

# Council News

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

### **The Gunn Bequest and Community Grants:**

The Gunn Bequest is a bequest from Enid and John Gunn. The bequest was invested and a portion of the annual interest reinvested each year to grow the bequest, the remainder of the interest being allocated to assist sporting groups in the Municipality.

In addition to the Gunn Bequest, Council allocates in the vicinity of \$10,000 from general funds annually to local community groups as Community Grants.

Applications are now open to both these funding opportunities, closing on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Road Stabilisation Project:**

The stabilisation of sections of gravel and sealed roads will have been completed by the time you read this. In the coming couple of weeks sealing of the surface of the following stabilised areas will occur: 1.4km of the Port Davey Road, 1km of the Coast Road; 700m near Pickford Hill and all the patches on the Lackrana, Lady Barron and Lagoon roads. Previous work at the airport has also been successful.

Please slow down and drive to conditions where road works are taking place.

### **Health Funding:**

Flinders Council, through joining a consortium led by the RFDS, is one of 21 Councils in Tasmania that have received funding for primary health through the Primary Health Tasmania tendering process.

The funding is for eighteen months and enables provision for a Rural Health Worker, Mental Health Worker and an Exercise Physiologist. The three new roles will work closely with the local GPs and other health professionals to provide coordinated care to people with chronic conditions and support

them to stay healthy and out of hospital. More news soon on how these services will be delivered.

### **Northern Tasmania Economic Stimulus Package:**

Council has been successful with its application for \$1.4 million of interest free borrowings under this State Government initiative. The state government program enables Councils to access funding to bring forward capital works. In line with its Strategic Plan and long term Asset Management Plan, Council identified future projects that it would be capable of undertaking earlier if funded. Funding was approved for works at the Whitemark landfill site, including the construction of a new cell to take putrescible waste; a BBQ and public toilets at the North East River and at The Corner on Cape Barren Island; the Whitemark entrance enhancement project; stabilisation of gravel roads; bringing bridge railings up to current specifications and the Township footpath program.

The funding is through an interest free loan to Council, the State Government paying the interest, and Council to repay the loan at the date the projects were previously planned to be undertaken in the long term Asset Management Plan.

### **Rose Garden:**

The roses are still blooming strongly, thanks to the loving care of the garden undertaken by council staff and community members. It is well worth a visit.

### **Annual Plan Input:**

In the next few weeks or so Council staff will be developing our Annual Plan for 2017/18 which in turn will feed into the budget process. During the year, Councillors and staff have thought of ideas and heard of suggestions from community members that can potentially be included for consideration. So if you have a thought or project in mind that is worthy of consideration please contact

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the Council Office over the next month so that your suggestion can be considered. All ideas are welcome.

## **FITBI Destination Action Plan**

Congratulations to Mick Grimshaw and the FITBI Team for the terrific work that has been undertaken in preparing a Destination Action Planning Process for a coordinated approach to improving the visitor experience. A flyer has already been mailed out further describing the terrific initiative to capitalise on and strengthen Tasmania's visitor economy. Ours is one of 32 key Destination Action Plans (DAP) that are being developed across Tasmania as part of the State's **Tasmanian Visitor Economy Strategy**. Please feel free to seek out further information through FITBI and have an input.

## **Flinders Island Destination Action Plan – Premier's Visit and Public Event**

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March the Tasmanian Premier and Tourism Minister Will Hodgeman, together with Treasurer Peter Gutwein, Michael Ferguson Minister for Health, Information, Technology and Innovation, will be arriving to launch the Flinders Island Destination Action Plan and the 2017-2020 Flinders Island marketing campaign. There will be a public event at the Furneaux Arts and Entertainment Centre at 4.30pm.

## **Grant Writing Workshop**

A reminder that Council is still taking registrations for this free event on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 6-8 pm, to be held at the Strzelecki Room MPC. Contact 6359 5012 to register.

## **Hydro Tasmania Community Grant Program:**

The new Program offers six grants of up to \$5,000 for not-for-profit community organisations to fund projects that showcase grassroots groups and volunteers working hard in their community and support them to achieve great outcomes. Applications are open now and close at

5pm on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The grants will be awarded in July.

Eligible applicants include: charities, community service organisations, school associations or parent bodies, councils, sporting groups and cultural groups. Go to <https://www.hydro.com.au/community/community-program/community-grant-program>, for the application form, and more information about funding criteria, eligibility and handy hints.

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**

## **DOGS**

Dog owners are reminded that all dogs MUST be tied on to the back of a ute when travelling. The *Dog Control Act 2000* states, under section 16 (3) that the owner or person in charge of a dog must restrict the dog sufficiently while it is in or on a vehicle so that it is unable to leave the vehicle or attack any person or animal outside the vehicle. The associated fine is between \$157.00 and \$785.00 (1-5 penalty units)

The Animal Welfare (Dogs) Regulations 2016 (effective 1 January 2017) also include provisions for dogs on utes:

Under section 14 (2) A person with care or charge of a dog must ensure that, while the dog is being transported (b) if the dog is being transported on the back of a vehicle or trailer, the dog is tethered or restrained so as to prevent the dog from falling, or hanging, off the side of the vehicle or trailer.

The penalty associated with this section is up to \$3140.00 (20 penalty units)

## **WHITEMARK TIP**

Opening Hours

SUN, MON, FRI - 1.30pm to 4.30pm

TUES, THURS - 7.00am to 10.00am

WEDNESDAY - 8.30am to 11.30am

**CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

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## Ordinary Council Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council will be held at the Furneaux Arts & Entertainment Centre Whitemark, Flinders Island, on **Thursday 23rd<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, commencing at **1pm**.

The Agenda will be available for perusal on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au) and at the Council Office from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend.

## POSITIONS VACANT

### Casual Cleaner

Up to 40 hrs per fortnight. Clean and maintain council facilities to ensure high level of hygiene. To apply, please contact Sophie Pitchford on 6359 5001 or [sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au)  
Applications close Friday 31 March 2017.

### Receptionist

To be the Face of Council – the initial point of contact for customers, visitors and Councillors, including those who enter the office, send emails or contact via telephone. Casual position (with the possibility of permanency) of 2 days a week with the flexibility to work additional days as and when required.

To apply, please contact Sophie Pitchford on 6359 5001 or [sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au) for a position description.  
Applications close Friday 7 April 2017.

### Policy to be Adopted

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 16th February 2017 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the **Public Question Time – Council Meetings Policy** and the **Public Question Time – Council Meetings Procedure**.

The policy will lie on the table for public comment until the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017. They are available to download from the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies) and hardcopies are available from the Council Office. Should you wish to make comment on any of these policies, please address relative correspondence to the General Manager.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS AND GUNN BEQUEST

Applications for funding are now being sought from Community Groups for Community Grants and sporting organisations under the Gunn Bequest. Applications received will be considered by Council as part of the budget process for the next financial year.

Written applications for both grants, using the forms available from the Council Office or the Council website <http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-grants-and-awards> will be received no later than C.O.B. Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April and should be addressed to: General Manager, Flinders Council, PO Box 40, Whitemark, TAS 7255.



There are still places available for the Kayaking come and try days

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of March** Allports Beach

Instructors, kayaks and equipment provided.

Registration essential ph: 6359 5012