

WAGAIT SHIRE COUNCIL – HIGHLIGHTS JULY 2016

A new waste management contractor has been awarded the contract for kerbside household waste collection and the contractor is Fin Bins. They carried out their first kerbside collection on 06 July and are scheduled to commence at 8am in Wagait Beach every Wednesday morning. The next collections for hard waste have been programmed to occur from 2 – 16 September, 16 – 30 December and 3 – 17 March 2017.

Council have introduced a Waste Management Levy to pay for the kerbside collection and it has been set at \$300 per annum. This fee also covers the quarterly hard waste collection service offered by council.

To remain compliant with the Local Government Act, Council is required to establish an Audit Committee. The committee was to consist of two Councillors, one community member and an independent Chairperson. Expressions of interest for a community member to fill the position on the Audit Committee have not been forthcoming. Mr Russell Anderson has been appointed as the Chairperson and Council has appointed President Peter Clee and Deputy President Brad Irvine to the committee.

The Elected Members allowances and expenses policy was presented and discussed during Council's last meeting on 19 July. Meeting sitting fees will be paid to elected members for their attendance. The fees for this financial year have been set as follows: -

Ordinary Member	\$50.00 per meeting
Deputy Principal Member	\$75.00 per meeting
Principal Member	\$100.00 per meeting

Not all road shoulders received maintenance last financial year due to budget constraints; this has left some roads with a drop off from the edge of the bitumen at some resident's driveways. Driveway drop offs and pot hole patching on the sealed surface will be the focus for this financial year.

Council has received a quotation to resurface the court at the sports ground at Cloppenburg Park and a grant will be sought to assist with the cost of this project.

The sports and recreation officer ran a basketball clinic for our youth in the first week of the holidays which was well received. Other activities included a 3 day camping trip at Douglas Daly hot springs and netball and soccer clinics as well as a BMX workshop.

The Shire Plan was prepared and advertised recently. Several public submissions were considered and where appropriate, incorporated into the final plan as presented to Council. The final plan was discussed at length and the changes were endorsed along with the Annual Budget and the Long Term Financial Plan. **The Shire Plan for 2016/17 is available on the council web site.**

Council has set rates for the 2016/17 financial year at \$560.00 per annum. This represents an increase of only \$37.70 per annum.

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 August in the Community Centre. The purpose of this meeting will be to consult with the public on any desired changes to the electoral boundaries, electoral methodology and the number of Councillors to be elected for a mandatory submission to the NTG.

The Long term Strategic Plan will also be discussed on August 2 to enable a review of the Shire Plan and to identify priorities for the 2017/18 Annual Budget as well as the Long Term Strategic Plan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Electoral, Boundary and Strategic Plan review – 2 August 2016 7.00pm at the Community Centre
- Seniors Day outing to the Territory Wildlife Park – 17 August 2016
- 20th Anniversary of the opening of Council Chambers – 7 September 2016

Regards
President Peter Clee