

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

APOLOGY

Council owes ratepayers an apology. Every two years the Valuer General's Office adjusts the value of each property. This means that, when Council calculates the rates for any one year, it does so based on the new value.

This year was one when the Valuer general's Office adjusted the rateable value of each property from between 0% and 20%. This meant that, when Council approved a 5% rate rise, it was based on the new value.

The above information was included in the Rates Resolution that was posted on the Council Web Site. However, we failed to provide this information in the Island News. Given that many people may not have read the Rates Resolution online, some people would have missed out on the information. We apologise for this omission.

RATES FORUM

On Wednesday 4th September, Council held a public forum on Rates. Approximately 25 people attended. Heidi Marshall, Council's Acting General Manager, presented important information on Council's current financial situation. I wish to thank all attendees for giving up their time to better understand why the rates had to be increased by 5%.

SO WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

At the forum, Heidi gave a commitment to keep rate rises in the next few years as close to the CPI rate as possible.

However, in a recent report, Flinders was recognised as having:

- An aging population;
- A tipping point within approximately 7 years when there may not be enough people of working age to supply our workforce; and
- A need to diversify our industry.

We must work as a community, beginning soon, with an aim to change this situation.

SUSTAINABILITY MUST BE THE KEY

We must work towards a sustainable future if the social and economic status of the Islands is to improve.

This means that, when we consider future projects for the Islands, we must ask questions such as:

- Is this project going to increase employment possibilities?
- Will this project benefit the environment – or at the very least, do no harm.
- Will this project bring added benefits to the Island economy?
- Will this project make the Islands a better place to live?
- Will this project provide learning opportunities for young people?
- Will this project bring younger to middle-aged people here to live?

Only projects that will provide positive answers to these questions will support future growth. Let's aim for affordable projects that will do this.

ANNIE REVIE, Mayor

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DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Plumbing for Consumers

Plumbing laws help protect and improve the health, safety and well-being of Tasmanians.

You need a permit from the council permit authority unless the described work is low-risk or medium-risk (notifiable work) under the [Building Regulations 2016 \(external link\)](#).

Work you can do without a permit

If you are an owner of a building that needs work, you can do the following work on your own home only or use a non-licensed qualified contractor or contract a licensed plumber (Category 1).

- repair and or replace tapware, shower head or shower hose (like for like) except for vegetable spray mixer, shower spray on hose
- replace domestic water filter cartridge (like for like)
- replace potable water tanks (like for like) using the same pumps, connections and pipework
- put in a household or commercial irrigation and lawn watering system

(connected to a network utilities reticulated water supply)

- remove and replace caps to ground level inspection openings for sewage or stormwater drains or grates on stormwater pits and channels
- unblock toilets, showers or other plumbing fixtures with a handheld plunger

Important note: Doing plumbing work that is not listed in Category 1 must be done by a licensed plumber. Penalties apply.

More information can be obtained from: <https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au/topics/technical-regulation/plumbing-standards/for-consumers>

CAT MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL

The draft cat Management Amendment Bill 2019 has been released for public comment. It's the result of consultation as part of developing the Tasmanian Cat Management Plan. The draft Amendment Bill, a summary of the amendments, frequently asked questions and a feedback form are available on the DPPIPWE website using the Have Your Say' tab.

Public submissions will be accepted until 5pm, 4 October.

LADY BARRON FITNESS CENTRE AND WHITEMARK GYM

Inductions: If you would like to be inducted for either the Lady Barron Fitness Centre or Whitemark Community Gym, please contact David Heap on 0418 714 123 to arrange a time.

Let's Get Physical Lady Barron!

The Lady Barron Hall and Recreation Committee are running a 12-week program to promote physical activity through twice-weekly gym sessions at the Lady Barron Fitness facility.

Drop in and see Michelle, a qualified personal trainer on Thursdays 7:00am – 10:30am & Saturdays 1:30pm to 5:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve your fitness, strength and wellbeing.

WHITEMARK TIP OPENING HOURS

SUN, MON, FRI 1.30pm - 4.30pm
TUES +THURS 7.00am -10.00am
WEDNESDAYS 8.30am - 11.30am
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS



Whether it's keeping up with the kids at the beach, improving your strength or looking for a new challenge, here's a wonderful opportunity to improve your fitness and wellbeing.

Flinders Council now has an Annual Gym Membership. We want fitness to be more accessible for everyone, so we're offering flexible terms and options to suit the way you train. With two facilities in both Whitemark and Lady Barron, with opening hours that suit you, it's time to get ahead and stay there. An annual gym membership allows access to both Whitemark & Lady Barron Fitness facilities.

Gym Fees

Annual Gym Membership – \$400 per year both locations.

Weekly Gym Membership – \$10 per week per location.

Single Visit - \$5 per visit per location.

Please come into the Council office to pay your yearly membership (pro rata fee for 2019 – full fee due July 1st, 2020). Contact Darron at darron.baker@flinders.tas.gov.au for more information.

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:

Tuesday 17 September commencing at 9.30am.

Public Question Time will be held between 9.30 – 10.00am. Members of the public are invited to attend.

The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday 12 September on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Heidi Marshall | **A/General Manager**

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Call out to mums, dads and carers who can spare a few hours during the Kids Spring Holiday Program Oct 1st - Oct 11th to participate in a range of activities alongside the children to ensure that their day is both safe and lots of fun.

If you would like to register to become a volunteer for the Kids Holiday Program, please contact Sammi Gowthorp on 6359 5006 sammi.gowthorp@flinders.tas.gov.au

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 August 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the Corporate Credit Card Policy and Procedure.

The policy and procedure will lie on the table for public comment until the 26 September 2019. It is available to download from the Council website flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and hardcopies are available from the Council Office.

Should you wish to make comment on the policy and procedure, please do so by addressing relative correspondence to:

Heidi Marshall
A/General Manager