scattered around the park in Tiamby Street, had been relocated by Banana Shire's Parks and Gardens gang.

Earlier this month, a Banana Shire's Parks and Gardens gang employee noticed the volleyball court set up in the heart of Possum Park, cemented posts and all.

He wanted to find out more about how the court had suddenly appeared in the park and after talking to a few people discovered that a group of migrant meatworkers had built the court themselves and every Sunday held a series of matches.

Keen to find out more, he turned up one Sunday and was astonished to discover a crowd of nearly 40 people congregated around the court.

He also noticed numerous old concrete tables and chairs dotted around the park. So he took the initiative to have his work crew relocate the outdoor furniture to the surrounds of the court.

Adam Burling, who has lived in Netley St, opposite the park for six years, is full of praise for Council's parks and gardens gang.

"The tables and chairs rarely get used and when I noticed Council picking them up with a forklift, I feared they were being removed," Mr Burling said.

Mr Burling went over to talk with the Council employees and discovered why the furniture was being moved.

"What the guys have achieved is fantastic."

Now the old tables and chairs are well used by the people enjoying the sporting spectacle taking place.