COUNCIL SNIPPETS
Please refer to the Council Minutes & Agenda Reports available on the Council website mtr.sa.gov.au for full details.

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2017 COUNCILLORS RESOLVED:

Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS)
Council authorised the CEO to make application to the Local Government Association (LGA) under the Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) Subsidy Funding Agreement for the upgrade of the Wilmington CWMS, and the design and building of a new CWMS at Port Germein.

Hammond Hall
Councillors authorised the CEO to initiate processes for the sale of the Hammond Hall after receiving notification that the Hammond Hall Committee has disbanded.

Wirrabara Community Development & Tourism Group
Councillors approved the request from the Wirrabara Community Development & Tourism Group to waive fees for rubbish bin hire for the Wirrabara Musicfest.

Melrose Cemetery
Councillors resolved (subject to the acquisition of native title rights in the land and Minister’s consent), that Council accepts the care, control and management of Section 505 Hundred of Wongyarra for cemetery purposes, subject to the standard conditions of dedication.

Melrose Caravan Park
Council will engage a contractor to install television outlets and cables at the cost of $12,600 at the Melrose Caravan Park.

People for Places Grant
Councillors authorised Council to submit a People for Places Grant to upgrade the Wilmington Main Street, committing $140,000 towards the project.

Christmas Closure
The Council Office will be closed from 12 noon on Friday 22 December 2017 and reopen at 9.00am on Tuesday 2 January 2018; and Approval has been received for reduced trading hours for Melrose Post Office, 9 am to 11 am on Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 December and CLOSED on Friday 29 December 2017.

Message from the Mayor - As we near the end of another year now is the time to reflect on the year and recognise through Council’s 2018 Australia Day Awards an individual, group or youth who has made an outstanding contribution to the Council District. There are many fantastic community minded people in our district that go about helping all our communities, mainly on the quiet and deserve your and council’s recognition. I was pleased to present Yvonne & Don Bishop with a Citizen of the Year Award on 26 January 2017 and I urge all ratepayers to consider nominating a deserving community person for the 2018 Australia Day Awards. Applications are open now and close on 11 December, 2017. This is one small thing everyone can do to make all our communities even better.

Next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 21 November 2017 in the Council Chambers.
B-Double Permits

At the August 2017 Council Meeting Councillors approved several roads for pre-approval of B-Double permits. With the 2017 hay season underway and harvest about to commence Heavy Vehicle operators are reminded they need to have a permit to drive a B-Double on Council roads unless it is a gazetted road.

Information on roads is available on the RAVnet site www.dpti.sa.gov.au/ravnet. RAVnet is an interactive online map system that displays approved heavy vehicle route networks in South Australia. Restrictions associated with specific route networks are also included.

To apply for a permit go to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator website www.nhvr.gov.au.

Council is advised of all permits applied for, these are monitored to enable Council to identify roads of high heavy vehicle use and be proactive in revising roads for pre-approval or gazetral in the future.

Want to Report a Problem?

Council provides many services to local communities and at times problems occur, taps leak, pipes get blocked, potholes need filling, signage needs replacing and roads need grading. Council appreciates the wider community reporting such issues when they are noticed.

Council developed the online Request for Service form and encourages all ratepayers to utilise this form for simple and easy reporting. The form can be found on Council’s website at www.mtr.sa.gov.au, just click on the Request for Service tool on the front page.

Council is committed to the provision of quality service to customers and aims to provide services fairly and efficiently. It also monitors requests to identify ways in which it can proactively improve its services.

WORKS UPDATE

Council has recently awarded tenders for works to be completed early 2018 for:

**Construct & Seal**
- Killoran Street, Port Germein.
- West Terrace, Wirrabara
- Redgum Street, Wirrabara
- Tuckwell Street, Wilmington

Further tenders are open to:
- Construct & Seal Mount Street, Melrose
- Reseal 200m of Edwin Street, Booleroo Centre.
- Reseal Road Verges Appila - Laura Road (Gladstone Road to Laura).
- Casuarina Street, Wirrabara drainage 120m x 2 kerb and spoon drain.

Details of these projects are included in the Annual Business Plan & Annual Budget 30 June 2018.

The dry winter has prevented Council from completing much of its patrol grading program. Notwithstanding this Council have utilised grading staff with the construction crew to continue with its Capital Works program completing resheeting of Windy Plains Road and Booleroo Road from Willowie to Greig Road and commenced resheeting of Peroomba Road.

Minor patrol grading has been carried out on some sections of roads however Council as a general guide will not dry grade category 1 & 2 roads.

Resurfacing of the Wilmington to Melrose Rail Trail has commenced and all bridges have been installed.

After receiving notification of Council’s successful application for flood damage relief carting has commenced on Dust Bowl and the seawall has been repaired

Council has continued with its weed spraying program in conjunction with the tidy towns program.

2 x Operations Manager

Works - Melrose Council Depot

Council is seeking two experienced Operations Managers, one to manage the Council Depot and Logistics functions and oversee the Township Maintenance and Projects teams and the other to manage the Construction, Operations and Patrol Grading team.

The positions would suit self-motivated individuals with strong leadership skills and the commitment and desire to work with the local community.

Both positions would be responsible for:

- Managing a small team of Multiskilled Employees;
- Preparing weekly job sheets and work schedules;
- Planning and scheduling of works, labour and equipment to deliver the annual budget objectives.
- You will be a proactive, hands-on Operations Manager with proven leadership experience;
- MUST have a current Driver’s License;
- Proficient in numeracy and literacy skills and competent computer skills.

A copy of the position descriptions and other applicable information can be obtained from Council’s website www.mtr.sa.gov.au or contact Jessie White at the Council Office on 8666 2014.

Applications should be marked ‘Confidential – (Operations Manager Works)’ and reference the specific position applying for, and be forwarded to Director of Works, District Council of Mount Remarkable, PO Box 94, Melrose SA 5483 or emailed to postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au by 5.00pm Monday 13 November 2017.
There has been several projects in the Council district submitted for a Fund My Neighbourhood grant. These include:

- Amenities for BBQ Shelter and Boat Ramp, Weeroona Island
- Wirrabara Silo Art
- Wirrabara Adventure Playground
- Save the Booleroo Centre CWA Rooms
- Accessibility Van for Wheelchair Users, Booleroo Centre
- Healing Garden, Booleroo Centre
- Resurfacing Melrose Tennis Courts
- Melrose Tennis Club Playground Upgrade
- Paradise Square Park Project, Melrose
- Melrose Primary School Partnering and Sharing Resources with Community Organisation
- The Mount Remarkable Experience, Melrose
- Melrose Modular Pumptrack
- Community Centre Soft Play Space, Wilmington
- Wilmington Oval Complex Revitalisation and Preservation Project

This is your chance to help a community project. Vote at fundmyneighbourhood.yoursay.sa.gov.au. Voting closes Monday 20 November 2017.

Planning and Development

Whether you are building a large farm shed, a small garden shed, a house or renovating, there are certain planning and development laws that apply. Planning is the responsibility of the State Government however Council is responsible for the local implementation of the State’s Planning Strategy in line with legislation contained in the Development Act 1993.

Council has a development plan which aligns with the State’s Planning Strategy as well as supporting the council’s own strategic plan for the development of physical and community infrastructure. The development plan guides the type of development that can occur in different zones and is used for assessment of development applications. Depending on the type of development being proposed, the assessment process can vary. Council also assesses building applications against the Building Rules including the Building Code of Australia and any relevant Minister’s specifications.

Council’s website www.mtr.sa.gov.au contains application forms and information sheets on development and planning. If all the required information/documentation is not supplied with the application this can delay the process. Contact Council’s Building and Development Officer on 8666 2014 to discuss your application if you have any questions or concerns.

Do You Know Someone Who Makes a Difference in Your Community or an Event That Has Benefited the Community?

Nominations for the 2018 Citizen of the Year and Community Event awards are now open. Submit your nomination for the person or event that you believe has made an outstanding contribution to the Council District and tell us why you think they are deserving of an Australia Day Award.

Categories for nomination are:
- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Application forms are available on Council’s website www.mtr.sa.gov.au or from the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose.

Nominations open Monday 9 October & Close Monday 11 December 2017.
MANAGING DIEBACK IN RIVER RED GUM COMMUNITIES

Lerp (psyllid insects) is not a new problem, having occurred for thousands of years, however the impact of the insects is compounded by other stresses such as lack of water, increased water salinity and bird damage.

Lerp targets stressed trees, which have higher levels of nutrients in their sap.

Higher humidity in summer, and lower than average rainfall in the traditional rain-producing months result in the ideal climatic conditions for insect breeding.

The primary cause of dieback in red gums in the region is water stress and the reduced number of bird predators on lerp, owing to the loss of shrub habitat from the landscape.

Trees with sufficient resilience will survive, but recovery from severe lerp attack takes around 3-4 years, replacing the lost leaves and starting the cycle from buds to fruit and seed, which takes 2 years.

A major issue for river red gums is the shortage of younger trees to replace the old trees as they die.

The most useful action that can be undertaken by the community is to protect young seedlings and saplings from harm caused by grazing or machinery by using tree guards and controlled grazing methods.

Additionally, natural control of insect numbers can be achieved by increasing the number of native shrubs along watercourses, thereby increasing the number of insect-eating birds that use the shrubs for travelling and habitat.

The combination of these actions will help ensure that the tree communities will be sustained for the long term.

Further information about the river red gums can be found on the Natural Resources Northern and Yorke website [http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/northernandyorke/plants-and-animals/].
Electronic Rates notice
2nd Quarter Rates Notices have just been mailed out, but did you know that 2nd, 3rd and 4th Quarter Council Rates Notices can now be received electronically? If you would find this type of notification more convenient, register to receive your rates notice electronically at mtr.sa.gov.au by completing the Change of Address Form or visit the Council office to complete a written form.

Flinders Mobile Library
Christmas Closure
Flinders Mobile Library will be closing for the Christmas/New Year holiday break at 4pm on Friday 15 December 2017 and will re-open for business as usual on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

You can find the Flinders Mobile Library Truck back on the road in the District Council of Mount Remarkable townships on the following dates:

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<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Port Germein</td>
<td>4th January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booleroo Centre</td>
<td>5th January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melrose</td>
<td>9th January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>9th January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wirrabara</td>
<td>11th January 2018</td>
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<td>Murray Town</td>
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Expressions of Interest
Cleaner Position
Booleroo Centre Public Toilets
Duties include the cleaning of the public toilets, Stephens Street, Booleroo Centre to commence on 1 December 2017 for approximately four hours a fortnight. (All cleaning products are provided)
Expressions of Interest should be forwarded to:
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
District Council of Mount Remarkable
PO Box 94
MELROSE SA 5483
Email: postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

Applications close 5.00 pm Monday 20 February 2017.
For further information, contact Jessie the Council Office on 8666 2014.

Fire Danger Season
1 November 2017 to 15 April 2018
Council has conducted its second inspections of townships blocks and is pleased the majority of property owners have complied with the Fire & Emergency Services Act 2005. Council commends all property owners for taking responsibility to ensure long grass was slashed and yards cleaned up in preparation for the Fire Danger Season. The townships all look good with the blocks being tidied and this is very much appreciated by Council.

During the Fire Danger Season it is essential property owners maintain their vacant blocks in accordance with the Act. Further information on bans and ratings, preparing for a bushfire and general information visit www.cfs.sa.gov.au.

Please check the timetable on our website for more information www.flindersmobile.sa.gov.au

Don’t forget, if you run out of reading material you can always borrow eBooks, eAudio and eMagazine items via our website. All you need is your library card number and PIN.

Flinders Mobile Library staff would like to wish all their borrowers celebrating the season a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. See you in 2018!