**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 18 December 2018 Councillors Resolved:**

**Hancocks Lookout**

Council reviewed the camping at Hancocks Lookout and agreed to continue to provide free overnight camping and camp fires in accordance with By-Law No.4 Local Government Land.

**Council Delegations Review**

Council updated Council’s Delegations Register in accordance with Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) to take into account recent changes to the Liquor Licensing Act 1997 and South Australian Public Health Act & Regulations. The delegations are available for viewing in the Minutes on the Council website www.mtr.sa.gov.au.

**Long Term Financial Plan 2018/2019 – 2028/2029**

Council has adopted the Long Term Financial Plan for the 2018/2019 - 2028/2029 period, following the Public Consultation process. The Plan is available on Council’s Website.

**Community Lease**

Council continues to work with community organisations, groups and individuals to ensure that all lease agreements are current. The Booleroo Centre Golf Club and Wirrabara Cemetery and Surrounds leases were signed.

**2019 Community Assistance Grant**

Councillors are reviewing the guidelines of the Annual Community Assistance Grants, which will see a central pool of $20,000 with projects being assessed on merit rather than just location. The proposed guidelines will be considered by Councillors at the January 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting.

**Waive Permit Fees**

The Council has provided delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to waive Event Permit Fees for the holding of community events, for not-for-profit community groups and organisations.

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**DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - EXTENSION**

The Commonwealth Government Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (DIRDC) $1 million ‘Drought Communities Programme’ submissions were considered and following projects were approved for submission:

- Port Germein Foreshore - Boardwalk  $124,456
- Port Germein Caravan Park - Ablution Block  $46,000
- Melrose Caravan Park - Ablution Block  $90,833
- Melrose Agricultural Society - CWMS Connection  $55,747
- Melrose to McCallum Road - Rail Trail Resurfacing  $152,000
- Wilmington CWMS Irrigation Upgrade  $267,000
- Wilmington Oval Complex - Verandah  $26,291
- Booleroo Centre Athletics Club - Complex Upgrade  $32,371
- Booleroo Centre Bowling Club - Amenities Upgrade  $46,375
- Wirrabara Sporting Reserve - Caravan Park Upgrade  $149,259
- Appila Improvement Committee - Town Hall Upgrade  $9,668

**Next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 15 January 2019 in the Council Chambers Melrose at 9.30am.**
Barry Zander - Citizen of the Year 2019

Barry has been recognised for his dedication to the Booleroo Centre and wider community, through the many volunteer hours he commits.

Barry has been involved with the BMW football club for many years, acting as the unofficial photographer and publishing sports photos both on social media and club website. Barry has also produced a book on the history of the BMW Football club, celebrating the 25th anniversary.

Barry is a DJ and has provided the sound track for many community events, such as Australia Day and ANZAC Day. He now also acts as the Booleroo Centre Correspondent for Flinders News, promoting the town and its events to the wider community.

As a South Australian Ambulance Service volunteer for 10 years, Barry has provided an invaluable service to not only Booleroo Centre but the wider community.

With over 45 years’ experience as a teacher, 15 of which were spent at Booleroo Centre District School, he has been an integral part of the lives of the many students and their families over these years.

As well as those already mentioned, Barry is also a volunteer for Booleroo Centre & Districts Lions Club and Booleroo Mens Shed. Barry is known for being a quiet achiever, who sets about his work to better the community without fanfare or expectation of rewards.

Phoebe Storey - Young Citizen of the Year 2019

Phoebe has been recognised for her achievements at an educational and professional level and for her volunteer work within the Wilmington community.

She has previously received awards for academic merit and leadership at Primary School, High School, University, and Career level, including being awarded the 2018 Trainee of the Year award at the Port Augusta Business Awards.

As a keen and dedicated sportswomen, Phoebe is a member of both the Wilmington Tennis Club and BMW Netball Club. She not only dedicates her time as a player, but also as a volunteer for both groups, organising social events, umpiring, coaching, attending working bees and more.

Phoebe volunteers for numerous community groups and events, including Wilmington Progress, Wilmington Show, Wilmington Night Rodeo, Light Up Wilmington, Gym Committee, and other clubs when needed.

Phoebe’s passion and commitment to her education, career, sport and community make her a great role model for the youth of our district.

Diggers from the Dust Book Launch - Event of the Year 2019

The Diggers from the Dust Book Launch was held October 28th at Willowie Memorial Hall, and was attended by an estimated 200 people. The Federal member for Grey, the State member for Stuart and the Mayor of the District Council of Mount Remarkable all spoke, and media personality Peter Goers OAM officially launched the book.

The event was the culmination of years of research by authors Di Barrie and Andrew Barrie to honour the service personnel of the Willowie and Amyton area. This event highlights the importance of local history to the local community.
Drought support

There are many services available to assist and support

Family and Business (FaB) Support Program

The FaB Support Program is available to help farmers, families and regional businesses in drought affected communities.

Experienced mentors and business counsellors will be based in or near the most affected regions – the team of FaB Support Mentors are available to meet, listen to and connect people to appropriate services. They provide a free, informal, confidential and understanding approach.

They also work closely with other service providers such as Rural Financial Counselling and local health networks, and connect people to those services as required.

You can contact the regional FaB Mentor John White directly, on 0447 787 436 or johnwhite@ruralgen.com.au, or contact PIRSA on 1800 255 556 or PIRSA.Recovery@sa.gov.au for more information.

Rural Business Support

Any primary producers and small rural business owners who are experiencing financial difficulties or who have concerns about the financial impacts of the continuing dry season can contact the Rural Financial Counselling Service, which provides free, confidential and impartial business support and information.

The Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) is also able to provide support in the application process for Farm Household Allowance and Farm Management Deposits.

For more information contact 1800 836 211 (Freecall) or visit www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au/rfcs/

Drought Community Support Initiative

Through the Drought Community Support Initiative funding is now available for farmers, farm workers and farm suppliers/contractors facing hardship due to drought. It can be used to spend in local communities or to cover urgent bills such as food, petrol and utilities. The $3,000 per household can consist of up to $2,000 in cash and $1,000 in vouchers.

The Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul Society and Rotary Australia World Community Service have been engaged to deliver the assistance. Eligible households should reach out to these organisations directly to seek financial support.

The Salvation Army

24 hour hotline: 1300 551 030
Website: salvos.org.au/drought

St Vincent de Paul

Hotline: 13 18 12
Website: vinnies.org.au

Rotary

Website: rawcs.org.au

Animal Welfare

PIRSA Animal and Agricultural Services can provide advice and assistance with livestock and other animals affected by the current dry conditions. Contact them on the 24-hour Agriculture, Animal Health and Welfare Hotline 1800 255 556.

Livestock Fodder Register

Livestock SA is maintaining a fodder register to help connect farmers to fodder donations. Further information about the register is available by calling John Sharp on 8297 2299 or email ruralc@internode.on.net

Further resources are available for those facing drought related hardship such as:

Australian Taxation Office

Multi-Peril Crop Insurance

financial hardship advice

Telecommunication Bill Assistance

Farm Debt Mediation

Farming Extension and

Deposits

Technical Advice

Low Interest Loans

Legal Advice and Aid

For more information go to pir.sa.gov.au/drought or call the Agriculture, Animal Health and Welfare Hotline on 1800 255 556.

Farm Household Allowance (FHA)

The Farm Household Allowance (FHA) provides eligible farmers and their partners who are experiencing financial hardship with assistance and support to improve their long-term financial situation.

For more information call 132 316 or visit agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/

Rural Business Support can help eligible families access their FHA entitlements or provide more information. You can call them on 1800 836 211.

Further resources are available for those facing drought related hardship such as:

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FREE Bait Injection service

The Living Flinders team will be providing bait needling services at Peterborough, Cradock, Quorn, Wilmington during February 2019.

Landholders are invited to bring their own meat to the regional racks for free needling by Natural Resources Northern and Yorke staff.

Wednesday, 20 February - Wilmington (Goey Gills property), Orroroo Road.

Please contact Natural Resources Northern and Yorke Ranger Rack Coordinator Perri Hendricks 0447 455 384 or email perri.hendricks@sa.gov.au for information or to register your interest.

The Community Assistance Grant is opening soon!

In 2018 this fund enabled Booleroo Centre Tennis Club to upgrade Playground equipment, Port Germein Heritage Arts & Tourism Inc to restoration & conserve a Bullock Cart, Wilmington Golf Club to replace their oven, Wirrabara Tennis Club to purchase Tennis Nets and the Southern Flinders Dressage Club to purchase Show Jumping equipment and much more.

Organisations and community groups are encouraged to start preparing applications early by identifying a project and sourcing quotes.

Application forms and guidelines will be available from the Council Office and Councils Website from late January. Applications will CLOSE Wednesday 13 March 2019.

The desludging of township septic tanks has commenced in Melrose, they will then move to Booleroo Centre and lastly Wilmington.

Please ensure your tanks are easily accessible and able to be opened by the contractor, Local Liquid Waste Removal.

Australia Day Ceremonies
Saturday 26 January 2019

Booleroo Centre – Booleroo Tennis Club
Stephens Street (Main Street), Booleroo Centre | 8am start | Big Booleroo Breakfast $10, Bacon & Eggs; Pancakes $5, Cereal $2

Presentation of the District Council of Mount Remarkable Citizen of the Year Award to Barry (Bazz) Zander

Melrose – Melrose Hospital Auxiliary
Paradise Square, Melrose | 8am start | Cooked and continental breakfast options available - Under 10 years old $5 Over 10 years & Adults $8 | All proceeds go towards the Booleroo Hospital

Port Germein – Port Germein Progress Association
The Village, Port Germein | 9am start | gold coin donation

Wilmington – Wilmington Progress Society
Wilmington Oval, Wilmington | 8am start | Bacon, eggs, pancakes etc – Adults $6 Children $4

Presentation of the District Council of Mount Remarkable Young Citizen of the Year Award to Phoebe Storey

Presentation of the District Council of Mount Remarkable Community Event of the Year Award to ‘Diggers of the Dust’ book launch

Wirrabara – Wirrabara Progress Association
Wongabirrie Park, Wirrabara | 8am start | Sausages, toad-in-a-hole, tea, coffee, scones with jam and cream for a gold coin donation per serve | Heaviest yabby competition to follow breakfast

Councillors Management and Staff congratulate the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award Winners and commends the many volunteers within our communities for their commitment and dedication towards helping make our Council District Remarkable.