

MAYOR'S REPORT

Greetings all,

This is my last report on behalf of the current Council. It has been a hectic four years and I congratulate each and every Councillor on the effort they have put in and for everything they have achieved. From my own point of view, it has been a privilege to represent the Community for the past sixteen years. Thank you for the opportunity. It was all made easier by the amazing support and hard work of Warren Groves, Chris Wilson and all the council staff, both in the office and outdoors. So, thank you all very much.

As I bow out my best wishes go to everyone who is standing in the current Council election. I am sure that our community will be in good hands for the next four years.

I can't go before I also congratulate the Show Committee on the incredible effort they put in to produce our annual Show. After the horrendous weather beforehand, they did a great job ensuring everything looked perfect on the day. Well done indeed! It was, I think, one of the best Shows I have been to.

It was pleasing to see the "anti-fin fish farm" team come over from mainland Tassie for the Show, putting out the message of how toxic such an industry can be and joining our Council and community in making it clear that we won't have such pollution in our pristine waters. Incidentally we have received only a standard acknowledgement of our formal objection to the State Government paper. No Minister or official has taken the time to discuss these critical issues with us. I am sure that our next Council will keep the pressure on.

Biosecurity Tasmania has received funding for a 3 year feral pig control project on Flinders Island and a Steering Committee is being formed to oversee and guide the project. Cr Aaron Burke will be representing Council on that committee

(until the new council is elected) and regular updates will be provided to the Community.

Residents may have noticed that Council has been using gravel to fill the potholes on Lady Barron Rd, south of Lackrana Rd intersection.

Gravel is being used as a short-term solution to the problem of potholes along this section of road for several reasons. The pavement gravel material under the road is waterlogged, so when vehicles travel on it the road bitumen surface flexes. Bitumen cannot flex enough so it starts to break apart and the whole pothole process starts again. Gravel does not flex enough either, but it is cheaper and easier to maintain. However, this is strictly an interim measure as State Growth plan to reconstruct this section of road in the near future.

State Growth has engaged Council to project manage the concrete stabilisation and new bitumen sealing of this section of road. A tender to undertake this work will be advertised shortly. The work is planned to be completed early 2023.

Unfortunately, the continuing and ongoing rain means more maintenance is required than usual.

Finally, it has been really good to see the younger island boat users recently put their hands up to be on the Flinders Boating Special Committee. The result will ensure that the substantial grant we have received will be applied where most useful for the whole boating community. I look forward to hearing the progress made.

Now I'm off for a run!

David Williams | Mayor

GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

At this late stage of the current Council's term, I thought it both appropriate and timely to express my sincere appreciation to the outgoing Councillors for all their dedication, application and unceasing efforts in representing the Community. Having worked so closely with them over the past nearly three years, I have seen them strive in often difficult and sometimes thankless circumstances, to achieve the best outcome for the Community. I have enjoyed their humour, commitment, genuineness and diverse approaches over this time.

I equally wish all candidates for the next Council all the best for their campaigns and look forward to working with the successful Councillors over the next four years.

On Safe Harbour matters, on Monday 24 October 2022 I received a letter from the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts.

I provide the letter below in its entirety for the Communities' information and have underlined the good news in the third and fifth lines for ease of reference. I'm sure you will all agree that this is a good outcome for the Community. More information will be provided regarding the timing of the project as it unfolds.

"Dear Mr Groves.

I am writing to you regarding the Community Development Grants (CDG) program commitments made by the former Australian Government. Your organisation has been identified as having a commitment made under this program which is not yet contracted.

The Australian Government has decided to close the CDG program in line with the broader redesign of regional grant programs announced today. The Government has retained sufficient funds to honour any uncontracted CDG commitments provided that projects are contracted within six months and can be fully delivered by 30 June 2026.

I am pleased to advise that the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department) has been tasked with assessing your project (Safer Harbour) and finalising an executed funding agreement within the next six months.

Please note, if you are unable to execute a funding agreement by 28 April 2023, or if your project cannot be completed by 30 June 2026, this commitment will be withdrawn. If relevant, you will be notified of this withdrawal in writing.

We look forward to working with you to deliver your project for the benefit of your local community. To enable us to progress the assessment of your project, we will be contacting you by telephone and/or email to discuss the next steps in your assessment process, in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, I strongly recommend your organisation does not enter into financial commitments or begin construction work on your project until you execute a funding agreement with the Department, as any expenditure incurred prior to executing an agreement may not be eligible for reimbursement."

Rates Are Due – 31st October 2022 Reminder- Don't Forget!

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 GPO Box 40, Whitemark, TAS 7255.

In Person - Visit Council's Customer Service Centre, 4 Davies St, Whitemark. Mon - Fri 9.00am – 4.30pm

Development Applications



Development applications are advertised on the Flinders Council website every Wednesday and are available for viewing via the link below.

https://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/current-advertising

The ONLINE MAPPING TOOL is back!

For anyone interested in checking out their planning zoning and any applicable overlays, go to: https://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/planning-development/





WHITEMARK TIP - OPENING HOURS

Monday 1.30pm - 4.30pm
 Tuesday 7am -10am

Friday 1.30pm - 4. 30pmWednesday 8.30am - 11.30am

Thursday 7am -10amSaturday CLOSED

• Sunday 1.30pm - 4.30pm

CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAY

