

MAYOR'S COLUMN

School Track Upgrade

Council has successfully acquired funds under the *Safer Roads: Vulnerable Road User* program in procuring \$50,000 to regrade and seal the Thule Road portion of the footpath to the School. The project aims to provide an all weather footway and to provide safer crossing of the main road at the intersection.

Council's commitment to the program is to spend a further \$25,000 on similarly sealing the portion of the track beside Lagoon Road and connecting it to the concrete footpath that runs past the Anglican Church.

Staffing

Congratulations to Daniel Pitcher on his appointment as the new Youth Development Officer. Daniel will be working 2 days a week assisting current Council staff in the provision of the summer School Holiday Program and other youth related activity. Welcome Daniel.

Council Meeting Outcomes

Crown Land Transfer

Council approved the transfer of Crown Land at 4 Davies Street, Whitemark from the State to Council "for so long as the respective land is used and continues to be used for municipal and reasonable ancillary purposes". The title transferred includes the playground, Duckpond, Council Offices, library, public toilets and rose garden. The transfer includes an agreement to lease the library to the Education Department.

Airport

Council received commercial in confidence reports relating to projected short and longer term development at the Airport which include; development of commercial and private hangars; a terminal expansion to include more space for commercial operators and security requirements; and car parking. These reports have been undertaken to facilitate growing needs at the Airport and anyone with information that could assist staff in this area should contact Council.

Increased Roadworks Program

Councillors agreed to include an additional \$137,100 in Council's Capital Works program for roads which will form a part of the Roads to Recovery (R2R) program for 2017-18. The R2R program is funded by the Federal Government and supplies funding for roads based on Council expenditure of its own funds on roads.

These road works will include stabilisation works on sections of Memana Road and be carried out in conjunction with similar work on the state road.

Northern Economic Stimulus Package

Council will ask the State Government if it can amend the programs being undertaken under this scheme as there are two projects that will not be able to be completed on time. The North East River BBQ and toilet project must be delayed until a suitable site can be agreed upon by Council and Parks, and it would be impractical to begin the Whitemark entrance project prior to completion of the Whitemark flood study and structure plan.

Whitemark Community Gym Special Committee Membership

Council welcomed the nominations from community members to participate in the committee and appointed the following membership:

- Anne Campbell
- Annie Revie
- Rachel Summers
- Vicki Warden
- Cr Marc Cobham (Elected Member)
- David Heap (Physical Health Worker)

Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee

Council approved an amendment to broaden the membership of the Shipping Committee by adding two representatives - one from the farming community and the other from Flinders Island Tourism and Business Incorporated (FITBI). The TFGA representative position was made redundant and the Quorum was adjusted to be 5 members.

Community Shed

As a result of a presentation by Community Shed members to a workshop on the 27 October, Council supported, in principle, the group's desire to relocate their operation into Whitemark.

Local Government Act

Council noted the proposed changes to the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015 supporting the reporting of gifts to Councillors of greater than \$50. Also up for public comment is an increase in the expenditure limit for candidates standing for Local Government and an amendment to the requirements of a Declaration of Office to include a commitment to engage in ongoing professional development

and abide by the principles of good governance.

More information can be found on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website www.dpac.tas.gov.au Submissions close on the 18th December.

Policies

Amendments to the "Citizen of the Year Award" and the "Waiver of Fees" Policies were considered and accepted with the policies now subject to a 28 day public comment period.

Full information from the meeting can be found in the Agenda and Minutes on the Council website.

Flinders Island Tourism and Business Inc. Award Winners

Congratulations to the Executive and Members of FITBI for winning the Destination Marketing category of the 2017 Tasmanian Tourism Awards.

Fire Permits

The 2017 Fire Permit season began at midnight on the 15th November. Please take care and help to keep the Islands clear of wildfire this summer.

Carol Cox
MAYOR

CALL FOR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Nominations from the public are called for the position of Farming Sector Representative on the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee of Council.

The Committee consists of business and community representatives and exists to consider and make recommendations to Council concerning issues related to Shipping.

Nominations can be sent to the Committee Chair:

Mayor Carol Cox

Flinders Council

PO Box 40

WHITEMARK TAS 7255

Or via email to Executive Officer, Vicki Warden at vicki.warden@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 14th December 2017 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 the 8th December 2017 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Bill Boehm
GENERAL MANAGER



Applications are now open!

Offering aspiring young Flinders Island chefs, the opportunity to capitalise on the skills and experience of two established professional chefs. Over two events at the Furneaux Island Festival you will have the opportunity to work with and learn from our visiting professional chefs.

They are Jesse McTavish, Bondi restaurant owner & chef from Sydney, and Scott Stevenson, head chef of Movida in Melbourne. There are limited places available.

Event 1: Festival Market Day Whitemark Saturday 20th January 2018

Event 2: Festival Finale Lady Barron Sunday 21st January 2018

This will be a paid mentee opportunity.

If you would like more information please contact Claire or Dolly at Council.

Ph. 6359 5001 or Email: claire.nicholl@flinders.tas.gov.au or stacey.wheatley@flinders.tas.gov.au

If you would like to apply to be part of this paid mentoring program, please let us know by phone, email or in person by November 30th 2017.

Invitation For Comments and/or Expressions Of Interest

The Flinders Island Airport is owned and operated by Flinders Council which is responsible for the Furneaux Group, incorporating Flinders (of 52 islands).

Flinders Council recognises that the airport is not only the life link to the Community but also the gateway for aviation visitors. Some of these visitors have bought property and visit regularly, or reside on a more permanent basis. Either way, the Airport facility must recognise those visitors and provide for their needs.

At present the Airport does not operate at a financial benefit. This is an impediment to upgrading and improving the facility. Ways to increase revenue and capital investment are being investigated and hence this request for comments is issued.

Current thoughts to improve the financial position have included:

- Lease of land for private hangar development;
- Airpark;
- Improved fuel facilities and service;
- Establishment of Commercial Hangar facilities; and
- Improved utilisation and development of Airport terminal.

Opportunities associated with the Airport include:

- Accessible by VFR aircraft;
- Gateway to Tasmania;
- Fuel available;
- Holiday destination, idyllic location; and
- Development potential.

As potential users of the Airport, existing users maybe or just knowledgeable in the field, you are invited to provide some comments, insight, suggestions to Flinders Council regarding the above.

If you are prepared to provide such comments in writing or maybe even in a verbal format, please contact **Ms Jacci Viney** at jacci.viney@flinders.tas.gov.au to advise of your willingness to provide advice. Additional information may be provided upon request.

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 16 November 2017 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the **Citizen of the Year Award Policy** and the **Waiver of Fees Policy**.

These policies will lie on the table for public comment until 21 December 2017. They are available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and hardcopies are available from the Council Office.

Should you wish to make comment on these policies, please do so by addressing relative correspondence to:

Bill Boehm
GENERAL MANAGER

**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