

Mayor's Message



This past week has been busy for me and my fellow Councillors with the Council Meeting last Wednesday. Many different topics were debated, a lot of them with significant impacts on both the organisation and our community.

I must remind everyone that these decisions are not always easy but ultimately we have to consider all aspects of topics presented and the best option for our community as a whole. One of these key decisions included withdrawing from Community and Home Care Services from 1 October 2018 provided a suitable alternative service provider is available.

This will mean that client services will continue as normal at least until the 1 October and until such time as a new suitable provider is able to continue services. When a new provider is identified we will work with them to ensure the smooth transition of the high quality service. High quality care at the same level for an affordable price is a priority for Council just as much as for our clients.

Our Community and Home Care workers have demonstrated unwavering professionalism and dedication to the community. This decision is by no means a reflection on their service and we thank them for all the hard work they have consistently provided. We hope that existing staff members may be retained by the new provider to help keep local people employed locally.

Council also accepted a report to address concerns from Ansevata Nominees Pty Ltd in relation to the Walkerville Retarding Basin. The report found no foundation for concerns in relation to inadequate water quality, risk of untreated septic tank effluent and inability to use the water. In particular an alleged debt of \$198,892.06 was noted to have no merit as it was at the discretion of Ansevata not to take the water, no water was purchased from another source and the amount was fabricated based on water prices from other sources.

It is disappointing that we continue to have these conversations with Ansevata and have been pulled into a dispute without any basis. We will now invite Ansevata to collaboratively renegotiate the terms of the current agreement to ensure any further issues are mitigated in the future

I hope that everyone has enjoyed the Easter break and had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. It is always rewarding to see our region bustling with people as they enjoy the natural beauty we have surrounding us. This has been the perfect time to take a few days to relax and recoup so we can return back to working on what will drive us forward for the future.

Cr Lorraine Brunt - Mayor