

Mayor's Message



Following the second countback of votes from the general election in 2016, Nigel Hutchinson-Brooks was the candidate with the highest number of votes for the vacancy in the Tarwin Valley ward. After thoroughly considering the appointment, Nigel informed me today (Friday) that he will be declining the position. I fully respect this decision and understand the reasons given.

A further countback for the Tarwin Valley ward will have been held on Monday morning, however due to the deadline to get this to the papers I had to write my message without knowing the result. Hopefully the position will be soon by filled so we can get back to having nine around the table with every ward having full representation.

This week Councillor Rosemary Cousin was officially sworn in to Council as a representative for the Tarwin Valley Ward. It's great to have Rosemary as an active member of Council now and I am sure she is ready to take on this new challenge.

In other news, the Long Jetty Project Control Group met on site in Port Welshpool last week. The refurbished jetty is substantially complete, with all the piles in place now and the concrete deck all but finished.

There are sections of guard rail still to be installed and there are carpenters working on rebuilding the old winch house at the moment. There are still a few fiddly things left to do, such as grouting up the gaps in the deck and there is still quite a bit of electrical and plumbing work too. At the moment Gippsland Ports is working with designers on ways to creatively use old timbers from the jetty to create seats and interpretive signage. It will be a great community asset when it is complete.

With the Long Jetty nearing completion and preliminary works on the Agnes Falls cantilevered lookout progressing, the Corner Inlet region will soon be bursting with great recreational offerings for our community and for visitors to our region. Tourists driving the Sydney to Melbourne Coastal Drive will soon have even more incentive to stop and explore the area which will, in turn, help to boost our visitor economy. We look forward to the completion of these exciting projects.

Cr Lorraine Brunt
Mayor