

Council News

Mayors Column

Lifter for Essendon

It is with pleasure that I can report that the Passenger Lifter for Essendon Airport has been ordered and will be delivered in the coming week or so.

I sincerely thank the Lions Club and the dedicated and hardworking members for taking on this project in such a driven manner. The grants they have raised, along with the amazing amount donated to the Lions for this project by you, the public, make the purchase of this lifter possible. At a cost of around \$21,000, over \$18,000 has been contributed through the Lions. Council has allocated funds to cover the smaller remaining cost.

So often in the Islands, to get the outcomes we all desire, we must work together to achieve them and this project is yet another wonderful example of the strength and support that exists within this Community.

This lifter will complete the trio of lifters already situated at the Launceston and Flinders terminals.

March Meeting decisions

Planning

Approved:

A Solar farm of up to 200kW and associated infrastructure including battery storage and switching gear to be installed around the power station at Thule Road.

A subdivision of 2 Lots in the Rural Zone at Harleys Road, Whitemark.

Refused:

A subdivision of 3 Lots in the Rural Zone within the Ecologically Sensitive and the Shorelines, Water Bodies and Watercourses Special Areas at West End.

Palana Speed Limit

The speed limit entering Palana will be reduced to 50 km/h in line with town speed limits in Tasmania.

The limit will be reduced to 20 km/h for the piece of road from the existing speed limit sign closest to the boat ramp to the boat ramp – a distance of approximately 0.7 km.

Whitemark Foreshore

Council adopted the Whitemark Foreshore Recreation Area Master Plan and approved the installation of a gas BBQ, shelter and picnic tables for this financial years works. The exercise equipment from the Healthy Islands Project will also be installed as a part of the Foreshore development. The new infrastructure will be installed in the area to the north of the boat ramp. The current shelter known as the Opera House will be dismantled due to safety issues.

Risk Management

Council adopted a Risk Management Framework and amended the Risk Management Policy. The Policy is open to public comment for 28 days and may be viewed at the Council offices or on Council's website.

Other

The Employee Recruitment Policy that has been out for public comment was adopted.

Flinders Council's commitment of three years of funding to Northern Tasmania Development (NTD), the regional body that assists in alliance of the eight northern Councils, together as a region, was confirmed.

Shipping

Chiller/Freezer Shipping Containers

The Shipping Committee has recommended that the containers be removed from service one at a time for maintenance. Furneaux Freight has indicated this could cause an issue with the transport of chilled and frozen goods.

The four containers are now three years old and one in particular has sustained damage during transit operations. To maintain the

integrity of the containers, servicing and maintenance is necessary.

These four containers were purchased new, for the community, from the unexpended State Government Furneaux Shipping Contingency Fund in 2011, to mitigate the health and food quality issues that occurred with the transport of frozen and chilled goods in the old containers. The new containers are owned by Council and used by Furneaux Freight for the purpose of moving chilled and frozen goods in a safe manner to and from the Islands.

Matthew Flinders III

The Committee was also advised that with the "Matthew Flinders III" now back on the run the backlog of livestock to be shipped will be negligible by the time you read this.

Shipping Contingency Fund

The Committee has recommended that the unexpended State Government Shipping Contingency Funding for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 years be utilised to complete the concreting and hard paving of the heavy use areas of the port. The Committee recognises that the funds provided by the State Government can best be used to complete the works required in the port area to a high standard. Once Council ratifies the recommendation, application will be made to DIER for the unexpended contingency funds to be allocated to Council for this purpose.

The State Government Shipping Contingency Funding is an annual allocation made by the State to ensure the provision of a shipping service to the Islands. It is equivalent to the funds that used to be paid for a contracted shipping service to the Islands. When Furneaux Freight was established they chose not to enter into a formal contract with the State Government to provide the service to Flinders but do receive funding support to provide the monthly service to Cape Barren Island from the Contingency Fund. With the consistent service provided to Flinders by Furneaux Freight, the unexpended Contingency Funding, if not required to support a shipping crisis, is made available by the

State Government to put towards projects that support the safe and efficient shipping of cargo between the Furneaux Group and mainland Tasmania. In the past this has been used to support the upgrade of the working port area and the purchase of the shipping containers used to transport the islands chilled and frozen food goods.

This year a portion of the fund has also been spent on an update of the 2010 Review on the Furneaux Shipping task. This study is currently being undertaken by DIER.

Membership

The Transport and Commerce representative positions are vacant and I encourage nominations for these positions. The Shipping Committee is the advisory committee to Council on Shipping and input from community sectors is important. I thank retiring members Michael Bowman and Mick Barrett for their input into the committee.

Community representation on the committee is through your Livestock, TFGA, Transport and Commerce representatives.

DIER and Tasports are also members of the committee.

Dogs

Council has had the displeasure of having to fine a dog owner for not controlling their dog.

The legislation requires that your dog is in your control (not just accompanying you) at all times when in a public space. Roaming dogs continue to be an issue on the island and all dog owners should be aware that Council is taking the matter seriously and will fine owners if dogs are found to be uncontrolled in a public area.

Dogs are not allowed inside any business premises or areas where food is being served, even if on a leash.

Your enjoyment of your dog should not be at someone else's expense or discomfort.

Agendas, Minutes, News and more can be found on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au

Carol Cox

Mayor

FLINDERS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council will be held at the Flinders Art and Entertainment Centre Whitemark, Flinders Island on:

**Thursday 10th April 2014,
commencing at 1.00pm.**

The Agenda will be available for perusal on our Council Website

www.flinders.tas.gov.au or at the Council Office as from Friday 4th April 2014.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm.

Members of the public are invited to attend.

Raoul Harper

General Manager

Council's Policy Manual is an important document of Council as it provides direction to Staff, Management and Councillors. Many of the policies are required by, or relate to, legislation and in most instances help manage Council's exposure to risk.

Council resolved at the 13th March 2014 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the **Risk Management Policy**. This policy will lie on the table for public comment until the 14th April 2014. A copy is available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies or a hardcopy is available from the Council Office.

Should you wish to make comment on this policy please do so by addressing relative correspondence to the General Manager.

Call out for Possum / Cat Traps

Council has had a lot of requests lately to borrow possum/cat traps and there seems to be none available to lend. If there are any farmers out there who have any of the old NRM traps they are no longer using, could they please return them to the Works Depot, Parks and Wildlife Office or the local Vet office. Thank you

CALL FOR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Nominations from the public are called for each of the following vacancies on the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee of Council:

- 1/ Commerce representative and
- 2/ Transport representative

Nominees should be able to articulate the shipping needs of the sector they are applying to represent.

The committee meets quarterly and is the vehicle for interaction with the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Roads (DIER), Tasports and Council on shipping related issues. Other parties represented on the committee are, Livestock agents, TFGA and Cape Barren Island. This is an advisory group to the Flinders Council.

Nominations can be sent to the Committee Chair:

Carol Cox, Mayor

Flinders Council

PO Box 40

Whitemark TAS 7255

Or via email to

executive.assistant@flinders.tas.gov.au

Carol Cox

Mayor

WHITEMARK TIP

Opening Hours

MON, FRI & SUN 1.30pm- 4.30pm

WED 8.30am– 11.30am



CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Littering at Public Disposal Receptacles

Our earlier plea for people to use the transfer bins at Killiecrankie and the Whitemark Tip responsibly, and in line with the signage posted next to the bins, continues to be ignored by some users. **Section 9** (listed below) of the Litter Act of Tasmania outlines the penalties Council can enforce for illegal use of these bins. If the transfer bins continue to be used for illegal dumping, Council will have no alternative but to impose the prescribed fines to recover the costs of waste removal that are currently being borne by all ratepayers.

Part 9 (2) (A to E) and (3) (A & B) are particularly relevant to Transfer Stations and litter bins supplied by Council for public use. I have provided these sections from the Act as excerpts below this notice.

Please note that a penalty unit is currently \$130.00.

As an example, the transfer bins at Killiecrankie were both completely filled by one inconsiderate person with an assortment of cardboard boxes, builders waste, concrete bags and plastic bins. The fine associated with this act could be some \$6500.

The staff time and cost was a huge impost on Council, not to mention the litter that accumulated around the bins from this thoughtless act. This will not be tolerated in the future and if caught, Council will impose the full fine possible.

Please only use the transfer bins for normal household waste.

B Barnewall

Manager Works & Services

9. Littering offences

(1) A person must not deposit litter in any public place except in a receptacle that the owner or controller of the public place has provided for litter.

Penalty:

Fine not exceeding –

(a) if the litter consists only of a single item of personal litter, 2 penalty units; or

(b) if paragraph (a) of this penalty does not apply but the litter does not exceed 55 litres in volume, 20 penalty units; or

(c) if the litter exceeds 55 litres in volume, 50 penalty units.

(2) A person must not, in a public place, deposit litter in any receptacle provided for litter if it is, or reasonably ought to be, evident to the person that –

(a) from markings on the receptacle or elsewhere at the public place, the receptacle is not a suitable receptacle for litter of that nature; or

(b) from the nature of the litter or receptacle, the receptacle is not a suitable receptacle for the litter; or

(c) the receptacle is already full; or

(d) the receptacle has insufficient space, or remaining space, to hold the litter; or

(e) the receptacle is undergoing repairs or maintenance, is sealed or is otherwise temporarily unavailable for use as a receptacle for litter.

Penalty:

Fine not exceeding –

(a) if the litter consists only of a single item of personal litter, 2 penalty units; or

(b) if paragraph (a) of this penalty does not apply but the litter does not exceed 55 litres in volume, 20 penalty units; or

(c) if the litter exceeds 55 litres in volume, 50 penalty units.

(3) A person must not, in a public place, deposit litter in any receptacle provided for litter if –

(a) it is, or reasonably ought to be, evident to the person from the nature of the litter that the litter is of household or commercial origin; and

(b) there are no markings on the receptacle to indicate that it is for litter of household or commercial origin.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding –

(a) if the litter does not exceed 55 litres in volume, 20 penalty units; or

(b) if the litter exceeds 55 litres in volume, 50 penalty units.

Calling For Expressions of Interest

Flinders Council is seeking expressions of interest for the sale and removal of the house located at the Whitemark Airport - 353 Palana Rd.

Written expressions of interest will be received by the COB on Friday 11th April 2014 at the Council Offices and addressed to the:

Airport Manager, Flinders Council,
4 Davies st. Whitemark, TAS 7255

For inspections and /or further details please contact the Airport Manager, **Jeff Grace** on 0428592144

Community Development

Recreational and Community Facilities Audit

In the last few months Council staff have been working with a consultant, Tim Phillips, to prepare a detailed assessment of our recreational and community facilities and prepare a draft infrastructure plan for Council's consideration. It is intended that this plan will help guide and inform investment decisions in our community's recreational and community assets on Flinders Island to ensure the investment in our assets is strategic and efficient. It is planned that the draft plan will go to the April Ordinary meeting of Council in the first instance, prior to a community consultation process for further community feedback and input prior to finalisation. Post the April Council meeting, the draft report will be available via download from our website and a hard copy can also be requested. Please get involved and help shape the final report and plan.

Actively Flinders! Free 5 week Health & Well-being Program

Kick-start your fitness plans this autumn by getting involved in the **free Actively Flinders program**. This five week program

will include informative presentations; free personal training sessions; take home programs & equipment and positive ideas for healthy meals. Actively Flinders is open to all ages and abilities and is due to commence mid-April.

Local Physiotherapist David Heap and Personal Trainer/Fitness Leader Kathleen Ives-Heap will guide participants through the 5-week program. Sessions will be held at various locations on Flinders Island. If you have any questions about the program please contact Kathleen on 0428 212 751.

Places are limited so please get in quick! If you are interested in this FREE program and you are keen to make a change for the better, please make your booking by contacting Jana Harper 6359 5001 or email: community.development@flinders.tas.au

Please note members of the community that are interested in this program but are unable to attend the 5-week course, please feel free to still contact us to express your interest. This will help us with future planning for health and wellbeing initiatives and potential funding opportunities in this field.

This program is available through a Council received grant funded by the Australian Government through Tasmania Medicare Local.

Cabaret Call Out! It's Show Time!!!

Well not quite yet, but plans are already in progress for the 80th anniversary of the Flinders Island Show. The theme this year will be Celebrating Family Farming. The Show Society is looking for interested community groups who would like to take on running the Cabaret this year. There are also plans by the Show Society to submit funding applications to support bringing a band over. If you belong to a community group who would be interested in partnering with the Show Society to help bring a band to our show and to also run the Cabaret as a fundraising activity for your group, please contact us on 6359 5001 or email: community.development@flinders.tas.au

Autumn School Holiday Program

We have some exciting activities being planned for the Autumn School Holiday Program. Dorset Council is bringing over a small group of students over the April School Holiday break for a leadership camp and Flinders Council staff will be working with Dorset to organise activities for young people from grade 7 and over. Junior activities will also be offered. Please note to receive our sms notification service on up and coming youth activities you need to have registered your child/children for the 2014 School Holiday Program. For forms please go to www.flinders.tas.gov.au/school-holiday-program or contact Community Development Staff at Council on 6359 5001.

Farm Finance Concessional Loans Scheme (Tasmania)

David Dunn, Farm Finance Liaison Officer, will be visiting Flinders Island April 9th - 11th to provide information on the Farm Finance Concessional Loan Scheme. David will be able to meet with you at a convenient time, either at your property/business, or in Whitemark. Please phone David Dunn on 6332 1800 to arrange an appointment. (Please see below under 'Grants' for more information on this Scheme.)

New Online Community Calendar

Have you checked out our new calendar yet? Please visit the website and take a look: <http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-calendar/>

The new and improved online Community Calendar has been designed and developed for you to add, edit and display events. If you belong to a community group that holds events, you will now be able to manage your own events list on the Flinders Council website with your own log on and password. Please contact us if you would like to find out more: community.development@flinders.tas.gov.au or call (03) 6359 5001.

Community Bus Volunteer Drivers Needed

Can you spare any time to help as a driver for our community bus? Costs for licensing

will be provided. For more information, please contact Rosemary Amos by phoning 6359 8463 if you would like to find out more.

GRANTS

There are currently a variety of grants available that may be applicable to local community groups and organisations. Below are a list of the grants and their links for you to have a look at. If you have an idea or project we suggest you contact the funding body to discuss your eligibility and application.

1. Aboriginal Benefits Foundation www.aboriginal.org.au/grants

Grant Applications are considered by the board of the foundation at each directors meeting. The board currently meets approximately 6-8 times per year.

2. First Home Owners Grant (FHOG) and First Home Builder Boost (FHBB)

www.sro.tas.gov.au Applicants can receive \$7,000 for the FHOG for a new or established dwelling including a house, flat, unit, townhouse or apartment anywhere in Tasmania that meets local planning standards. The existing \$8,000 First Home Builder Boost (the Boost) has been increased to \$23,000. The new Boost applies to eligible applicants with contracts entered into between these dates 7 November 2013 and 31 December 2014.

3. Arts Tasmania Offers Funding Programs www.arts.tas.gov.au

There are a range of grant opportunities available through Arts Tasmania at different times throughout the year.

4. Tasmanian Jobs and Growth Plan www.investment.infrastructure.gov.au

The Australian Government has announced \$106 million in funding for the Tasmanian Jobs and Growth Plan, for projects which support the economic development of Tasmania. The Tasmanian Jobs and Growth Plan is an initiative which complements the Government's *Economic Growth Plan for Tasmania*—a package of measures aimed at stimulating Tasmania's

economy by supporting growth and employment.

5. Farm Finance Concessional Loans Scheme (Tasmania)

www.development.tas.gov.au

The Australian Government will provide \$15 million per year (a total of \$30 million over two years from 2013-14) for the provision of Concessional Loans to eligible farm businesses in Tasmania for productivity enhancement or debt restructuring purposes. In Tasmania, the Concessional Loans Scheme will assist farm businesses experiencing debt-servicing difficulties but considered potentially viable in the longer term.

6. NRMA Community Grants

www.communitygrantsprogram.com.au/

The NRMA Insurance Community Grants Program supports this by providing grants of up to \$5,000 to community projects in the areas of crime prevention, road safety, emergency readiness and response and the environment. Closes 31 March 2014

7. The Tasmanian Community Fund (TCF) www.tascomfund.org

The latest general grant round opened on 8 February 2014. A wide range of projects which support children and young people; community wellbeing and life skills; community participation and recreation; connecting communities; and culture, arts and heritage are eligible to be funded by not-for-profit organisations proposing to undertake a project in Tasmania. Applications for small grants close on 2 April 2014 and applications for medium grants close on 16 April 2014.

8. Grants for Rural Communities – www.frrr.org.au

The program offers at least \$400,000 per round in grants up to \$5,000 for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities, with populations of 10,000 or less, living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their

development in social and community. Closes 28 March 2014

9. Australian Disability and Indigenous Peoples' Education Fund

www.adipef.org.au

The Australian Disability and Indigenous Peoples' Education Fund (ADIPEF) will assist indigenous and non-indigenous people with disability to participate in both formal and informal education programs through small grants. Closes 31st March 2014

10. Grants for Grassroots

www.commbank.com.au

We're also offering 90 Grant Packages to help community clubs. Each grant will include an equipment pack to assist with training and \$1,000 cash. One club in need will have their grant upgraded to a special **\$10,000 Super Grant**. Applications close 15 August 2014

11. Sport and Recreation Tasmania 2013/14 Grants Programs

www.development.tas.gov.au

Sport and Recreation Tasmania provides funding to increase opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation in Tasmania, and to assist the ongoing development of Tasmania's sport and active recreation sector. In 2013-14, funding will be available through five grant programs. Clubs, not-for-profit organisations and local government entities that provide sport and active recreation opportunities to the Tasmanian community are invited to apply.

You can also subscribe to a grant alert list to receive emailing notifications by emailing:

1. cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au or

2. healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au

Alternatively check out grants information online, here are some suggestions:

1. www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list

2. www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx

Thank you,
Dolly Wheatley & Jana Harper
Community Development