

Next Council Meetings:
21 March and 20 April at 10am in the Council Chambers, St Helens

From General Manager - John Brown

At the end of last year the State Government announced a review of local government would be undertaken by the Local Government Board. The end goal being to deliver a local government sector that meets the challenges and opportunities Tasmanians will face in the coming decades. It's nearly 30 years since the last major change to Tasmania's local government sector. In 1993 the number of Councils was reduced from 47 to the 29 it is today a whole suite of legislative change occurred at the same time. This is when Break O'Day was created, with the merge of Fingal and Portland councils. Since then there has been some significant changes in the world. The world wide web as we know it didn't appear until 1995; mobile phones were just starting to be seen; and email was not an everyday method of communication.

Over the last 30 years local government has changed to meet the changing times and needs of the community. The breadth and pace of local government activities as well as the demand for services, has changed significantly so now is a good a time as anytime to undertake a Review. The Local Government Board has just announced that community engagement will be undertaken during March and April 2022, and this is your opportunity to have your say on what you would like local government to look like and be focussed on into the future. The Board have identified seven key themes: Community wellbeing; Economic development and local promotion; Environment; Finance and administration; Infrastructure provisions and management; Governance, accountability and representation; and, Land use planning and other regulatory services. What we shouldn't do is focus just on what local government does now, we need to focus on what it could do into the future.. Make sure you have your say.

Binalong Bay Pathway ready to enjoy



Pictured above: A section of the new walkway at Binalong Bay

If you haven't already tested out the new pathway at Binalong Bay make sure you do!

The new pathway connects the Binalong Beach Carpark opposite Meresta Eatery to the carpark and viewing platform area in the Gulch, and we think it looks great!

The works crews did an amazing job ensuring that the pathway was sympathetic to the natural environment by using the sandy

coloured gravel for the track itself as well as timber bridges and rails which tie the whole track together.

Through the process of building the track, the works crews also had the opportunity to remove some of the weeds in the area. Now that there is easier access to some of these plants, works crews and dedicated members of the community will be able to clear these more easily.

Single Use Plastic Policy Adopted

At the February 2022 Council Meeting, Councillors voted unanimously to introduce a Single Use Plastics Policy.

The policy will see all single use plastics banned from Council owned/operated buildings and land and will take effect on 1 January 2023. Council staff however will start working towards removing single use plastics from our own events and activities starting now.

The new policy means that any events or activities held at or on a Council owned premise will not be able to use single use plastics and will have to find alternative, sustainable substitutes.

Some of the things that will be banned include plastic plates, bowls, cutlery and packaging.

It is Council's hope that other businesses and organisations in our area will follow

our example and look at ways to reduce single use plastics in their own activities. Mayor Mick Tucker said he was really pleased to see Council taking a lead role on reducing single use plastics in the Break O'Day area.

"We live in such a naturally beautiful area and we want it to stay that way," Mayor Tucker said.

"There is nothing more disappointing than walking along the beach or through the bush and finding rubbish and it is so easy for these plastics to end up in our waterways.

"We hope that this policy will see some of that waste reduced but also, importantly start conversations with others in the community around what they can do to keep Break O'Day plastic and rubbish free."

Remembering the Old Scamander Bridges - community project

When the Old Scamander Bridge was removed, Council Officers worked with the Scamander Community to develop a series of information panels that will tell the story of all the Scamander Bridges.

The Scamander Community Group had seven community members who worked with the Community Services Manager on the project.

Funding for the project was pursued

through the State Government's Tourism and Hospitality Support Unit.

Eight panels have now been designed and follow the history of the bridges from 1865 to 2021. The Scamander Community group and Council will now meet to discuss the most appropriate location for the signage on the south western river bank.

Council is also pursuing the State Government funding that was

promised to BODC once the old bridge was removed. We will keep the community updated on this through our newsletters.

If you are a Scamander resident and would like to be involved in community projects and receive updates on the area, please email Jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au and request to be added to the Scamander Township email database.



February Council Meeting decisions - Full minutes available online

The below is a snapshot of important Council decisions from the February Council Meeting.

If you would like to see the full Agenda or Minutes or listen to a recording of the meetings you can find all these items on our website under My Council/Council Agendas and Minutes.

At the February 2022 Council meeting held on 21 February Council approved the following motions:

Ansons Bay Amended Plan – Committee Appointment

Council appointed three Councillors to a committee who will conduct a hearing for representors of the Ansons Bay Amended Sealed Plan in accordance with Section 104 (2) (a) and (b) of the Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993.

Councillors will be:

- Janet Drummond
- Kristy Chapple

- Mick Tucker
- Kylie Wright (back-up)

Public Open Space Contribution Policy

The Public Open Space Contribution Policy was amended to remove the cash contribution of \$1200 per lot when a subdivision is undertaken.

Developers will now pay 5% of the value which will be held for Public Open Space development as per the Local Government Building and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1993.

Future Production Forest Land

Council agreed to write to the Tasmanian Government around how they would like to be engaged with regarding Future Potential Production Forest Land. The motion was as follows: *Council express its concern to the Tasmanian Government about the uncertain outlook for Future Potential Production Forest Land in Break*

O'Day and inform and consult with stakeholders to consider options for the sustainable management of this land having regard for the economic, social and natural values these forests hold to ensure the best outcomes for the Break O'Day community and northern region are achieved.

Freshwater Resources and Water Quality.

Councillors passed the following motion regarding freshwater resources and water quality: *Council show leadership on freshwater management arrangements and seek input and advice from state water managers and independent experts on freshwater management arrangements and development initiatives in Tasmania, and their adequacy for ensuring the ecologically sustainable use and development of freshwater systems and resources in Break O'Day.*

\$1.8 Million in funding for the Fingal Valley

Council is excited to announce that we have secured funding from the Federal Government for four projects in the Fingal Valley totaling more than \$1.8 Million.

The Australian Government announced last year that as a result of the fire in 2019, the Fingal Valley area was eligible for funding through the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grants. Council officers then went back through Township plans developed with the community and spoke with community organisations that support the townships of St Marys, Mathinna, Mangana and Fingal to identify potential projects.

From this feedback the following projects were put forward and are now fully funded:

- Mangana Telecommunications Cell – Construction of a telecommunications Small Cell to increase coverage of the area in conjunction with Telstra
- St Marys Indoor Recreation Facility and Multi-Use Community Hub – This facility will replace the St

Marys Gym and Recreation oval change rooms and be a brand new, purpose built facility. Council will work/engage with the community on this project to ensure the facility meets community needs

- Fingal Town Park and Youth Playground – This will include new equipment at the existing park. Council staff will engage with the community on this project to determine what this equipment should be.
- Fingal Community Shed – construction of a purpose built community shed (similar to a Mens Shed) at the rear of the Old Tasmanian Hotel

Now that these projects have been funded Council Officers will start engaging with the Valley Communities on these projects. If you would like to be included in these discussions we can add you to our Township email data bases, please email Jayne. richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au and advise which township list you would like to be added to.

Council secures \$1.2 Million for Break O'Day

Last week the Australian Government announced \$1.219 million in funding for the Break O'Day area through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program.

The funded projects nominated by the Council last November for our municipality include:

- \$539,000 for North Ansons Bay Road to seal 1km of unsealed road and associated road works
- \$320,000 for upgrades to the Cecelia Street/Georges Bay Road intersection at St Helens

- \$200,000 for path, kerb and channel improvements for Esk Main Road in St Marys
- \$110,000 for a new pedestrian path connecting the St Helens footpath network with the dog exercise area and community garden
- \$50,000 for sealing 315m of road on Mount Paris Dam Road and William Street, Weldborough

We look forward to working with the Australian Government to deliver these projects for our community.

Stay informed on issues you care about

Did you know that Council regularly uses email databases to directly communicate with our communities on a variety of issues.

We have databases for: Various townships, the business community, community groups and a newsletter database. We use these to share information about Council activities

relevant to you and is one of the easiest ways for you to know what is happening in our area.

If you would like to join one of our databases please email: Jayne. Richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au and advise which databases you would like to be on.

IN BRIEF

Employment Opportunities

There are several great employment opportunities in our area. Check out Break O'Day Employment Connect (BODEC) for more information. www.bodec.org.au, or follow them on Facebook.

Check-in App no-longer required

The Check-in Tas App is no longer required at premises like retail outlets, shopping centres, public transport and tourist activities. For more information about when you need to use the Check-in TAS app visit, www.checkin.tas.gov.au.

Dispose of your masks and RATs responsibly

With COVID 19 entering the state over the summer holidays, Tasmanian waste collectors are finding a lot of used masks as well as used Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) in the recycling.

Used masks and RATs CANNOT be recycled and need to be placed in the general waste bins. We also recommend that residents cut the elastic straps off masks to prevent wildlife from getting tangled in them.

Have you taken the Transport Survey yet?

Have you taken the Break O'Day Transport Survey yet? Developed by Break O'Day Employment Connect and the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House, the survey will help these organisations understand what the community wants and needs in terms of public transport. Once these issues are understood, these organisations can then look at finding and funding solutions.

All input is welcome. Scan this QR code to take the survey.



Council Works Reports

- **St Helens Airport:** Runway gravel re-sheeting close to completion
- **Binalong Bay Footpath:** Completed
- **Beaumaris Footpath:** Awaiting contractor availability to finish sealing
- **Ansons Bay Rd and North Ansons Bay Road:** Maintenance grading and section sealing being undertaken
- **Wrinklers Lagoon Carpark:** Will be completed including Kerb and Channel by start of March
- **Medea Cove Pathway project – Heather Street to Young Street:** Communication to residents in the area is being developed. Works to occur March to May 2022.
- **St Marys Footpath:** Footpath upgrade and renewal of kerb and channel between Hilly's IGA and Newman Street. Works scheduled late March to May 2022. Communication will be sent to residents in the area.

General activity:

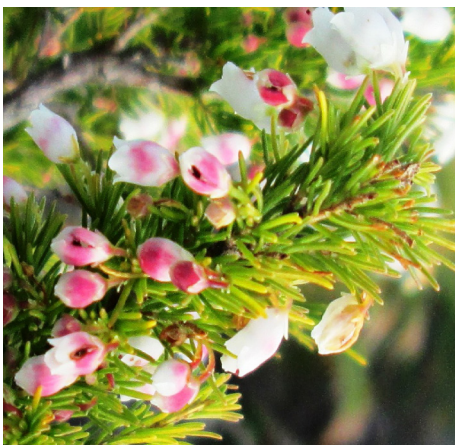
- Inspections of Council owned buildings and playgrounds.
- Inspections and cleaning of boat ramps
- Township mowing, maintenance and ground maintenance – all areas.
- Road side slashing to continue in all areas throughout 2022

Weed Management

- **St Marys:** Spanish heath, blackberry, broom, gorse, broadleaf
- **Seymour:** Spiny rush
- **St Helens Aerodrome:** Spanish heath, thistles
- **St Helens MTB:** Blackberry, thistles, bridal creeper
- **St Helens Football Club Ground:** Spanish heath
- **St Helens – Walker Street:** Spanish heath

You can find our newsletters online at www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/news-events/

Weed of the month - Spanish Heath



Spanish heath is one of Break O'Day's most serious invasive weeds. It's an early season flowering shrub carrying millions of tiny seeds by late winter. Landowners are obliged to contain and

control Spanish heath and everyone can do their bit to reduce its spread.

It requires well timed treatments to control and the next few months are the best. Spanish heath can be hand dug (roots and cut stems can re-sprout) or treated with herbicides (spraying or using the cut-stump method). Find and treat isolated plants first and follow-up next season. Slashing dense patches can reduce seeding this season, but must be before flowering and is not enough control. Do not mow or slash after flowering and be very 'hygienic' around Spanish heath. Get more detailed information via: www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species

The FY21 Environmental impact of the St Helens Waste Transfer Station



CARBON EMISSIONS

SAVING 13,566 KG CO2E
EQUIVALENT TO
PLANTING 203 TREES¹



ENERGY EMISSIONS

SAVING 175,810 MJ OF ENERGY
EQUIVALENT TO 490 DAYS OF
HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICITY USE³



WATER CONSUMPTION

SAVING 24 M3 EQ. OF WATER
EQUIVALENT TO 48 DAYS OF
HOUSEHOLD WATER USE²



PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS

SAVING 23,146 G OF
PARTICULATE MATTER.
EQUIVALENT TO REMOVING
23,118 KM OF OLD DIESEL
TRUCK TRAVEL⁴

¹ Factor applied based on estimate of 15 trees storing 1 tonne CO2e, as provided by Carbon Neutral™ (<https://carbonneutral.com.au/faqs/>) ² Based on 503 litres per day and per Australian household in FY20, using Australian Bureau of Statistic data (Water Account)

³ Based on 130.6 GJ of annual energy per Australian household in FY19, using Australian Bureau of Statistic data (Energy Account) ⁴ Factor applied based on an EURO3 diesel truck emission as modelled in ecoinvent 3.5



Can you help your community?

- Are you an experienced driver?
- Are you willing to volunteer one or more hours a week of your time to help others in our community get their licence?

If so, the Get in2 Gear program needs you.

The Learner Driver Mentor Program is a Tasmanian Government and Council funded program that supports our community members who are having difficulty getting their licence. This could be for a range of reasons from not having access to a vehicle to not having someone to help them with their hours.

If you would like to join our Learner Driver Mentors, please contact Jenna on 63767900

GET IN2GEAR