

Council News

Mayor's Report

Infrastructure:

The Australian Local Government Association February Newsletter states

"A significant proportion of Australia's local community infrastructure is at risk of disrepair - with an estimated \$27 billion of community facilities in need of significant renewal - and more Federal Government support is needed to restore them ..." Flinders Council, your council, has been proactive over recent years in maintaining and improving the Island's community infrastructure - the halls, the BBQ's, boat lanching ramps and recently upgraded toilets. Discussion on improvements to the showgrounds buildings will occur during the upcoming budget considerations for 2017-16. Flinders Council was also proactive in upgrading its bridges, completed before Federal Government acknowledgement of the need to support Councils in replacing bridges.

The big item for Flinders Council is the airport and the cost of replacing the long runway, the cost of which will be well above Council's own budget and Council has been lobbying both the Federal and State Governments for assistance in this area.

Stronger Communities Programme successful grant for Flinders Island:

Congratulations to staff member, Jana Harper, for the successful grant provided by the Australian Government for small infrastructure projects to improve local community participation, cohesion and/or contribute to community vibrancy and viability. The grant will go towards the purchase of a portable, removable stage that can be used inside or out, easy to transport, packs away neatly and can also be hired out. This stage will be shared between the Lady Barron Hall and the Emita Hall. Funds will also go towards landscaping/playscape garden at the Emita Hall.

Banking:

It is planned that Council will facilitate a Public Meeting for Bendigo Bank towards the end of February to inform the Community of the economic logistics of maintaining an Agency on the Island. Very briefly, to support the operation of an Agency

deposits/investments of around \$20 million will be required. These are ordinary deposits that you might hold with any bank and we will be encouraging you to consider your finances and if you can support a local bank agency by banking with the Bendigo Bank. Off island ratepayers will also be asked for their support.

Please note the plan is for a normal bank agency NOT for a Community Bank.

Event Management Guide:

Council staff have developed an "*Event Management Guide*" which provides good basic information for anyone wishing to hold an event.

Reminding you also that the regulations for Place of Assembly licences have changed and these are now only required for gatherings with 1000 or more attendees.

The "*Event Management Guide*" is available on the Council website or by request from the Council Office.

School Holiday Program:

Thank you to all the parents, young people and volunteers who helped during the summer school holiday activities. This summer activities included a Boat Building workshop for the Emita Sports event; the Island Chef Cook-off Championship (the winning team was a team of visitors from the Meander Valley Leadership Group); Learn-to-Surf School - unfortunately this summer the swell and tides did not work for us and hopefully we can hold more of these popular classes next time; and dance/ comedy workshops with visiting performer Sean Choolburra. Sean's visit was supported also by FIAAI - thank you - and was a highlight of the program and provided great entertainment during the Furneaux Islands Festival events.

Waste Transfer Stations:

These are in place for your convenience for the disposal of waste. At the Lady Barron site, disposal of the following items is catered for:

- Household waste in bags,
- Cardboard,
- Glass,
- Aluminium Cans,
- Batteries,
- Whitegoods,

Council News

- Used Oils,
- Small amounts of waste metal and
- Green Waste.

ALL OTHER ITEMS NEED TO BE DISPOSED OF AT THE WHITEMARK TIP. Opening hours listed elsewhere in the Council Pages.

Whilst at the Whitemark Tip check out the **Giving Shed**. You might just be able to save an item from becoming landfill for a few more years.

Planning & Building:

Thinking of doing alterations, building a garage or that shed down the paddock, then have a look at the new "Building & Information Kit" which has been released by Council and is available from the Office or the website.

Furneaux Festival 2016

A weekend of activity, a magical musical evening at the newly renovated Emita Hall enhanced by the sound of steady rain, the Saturday market in Whitemark and then music at the Furneaux Tavern, culminating with the Community BBQ on the Sunday. This year Flinders Council partnered with the Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc. to bring you the festival and I thank the FIAAI members and EVERY OTHER business and community member who supported and gave their time to make the festival such a success.

Furneaux Festival 2017.

I encourage you to have the discussion now;

- Should we hold it again in 2017?
- Is January the right time or should we move it to say Easter?
- If it moves to another time do you want Council to organise something for Australia Day or leave it to the Community to make use of the Community BBQs?

Talk to your Councillors, let us know as we will have already started discussions for the 2016-17 budget.

Your Councillors are:

Carol Cox – Mayor

Marc Cobham – Deputy Mayor

Chris Rhodes

Peter Rhodes

Ken Stockton

David Williams

Gerald Willis

For reports and more information about Council check out the website: flinders.tas.gov.au

**Carol Cox
Mayor**

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 18th February 2016 commencing at **1pm.**

The Agenda will be available for perusal on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au or at the Council Office from Friday 12th February 2016.

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

Expressions of Interest – shipping Containers

Expressions of interest are invited for the purchase of 4 freezer/chiller shipping containers. The units are 20 foot long and 8 foot (2 pallets) wide, currently owned by Council.

The containers are offered for sale strictly on an "as is where is" basis.

Council News

Council will also consider offers for the sale of individual containers.

Those submitting expressions of interest for individual containers must highlight which container is of interest and the proposed purchase price.

Interested parties can view each of the containers on the Council website: www.flinders.tas.gov.au or arrange for an inspection by contacting Jacci Viney at Council on 63 595 001.

Written expressions of interest are to be marked "shipping container EOI", contain your name, address, phone number, shipping container ID and proposed purchase price.

Expressions of interest will be received by Council no later than close of business Friday 26 February, 2016.