

**JULY
2023**

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL



**The Flinders
Ranges Council**

MAYORAL REPORT

Another busy month with some great achievements and happenings in the area.

Projects:

With the opening of the Quorn and Hawker Airstrip sealing and resealing projects, I believe it is timely to reflect on the projects which have been undertaken over the past 5 years and the work envisaged by the Council led by former mayor Peter Slattery. These have been funded, developed, and now completed. Many thanks again, to Peter who in my view was very much the quiet achiever and deserves many accolades for what his leadership achieved in the years he led the Council. All communities and businesses within them are now benefitting from what has been implemented, from increased visitations and stays, to our built and natural attractions which are getting a much higher profile. Thank you again to Peter.

Current and future:

The budget for 23/24 has been finalised, with what Council has worked on for some period of time. Whilst feedback from consultation was small, Council has taken into account that feedback in its final deliberations and I am positive that Council is on a stable financial ground for the future, with the smallest possible rate rise (with no reduction of services). With a total of over \$2million of works and projects being implemented over the next 2 years I am sure the "wheel will not stop turning" for our district and we continue to see sustainable growth. Great news for the current council with the receipt of \$609,216 in funding which will go towards our Districts Road programs including resheeting and resealing works, increasing the amenity of public green spaces and several other projects. This will see those works being commenced in the near future and ongoing throughout the year. This combined with over \$600,000 in asset maintenance, including garden and street maintenance the standard will be maintained for both visitors and residents. With the additional crew member at Hawker it has seen a massive positive amount of feedback from visitors and residents, the township is looking and feeling great, and good work to all of our council workers who very rarely get a pat on the back, they are doing a great job, with the limited resources we can provide.

Key Priorities:

Along with the CEO I am very much continuing to maintain focus on key issues which need to be addressed, 1. Water quality, 2. Childcare 3. Economic growth opportunities, 4. Housing, 5. Health and Aged Care services.

- Good news on the continuation of services for the northern passenger transport services has been achieved with Care in Motion now settled in and providing an increase in the services for all.
- Council is confident that we will have a date for the start of the new doctors for the district which will see them moving into the township of Quorn in late September/October and I'm sure that the exact date will be well advertised. Community support for the doctors will be absolutely vital and Council along with Country and Outback Health will be approaching the community to assist to provide that support and ensure we can retain the doctors within the district for the long term.

Quorn water quality is the highest on the list in all categories in the new SA Water long term plan and has come out on top for the state priorities for this plan, I am now working with the state government with the assistance of local member Eddie Hughes to

ensure that that this priority is recognised in the 4 year plan and that the Essential Services Commission of South Australia are in a position to favourably deal with any approval for funding for this issue to be finally investigated and a solution provided.

Events and Activities:

Melbourne Cup:

A great event was held in the District with the Quorn Jockey Club being successful in attracting the "Melbourne Cup" to the area. I was privileged to be asked to be part of the several events held over 2 days, and both days and night had fantastic turnout, with several local caters, stallholders, musicians, car enthusiasts and local groups partaking in the events, Well done to Karen Finlay, Paula Osborn, the committee and members for this great event. The Quorn Jockey Club and community are now in the running for a further windfall, if the Melbourne cup runner that the club gets allocated actually wins, the community will receive \$50,000 for the charity of their choice! "All eyes will be peeled come Melbourne cup day and we wish them the best".

Flinders Gin Opening:

Another great event was the opening of the extensions to "Flinders Gin", this was a great day with the SA Tourism Minister doing the official opening. Congratulations to the owners Alby and Leah Trotta and their staff, and please, if you haven't already, go and visit and see what a great addition to the town and district this business has brought.

Kurti Festival:

The Council CEO and Councillor Carpenter met with some of the committee members of the Kurti Festival and reconfirmed and clarified Councils support for the event, which comprises over \$10,000 worth of Council support along with sourced funding of \$5,000 through South Australian Arid Landscapes. It is understood that a community meeting is planned to see what interest and capability there is in the rest of the community to assist in making this a successful event. Please attend or offer support if you can.

Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society:

The 50th Year Anniversary celebrations of the Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society established is indeed something that everyone should be proud of. Proud of the number of volunteers that have given so much to this organisation, the district, and the region. Proud of the attraction that is known state and nation wide and which attracts visitors into our region, all of us benefit from this and council will continue to assist the society now and in the future. Well done to all those past and present members for this magnificent icon of the region. We look forward to next year's public celebration of the anniversary of the first train on 21/21 July 2024.

Council is always open to new ideas, suggestions and input, so if you have any ideas for events, projects, or programs please contact the Council through myself or the CEO to discuss, that way we can work together to keep the wheels moving!



MAYORAL REPORT cont.

Quorn Races:

The Quorn Races are again on August 19, and this again will bring an influx of visitors to the district. Keep supporting those events in our area and they will continue to flourish!

Quorn Show:

Council approved a request from the Quorn Agricultural Show Society for \$5,000 to support the procurement of show rides for the upcoming show on 24 September 2023. The Quorn Show is a very important community event and encouraging attendance in this manner is a key way Council can assist.

Other Projects:

Buckaringa:

A report was presented to Council to outline the process forward to lease the building in line with the economic development priorities of Council, whilst being mindful of ensuring limited impact on existing businesses. This report was considered by Council in the 25 July meeting of Council and is available in the agenda report documents on the Council website.

Strategic/Community Plan:

Council is in the process of developing the new community plan, as part of this development a new process of community consultation will be undertaken to ensure the maximum input from community but also key groups which have had limited representation in the past.

In future Mayoral reports I will provide an update on the process moving to ensure that every community member has an opportunity to express their views on the future community directions.

Mayor Ken Anderson

SUPPLEMENTARY ELECTION UPDATE

Results for The Flinders Ranges Council Supplementary Election were advised on Tuesday 25th July, as follows:

- Greg Flint received 255 votes
- David Wallis received 237 votes
- Paul Thornton received 84 votes

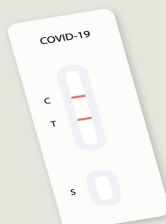
We congratulate Greg Flint and welcome him back to Council.

Thank you to David Wallis and Paul Thornton for nominating.

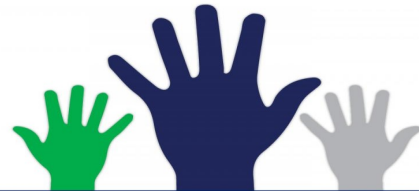
Free rapid antigen tests for eligible groups

Available to:

- ✓ People with disability or who are immunocompromised
- ✓ A carer of someone with a disability or who is immunocompromised
- ✓ Concession Card holders



sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVIDRapidAntigenTesting



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

BUS DRIVER CALL OUT

HAWKER – UPPER NORTH PASSENGER SERVICE

Council has discussed trialling a system that allows for Hawker residents to access the weekly Upper North Passenger Bus Service which runs from Quorn to Port Augusta and return every Friday. Hawker residents would be able to utilise the Council Community Bus to travel to Quorn, catch the passenger service to Port Augusta which leaves Quorn at 9.15am and returns to Quorn at 3.10pm and then utilise the Council Community Bus back to Hawker – all free of charge. The service allows for residents to attend appointments, visit friends or relatives or carry out any shopping. However, in order to operate this service Council will need to engage with a reliable bus driver / drivers who are willing to volunteer their time operate the service from Quorn to Hawker and return on a weekly basis. Council also needs to register interest of this service within the Hawker and surrounding communities to gauge whether it is viable.

Council would like to hear from Hawker and surrounding residents if:

1. You would use the service and
2. You are interested in volunteering your time to drive the bus.

Please email Council at council@frc.sa.gov.au or telephone 8620 0500 (option 1) in response to the above by **COB Tuesday 8 August 2023**.

Once responses are received and collated, Council will assess these and keep the public informed of the outcomes.

Registration is now due

It's easy with Dogs and Cats Online, you do it yourself
Or call council's office before 31 August.

[DOGSANDCATSONLINE.COM.AU](https://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au)



DOG & CAT REGISTRATIONS

Renewals for dog and cat registrations have been mailed and emailed out by Dogs and Cats Online with most being received already. Renewals are due by **31st August**.

Dog and cat registration is done online via www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au and Council encourage you to register your animals via this method.

However, if you don't have online access or are unsure how to do this or wish to update details, please call into the Council administration office and our staff will assist.

Please remember that all dogs must be registered by three (3) months of age or within two (2) weeks of ownership.

QUORN ENTRYWAY SIGNAGE PROJECT

The Quorn Entryway Signage Project construction is underway, with the concrete footings in place and curing.

The entryway signage is being installed on the Flinders Ranges Way (Port Augusta) entrance to Quorn as it was highlighted as the most suitable entrance point from an assessment of traffic flow numbers into all entry ways that Council undertook. This assessment showed that the vast majority of traffic into Quorn comes from this direction and therefore this was deemed the location that would get the best results in enticing visitors to turn into Quorn and not travel straight through (Silo Road).



The other two entrances e.g. from Hawker and Wilmington leave little discretion for motorists to bypass Quorn.

The final eye-catching design, as pictured below, will entice visitors into Quorn and provides a great photo opportunity with people being able to be photographed inside the train.

The project has been fully funded through the SA Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. Only one entrance way was funded.

Works are expected to be completed by the end of September 2023.



AERODROME SEALING/RESEALING PROJECTS OFFICIALLY OPENED

Official openings for the Quorn and Hawker Aerodrome Projects were held on 5 July 2023. The Quorn Aerodrome works included runway sealing and line marking, with the Hawker Aerodrome works including runway resealing.

These essential works ensure that the region is accessible and well-connected at all times and in all weather conditions.

The works were funded through the Australian Government, South Australian Government and The Flinders Ranges Council.



Quorn Aerodrome Opening—L-R
Gar Michael, Ian Carpenter, Angus Searcy, Roy Connor, Mayor Anderson, Graham Davies, Mitchell Foote, Laurie Fitzgerald, Eric Brown, David Hunter, Angie Finlay, Julian Hipwell



Hawker Aerodrome Opening—L-R
Roger Flavell, John Teague, Ian Carpenter, Janet Teague, Eric Brown, Greg Flint, Steve Taylor, Mayor Anderson, Mitchell Foote

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

COUNCIL SECTION 41 COMMITTEE—QUORN MARKETS

At its Ordinary Meeting of 25 July 2023, Council agreed to support the Quorn Markets with the formation of a Section 41 committee. This committee will consist of members of the Quorn Markets and Council staff. The main purpose of the committee will be to oversee the running of the markets, approve stallholders, promote the markets and ensure they continue to operate smoothly.

Council is seeking feedback on the draft Terms of Reference for the Quorn Markets Committee.

The Terms of Reference are available from www.frc.sa.gov.au/council/consultation.

Submissions in writing can be made to:

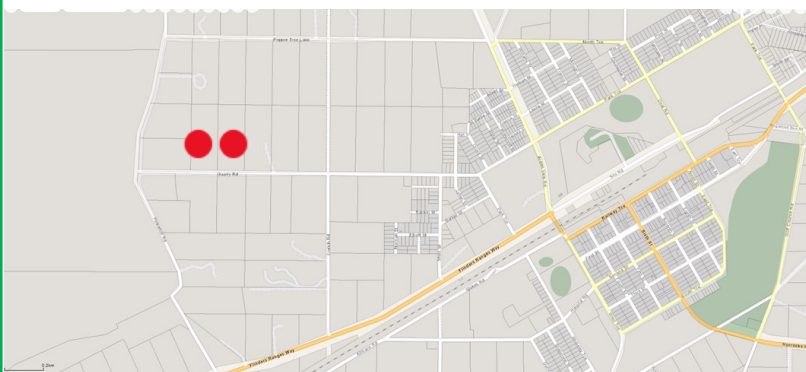
Mr Eric Brown, CEO
The Flinders Ranges Council
PO Box 43, Quorn SA 5433
Or via email to council@frc.sa.gov.au

Submissions will close 5pm Tuesday 22 August 2023.

QUORN QUARRY—EXTRACTION OF STONE

An application has been received from Sean Ozolins seeking to recommence extraction of stone out of the Quarry on Quarry Road in Quorn. This stone is the same stone that has been used in many of the heritage stone buildings in Quorn and the sandstone kerbing in the centre of Quorn and would assist in renewing community infrastructure.

The proposal is to extend the existing Quarry westward, to negate the impact on the Flora Reserve located on the same lot. The extraction will be done by mechanical means during work hours only to prevent inconvenience to neighbours.



Location of Quarry on Lot 223, Quarry Road, with respect to Quorn, SA.



The Quarry on Lot 223, Quarry Road, Quorn SA

The full report prepared for Council, including the legal advice, is available from www.frc.sa.gov.au/council/consultation. This legal advice indicates that Council can extract stone for its own use but if stone was to be extracted and sold (e.g. to the public) it will require the appropriate extractive licence.

Council, in accordance with its Council Community Consultation Policy, is now seeking submissions from the public on this matter in relation to the approval to explore the site for suitable material, as a starting point and also on the long term possibility of extraction of materials. It should be noted that Council has not taken a view on the matter and is putting it out for community feedback before it does so.

Please note that all feedback will be taken into account and will be kept confidential and summarised as part of the final report to Council.

Council is seeking feedback from the community on the proposal and submissions in writing can be made to:

Mr Eric Brown, CEO
The Flinders Ranges Council
PO Box 43, Quorn SA 5433
Or via email to council@frc.sa.gov.au

Submissions will close 5pm Tuesday 22 August 2023.