

## MAYOR'S COLUMN

### May Council Meeting Outcomes:

#### Thank you:

Councillors recorded a thank you to staff for ensuring the two flag poles were in place at the Memorial Wall at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre to enable the Australian and New Zealand flags to be flown for the Anzac Day March.

#### Dog Registration Fees:

The applicable fees for the 2018-19 year were approved to be unchanged from those applied this year. Once again there is a substantial discount for registrations paid prior to 30 June 2018 for the 2018-19 year.

#### Planning Permits:

Advice was received on the wording required for the addition of "Notes" to the permits. Council noted the provided wording to be included in permits to clarify that the notes included on the permit do not form a part of the permit but are added to assist the applicant to recognise that legislation other than that relating to planning is relevant to the development. An example is that for a dwelling, once planning approval is given, building and plumbing permits will be required to complete the project.

#### Solid Waste Management

Council received and noted the report from staff of the actions carried out so far in the process of bringing Council's solid waste management on Flinders up to standards required by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). Failure to do so could result in hefty fines.

The report is a detailed summation of the Council's progress to date and effectively consolidates numerous briefings that have been provided to councillors over a considerable period of time. Council staff are in the process of costing the works on the basis that the scope of waste services previously identified through an external contractor involvement process will be carried out in-house. Unfortunately, the previous external contractor identified was purchased by a larger company and there amended costs did not provide the result that Council was looking for.

The major cost involved is in the handling of putrescible waste and Council must develop

a burial system that has a cell with a very expensive lining and collect and monitor resulting leachate. The less waste going into the cell, the lower the ongoing replacement costs of the cell. Putrescible waste will be baled and stacked in the cell to keep the volume being buried to a minimum.

The ongoing cost of the cell can be reduced by separating as much and as many recyclable/reusable goods out of household waste as possible. The most efficient way to do this is separation at the source, at the home. Council staff are currently costing the implementation of a wheelie bin collection service that would encourage and assist this separation process. A report on costs of implementation of the cell and the collection service will be presented to Council in the near future for consideration and to assist in making the decision on next steps.

**The detailed report can be read as Item B1 in the May Council Minutes. The minutes are available on the Council website or by request at the office.**

#### Whitemark Gym Trial

The trial period for the operation of the gym is coming close to its end. A report on usage from the Whitemark Gym Committee outlined high usage and strong support for the gym. Council will receive a detailed report for discussion at the June workshop and consideration at the June Council meeting.

#### Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation:

Council received its quarterly report on the actions of the NTDC of which it is a shareholder.

#### Flinders Business Economic Social Structural Review:

Council has attained a \$52,000 grant from the Building Better Regions Fund to undertake this study that is aimed at giving some definition to the cost of doing business on Flinders Island as compared to the mainland. The resulting information will be available to support lobbying and grant applications in the future. Council approved a budget amendment to enable the project to begin this financial year.

#### Community Grants and Gunn Bequest:

Council approved \$4,110 worth of community grants spread across the following community organisations:

Flinders Island Show Society; Flinders Island Sub Branch of the RSL; Friends of the Bass Strait Islands and the Flinders Island Sports and RSL Club.

The Gunn Bequest, allocated annually, is 50% of the annual interest accruing on the bequest left with Council for this purpose by Jack and Enid Gunn. \$1,610 was allocated between the Flinders Island Women's Golf Club and Flinders Island Bowls Club.

#### Policies:

Council agreed to rescind the following policies:

- Access Policy;
- Hire of Municipal Halls Policy;
- Food Safety Policy;
- Remission or Rebate of Rates and Charges Policy;
- Postponement of Rates and Charges Policy;
- Quasi-Judicial Policy;
- Special Committees of Council Policy;
- Induction Policy;
- Writing Off Bad Debts Policy, at the time the Instrument of Delegation is reviewed; and
- Physical Locality Staffing Policy, once it has been incorporated into the Recruitment Policy.

#### Closed Council:

In the closed session Council discussed and approved the KPIs to be used for the General Manager's 2018 Performance Review.

#### **2018 Local Government Elections:**

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission has set the following dates for the 2018 Local Government Elections:

Sat 8 Sept: Notice of Election  
Mon 10 Sept: Nominations Open  
Thurs 13 Sept: Rolls Close  
Mon 24 Sept: Nominations Close  
Tues 25 Sept: Nominations Announced  
Tues 30 Oct: Close of Polling

All councillor positions, seven for Flinders, will become vacant to be refilled by newly elected members for a term of four years.

#### Candidate Information Booklet:

The Candidate Information Booklet is an important reference for intending candidates. Hard copies may be requested from the Tasmanian Electoral Commission by calling

1800 801 701 or may be downloaded from their website at [https://www.tec.tas.gov.au/Local\\_Government\\_Elections/PDF/LG\\_Candidate\\_Information\\_Booklet.pdf](https://www.tec.tas.gov.au/Local_Government_Elections/PDF/LG_Candidate_Information_Booklet.pdf).

#### Who can vote at a local government election?

Anyone who is enrolled on the State Electoral Roll for an address in a municipal area, is automatically enrolled for the Flinders municipal area as well.

Other people who own or occupy land in the Flinders municipal area, or are the nominated representatives of a corporate body which owns or occupies land in the municipal area, are also eligible to enroll, **but must apply to be added to the General Manager's roll.** Application forms are available from Council's front office.

The **candidates Information session on Flinders** has been deferred until 16 July due to unforeseen commitments of the LGAT personal involved (refer flyer elsewhere in Island News).

#### **Congratulations:**

Congratulations and well done to the **Flinders Island Pony Club** for being named the Best Pony Club in Tasmania and being one of three nominated for the National Title. Best wishes for the National Title event.

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**

#### **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the sixth Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Thursday 21 June 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, 15 June 2018 on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au) and at the Council Office.

#### **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.

#### **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**

#### **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 19 April 2018 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the **Furneaux Islands Festival Policy**.

This policy will lie on the table for public comment until 8 June 2018. The draft policy is available to download from the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies) and hardcopies are available from the Council Office. Should you wish to make comment on this policy, please do so by addressing relative correspondence to:  
Bill Boehm **General Manager**

#### **Expressions of Interest – Bathroom in a Box (BIB)**

Council are calling for expressions of interest to purchase the BIB that was intended for use at the Emita Hall but was never installed.

Photos of the contents of the BIB may be viewed by any interested party by contacting the undersigned.

The sale is subject to the condition: sold as is, where is and own transport of the BIB must be arranged by successful purchaser.

Council will sell the item to the highest financial interest.

Expressions of interest close COB 18 May and must be delivered to Council Office at 4 Davies Street, Whitemark, posted to PO Box 40, WHITEMARK TAS 7255 or emailed to [Jacci.viney@flinder.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jacci.viney@flinder.tas.gov.au)

#### **Flinders Business Economic and Social Structural Review**

**Public Meetings 30<sup>th</sup> May 10am and 5.30pm**

Due to its unique nature, Flinders Council considers that Flinders Island does not attract sufficient levels of Tasmanian and Australian Government funding to adequately respond to the challenges created by our remote island location including in everyday life, running a business and in delivering public and community services.

With federal funding assistance through the Building Better Regions Program, Council has engaged FTI Consulting to undertake a review that will deliver an evidence base to inform government decisions and better assist in attracting appropriate levels of funding into the future.

To ensure the review reflects the real lived experiences of Flinders Island residents and visitors, a community survey will be conducted to generate the data needed to highlight the challenges faced by Flinders Island, such as the high costs of key goods and services and the Island's reliance on community volunteers.

It is critical to the review's success that all Flinders Islanders have an opportunity for early input on its direction, therefore **two community meetings will be held on 30 May 2018, at 10am and 5.30pm at the FAEC.**

At the meetings, those interested in contributing to the project, for example in developing the survey questions, will be given further information on the variety of ways that they can do so.