

Council News

MAYOR'S COLUMN

Council Decisions:

At its March Ordinary Meeting, Council:

- Adopted the half yearly budget review recognising changes due to grants received and decisions made during the first half of the financial year.
- Deemed adopted the Information Management Policy
- Accepted the advice of the Audit Panel to remove all Councillors from the panel and increase the number of independent members from two to three, including the two current independent members, Mr. John Dick and Ms. Diana Droog. A third independent member will be sought to become the new Chair. Mr John Dick will continue as Chair until the new appointment is made by Council. I thank Councillors Ken Stockton and Gerald Willis for the time and effort they have committed to the Audit Panel. The removal of Councillors from the panel ensures that not only is the advice returned to Council independent, but that it is also perceived to be so.
- Accepted the Resolution Report that outlines the progress towards completion of actions required by previously approved motions. This report can be found on the Council website as an Annexure to each Council Meeting Agenda.
- Approved a contribution of up to \$45,000 towards improvements to the Badger Corner boat ramp. The funding to be used in conjunction with a M.A.S.T. grant, should the application be successful. The grant application is due by the 30th March and will include a need for engineered designs for a facility to fit the needs of the small boat users.
- Authorised the General Manager's Performance Review Committee to begin processes for a review to be undertaken prior to the 30th June in line with the employment contract.

Premier, the Hon Will Hodgman and Sarah Courtney MP. Visit:

The Council, along with Flinders Island Tourism and Business Inc. members, was pleased to welcome the Premier and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Island on the 27th March. Welcomed in calm sunshine, treated to some fresh gusty air in Whitemark and a shower of rain, the guests experienced a range of Island weather.

Council was extremely pleased to portray to the visitors the benefits the \$1.4 million Northern Economic Stimulus package will have for the Island, enabling Council to bring forward projects identified in its Long Term Asset Management Plan.

The opportunity was also taken to introduce the Premier to Killiecrankie, an area of the Island not included in his previous visits.

The Destination Action Plan (DAP) was launched to a strong turnout of locals with the Premier committing up to \$50,000 to support actions identified in the DAP. A steering committee will be developed to drive the implementation of this living document which is envisaged to change and adapt as needs are identified or satisfied. This DAP is one of many developed around Tasmania and was developed by Tourism North Tasmania with strong input and support from FITBI members, Council and community input.

A copy of the DAP can be found on the Council website.

Lughrata Gravel Quarry:

The Quarry pit that Council has been developing at Lughrata is now operational and will be used on the northern roads, to reduce operational costs. The gravel from the pit was first trialled on the Marshall Bay access road with the result that Council purchased the land, acquired all the relevant permits and licences and developed the pit. Council informed Mineral Resources Tasmania that it would commence operating from Lughrata Pit as of 1st of February.

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TasWater:

Flinders Council currently has no formal position on the Treasurer's plan for the state to take control of TasWater. The Mayor and the General Manager will be at the Local Government Association of Tasmania meeting on the 7th of April where further information will be disseminated. The Chair of TasWater has offered to brief Council on the current status of TasWater infrastructure and the ten year plan. Council will be considering what a change to state ownership of TasWater would mean for the Flinders Municipality in the coming weeks.

Roadworks:

Bitumen sealing of much of the stabilised road areas is currently being undertaken. Please obey the speed signs and travel with extra care in these areas.

Easter Saturday at Lady Barron Wharf Saturday 15th April 8am - 11am

'Barron Big Breakfast' will be served from 8am. Easter Bonnet Parade with prizes from 9.45am. Easter Egg Hunt and games for the kids. All proceeds go to the Lady Barron Hall & Recreation facilities.

School Holiday Autumn Program

Proudly brought to you by Flinders Council & Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Inc.

A friendly reminder to complete a 2017 registration form if you have not already done so. These are available from the Council office or can be downloaded from the Council website.

Activities for Autumn include a motorcycle service and coaching workshop hosted by Jay Woolley, rollerblading brought you by Mowbray Sport n Skate, indigo tie dying with Maria La Grue, bushwalking and photography, as well as self-guided computer coding sessions using resources from the organisation 'Code.org'.

Grant Writing Workshop

A reminder that Council is still taking registrations for this free event on Thursday

30th March 6-8 pm, to be held at the Strzelecki Room MPC. Contact 6359 5012 to register.

RFDS Fundraisers

See this Island News issue for details of the events at FAEC Friday 31st of March and Emita Hall Saturday 1st of April.

Carol Cox

Mayor

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

Ordinary Council Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council will be held at the Furneaux Arts & Entertainment Centre Whitemark, Flinders Island, on **Thursday 20th April 2017**, commencing at **1pm**.

The Agenda will be available for perusal on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office from Friday 14th April 2017.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES NEWS

Ratepayers are reminded that Council offers free pre-lodgement advice regarding development.

Upon submission of some details to Council, you will be advised if your development will be treated as exempt, permitted, discretionary or prohibited under the current planning scheme.

Similarly, details can be sent to Council's building surveyor to ascertain what you are required to do prior to starting work. If your

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work is exempt you will be provided with confirmation of this.

All enquiries are to be directed to Council on 6359 5005.

POSITIONS VACANT

Casual Cleaner

Up to 40 hrs per fortnight. Clean and maintain council facilities to ensure high level of hygiene. To apply, please contact Sophie Pitchford on 6359 5001 or

sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au

Applications close Friday 31 March 2017.

Receptionist

To be the Face of Council – the initial point of contact for customers, visitors and Councillors, including those who enter the office, send emails or contact via telephone.

Casual position (with the possibility of permanency) of 2 days a week with the flexibility to work additional days as and when required.

To apply, please contact Sophie Pitchford on 6359 5001 or

sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au for a position description.

Applications close Friday 7 April 2017.

COMMUNITY GRANTS AND GUNN BEQUEST

Applications for funding are now being sought from Community Groups for Community Grants and sporting organisations under the Gunn Bequest. Applications received will be considered by Council as part of the budget process for the next financial year.

Written applications for both grants, using the forms available from the Council Office or the Council website

<http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-grants-and-awards> will be received no later than C.O.B. Monday 24th April and should be addressed to: General Manager, Flinders Council, PO Box 40, Whitemark, TAS 7255.