

## **MAYOR'S COLUMN:**

### **Roads & Gravel Supplies:**

With the advent of some Autumn rain the works staff have been able to begin the task of grading our gravel roads and replenishing gravel in some areas. The Lughrata gravel pit is now operational having been purchased as a greenfield site around three years ago. Council now owns the two gravel pits, Lughrata (at Emita) and Cannes Hill (at Whitemark), providing a secure island gravel supply that enables it to undertake sheeting work on the Island's gravel roads in a more economic and practical way.

Please slow down, obey the signs and take care when passing through roadwork areas.

### **School Path:**

I would like to commend Jacqui Viney (Planning) and Brian Barnewall (Works and Services) for achieving the grant of \$50,000 from the Dept. of State Growth that enabled Council to develop and seal the path along the School Road making it much safer and easier to use for our young community members. Councillors' agreement to an increase in the capital works budget enabled the staff to complete the development and sealing of the path along Lagoon Road effecting the school to town connection.

Separately, Council will also extend the concrete path along Lagoon Road to link with this new sealed section as part of Council's township footpath upgrade program.

### **Housing Needs Analysis:**

The State Government is undertaking a housing needs analysis for Flinders as a result of lobbying by both Council and FITBI regarding concerns for the lack of long term rental housing on the island. Meetings have been conducted on island and a survey produced. This work is ongoing.

### **Gunn Bequest:**

Thanks to the generosity and foresight of Jack and Enid Gunn who made a bequest to Council to support the island sporting bodies in an ongoing manner, Council has around \$1650, which is 50% of the annual interest, to allocate to community sporting bodies. The remaining 50% being added to the principal to conserve the value of the bequest.

Applications close 20 April. Please refer to the Council website or apply at the office for guidelines and application forms.

### **Community Grants:**

Each year, as it begins the budget process, Council opens its community grants process and this year the grant applications close on 20 April. Community groups interested in receiving assistance from the Council to support a

project/activity they are undertaking for community benefit are welcome to apply.

The grants offered are not huge with a total of around \$8,000 allocated each year depending on the quality and value of the applications received. Again, refer to the website or the Council Office for guidelines and application forms.

### **Local Government Elections:**

The next Local Government Elections will be held in September and October of this year with all seven councillor positions becoming vacant. Voting is by postal vote and successful candidates will be elected for a four year period. If you are thinking about nominating, we would love to see you at a council meeting and there is an information session for candidates to be presented by the Local Government Association of Tasmania here on the Island on 31 May.

### **State Government Assistance: Bass Strait islands air travel concession.**

A rebate of 50 per cent on the cost of one return trip to Northern Tasmania per financial year is available to age pensioners living on the Bass Strait islands who have a DHS or DVA Pensioner Concession Card.

The rebate is claimable through Service Tasmania.

### **School Holiday Program:**

An exciting program is planned for the upcoming school holidays. Check out the flyer that outlines all the events.

### **Food and Crayfish Festival:**

I am looking forward to sampling the extra special food and activities local businesses and community have developed in support of the festival.

See you there.

Carol Cox

**Mayor**

### **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the second Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Friday 19 April 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, 13 April 2018 on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au) and at the Council Office.

**Furneaux Group Shipping & Aviation  
Special Committees Submissions**

The Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee and the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee consist of business and community representatives and exist to consider and make recommendations to Council concerning issues related to Shipping and Aviation. The public are invited to make submissions for consideration by the Committees. Submissions may be sent to Council attention to The Chair of the relevant committee, by close of business Monday 30 April 2018.

**Rural Addressing Numbers**

Those with rural addressing numbers are advised that the condition of the numbers is the responsibility of the land owner. If your street side number is lost, broken or requires replacing, you may purchase new ones from council for \$2 each. New posts can also be purchased for \$40 each.

**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\*\***

**COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Applications for funding are now being sought from Community Groups. Applications received will be considered by Council as part of the budget process for the next financial year.

**GUNN BEQUEST**

Applications for funding are now being sought from sporting organisations under the Gunn Bequest.

These funds are provided to suitable projects for the promotion or improvement of sporting facilities on the Island.

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. Friday 20 April 2018 and should be addressed to:

**General Manager**  
Flinders Council  
PO Box 40  
Whitemark TAS 7255