

MAYOR'S COLUMN

January Meeting Outcomes

Policies: "The Waiver of Fees" and "Citizen of the Year Award" Policies were deemed adopted there being no submissions received during the public consultation period.

Furneaux Aviation Special Committee Membership recommendation to inquiry:

A draft submission was recommended by the Aviation Special Committee and will be finalised by a working group for submission by the 5 February to "The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities" inquiry by the Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee.

Information can be found at [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary Business/Committees/Senate/Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport/RegionalAirRoutes](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural_and_Regional_Affairs_and_Transport/RegionalAirRoutes) with submissions due on the 5th February.

Fees & Charges: were amended to remove negotiable "Locally Based Charter Operations – Annual Fee" from the Council's 2017/18 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

FITBI nomination for National Tourism Award:

Council wishes FITBI every success at the Qantas National Awards in Perth, WA and congratulates it and all the volunteers behind the operation of FITBI for being a finalist in the Destination Marketing Tourism section. FITBI won the Destination Marketing Award at the Tourism Tasmania Awards for its "Flinders Island Destination Action Plan". Council however declined to assist with travel expenses for a representative to attend the award ceremony.

Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee Membership:

Council ratified the appointment of Mr Grant Hall as the Farmers' Representative on this Committee. A position for Community Representation was also added to the membership of the committee and nominations for this position are advertised for elsewhere in this edition.

Reports:

The 2nd Quarterly Report and the Resolution Report were received. The quarterly report records the actions that staff have achieved against the Annual Plan actions allotted to them. The Resolution Report outlines the work achieved in completing actions outlined in Council motions.

Both these reports can be found as Annexures to the Agenda on the Council website and make interesting and detailed reading for those interested in the activities of Council and the massive amount of work achieved by the small staff.

Also accessible on the website as annexures to the agenda are the unconfirmed minutes of the Whitemark Community Gym Special Committee,

the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee; the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee and the Audit Panel.

The quarterly report on the operations of the Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation of which Council is a share-holder was also received.

Island Housing

The recent article in the Age highlighting the housing shortage on the Island has caused some discussion locally. Council has been aware of the housing shortage for some time and I quote as reported in the quarterly report mentioned above:

"(Council) In conjunction with FITBI, prepared a Project Brief for a Housing Needs analysis. Through Sarah Courtney MP sought and obtained State Government assistance with the State Government deciding to undertake a review through the Office of the Coordinator General. They have engaged a consultant to undertake in the first instance an accommodation housing review and will follow up later with a separate tourism review."

Furneaux Islands Festival

I want to sincerely thank Council's Community Development staff for their attention to detail and work over the Festival weekend, making sure all the events occurred as planned.

The staff's efforts underpinned the work of the Festival Committee in bringing the program together for the event that Council and FIAAI partnered to bring to you.

What a great weekend of events it was, all very successful with Council's aim for ALL community members to come together, with goodwill and respect.

Council has previously approved funding for the Festival on a year to year basis and will in the coming months develop a policy around an annual Furneaux Islands Festival.

When the policy is presented for public comment I encourage you to make comment so that we can be sure that this is you the community's festival.

****Councillor Allowances Review: (Submissions due 16/2/18)**

I apologise for any inconvenience caused due to wrong information being given as to where to gain more information on the Councillor Allowances Review. The correct information is given in this issue.

The Tasmanian Industrial Commission is undertaking a review of councillor allowances and has released the Issues paper identifying the issues which need to be determined as outlined in the Terms of Reference which are:

- The statutory roles of the respective offices of mayor, deputy mayor and councillor;
- The appropriateness of setting allowances by council type/size given the need to ensure good

governance while balancing councils' financial sustainability and the interests of ratepayers;

(c) Any significant changes to the role or functions of local government since the last review;

(d) The method of indexing allowances each year;

(e) Whether an additional allowance should be made available to councillors who undertake training in governance relevant to local government or who have recognised experience in governance relevant to local government;

(f) The capacity of local government to attract potential future candidates; and

(g) Any other factors considered relevant.

The Board is to have regard to the range of allowances it will recommend being effective for a period of four years.

Full information can be found at www.tic.tas.gov.au or by contacting

Ms Alex Johnston (Primary contact)

Ph: (03) 6165 6775

Email: tic@justice.tas.gov.au

Grant opportunity: (Closes 23 February 2018)

Funding of up to \$50,000 (\$400,000 in total) is available for eligible projects, initiatives, events and/or services that support the Population Growth Strategy's three key pillars, including, but not limited to:

- programs, campaigns, or expos to help business or industry recruit skilled staff;
- initiatives to help retain local talent in the state or support local employment outcomes for international students;
- projects to help improve the liveability of Tasmania's communities; and
- employment programs or social enterprises designed to promote positive outcomes for Tasmania's migrant communities.

To access the Guidelines and to apply online, visit the State Growth website at: https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/policies_and_strategies/populationstrategy

Telecommunications Project

Telstra have been working steadily behind the scenes in final design, detailed planning and programming for construction of the planned Telecommunications upgrade. The first obvious sign of progress locally is the safe arrival of 4 bulldozers which will assist in undertaking the work.

Carol Cox

MAYOR

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the first Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Thursday 15 February 2018 commencing at 1pm.**

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend. The Agenda will be available for perusal from Friday the 09 February 2018 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Bill Boehm

GENERAL MANAGER

CALL FOR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Nominations from the public are called for the position of Community Representative on the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee of Council. The Committee consists of business and community representatives and exists to consider and make recommendations to Council concerning issues related to Shipping.

Nominations will be accepted up to C.O.B. 23 February 2018 and can be sent to the Committee Chair:

Carol Cox, Mayor

Flinders Council

PO Box 40

Whitemark TAS 7255

Or via email to Executive Officer, Vicki Warden at

vicki.warden@flinders.tas.gov.au

Carol Cox

Mayor

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****