

# Council News

## Mayor's Column

### **June Council Meeting Outcomes:**

*Planning:* Approved the Development Application for a house in the Rural Zone at Lot 2, Armstrong Avenue, Killiecrankie. Adopted the Corporate Credit Card and Debt Collection Policies. All Council's Policies can be found in the Policy Manual on the website.

*Audit Panel:* Approved the Audit Panel's Charter, Work Plan and Meeting Procedures.

### **Strategic Plan:**

The Draft Strategic Plan will be launched for public comment post Councillors' final discussion on the document at the workshop this week.

Community input into this document is important and I encourage you all to read it and provide comments back to Council to inform the final contents of the plan.

### **2015-16 Budget:**

The Budget and Annual Plan will be on the July Council Meeting Agenda.

Councillors have discussed the draft budget at workshops, and a part of the budgeting process is considering fees and charges. There are proposed increases to the fees to be applied to planning and building applications and permits to reduce the amount of cross subsidization of building and planning from other forms of Council income.

Illegal building works will attract the largest fee increase as it is proposed to introduce a penalty charge for permits that apply to illegal developments - that is \$500 per permit will be charged on top of the normal fees for those permits that are not in place before the build. **Planning your development and applying for permits prior to starting the build or development will save both you and the Council a lot of extra work and expense.**

A \$10 increase to \$30 for the registration of a non-sterilized dog that is not classified as a working dog is proposed. An increase of \$20 to \$120 is proposed for a dog classified as a dangerous dog. Other dog fees are proposed to remain unchanged.

Many of the other charges are proposed to remain unchanged or increase only by CPI.

The draft budget includes continuing capital improvements to Council Infrastructure. Operational expenditure has been constrained to more closely match actual income. The 2015-16 Annual Plan will outline the work plan for Council for the 2016 financial year and this will be considered at the July Council Meeting. There is a strong directive from the Auditor General that Councils must budget for an Underlying Operational Profit and the proposed budget brings Flinders Council much closer to this than in past years. The staff have worked hard to identify savings and find increased revenue streams, such as in private works which includes Council's work on the State Road. Securing grant funding for projects also assists in this area.

The Draft 2015-16 Budget and 2015-16 Annual Plan can be found as an attachment to the July 16<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Agenda to be released on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Lady Barron Hall:**

A huge congratulations to the team effort of the Lady Barron Hall Special Committee members in achieving a grant of \$160,000 for the fitness annex and kitchen development at the Hall. This funding compliments that budgeted by Council for upgrading the disability access, toilets and storage at the Hall. Many thanks to Fran Bryson and Judy Clark for applying their skills and time to the Tas Community Fund (TCF)

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application and to the Board of the TCF for recognising the community need and support for this development.

## **Whitemark Boat Ramp:**

I congratulate Brian Barnewall and Jana Harper for the successful application to the Recreational Boating Fund 2015-16 for funds to upgrade the Whitemark boat ramp. Equivalent Council funding is in the capital budget and the project is to be completed by end of June 2016.

## **Health:**

The Strength2Strength Program was recently launched on Flinders. Sixteen participants have committed to the twelve week course which was funded through Tasmania Medicare Local and is being delivered by Kathleen and David. The 'Exersite' equipment on the Whitemark Foreshore is being used as a part of this program. It is anticipated that another session will be held later this year and will be promoted through the Flinders Island General Practice or by direct referral from Allied Health Professionals.

## **Cat Management:**

Following the State Government announcement that it will deliver Tasmania's first Cat Management Plan by the year's end, the first meeting of the Tasmanian Cat Management Reference Group was held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The Reference Group was established by the Minister for Primary Industries, Jeremy Rockliff and includes representatives from the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, RSPCA, Hobart Cat Centre, Australian Veterinary Association, Cat Association of Tasmania, Landcare Tasmania, Local Government Association of Tasmania, NRM North, Tasmanian Conservation Trust and the University of Tasmania. Biosecurity Tasmania will work with the new Cat Management Reference Group to develop the Plan. Regular updates will be posted on the Biosecurity Tasmania website.

## **Dogs:**

Council is still receiving complaints about unrestrained dogs and there has been more on social media.

The legislation states that a dog in a road related area, which includes footpaths and nature strips in the town, is under effective control **only** if the dog is secured and restrained by means of a lead not exceeding 2 metres long held by hand by a person of sufficient age.

On private property the dog needs to be retained **securely within the property**.

In other public areas the dog needs to be under your control if not on a leash.

Whilst your straying or wandering dog may not be of concern to you it is to others. **There have been many warnings printed in this column; do not be surprised if you cop a fine for NOT having you dog restrained in the appropriate manner as per the legislation.**

Carol Cox  
Mayor

## **Community Development**

### **Rose Garden Pruning Day**

Sharpen your secateurs and join the group of Rose Garden volunteers for our annual rose pruning day on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 9:00am – midday. Please BYO secateurs and gardening gloves. Morning tea will be provided. Our Community Rose Garden in Whitemark was established in the year 2000 with donations in memory of Margaret Aitken and Elaine Iles.

### **Winter School Holiday Program**

Our Winter School Holiday program includes a number of fun activities over the next school holiday break including the NAIDOC Community BBQ and Flag

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raising at FIAAI including games, an Island Chef Cook-off for students Grade 6 and up, all ages Drop-in Day with a variety of fun games, Creative Arts Classes with Maria La Grue, Movie Matinees and an Amazing Race Flinders style. If you haven't registered yet, please contact the Council Office on 03 6359 5001, or email us: [cdo@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:cdo@flinders.tas.gov.au) The full program can be found by visiting our website or the community calendar: [www.flinders.tas.gov.au/school-holiday-program](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/school-holiday-program)

## Recognise Tasmanians worthy of your attention now!

The search for the next Australian of the Year Award recipients has begun. You are encouraged to nominate a friend, family member, community leader, colleague or even someone famous - any Tasmanian who you admire and believe makes our state and country a better place to live. Being nominated for the Australian of the Year Awards is a great honour and offers your nominee a unique platform to further their important work. This is your opportunity to recognise and reward someone in your community who makes you proud to be an Australian.

The prestigious program culminates in the announcement of the national award recipients in Canberra by the Prime Minister on Australia Day Eve. But to get to this point every year 128 Australians are recognised, across 4 categories, in 8 states and territories - that's 16 Tasmanians!

So do you know a Tasmanian that could be our next

- Australian of the Year;
- Senior Australian of the Year (60 years and over);
- Young Australian of the Year (16-30 years); or
- Australia's Local Hero?

Nomination is an easy process either online at

<http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/nominate/>

Nominations close Monday 3 August 2015 and remember - one nomination is all it takes!

## Nominations for the 2015 Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards are now open!

These awards are about recognising individuals, groups, businesses and organisations who are making a difference in our local communities and state.

Making a nomination is easy! You can nominate someone and answer the questions on their behalf or you can simply fill in their name and contact details and save the nomination, give them a call and tell them you have nominated them! They can then fill in the details as they are going to know best about their achievements.

Nominations can be made by visiting the following website:

[www.awardsaustralia.com/community-achievement-awards/tas](http://www.awardsaustralia.com/community-achievement-awards/tas)

Nominations close 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015

## Grants

There are currently a variety of grants available that may be applicable to local community groups and organisations. Below are a list of the grants and their website links for you to have a look at. If you have an idea or project we suggest you contact the funding body to discuss your eligibility and application.

1. Honda Home Ground Advantage Grants Program - [www.holden.com.au](http://www.holden.com.au)  
The Holden Home Ground Advantage is supporting local sporting clubs for the next 10 years by committing \$5 million to develop and improve their facilities. Twice a year Holden will provide

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\$250,000 worth of grants to sporting clubs who need assistance - that's \$500,000 every year, for ten years. **Closes 31 August 2015**

## 1. Nabo Community Grants - [www.nabo.com.au/communitygrants](http://www.nabo.com.au/communitygrants)

The program will provide community groups and charities with an opportunity to apply for one-off funding of up to \$10,000 for projects or programs that help build safer and stronger communities across Australia. **Closes 28 June 2015**

## 2. Festivals Australia: Regional Festivals Project Fund -

[www.australiacouncil.gov.au](http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au)

The Regional Festivals Project Fund supports the inclusion of an arts project at festivals in regional and remote Australia. Grants are available to support the costs to produce and present an arts activity and there is no limit on the amount that can be requested. Applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with an Australia Council Grants Officer before applying to this fund. **Closes - 1 September (projects commencing 1 January 2016)- 1 December (projects commencing 1 July 2016)**

## 3. Entrepreneurs' Infrastructure Program - Business Growth Grants

Provider: Australian Department of Industry & Science Amount: Up to \$20,000; Location: All States; Summary: Funding can be used to engage a consultant/s to make improvements to your business. **Closing Date: Always Open**

You can also subscribe to a grant alert list to receive emailing notifications by emailing:

1. [cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au) or

2. [healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

Alternatively check out grants information online, here are some suggestions:

1. [www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list](http://www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list)

2.

[www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx](http://www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx)

Thank you,  
Jana Harper & AK  
**Community Development**

### **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, Flinders Island on

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015** 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) or at the Council Office from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm - 1.30pm.

Members of the public are invited to attend.

**Raoul Harper**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

### **WHITEMARK TIP**

Opening Hours

MON, FRI & SUN 1.30pm- 4.30pm

WED 8.30am- 11.30am



**CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**