



MAYOR'S REPORT

As we approach the Council elections we are in a "caretaker" mode, ensuring that the current council doesn't make any decisions that will create difficulty for our new members. But, of course, the show must go on and there have been several developments that are interesting.

The letter sent out to the Premier and ministers about the fin fish farm threat to our pristine waters has been acknowledged by a couple of ministers but, as yet, we have received no indication that any action will be taken. I understand that a couple of politicians will be coming over for the Show, so that will give us all an opportunity to speak our mind. After all we are a marginal seat!

Speed signs showing a 40kph limit have now been erected at the entrance to Palana. To limit road kill, Council is also going to investigate placing beware wildlife signs near Palana and other places on the Island. Community members have also expressed concern about the Black Swans at the entrance to Whitemark, so we are putting some appropriate signs there too.

An issue was raised by a concerned member of the Lady Barron community regarding a leak in the water supply. TasWater has confirmed that it is aware of it. They are sending a specialist over to look at it and there is no danger to the supply itself.

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. Council will be represented on that committee and regular updates will be provided to the community.

In case you haven't seen the recent General Manager's Safe Harbour update on Council's website, I should highlight that the revised \$3M grant application requirements were met after a substantial amount of additional work and costs.

That work was completed by Council in June 2021.

Since then, Council has maintained regular contact with the department handling the grant application to track progress. To date, Council has not been advised of the outcome of the grant application and has not received any grant money. The most recent advice is that the Labor Government has halted all previous Government funding commitments until they can be evaluated against an undeveloped policy regarding previous Government funding commitments. We will keep you informed of progress made.

My best wishes to all the candidates for the council election.

David Williams | Mayor

"To The Tasmanian State Premier & Ministers

*Dear Premier and Ministers
Matters of Interest
Flinders Island Aquaculture Meeting*

On Monday evening, 29 August 2022, Flinders Council convened a public meeting to gauge community attitudes towards the proposed allocation of leases on the Furneaux Islands western coasts to the aquaculture industry for fin fish, shellfish and seaweed culture.

The meeting was informed that the west coast of the Furneaux Group has been identified as suitable for aquaculture.

According to government sources, leases which have been identified, mapped and now made available for fin fish aquaculture under the Furneaux Islands Marine Farming Development Plan include;

- *Roydon Island;*
- *Bun Beetons Point;*
- *Tanners Bay;*
- *Prime Seal Island (2);*
- *South Arthur Bay;*
- *East Little Chalky Island;*
- *Dover Point;*
- *Vansittart Island West; and*
- *Deep Bay West.*

Other leases cover shellfish and seaweed.

None of the leases are protected as 'no go areas.' Companies can swap leases elsewhere for them by simple agreement and licence. Potential leases cover around 1631.41 ha of seabed, restricting community use, with serious penalties for trespass, including the possibility of substantial fines and prison terms.

Over 110 of the approximately 920 islands' residents attended the meeting. The Mayor and Councillors, departmental officers, elected members and citizens participated in the information and action discussions. Residents' opinions were sought at the conclusion of the session and the following motion resolved "That the Furneaux group of islands does not support fin fish farming in our island waters, ever".

Will the Premier ensure that no aquaculture leases will be allocated in the Furneaux Group of Islands 'waterways, as did her/his predecessor in relation to the East Coast of Tasmania?

Yours sincerely,
David Williams Mayor Flinders Council"

UPCOMING ELECTION

Everyone on the State roll is automatically enrolled and required to vote at the upcoming local government elections. It is not compulsory for those on the General Manager's Roll to vote.

Elections will be conducted by postal ballot and will be held to fill councillor, mayor and deputy mayor positions.

Event	Date
Postal ballot packs delivered to electors	3rd - 7th October 2022**
Close of poll	2pm 25th October 2022

****This may be extended by the TEC.**

Veterinary Clinic Project Update



The recent "request for tender" for the veterinary clinic project indicated that the State Government funding would not be sufficient to cover the full project. This is due to substantial increases in the cost of building works.

For the project to be finalised, Council is in the process of submitting an application to the State Government to request an increase in project funding.



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 following letter was received by Council and reprinted here for the information of the community:

NWTAS for CLEAN OCEANS

Dear (Acting) Mayor Williams and Councillors

My name is Cass Wright. I am part of NWTAS For Clean Oceans (NWTAS4CO). This group was formed in Stanley in 2021 when locals became aware of the planned expansion of Industrial Fin Fish farming into Bass Strait. Our aim is to inform North West Coast residents of this plan, to represent those who oppose it and to lobby Government in order to prevent it.

We are aligned with Neighbours of Fish Farming (NOFF), and Tasmanian Alliance for Marine Protection (TAMP).

I write today on behalf of NWTAS4CO, to congratulate you, the Flinders Island Council, for your recent Public meeting on this issue.

We congratulate and thank you and the residents of Flinders Island for your strong, united stand against Industrial Fin Fish Farming in the waters around your beautiful island, ie Bass Strait. Such strong opposition is vital if we are to protect our waterways and coastlines from the immense degradation clearly evident in the South, East and West of our State due to this polluting industry.

Our group has been frantically lobbying Local, State and Federal politicians, writing letters and submissions, and meeting with as many spokespeople as possible in the lead up to the release of the 10 Year Salmon Plan on January 1st 2023. We have had varying receptions from our local councils. Not all are prepared to take a stand or see this issue as their responsibility, so we do appreciate and support you in your actions.

NWTAS4CO is resourced only by membership, donations and our own funds. We are driven by our shared passion for a healthy, clean, liveable

Tasmania. Our membership is growing, we expect it will grow more rapidly as more people along the coast learn what is planned for their "back yard". Government and Industry continue to operate by stealth in this matter.

In conclusion, we offer you solidarity in this fight. We are committed to protecting our precious marine environment, our Bass Strait, for future generations. It is stressful, exhausting and unrelenting but we believe it is our responsibility, for our children, grandchildren and beyond.

We wish you luck for continued cohesion within your community on this matter. Well done and thank you once again for your stand. Stay strong!!

Kindest regards

Cass Wright
Port Sorell

Find us at:
Website: nwtasforcleanoceans.org.au
Facebook: NWTAS for CLEAN OCEANS



Rates Are Due Monday 31/10/2022

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 (Closed Showday)



**FLINDERS
COUNCIL**

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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

Tuesday 18 October 2022 commencing at 2pm.

Public Question Time will be held between 2.00 – 2.30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend.

The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday 13 October 2022 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Warren Groves
General Manager



**FLINDERS
COUNCIL**



SCAN QR CODE

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WHITEMARK TIP – OPENING HOURS

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

CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Policy 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 20 September 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting to rescind the **Aviation Policy** and to adopt the following policies: **Flinders Council Policy and Procedure Framework, Public Open Space Policy** and **Asset Disposal Policy**.

These policies will lie on the table for public comment until 28 October 2022. 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:

Warren Groves
General Manager