

ACTING MAYOR'S COLUMN

Biosecurity: As the majority of community members would know, we are currently experiencing a Fruit Fly outbreak. Thanks to all those who have had a visit to their property, for co-operating with staff from Biosecurity Tasmania.

One point worth highlighting is that in order to minimise any further risks, if you grow any of the extensive lists of products that can be affected, please do not take them outside of your property. There is a wonderful tradition in our community of sharing home grown produce with neighbours and friends on the Island; now is unfortunately NOT one of those times. This outbreak has significant ramifications for not just Flinders but Tasmania generally. The cost to us all of losing our pest free status would be significant and we all want to ensure that on Flinders we do everything we can to avoid this.

Biosecurity Tasmania will have an increased presence on the islands over the next few months and naturally one of the benefits, aside from Biosecurity issues, will be to our local economy.

Driving on Gravel Roads: A recent serious car accident on a northern section of our gravel road network once again highlights the dangers and unpredictable nature of driving on gravel road surfaces. Whilst hardworking outdoor Council staff do their best to maintain the road network, one of the main guidelines for any driver is that of "driving to suit the conditions".

Whitemark Gym: This facility seems to be going from strength to strength, with well over 70 people having undertaken the induction programme run by David Heap and regular attendance on some days of over 25 participants. As many would know, Council has taken over the operating of the Gym on a trial basis until mid-2018 and a management committee has been formed to run the facility. For a weekly charge of only \$5 participants can attend as often as you need. The Gym works on a "Buddy System", all you need do is be "inducted".

Bus Tour:

Councillors recently undertook a bus tour of the Island to the following strategic locations:

1. Manns Pit
2. Lady Barron Harbour
3. Lady Barron Gym / West St
4. Summer Camp
5. Emita Hall
6. NE River Camp Ground
7. Palana Boat Ramp
8. Palana / Killiecrankie / Emita drainage issues

9. Lughrata Gravel Quarry
10. Whitemark Showgrounds

This trip, as in previous years, assists Councillors in conducting their roles by seeing first hand facilities or areas within the municipality that need attention etc.

Local Government Elections: With these occurring later in the year, now is the time to lobby people you think would be good Councillors or even think of standing yourself. Several existing Councillors will not be re-standing, so it is the perfect opportunity to get involved in the decision-making process. If you have any questions about what is involved, ask one of your Councillors.

Marc Cobham
Deputy Mayor

Works Update

Council staff have just completed the first part of our bitumen sealing program by completing reseals on Port Davies, Coast, Memana, Lackrana and Lady Barron Roads. Pavement stabilisation works are planned for next week. When these are completed various roads including Memana and Lady Barron as well as Gunter and Holloway Streets will be given a prime and seal coat. This will include the walking track along Lagoon Road which will have some flattening of the cross fall but more or less be on a similar angle to what it has been.

At this time of year gravel roads tend to dry out so residents are advised to take care. Unfortunately, without rainfall there is not enough moisture present in the pavement to ensure that maintenance grading is effective. Grading without adequate moisture will leave a substandard result.

Bill Boehm
General Manager

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the first Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Thursday 15 February 2018 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, 9 February 2018 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

CALL FOR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Nominations from the public are called for the position of Community 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 will be accepted up to C.O.B. 23 February 2018 and can be sent to the Committee Chair:

Carol Cox, Mayor

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

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****