

Council Highlights NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2020 EDITION - ISSUE NO. 3

MAYOR'S REPORT



It has been an extraordinarily busy period for Council since the last edition and there is plenty of good news despite some of the continued challenges our community has faced.

I want to thank our community on behalf of Council for their adherence to restrictions and guidelines issued by the Government during the COVID-19 pandemic, as a result we have remained coronavirus free. We acknowledge the social impact that this has had on our

community and will be working with the community over the coming weeks to ensure that we can re-establish a new normal as quickly as we can while still adhering to the ongoing requirements for social distancing.

We also want to remind people of the various financial support mechanisms available and for the businesses in our district, we recommend business.sa.gov.au and farmhub.org.au – regardless of whether you need help as a result of COVID-19 or drought please use these resources.

It is great to see our Council being recognised, firstly being awarded a Silver Medal at the South Australian Tourism Awards for the Colour Up Karoonda Festival and more recently being announced as a finalist in the LG Professionals Infrastructure Delivery Excellence Awards for the Karoonda Early Childhood and Community Hub Project.

Council will also shortly consider the

Draft 2020/2021 Annual Business Plan, the Long Term Financial and Asset Management Plans and is working to finalise an Economic Development and Tourism Strategy.

Our financial sustainability remains an ongoing priority while being able to support the community in stepping towards realising the aspirations in the Community Vision 2040.

We have been successful in securing funding for projects (including \$300K for the Mallee Playground Trail and \$985K for a Pest and Weed Program on top of the Drought Communities Funding) and also in helping community groups to secure funding for their projects.

This is just a snippet of the great work which is happening and I look forward to sharing more in the coming months.

Regards,
Mayor Caroline Phillips

COMMUNITY GRANT WRITING

Council is pleased to support the many proactive community groups in our district who are seeking funding assistance to deliver their projects. We can generally assist by identifying funding opportunities and providing grant writing assistance. Over the last few months, the following groups have been successful in receiving a total of \$138,930 worth of external funding with support from Council;

- Halidon CFS, RAA Regional Safety Grant: \$6,375 (water storage - 2x 22,500L tanks)
- Sandalwood Hall and Cemeteries, FRRR Grant: \$40,175 (small communities alliance project: Sandalwood Hall upgrades plus signage and fencing for 8 local cemeteries)
- Karoonda Farm Fair, Regional Agricultural Show Development Grant: \$92,380.00 (Multi-purpose exhibition space, Karoonda Oval)

Does your community group have future projects in mind? Council would love to hear from you, we are always on the look out for new funding opportunities, and it's great to know what you have in the pipeline should an opportunity arise.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

The Drought Communities Program - Round 2, is set to deliver some much needed upgrades to local community infrastructure and facilities. The improvements will ensure that these important local facilities can be utilised by the community for many years to come.

Karoonda Institute Refurbishments

The historical Karoonda Institute will undertake an exciting makeover with the project to deliver both an internal and external refurbishment. The upgrade will include external landscaping and fencing which will increase general aesthetic appeal of the grounds as well as internal renovations to modernise facilities including the construction of a disability access toilet.

Karoonda Cemetery Toilet

Karoonda Cemetery will be a much more comfortable place for families to visit with the installation of a single unit public toilet and storage shed.

Pioneer Park Toilet

Pioneer Park, our engaging historical village, will benefit from the connection of electricity to the grounds and installation of a public toilet.

Mallee Playground Trail

Another exciting project is the creation of the 'Mallee Playground Trail' comprising the redevelopment of playgrounds in Wynarka, Karoonda and Wanbi. The trail is to become a flagship



playground experience and the first of its kind in South Australia. Council has worked with playground designers, Forpark SA, the Youth Action Committee and local school children to develop design concepts that are exciting, appealing and inclusive for all ages and abilities.

Take a look

While works will commence shortly on these projects, we encourage interested people to view the detailed plans, which are available on our website and in the council office.

If you have any feedback or suggestions on these or other projects, please feel free to email us at council@dckem.sa.gov.au.



YOUR LOCAL APP - LOCAL STIMULUS INITIATIVE

What a huge response! Council would like to thank the community for their support of the YourLocal App local stimulus initiative for the Karoonda Minimart and Karoonda Hotel. As you know, the two local eateries have been significantly impacted by forced closures during the pandemic. Council was proud to have partnered with the businesses providing \$5,000 worth of food orders for each business for members of the community to enjoy for free.

Don't forget, the YourLocal App is still open and active and we encourage you to continue to support these businesses where possible. It's easy and convenient - simply order your meals through the app and have it ready for you when you arrive!



MALLEE KIDS CHILDCARE

Since opening in October 2019, Mallee Kids Child Care has continued to grow and is now happy to announce that we are licensed to care for up to 22 children.

We have had an amazing response from both parents and children in relation to the care and education that we provide, and during the term 1 school holidays, we packed the place out!

With the Federal Government's 'free child care' arrangements continue until 28 June 2020, there has never been a better time to consider enrolling your children and trialling with Mallee Kids.

We'd love to have your family join us. Visit malleekids.com.au or call our Service Coordinator Nat Koch on 08 8578 1401 for further information.



SILO ART

Over the last few months we have showcased some amazing South Australian talent and there's more to come. Whilst getting out and about during this period has been difficult, it was pleasing to be able to share the most recent projection from Julie White through a LIVE stream on Facebook, giving our silo art lovers an opportunity to enjoy beautiful art from the comfort of their homes.

What's coming up?

June: Dana Kinter

July: Jacob Logos

August: SALA Festival - Register your interest!*

September: Laura Wills

October: Dan Withey

November: Christopher Pope

December: Cindy Rooke

**Are you a local artist or photographer with some amazing work you'd like to share? Please get in touch with us, council@dckem.sa.gov.au.*



AUSTRALIA DAY 2020

It was great to see so many people attend the celebrations at the Wynarka Recreation grounds in January. Excitingly, it was the first time the breakfast and ceremony was held at the venue and by all reports it was very well received. The young ones certainly enjoyed themselves with plenty of entertainment on offer, including the inaugural 'little' bash cricket match.

Mayor Phillips, together with Australia Day Ambassador, Ralph Clarke congratulated this years award recipients, saying, "Our volunteer leaders are a great inspiration to the rest of the community, and I'm incredibly proud of their efforts to ensure our community remains resilient and vibrant place to live."

Congratulations to our Citizen of the Year, Robyn Burdett, our Young Citizen of the Year, Thomas Mickan and the Event of the Year, Diggers Day - Karoonda Golf Club. Well done to the Wynarka Recreation Committee for their efforts on planning such a successful day.

YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE

With so many exciting projects in the pipeline, Council was extremely excited to establish the very first Youth Action Committee in May. The committee have wasted no time getting down to business and over the last few weeks have been very busy workshopping ideas and engaging their peers around the Mallee Playground Trail project.

On top of all that, the group have also sought out opportunities to apply for grant funding on projects they believe to be of importance to our community. Plenty of exciting developments to come!

Congratulations to the five very motivated and community minded young people who joined the 2020 Youth Action Committee:

- Sean Stone - President
- Thomas Mickan - Vice President
- Matilda Baumgartel - Secretary
- Jessica Kerr
- Amber Hayes





KDFC EXTENSION PROJECT

The Karoonda Districts Football Club 'Sports for All' extension project is now complete.

We can imagine everyone is eager to see the brand new facilities - so keep your eyes peeled over the coming weeks for details on the official opening! Council is also working with the football club and the community gym on a proposed commencement date for the gym to operate out of this brand new facility.



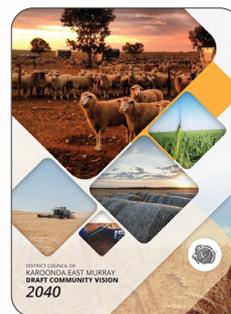
PEST & WEEDS REBATE PROJECT

Great news! The Pest and Weeds baiting rebate program is being extended through until the end of September 2020.

You can access a \$1 rebate per fox and rabbit bait purchased through NRM at the Karoonda, Lameroo or Loxton NRM offices. This rebate is only available to landowners who live within the Karoonda East Murray, Southern Mallee and Loxton Waikerie Council districts. Please contact the Karoonda NRM office on 8578 1493 or drop in to the Council office and see Russell and Helene.

COMMUNITY VISION 2040

By now, you should have received a copy of the Community Vision 2040 document in the mail. Importantly, this is a document that has been created in conjunction with members of our community who participated in vision workshops. It sets out a series of aspirational goals for the future of our community and has some key themes that will guide council and the community with future decision making. This will be particularly relevant over the coming weeks as Council begins to develop its strategic management plan, annual business plan and budget. Additional copies of the document can also be downloaded from the Council website (www.dckem.sa.gov.au).



COUNCIL MEETINGS

held at 7.30pm on the
second Tuesday of each month.

Open to the public. All are welcome.

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Have you 'liked' our Facebook page?

Lots will be happening over the next few months! If you're on Facebook be sure to like/follow our page, to see regular updates or check our website for news. Our next newsletter update will be out soon so stay tuned.