

CABOOLTURE HERALD 26.03.13.

Tree chop over 'litter'

GLENN ROBERTS
glenn.roberts@news.com.au

MORETON Bay Regional Council has been accused of wasting money by sending a crew to cut down a tree at Woorim instead of using the resources to keep Bribie Island clean.

The attack came from Woorim resident Diane Oxenford after the council cut down a cadaghi tree in Arcadia Ave last Wednesday, in the face of opposition from some residents.

"Council should be cleaning up plastic bags, cans, bottles and fast food rubbish left by litterbugs who visit Woorim instead of chopping down trees because of 'leaf litter'," Mrs Oxenford said.

She also accused the council of falsely stating on its website that the tree harmed native bees when scientific evidence disputed this.

The cadaghi is a rainforest tree native to north Queensland but the MBRC says it is an environmental weed.

The council's website says: "It is reported that the resin and seeds clog up native bee



DOWN: The cadaghi tree in Arcadia Ave, before and after.

hives, thus endangering their survival."

The website also says the leaves can become covered with an "exudate" that becomes covered in black sooty mould. Mrs Oxenford pointed to www.australiannativebees.com which said the trees did not harm bees.

Councillor Gary Parsons

(Div 1) had no misgivings, saying the council was just following through on a decision it made in 2007.

Cr Parsons said the species was suited to rainforest, but not to streets because of the potential to drop large branches in storms.

Cr Parsons said 50-60 trees would be planted there.

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