



MAYOR'S REPORT

Last week marked the, very early, beginning of the bushfire season, when intense warm winds fuelled a known smouldering hotspot into a fierce inferno. The hotspot had been detected a week prior and resulted from a controlled burn conducted in May of this year. Local volunteers swiftly responded and were joined by TasFire and Parks and Wildlife crews from the mainland, bringing with them additional equipment and vehicles.

Fortunately, timely rainfall mitigated the fire's intensity, averting potential disaster. However, the rain, whilst beneficial, disrupted planned backburning and restricted access to certain areas due to the ground being too wet.

Both our General Manager and I had an aerial perspective of the affected area. Witnessing the fire's aftermath was disheartening, seeing tall trees reduced to charcoal stumps and the burnt landscape coming within metres of some residences. There were losses, including a caravan and some sheds, and the toll on wildlife and threatened vegetation will remain unknown.

Preparation for the upcoming summer bushfire season is vital. Predictions foresee a long, hot, dry summer, emphasising the need to maintain your property for bushfire readiness. If you own an older residence that does not have a Bushfire Hazard Management Plan in place, you may seek to have one tailored for your property by contacting an accredited bushfire assessor. The Tasmanian Fire Service website provides invaluable resources, including the Bushfire Safety Guide, aiding in making homes more defensible, creating emergency kits, and formulating evacuation plans. Hardcopies of this guide are available at the Council office for those

unable to access it online. Planning ahead, especially for evacuation and animal care, is vital.

The TFS website also provides community action plans, specifying safe locations for property evacuations. These community plans encompass various localities, ensuring preparedness for all.

The Whitemark Community Gym Special Committee is hosting the annual show weekend cabaret on Saturday, 21st October. We have Hump Entertainment visiting from the mainland and being just over a week from the end of the month, the theme is Halloween. Doors open at 7pm, tickets are \$30. In keeping with the Halloween theme, a trick or treat night for kids is being organised for Tuesday, 31st October. The night will start with a trick or treat around Whitemark and finish up at the hall for a BBQ dinner and a disco. We are still finalising the details but if you are happy to have a hoard of monsters, zombies and superheroes drop in to "trick or treat" you, please let myself (0467 0468 09) or Megan Boyes (6359 5001) know. Thanks.

Rachel Summers | Mayor P. 0467 046 809

E. rachel.summers@flinders.tas.gov.au



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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

Wednesday 25 October 2023 commencing at 1pm.

Public Question Time will be held between 1:00 – 1:30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend.

The Agenda will be available for perusal from Friday 20 October 2023 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Warren Groves
General Manager

CASH 4 CANS SORTING DAYS



**Wednesday, 18 October 2023,
11:15 to 13:30**

**Saturday, 28 October 2023,
10:00 to 12:00**

**Wednesday, 15 November 2023,
11:15 to 13:30**

**Saturday, 25 November 2023,
from 10:00 to 12:00**

All events will take place at the Whitemark Tip.


To get involved, contact Sabrina Carter at wastemanagement@flinders.tas.gov.au or send an SMS to 0456 730 174 with your name and the dates you'd like to attend.

RECYCLING HUB UPDATE

The Community Recycling Hub is already making a big impact. In just ten days, the hub has collected a remarkable 24.672kg of eligible products.

Here are the top-performing programs:

 Cartridges: 7.368 kg

 Battery: 6.066 kg

 Nespresso Capsules: 5.07 kg

 MobileMuster: 4.632 kg

This outstanding effort demonstrates that when we come together, we can significantly reduce valuable resources from ending up in landfill. Thank you for your fantastic support! #RecyclingSuccess #ReduceReuseRecycle

DRUMMUSTER PROGRAM

Council would also like to update you on the DrumMUSTER program. We're in the process of training our staff and sorting through the existing drums, so the use of the DrumMUSTER cage is

temporarily paused. We're working diligently to improve the program for all our residents.

In the near future, we will host dedicated DrumMUSTER drop-off days, complete with a knowledgeable staff member available to assist farmers with filling out the necessary forms and to answer any questions. Farmers with 20 drums or more are encouraged to contact the Waste Management Supervisor, Sabrina Carter, to arrange drop offs.

(wastemanagement@flinders.tas.gov.au or 0456 730 174)



Policies 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 27 September 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the following policies:

- Elected Members' Allowances, Reimbursements and Equipment Policy
- Travel and Accommodation Policy

The policies will lie on the table for public comment until 8th November 2023. It is available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and 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:

Warren Groves
General Manager
PO Box 40
Whitemark TAS 7255



Rates Reminder

**1st Instalment Rates are due
Tuesday 31st October 2023**

Rate Payment options are listed on the back of your Rates Notice and can be paid:

- By Credit Card Online - at Council's website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/make-a-payment
- By Phone – 03 6359 5001 with your Visa or Mastercard.
- By Cheque or Money Order – post to PO Box 40, Whitemark, TAS 7255.
- By BPay – See your rates notice for details.
- By EFT – Electronic Funds Transfer to our bank account – See your rates notice for details.
- In Person – Visit Council's Customer Service Centre, 4 Davies St, Whitemark. Mon-Fri 9.00am – 4.30pm

TELSTRA 'ASK US A TECH QUESTION' DIGITAL LITERACY SESSION

On Thursday 19th October, Telstra will host a Digital Literacy 'Ask us a Tech Question' session – this session is open to everyone.

Come along with questions on anything technical and the team from Telstra will be happy to help.

The session will include a 20-minute presentation on handy tips and tricks, followed by one-on-one help.

Rose Garden Room - Thursday 19th October, 4pm – 5pm



**FLINDERS
COUNCIL**

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)

Flinders Council invites expressions of interest concerning Oregon Beams salvaged from the Lady Barron Fish Factory.

Material Description: The EOI is open for all or some of the available material. There are various sizes and lengths of beams, some of which are up to 15 metres in length. Please note that the timber contains fittings, fixings, and nails in situ, and the structural quality/integrity of the timber is unknown. Storage considerations should be included in your EOI.

Community Use: The material may be provided free of charge if it is to remain on the Island for community purposes.

Commercial Interests: Should a commercial EOI be received, it will be considered by the Council alongside all other offers.

Viewing the Material: The material is available for viewing upon contacting the Council. To arrange a viewing, please contact Office Reception at 63 595 001.

Submission Details: EOIs should be emailed to office@flinders.tas.gov.au, hand-delivered, or posted to:

4 Davies Street, Whitemark

Submissions must be received no later than 20 October 2023.

Warren Groves
General Manager

WHITEMARK TIP – OPENING HOURS

- **Monday** 1.30pm - 4.30pm
- **Tuesday** 7am -10am
- **Wednesday** 8.30am - 11.30am
- **Thursday** 7am -10am
- **Friday** 1.30pm - 4. 30pm
- **Saturday** CLOSED
- **Sunday** 1.30pm - 4.30pm

