

YOUR COUNCIL *update*

Welcome to the November issue of the Wattle Range Council Newsletter

The aim of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of Council's key activities and any strategic decisions made that may affect our local communities. Additional information on Council's activities can be found on our website www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/wattlerangecouncil

Mayoral UPDATE

Over the past month the Mayor has represented Council at a range of civic and community meetings and engagements.

This included presenting the 2023 Senior of the Year award to Ken Mountford at the final function of this year's Celebrate Seniors program.

Community DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

At the November meeting, Council heard from Deon Kriek and Janeth MacKenzie of OneFortyOne, who provided an update on the organisation's Forest Management System and Environmental Management practices.

Council also heard from Elders Area Manager, Scott Altschwager who shared his thoughts on the operation of the Millicent Stock Transfer Yards.

Finally, Millicent resident Tamara Cockrum and her son Chad spoke to the members, pleading the importance of the Millicent Swimming Lake to the wider community.

Key PROJECTS

There are 60 capital works projects listed for the 2023/24 financial year, with a total value of \$10.78 Million.

As at October 31, 12% of these projects had been completed, 23% were in the process of being delivered and 32% in the procurement phase.

Key project updates include:

- Geotechnical investigations were undertaken at the Millicent Swimming Lake at the end of October and the aquatic engineers are in the process of preparing their report, with detailed scope, for the reconstruction of the lake.
- Induction and accreditation documentation for the Millicent Saleyards Stock Transfer Facility has been developed and trialled with a small group of stakeholders. Induction of users will be facilitated by Council's Operations department. Asbestos has been removed from the former canteen and weighbridge buildings.
- The flooring in the new Millicent Depot Shed is now complete and work is being done on the upstairs office.
- Quotations are being sought for work on the proposed fire wall at the rear of the Beachport Museum. Planning approval has been issued and final building assessment currently underway.
- The drainage project on South Terrace, Beachport is now complete.
- New external access doors have been installed at the Penola Stadium, providing access to the toilets without entry to the stadium.
 - The new toilets at Greenrise are now complete.
 - Work on female toilet in Arthur Street, Penola has begun.
 - Detailed plans for the upgrade of the Beachport Recreation Hall carpark are now finalised and a request for tender is being prepared.



Wattle Range
COUNCIL

Key DECISIONS

At the November meeting, Council resolved to:

- investigate the viability of disposal of the CEO's electric vehicle for a more suitable hybrid model;
- endorse the operation of the reviewed Behavioural Management Policy for Elected Members, as well as acknowledging commitments made by the members as part of a recent Leadership training workshop;
- adopt the Council's audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023;
- seek community comment on the draft Community Land Management Plans developed for both the Council owned and Crown Land portions of the Penola Commonage;
- provide financial assistance of \$200 to Sophie Pearce to assist with costs to attend the 2023 School Sports Australia Track and Field Championships in Launceston, Tasmania in November;
- form the 2024 Australia Day Awards Selection Panel, comprising the following elected members: Cr Emma Castine (Riddoch Ward), Cr Dennis Muhovics (Corcoran Ward), Cr Richard Cassidy (Kintore Ward) and Cr Deb Agnew (Sorby Adams Ward);
- following consideration of community feedback, endorse the revised Lions Park Upgrade Concept Design;
- adopt the Plant and Equipment Asset Management Plan;
- support the inclusion of various enhancements in the detailed design for the Millicent Swimming Lake redevelopment, with the costs to be considered at a future meeting;
- open the Millicent Swimming Lake to the public between the 16 December 2023 and 29 January 2024;
- reduce the fee for use of the Millicent Truck Wash to \$1.00 per minute; and
- approve the progression of sale of a number of properties for unpaid rates under Section 184 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Want to read more? Head to our website for full Council meeting agendas, reports and minutes.

Australia Day Award NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community? Nominations for Council's 2024 Australia Day awards are now open, and are invited in multiple categories.

Open until 5 pm on Wednesday, 3 January 2024, nomination forms and criteria are available from each of Council's offices, or on our website at www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/australia-day-awards

