Keeping the community informed
Appila, Bangor, Baroota, Booleroo Centre, Booleroo Whim, Bruce, Charlton, Hammond, Mambray Creek, Melrose, Moockra, Murraytown, Nectar Brook, Weeroona Island, Port Germein, Telowie, Terka, Willowie, Wilmington, Winninowie, Wirrabara, Wongyarra and Yandiah

Council Snippets

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 21 JULY 2015

Draft Annual Business Plan and Annual Budget
Council adopted the Annual Business Plan for the financial year ending 30 June 2016. Council received no written submissions during the public consultation ending on 16 July 2015 and no members of the public attended during the time set aside at the Council meeting.

DP Energy
Representatives from DP Energy gave a presentation and overview of the DP Energy development, a background to its uniqueness for South Australia and benefits to Council communities. The presentation included an expected time line from development to operations, a proposed community benefit fund, impact on Council roads during construction and local jobs and contracts opportunities. Council agreed to maintain a positive and open dialogue with DP Energy.

Playground—Prest Alley Booleroo Centre
Council has received correspondence requesting the “Old Lions Playground” be maintained at Prest Alley. An independent audit of the playground has highlighted some items of equipment that require urgent maintenance or removal. Council is seeking the community’s views and sentiments on the future of the Prest Alley playground. Please contact the Council Office on 8666 2014 or email postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

Extension to Bike Trails Melrose
Council approved the addition of a green (easy) trail and extension of a blue (intermediate) trail to the existing bike trails in and around the Melrose Caravan park. Council recognised the extensions will enhance the existing trails and promote and develop cycle tourism in the region.

By-Laws 2015
Council have endorsed the establishment of six (6) By-Laws. The procedure for making By-Laws is governed by the Local Government Act 1999. The By-Laws will be available for public consultation prior to being adopted by Council in the near future.

Community Leases
The Community Development Officer has continued to work with community groups and organisations on their leases. Council approved the extension of lease agreements for four organisations at the Ordinary meeting.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission is a statutory authority responsible for advising the Minister for State/Local Government Relations on the distribution of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to local governing authorities in South Australia. These grants are untied and decisions on their expenditure are the responsibility of individual councils.

Grants are provided under the Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act, 1995. Under Section 11 of this Act the Commission is required to hold public hearings in connection with its recommendations. The purpose of these hearings is to provide clarification of the Commission’s operations and the opportunity for members of the public to raise issues with the Commission.

The Commission will be visiting Mount Remarkable Council at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, 18 August 2015, to hold discussions with elected members and staff, and with any members of the public in attendance at the hearing.

Persons wishing to attend this public hearing are asked to register their interest by 5:00 pm, Thursday, 13 August 2015 and provide either a written submission or an indication of the issues they wish to raise.

Registration of interest can be made by contacting:
Local Government Grants Commission
GPO Box 2329 ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 7109 7164
FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION

The fire season is approaching fast and all indications are that this year will potentially be one of the worst on record. It is up to everyone to take every precaution possible to minimise the risk of fire.

Council reminds property owners of your obligations.

SECTION 105F OF THE ACT STATES:
An owner of private land must take reasonable steps:

- To prevent or inhibit the outbreak of fire on the land;
- To prevent or inhibit the spread of fire through the land;
- To protect property on the land from fire, and
- To minimise the threat to human life from a fire on the land.

Will your property be Bush Fire Compliant?  Maximum Penalty $5,000

You are required to take the following actions in relation to your residential property in order to remedy the hazard:

- Reduce all flammable (or potentially flammable) grass and undergrowth over the entire allotment to less than 100mm (4”) in height;
- Remove and properly dispose of any heaped flammable vegetation, grass, tree and shrub cuttings from the property;
- Remove any flammable material from around buildings.
- Rural properties must have appropriate fire breaks in place.

The responsibility to have your property cleared and/or fire breaks in place rests with you as the owner and if necessary you should contact an appropriate service provider to arrange clearance of your property. Please note, due to the expected high fuel loads the above actions may need to occur more than once during the fire season period.

The official fire season date will be notified on the CFS website once proclaimed.

If you have any questions regarding this information or would like further assistance please contact the Council Office on 8666 2014.

(PLEASE DON’T BE ONE OF THE 50 PEOPLE THAT GOT EXPIATION NOTICES IN 2014.)

Clean up, pack up and be bushfire ready.

Property Clean-up

Annually Council receives a number of telephone calls enquiring if Council is aware of any businesses or organisations that provide slashing of vacant township blocks in readiness for the fire season. Council is creating a register of businesses or community groups/organisations that have the capacity and equipment to clear vacant blocks/land either by mowing, whipper snipping or slashing and interested in providing this service to ratepayers. To register your business or community group please contact Council on 8666 2014.
What's Happening around Council?

Melrose Caravan Park was closed from 3 - 7 August for asbestos removal and a new roof installed.

Bushfire Revegetation - Council successfully applied for a Northern and Yorke Natural Resource Management Board (NRM) grant to revegetate parts of Horrocks Highway roadside from Wirrabara to the Port Germein Gorge Road turnoff.

The project includes clearing dead vegetation, ripping and planting seedlings to approximately 7kms of the roadside.

Waste Management 2015/2016
The Waste Management Contract is currently out for tender. The current collection days will remain in existence until the tender is finalised.

Please see your 2014/2015 Waste Management Calendar for August’s collection days and the leaflet in with your rates notice showing August and September’s collection days.

Council will be sending a new calendar when the collection days are finalised with the contractor.

Supplementary Election
At the close of nominations 12 noon on Thursday 6 August two nominations were received for the Telowie Ward.

- Vicki Morley—Wirrabara
- Susan Perovic—Port Germein

Mail out of voting material to electors living in the Telowie Ward will occur by the Electoral Commission SA between Tuesday 18 and Monday 24 August 2015.

To be accepted, ballot papers must be completed and returned to reach the Returning Officer by no later than 12 noon Monday 7 September 2015.

For further information or queries please contact the Electoral Commission SA on 1300 655 232.

Playgrounds - Council engaged the services of an independent auditor to review Council owned playgrounds and equipment in the district.

The audit highlighted some pieces of equipment that require maintenance or removal. Council will be addressing the concerns raised in the audit by making repairs or removing equipment identified that pose a hazard.

Council committed $25,000 towards replacing playground pieces in the 2015/2016 Annual Business Plan.

Road Works - Annually Council reviews its 2200kms of unsealed roads and plans the next 12 months road operations. During the 2015/2016 financial year Council proposes to re-sheet 31kms and re-surface a further 12kms of unsealed roads at a cost of over $700,000. This work is in addition to the grader maintenance program. Council will commence a new improved operational grading program and believes ratepayers will see the benefits of this program during the year. Work has commenced on the Survey Road Floodway. Budgeted costs for completion of the floodway project is $45,000. Councils 2015/2016 Annual Business Plan is available on www.mtr.sa.gov.au.
It’s time to start thinking about fox control
The Northern and Yorke Natural Resource Management (NRM) officers will be visiting towns across the district, providing 1080 fox baits for purchase.

**Dates and Locations as follows:**

**Monday 17 August**
- Wilmington 10am – 12 noon
- Melrose 1.30pm – 3.30pm

**Friday 21 August**
- Wirrabara 10.30am – 12.30pm
- Port Germein 2pm – 4pm

1080 is a naturally occurring substance that is highly toxic to foxes and dogs. There is no antidote available so extreme care must be taken and directions for use followed carefully. For help to plan your fox control program and for details about cost of baits, distribution centres and other information, contact staff at the Orroroo Natural Resource Management office on (08) 8658 1086. Please contact Sarah Voumard on 0429 362 004 for further information.

**Put it in the diary…**
Royal Life Saving of South Australia have notified Council they will be offering the Bronze Medallion and Bronze Medallion Update courses at the Booleroo Centre Memorial Swimming Pool on:

**14 & 15 November 2015**

The Bronze Medallion involves 2 Days of theory & practical and the Bronze Medallion Update is a one day refresher, both courses are delivered on-site at Booleroo Centre.

A current Bronze Medallion is a requirement of being a Pool Attendant or supervisor during swimming times at all of Council’s swimming pools.

Further information including course information and prerequisites is available at www.royallifesavingsa.com.au

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

**Phone: 8666 2014**

Please provide number of containers when booking.

**Registrations Due**

**ANNUAL DOG REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE FOR RENEWAL EACH YEAR BETWEEN JULY 1 AND AUGUST 31.**

Dog registration is an important part of being a responsible pet owner. All dogs should be registered with Council to ensure that effective dog control can be carried out. All income generated from registrations and expiations is dedicated to animal management.

Dog registration is mandatory in South Australia. Dogs three months or older must be registered.

Registrations can be completed at:
- Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose,
- Wilmington and Wirrabara Post Office
- ANZ Bank, Booleroo Centre.

For further information contact Council on 8666 2014.

**Rates** - Council rates will be raised in the coming weeks. Rates can be paid in full annually or in four quarterly instalments. The due dates for instalments for 2015/2016 are:
- 25 September 2015
- 18 December 2015
- 24 March 2016
- 17 June 2016

Rates can be paid in person at the Council Office, BPay, post, eCouncil or Internet Direct Debit. Contact Council 8666 2014 for further information.

**Drum Muster Collection**

Council will be conducting drumMUSTER chemical drum collection at the Willowie Landfill:

**September 2015 - Monday 7 to Thursday 10 April 2016 - Monday 4 to Thursday 7**

All containers delivered to the collection site must be:
- Free of chemical residue
- Clean, dry and have lids removed
- drumMUSTER approved containers only, which carry the appropriate logo.

All containers must be correctly cleaned both inside and out (including threads) and allowed to drain to ensure they do not contain rinse water (refer to Avcare standards for effective rinsing - brochure available from local chemical supplier).

Unclean or partly filled containers cannot be accepted.

** Booleroo Community Development & Tourism Association**

**A.G.M.**

Thursday 20 August 2015.
Community Centre.
7.30 PM.

New and intending members most welcome

**Remarkable Places    Remarkable People    Remarkable Lifestyles**

........... Simply Remarkable