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 JULY 2017 COUNCILLORS RESOLVED:

Facility and Park Names
Councillors determined not to undertake a public consultation regarding the naming of parks and facilities at this time and that the status quo remains.

Fish Cleaning Stations - Port Germein
Councillors considered correspondence from the Port Germein Heritage, Arts & Tourism Inc (PGHAT) regarding the alternative placement of 3 fish cleaning tables at the bottom of the steps and objected against the station at the beginning of the jetty. The EPA advised that the alternative location was not permissible. Councillors resolved not to proceed with the installation of the fish cleaning stations at the Port Germein foreshore and return the ‘Recreational Fishing’ grant monies to the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources as requested.

Liquor Licensing—Form 1
Council lodged a notice of objection to the Liquor and Gaming Commissioner objecting to the transfer of the Liquor and Gaming Hotel licence in respect of the premises known as the Port Germein Hotel, specifically that Council objects to the introduction of ‘gaming machines’ into the township of Port Germein.

Booleroo Centre Main Street Development—Stage 2
Councillors considered correspondence received from Booleroo Centre Community Development and Tourism Association requesting additional works be included in the first part of Stage 2 at the northern end. Council has been successful for a grant of $101,000 for the development. The additional funding will allow the whole of Stage 2 to be included at a total project cost of $200,000.

Wirrabara Community Grant Scheme
Council received nine (9) applications from community groups for the inaugural grant made possible from the NBN lease payment. Councillors considered the applications received with the Wirrabara Community Development and Tourism Association receiving funding for two projects:

$4098.00  Pop up Cinema
$500.00  Playgroup to purchase equipment

Remaining funds of $412 will be carried over to the 2018 Wirrabara Community Grant Scheme.

Councillors support the Local Government Association (LGA) awareness campaign - the value of council services delivered in your communities.

This is part of the LGA’s ongoing work to highlight the many services and facilities that councils provide to their communities that would be at risk if the SA Liberal Party were to succeed in taking local decision making away from communities under its Rate Capping Policy.

Local government collects less than 4% of all national taxation, and rate capped would squeeze budgets to the point where all services that councils are not compelled to provide under legislation would be in danger of being cut or reduced.

At its Ordinary Meeting held 18 July 2017 Councillors resolved:

That Council calls on the State Opposition to publicly pledge prior to the 2018 State election:

1. That a future Liberal Government will cap all future increases in State Government taxes, levies, fees and charges (including government business units/enterprises) in line with its capping proposal for Local Government;
2. That any percentage increase in total revenue collected through State Liberal Government taxes, levies, fees and charges (including government business units/enterprises) not exceed the Local Government cap as proposed by the Liberal Party;
3. That a future Liberal Government will not introduce any new taxes, levies, fees and charges on South Australians;
4. That a future Liberal Government will not transfer responsibility of services to Local Government without adequate and mutually agreed additional funding to Local Government; and
5. That a future Liberal Government will not amend or introduce legislation that has a negative financial impact on Local Government.

Some services that may be affected under rate capping may include jetty maintenance, parks and playgrounds, Flinders Mobile Library, swimming pools, immunisation programs, bike trails and many others that Council provides all helping to build strong and vibrant communities.

Rate capping has failed councils and communities in NSW, and just two years in is already forcing councils in Victoria to consider reducing services. Professor Brian Dollery, Director of the Centre for Local Government, University of New England spoke in Port Pirie last week, the Mayor and a few Councillors attended the forum, more information available at www.lga.sa.gov.au.
Prepare your Property

Dates for the 2017-18 Fire Danger Season will be declared and gazetted in October 2017. The start date for Flinders may be early given the dry winter and available fuel.

Pursuant to the Fire & Emergency Services Act 2005, the owner of private land in the country must take reasonable steps to protect property on the land from fire and to prevent or inhibit the outbreak of fire on the land, or the spread of fire through the land and minimise the threat to human life from a fire on the land.

Preparation throughout the winter months by slashing or grazing vacant blocks within townships can save time and ensure your property is prepared for the fire danger season.

Council will be inspecting properties within the Council area from early September onwards to assess compliance with CFS requirements.

Ratepayers are reminded Under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (Act) the onus is on the landowner to take reasonable steps to manage fuel reduction prior to the commencement of the Fire Danger Season.

Updates on the fire danger season start dates, information on being prepared and how to prepare your property are available at www.cfs.sa.gov.au.

Council will be conducting drumMUSTER chemical drum collection at Willowie Landfill.

Monday 4 to Wednesday 6 September 2017

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

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.

Contact Council on 8666 2014 to make a booking.

Council is pleased to announce that the Weeroona Island Boat Launching Facility is officially open for recreational boaters use. The launching facility was made possible from grant funding received from the South Australian Boating Facilities Advisory Committee.

Further enhancement of the facility will include the installation of a fish cleaning station and construction of a boat wash down facility funded by RecFish SA.
Project Updates
2017-2018 capital work Program latest;

- In conjunction with the Wirrabara community Council has installed the equipment for the Nature Playground at Wirrabara. The playground has reopened and feedback has been positive.
- Sealing of Calvary Drive on Weeroona Island has been completed and Casuarina Drive to be sealed during August. This completes stage 1 of the Weeroona Island drainage Plan.
- Tree trimming on roadsides is continuing with priority works being completed and works on identified harvest roads continuing.
- Council has completed the extension to the Booleroo Centre cemetery.
- Patrol grading of a number of unsealed roads was carried out during July. Recent rains has meant Council that can accelerate its grading program.
- Resheeting of Boully Road has been completed, and 80% of Baroota Road. Council has commenced carting rubble on Piggott Road.

Council has been working with community groups to install equipment at playgrounds in the Council district. Council carried out repairs at Prest Ally playground, Booleroo Centre and laid additional softfall at the Booleroo Centre and Wirrabara playgrounds.

*Top photo* is the newly opened Wirrabara Nature Play Park. Council will continue to work with the community for further development of the park.

*Above*, the Melrose Community Development Association recently added a ‘lilly pad’ swing to the Melrose Playground and Booleroo Centre playground committee added a ‘T-swing’ at the Booleroo Centre main playground.
Expressions of Interest—open
Not for profit community groups are invited to submit an expression of interest for surplus Port Germein Jetty timbers for community projects. Be creative and submit your best ideas, examples of projects can include retaining walls, ornamental bridges, artwork, seating, tables and more. Applications forms are available from the Council office or download from www.mtr.sa.gov.au.
Applications close Thursday 31 August 2017

Volunteer Drivers Needed
Northern Passenger Transport Network providing a valuable service to the communities of Melrose, Jamestown, Peterborough, Gladstone, Orroroo, Wilmington and Quorn. Transporting residents for medical and social appointments if you have a current drivers licence and some time to volunteer we would love to hear from you.

Contact us in Melrose
Phone: (08) 8666 2255
Melrose S.A 5483
nptn@mtr.sa.gov.au

Disability Services
Independent Living Centre Outreach Service
A Government service for people living in rural and remote South Australia the service provides free professional advice on techniques and equipment to assist with every day activities. Available to all members of the public, bookings are not required.

Wednesday 6 September 2017, 10 am - 3.30 pm
In front of the Booleroo Centre Civic Centre
For more information visit www.sa.gov.au/disability/ilc or call 1300 885 886

Community Interests
For your calendar the following services will be visiting a community near you:

Australia’s broadband network is coming
You are invited to a Community Information Session:
About a proposed nbn™ Fixed Wireless site to serve the community of Wilmington
Wednesday 16 August 2017, 3 pm - 6pm
Wilmington Memorial Hall
For more information visit nbn.com.au or call 1800 687 626

Northern and Yorke NRM Board
NRM officers will be distributing 1080 fox baits for landholders to purchase.
Tuesday 29 August, 9.30 am - 10.30 am
Wilmington Memorial Hall
Wednesday 30 August
Booleroo Centre: Front of Northern Ag, 9:30 -10:30am
Port Germein: Jetty Carpark, 11:30am - 12.30pm
Melrose: Carpark by North Star Hotel, 2:30 -3:30pm
For more information call Luke on 0448 314 491

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