COUNCIL SNIPS


ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016.

Memorial Requests from Families
Council receives a number of Memorial requests from families or individuals (such as for garden furniture, trees, barbeques and shelters) during the year. Council is aware many of its parks and streets are at maximum capacity with seating and trees and after discussion resolved future memorial requests will be advised to contact Community and Sporting organisations in the area in the first instance for their consideration, so as to best instil the memorial into the community.

Booleroo Centre Community Development & Tourism Association Inc
A request to fund a proposed new barbeque at the playground area by the Booleroo Centre Community Development & Tourism Association Inc. was considered. Council agreed to pay for the day to day ongoing electricity costs for operating a barbeque, should the project proceed.

Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2016/2017 – 2026/2027
Council considered the Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2016/2017 – 2026/2027 (the ‘Plan’) and endorsed the Plan to go up to Public Consultation. The public consultation period has concluded with no submissions received.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

As Council considers and plans its 2016 - 2017 Annual Business Plan and Budget it will need to consider the extra responsibilities that are being imposed onto Council by Federal and State Governments.

The Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act has passed through parliament and is expected to come into operation on 1 July 2017. Under this Act, council will inherit an array of functions and responsibilities previously undertaken by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). These responsibilities will include having to investigate complaints about:

- Noise
- odours
- smoke, fumes or dust
- animals, whether dead or alive (currently part of the Local Government Act)
- insanitary conditions on premises
- unsightly conditions on premises, caused by human activity or lack of activity.

Councils authorised officer will require extensive training which is another cost Council will have to bear. The shifting of these types of functions onto Council significantly impacts on Councils finances, which in the end the ratepayer pays for.

In addition to rates raised Council is reliant on grants from Federal and State Government. In the past years this funding has significantly reduced. Council has the task of balancing the budget to fulfil its legislative obligations, continue to maintain current infrastructure, and meet the demands of its communities.

Council adopted the 2016 - 2017 Annual Business Plan and Budget at its Ordinary Meeting on 14 June to go out for public consultation. Ratepayers and residents are encouraged to view the “Plan” as it is your chance to find out how the Mount Remarkable Council programs will be delivered in 2016 - 2017.

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Outdoor dining areas are SMOKE-FREE from 1 July 2016.
Remarkable Places    Remarkable People    Remarkable Lifestyles

**Remarkable Places**

**Boolean Centre** - Council has received a number of calls regarding the NBN fixed wireless towers and connection concerns. To date Booleroo Centre, Melrose and Wirrabara are connected and residents should contact their local service provider to arrange connection to the NBN. Port Germein is in the final stages of its development and is estimated to be live by the end of 2016. Services to Wilmington are being investigated and Council awaits a response from NBN. To learn more about the NBN Service in your area visit [nbn.com.au](http://nbn.com.au).

**UPDATE**

**Baroota Reservoir** - Council is hopeful an announcement for the opening of the Baroota Reservoir for recreational fishing is forthcoming. Council has written to the Minister for Sustainability seeking his support and cooperation to see this venture to fruition.

**Wilmotong Drainage** - Council has engaged NEO Infrastructure to complete Stage 1 of the Wilmington main street drainage project. The project will include upgrading the current drain to provide for greater volumes of water to be removed quickly during rain events. This will prevent the build up of water and flooding of Tuckwell Street and Horrocks Highway corner.

**Works & Technical Services**

- Recent rains have been welcomed and have given Council the opportunity to commence the patrol grading programme in earnest. In accordance with Council’s Unsealed Roads and Patrol Grading Methodology grader operators will operate up to 10 hours per day for 6 days per week to maximise quality grading after a rain. Additionally the graders will operate in tandem resulting in efficient grading practices.

- The Rural Road Signage project continues and Council is committed to ensuring the Rural Road Signage project is finalised by the end financial year as outlined in the 2015-2016 Annual Business Plan and Budget.

- Council is currently considering its Urban Street Signage and Urban House Numbering in all of its townships.

**Wilmotong Drainage** - Works to repair the damage to Port Germein Jetty are expected to commence on Tuesday 14 June and are expected to be completed by late July 2016, weather permitting. The jetty will remain closed for the duration of the repair works.

**HEALTH ALERT - Burning of Rail Sleepers** - The Firewood Association of Australia has issued a health alert on the dangers of burning old rail sleepers. Concerns to be aware of are the sleepers can contain asbestos, maybe contaminated with herbicides and may have small stones embedded. The FAA is concerned about the serious health impacts burning sleepers can have on owners of wood fires and their neighbours. Contact the FAA on 1300 131 481 or by email info@firewood.asn.au for further information.

** Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool** - Maintenance works on the pool is being carried out by Council. The pool has a large leak that requires repair and the pump needs to be upgraded to increase water flow to meet SA Health standards.

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