

# YOUR COUNCIL *update*

## Welcome to the February 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](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au) and our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/wattlerangecouncil](https://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, including accompanying Australia Day Ambassador Bob Irving and his wife Annie to the breakfast celebrations at Penola.

At this event the Mayor had the pleasure of awarding the 2024 Australia Day Awards as well as officiating a citizenship ceremony for five of our regions newest Aussies.



The Cabarrubias Family became Australian citizens in Penola on January 26, 2024.

## Community DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

At the February meeting, Council heard from Kate Rayner (Finance Manager) of Patrick of Coonawarra and Hugh Koch (Executive Officer) of the Coonawarra Vignerons Association seeking Council consideration of a proposal to procure a Spendmapp subscription for monitoring and analysis of local economic activity.

## Key PROJECTS

Following the first budget review for the 2023/24 financial year Council has 107 capital projects listed, valued at \$14.95 Million.

As at January 31, 35% of these projects were completed, 37% in the process of being delivered and 13% in the procurement phase.

Key project updates include:

- Tenders have been called for the construction of the Council Service Centre and a Private Certifier has been engaged to undertake the building rules assessment.
- Council Officers continue to work with the Aquatic Engineers towards completion of the engineering design for the Millicent Swimming Lake reconstruction. Tenders will be called as soon as the documentation is complete.



Wattle Range  
COUNCIL

- The Millicent Library roof and air conditioning upgrade is well underway. Contractors have begun installation of the new air conditioning units and internal remediation works are almost complete. Once done the roof and gutters will be replaced. Work is expected to be completed early February.
- Works on the Arthur Street Toilets are on track for completion this month.
- Contractors are nearing completion of the truck wash upgrade at the Millicent Stock Transfer Facility.
- Council Officers have begun work on the Penola Stadium toilet upgrade, currently fitting new tiles and fixtures in the male facilities.

## Key DECISIONS

At the February meeting, Council resolved to:

- seek the provision of up-to-date usage data for the operation of the Millicent Stock Transfer facility to the next meeting of the Wattle Range Council Audit & Risk Committee, and to also be tabled at the March Council meeting;
- following consideration of community feedback provided during the consultation period, adopt the Community Land Management Plans for both the Council Owned and Crown Land portions of the Penola Commonage;
- increase the 2023/24 budget for the Council's Code Amendment by \$23,900 to allow for the additional technical investigations in Glencoe as conditioned by the Minister for Planning;
- approve a change in start time for Thursday kerbside bin collections in Millicent from 7am to 6am, as requested by the contractor;
- request an officer's report be prepared for Council on ways to increase the use of volunteers in the Wattle Range area, particularly but not limited to, the Visitor Information Centres. The report should include a way to support the Millicent Museum during times when the Centre cannot be staffed by Council staff.

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

## Community Vision FORUMS

Council is hosting a free barbecue and public forum in Millicent, Beachport and Penola as part of the next round of Community Vision sessions.

The purpose of the forums is to listen to what the community envisage for these towns and hear what projects/initiatives should be prioritised.

Sessions begin at 6pm. Scheduled dates are:

- Millicent – Tuesday, February 20 at the Millicent Football Club
- Beachport – Wednesday, February 21 at the Beachport Bowling Club
- Penola – Thursday, February 22 at the Penola Football Club

For more information contact Council on 08 8733 0900.

