

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

### Outcomes from April Meeting:

**Planning:** Approved the building of a house in the Rural Zone and Visually Sensitive Special Area at North East River Road, North East River (CT: 40436/1).

**Whitemark Community Gym Special Committee:** Agreed to advertise for another community member to join the committee and reduce the quorum at meeting to four members.

The committee minutes report that there were 234 gym attendances for the first 19 days of March with 71 being by RFDS /Council Health program users and 163 by other users.

**Furneaux Islands Festival Policy:** Approved the policy for community consultation. A copy of the Policy as approved at the meeting is available on Council's website or on request from the Council office. The Policy outlines Council's wish to continue the Festival with the following objective: *"To deliver an event that highlights our history, culture and community spirit, increases local participation and creative expression, provides local economic benefit and stimulates tourism."*

**Airport – Private Hangars:** Authorised the leasing of individual sections of land for General Aviation hangars for private use of a non-commercial nature with the lessees to erect the hangars. The site of the leases is as designated in the Airport Master Plan i.e. on the northern side of the short runway.

**Airport – Wildlife Exclusion Fence:** Approved an amendment to the 2017/18 Capital Works Budget to include an allocation of \$110,000 for the construction of a wallaby-proof fence around the airport runway, the cost of which is offset by a \$55,000 grant. It is intended that work on this project begins this year with any unfinished costs carrying through to the 2017/18 capital budget.

**Quarterly Reports:** Received the March quarterly finance and activity reports. The Activity Report provides a detailed account of the actions achieved by staff against the Annual Plan for the first 9 months of the year. The report can be accessed as Annexure 7 to the April Meeting Agenda on the Council website.

The Financial Report is being changed to a project-based format aimed at giving the reader a better understanding of the areas to which Council expenditure is allocated.

### **Solid Waste Management:**

Council has been working on improving solid waste management systems on the islands for quite some time. It is no longer satisfactory to just dig a hole in the ground and bury it and the current waste management system poses a serious breach to Council's Environmental Protection Notice as issued by the Environmental Protection Agency. Council is facing an infringement starting at \$157,000 if systems are not brought up to standard soon.

Putrescible waste (household waste) will still be buried, but the hole must be lined with an impermeable liner and leachate collected and monitored to avoid soil contamination. This is a very expensive process and if there is no change to the current waste management regime there will be significant increased costs.

In early 2017 Council, with the assistance of a company working in the field, began to develop a cost-effective way to handle the ever-growing household waste stream and other solid waste. It has taken until now to reach the stage where Council is scoping the capital and operational costs involved.

The best way to reduce ongoing costs is to reduce the amount of waste going into landfill. It is proposed that household waste will be baled as one way of reducing volume along with removing recyclable material from the waste stream to be buried. This can only be done with the help of users separating the waste streams. The use of a household collection system, with separate bins, is envisaged as an effective way to separate waste streams and reduce the amount of waste to be buried.

Preliminary indications from work already undertaken by staff are that the costs of this system will be less than those that would apply in the future if there is no change, but Council is yet to see final detailed costings as these are still being refined and will be further shaped through public consultation; hence the recent advertisement for professional assistance.

The giving shed is recognised as an effective tool for reducing the volume of waste going into

the hole and provides a valued community service and will remain.

I recognise community concern and anticipate much more information flowing from Council to the Community on this issue in the near future.

#### **Local Government Elections:**

**Date Reminder 31<sup>st</sup> May:** Candidates information session and Land Use Planning session run by the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

The terms of the current Councillors are due to expire on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November of this year and I encourage those interested in standing to attend the above sessions (see advertisement elsewhere in Island News).

The *Local Government Act 1993* states that the Councillors collectively have the following functions:

*“(2)(a) to develop and monitor the implementation of strategic plans and budgets;*

*(b) to determine and monitor the application of policies, plans and programs for –*

*(i) the efficient and effective provision of services and facilities; and*

*(ii) the efficient and effective management of assets; and*

*(iii) the fair and equitable treatment of employees of the council;*

*(c) to facilitate and encourage the planning and development of the municipal area in the best interests of the community;*

*(d) to appoint and monitor the performance of the general manager;*

*(e) to determine and review the council's resource allocation and expenditure activities;*

*(f) to monitor the manner in which services are provided by the council.”; and that in “performing any function under this Act or any other Act, a councillor must not –*

*(3)(a) direct or attempt to direct an employee of the council in relation to the discharge of the employee's duties; or*

*(b) perform any function of the mayor without the approval of the mayor.*

*(4)A councillor is to represent accurately the policies and decisions of the council in performing the functions of councillor.”*

#### **ANZAC Day:**

In the Furneaux Group, ANZAC Day was celebrated with Dawn Services on both Cape Barren Island and Flinders Island and a march and morning service in Whitemark. Thank you to the local RSL members for enabling us to commemorate those who have served in war for our country. **Lest we Forget**

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**

#### **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the second Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Thursday 17 May 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, 11 May 2018 on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://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 Whitemark Community Gym Special Committee of Council. The Committee consists of council and community representatives and exists to support, assist and advise in the management and operation of the Whitemark Community Gym. Nominations can be sent to the Committee Chair: Marc Cobham Flinders Council, PO Box 40, Whitemark TAS 7255 Or Executive Office Vicki Warden [vicki.warden@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:vicki.warden@flinders.tas.gov.au)

#### **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\*\***

### **Furneaux Group Shipping & Aviation Special Committees Submissions**

The Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee and the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee consist of business and community representatives and exist to consider and make recommendations to Council concerning issues related to Shipping and Aviation. The public are invited to make submissions for consideration by the Committees. Submissions may be sent to Council attention to The Chair of the relevant committee, by close of business Monday 30 April 2018.

#### **Request for Tender**

Flinders Council invites suitable tenderers to submit for the supply of materials and works associated with the construction of approximately 7km of new animal proof fencing to be erected at the Flinders Island Airport. The fence is to be 1.5metres high and comprise of 11-90-15 apron wire, two electrified wires on top and one standard electrified wire on the lower outside of the fence. Existing gates are to remain; however, the existing 7 kilometres of fence will also have to be removed and costed as part of this tender.

Tenders are to be clearly marked "**AIRPORT FENCING TENDER**" and addressed to PO Box 40, WHITEMARK TAS 7255. Hard copies may be hand delivered to Flinders Council or posted to the above. Email tenders may be sent to [Jacci.viney@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jacci.viney@flinders.tas.gov.au)

**Tenders close at 5pm - Friday 11 May 2018.**

#### **Rural Addressing Numbers**

Those with rural addressing numbers are advised that the condition of the numbers is the responsibility of the land owner. If your street side number is lost, broken or requires replacing, you may purchase new ones from council for \$2 each. New posts can also be purchased for \$40 each.

#### **Public Input - 2018/19 Budget**

Council is currently developing the next financial year's Annual Plan and Budget and invites community members and organisations to provide input. Your ideas to be considered for possible inclusion in the 2018/19 Budget or for future reference can be sent to the General Manager via mail or via email to

[vicki.warden@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:vicki.warden@flinders.tas.gov.au) and will be received up to close of business 10 May. All submissions will be formally acknowledged and treated in confidence. Your suggestion may or may not be agreed to but is certainly welcome.

In addition to Council's normal maintenance, reconstruction and community programs, some of the actions/projects that council is already considering for inclusion in its 2018-19 annual plan and budget estimates are:

- Addressing housing needs of the Island (waiting on recommendations from the State Governments Housing Needs Analysis Report)
- Flinders Business Economic and Social Structural Review Project (quantifying Island disadvantage)
- Lady Barron Safe Harbour (subject to funding)
- Define scope of works for Whitemark Structure Plan
- Support investigations by the Flinders Sports and RSL Club with respect to potential site development plans
- Badger Corner boat ramp (if grant application successful)
- Install toilet and BBQ on Cape Barren Island
- Upgrade Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre (FAEC) and Erita Hall on-site waste water systems
- Develop a 3-Year rolling program for roads, streets, bridges, buildings & facilities
- Develop Stormwater Management Plan for all townships
- As part of Whitemark Structure Plan develop a concept plan for Council's Lagoon Road site (between Lagoon Road and the Cattle Track)
- Install new wallaby proof fence at airport
- Minor one room extension of Council offices
- Finalise new Planning Scheme
- Review of Regional Land Use Strategy