

Council Matters

Please refer to the Council Minutes & Agenda Reports available on the Council website for full details.

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2014

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

Council has a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system providing members of the community with the ability to lodge and track improvement requests.

Submissions can be submitted electronically on the Council website www.mtr.sa.gov.au or at the Council office or by telephone 8666 2014. Due to the large volume of CQI requests please note that Council does not formally respond to CQI requests.

Weeroona Island Boat Launching Facility

Council have awarded a tender for the Weeroona Island Boat Launching Facility to commence in 2015. The details remain "in confidence" for a period until contracts have been signed.

Wilmington Bowling Club

Council has approved a loan of up to \$20,000 for a maximum five year term to the Wilmington Bowling Club for the renovations of the kitchen.

Wirrabara CWMS

Progress continues with land being secured and engineering testing completed. Public consultation will be provided in early 2015.

RSL Virtual War Memorial (VWM) Project

Council approved a once off contribution to the RSL's appeal to raise \$750,000 toward an interactive web-based Honour Roll with a dedicated page for each serviceman or women to have served in the defence of Australia.

Corella's

Council has observed an increase in Corella activity. We understand they have a destructive nature and impact on the trees, infrastructure and community parks. To assist with reducing their numbers a consistent approach is required. Council reminds private landowners that they are able to cull the birds on private land. In townships community members are urged to use non lethal methods such as noise to unsettle the birds from roosting sites. If this is done vigilantly and the birds are unable to settle, evidence shows the birds will move on. Further information is available at www.environment.sa.gov.au.



Dear Ratepayer,

In June 2014 the Commonwealth Government cut funding to the State Government for pensioner and other concessions amounting to \$27m.

The State Government has maintained your concession on Council rates paid under the SA Parliament's Rates and Land Tax Remission Act 1986 (\$34m) this financial year. However it has announced it will stop your concessions on rates from 1 July 2015.

We estimate that next year's rates, for most people currently eligible for a concession, will include a "bill shock" of around 20% without the concession.

Council is opposed to the Federal cut and is also opposing the State Government's decision to abolish concessions on Council rates.

Help us to help our most vulnerable to retain their concession payments.

To support your Council's aim to reverse this decision, please contact your local Member of Parliament - go to: www.lga.sa.gov.au/localmp.

From

Mayor

Sandra Wauchope

District Council Mount Remarkable



Role of a Councillor

Being a Council Member is a privileged position. As community leaders, Council Members have a wide range of responsibilities, including representing the interests of electors, making decisions about community assets and making judgements about competing pressures and demands on the resources of Council.

Council Members (Principal Member and Councillors) become part of an incorporated body which has responsibility for carrying out the duties and exercising the powers conferred on the Council by the *Local Government Act 1999* and other relevant State legislation.

The Act specifies that Council Members:

- represent the interests of ratepayers and residents;
- provide community leadership and guidance; and
- facilitate communication between the community and the Council.

The role of a Council Member involves:

- participating in the deliberations and civic activities of the Council;

The Local Government Act 1999 sets out the role and functions of a Council

- keeping the Council's objectives and policies under review so as to ensure that they are appropriate and effective; and
- keeping the Council's resource allocation, expenditure, activities and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery under review.

Council Members are involved in the long-term strategic management of the Council area. Your Council Members take part in determining the needs of the community and establishing the range and scope of services necessary to ensure the social and economic development and environmental management of the District Council of Mount Remarkable.

"At times mum would give advice to those who wanted to enter either Local Government or seek election for the State Parliament. She would say to them: 'Look at the big picture, do you have a vision, do you have a commitment to that vision? Above all you need a commitment. Do it to make a difference ... don't do it just for political gain because you won't be there after the next election'."

- An excerpt from Michelle Baluch's eulogy at the Adelaide Memorial Service for her late mother, Joy Baluch, former Port Augusta Mayor and past President of the LGA.



Citizen of the Year 2015 - The Awards reward and recognise individuals and organisations that have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year, and/or give an outstanding service over a number of years, to a local community over and above normal employment duties. Council received several nominations for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year. All nominations were of a high standard and Council was impressed with the calibre of the nominees.

Congratulations

Citizen of the Year 2015

Pauline Battersby - an active member of the Wilmington Community Pauline has been involved for many years with various community groups/organisations dedicating many hours to fundraising and volunteering within her local community.

Young Citizen of the Year 2015

Samantha Stevens - young ambassador for Wirrabara and an inspiring role model for other's, Samantha regularly dedicates many hours volunteering within the local community, recognised as a leader at the Booleroo Centre District School she was elected on the SRC.

Community Event of the Year 2015

Bangor Bushfire Relief Concert - This Community organised event was a remarkable chance for people to gather, share experiences and build social well-being after the impact of the Bangor bushfire. Funds raised were managed by Uniting Care Wesley for distribution to victims of the Bangor fire.

E—newsletter. Full coloured copies of the monthly newsletter are available electronically (via email). Please contact Council on 8666 2014 or email postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au to register for electronic copies of Council's newsletter. Council newsletters, agendas, and minutes are also available on the website www.mtr.sa.gov.au

2015 Happy New Year

Whether we want them or not, the New Year will bring new challenges; whether we seize them or not, the New Year will bring new opportunities. ~Michael Josephson.

