

YOUR COUNCIL *update*

ISSUE 47 July 2023

Welcome to the July 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

Mayor's UPDATE

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

This included meeting with Federal MP Hon Angus Taylor (Shadow Treasurer) and Member for Barker Tony Pasin, along with members of Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast to discuss various issues affecting the region.

Community DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

On the 29 June 2023 Council held a special meeting to consider a motion on notice regarding the future operation of the Millicent Saleyards. At this meeting Council considered written correspondence on the matter from stakeholders including Livestock SA, Millicent Veterinary Clinic, Mark Eckermann, Michael Freebairn, Melissa Walker and Carolyn & Trevor Rayson.

At the July ordinary meeting, Council heard verbal submissions to the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan from John Luckhurst Smith and from Ruth Vander Hoek on behalf of the Southend Progress Association, as well as hearing a deputation from Lee Morgan, Mark Fabris and Ben Gysbers regarding the Coastal Lakes Strategy that is currently out for consultation.

A subsequent special meeting was held on July 13 for the purpose of adopting the Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget for the new financial year. At this meeting the Youth Advisory Council made a presentation to Council outlining their operations to date.

Key PROJECTS

As at June 30, 2023 Council had funded 93 capital projects in the 2022/23 year worth \$12,082,052. The combined expenditure rate for all projects was 79%.

Key project updates include:

- Work to redesign the sprinkler system in the Penola War Memorial Park will reduce the staining on buildings. Low trajectory sprinklers have been added and a wider concrete border and footpaths are being installed. This will provide a greater buffer between the sprinkler and the wall and will also improve access around the toilet for users of the park
- The fabrication of the final pontoon at the Beachport Boat Ramp is complete and is expected to be installed mid July.
- Site works have commenced on the Greenrise Lake Toilets and lighting project. Footings and concrete preparations have been made with project completion planned for August 2023.
- Work on the upgrade of the Arthur Street Toilets in Penola will commence mid July.



Wattle Range
COUNCIL

Key DECISIONS

At the June 29 special meeting, Council resolved to resume spending on the Millicent Saleyards to meet the SafeWork SA requirements in order to:

- maintain the truck wash and allied effluent management system;
- allow for the transit of stock through 10 designated cattle yards and the dirt yards; and
- maintain associated activities which take place at the Millicent Saleyards (e.g. Motorcycle training, Drift car events, Truck stop)

At the July ordinary meeting, Council resolved to:

- complete a detailed design of the footpath for Cape Buffon Drive, Southend to be included in the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan;
- increase the 2023/24 fees and charges for use of the truck wash at the Millicent Saleyards to \$1.50 per minute;
- endorse the updated Beachport Heritage Survey and initiate the required amendment to the Planning and Design Code and Code Amendment Engagement Plan;
- having considered community feedback, retain the beach access track to Glen Point, Beachport as a shared zone, trialling an increase in the maintenance to improve the surface to encourage users to keep to the sign posted speed of 10km/hr;
- defer the Church Street kerb renewal project until the Penola streetscaping design is finalised; and
- fly the Pride Flag perpetually during the month of November in support of Pridevember.

At the July 13 special meeting Council adopted the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget along with the associated property valuations, rates and fees and charges.

At this meeting Council also resolved to:

- adopt a number of documents included in a Child Safe Environments framework developed for both Council and the Gladys Smith Early Learning Centre; and
- after noting the due diligence assessment and risks detailed in the Prudential Management Review Report, support the progression of the Council Service Centre project.

Community GRANTS

Round 1 of Council's 2023/24 Financial Assistance Grants programs are open now, including the:

- Community Infrastructure Grants
- Community Financial Assistance Grants
- Sport & Recreation Financial Assistance Grants

Guidelines and forms are available at Council's offices or on our website at www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/community-financial-assistance-programs



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