

SHIRE NOTES



Amalgamations Debate

The Minister for Local Government and Regional Development has given local governments until the 31 August 2009 to advise him of their amalgamation intentions – with the statement *If you don't want to do it, I'll do it*. Whilst the Premier has since ruled out forced amalgamations, he has urged all local governments to voluntarily consider the process. The Nationals, Labor Party and 2 Independents have also given the advice they will not support forced amalgamations.

Advice has been received that the Minister is planning to meet with WE-ROC & NEW-ROC in Tammin in July. Council has also sought support from the WA Local Government Association to develop its preferred position. Accordingly, Council has decided to defer the public meeting which was to be held on 25 June 2009 to a later date.

Venue Hire

A recent incident at Donnan Park where a window was accidentally broken brought into focus the obligation that hirers of Shire of Tammin property have. Firstly, there is the obligation to report any damages or breakages. Similarly, if there is any dissatisfaction in relation to cleanliness or even maintenance issues. The second obligation is that the hirer will be expected to pay for damages or breakages. Whilst the Shire of Tammin has insurance cover, the cover insures the Shire of Tammin, not the hirer. Obviously it is at the hirers discretion whether they in turn pursue the person responsible for the damage or breakage.

FM Radio

Approval in principal has been given for United Christian Broadcasting Australian to set up a FM radio relay in the Tammin Hall to provide Vision Radio Network to Tammin.

Sports Trainer Training

Be-Active coordinator, Rod Thornton, is endeavouring to organise a Level 2 Sports Training course. A minimum of 12 people is required. Rod can be contacted on 9061 1841 or beactive@brucerock.wa.gov.au.

Volunteer Organisations Small Equipment Grants

These grants are available to Clubs and Organisations for the purchase of equipment. The window for applications is usually very brief. It is anticipated that applications will be sought in the near future – so now is the time to think about what you need and get organised. For further information and ideas, contact Rod Thornton.

Community Grant Funding

Clubs and organisations are reminded that budget submissions for funding for 2009-10, which were sent out are required by 8 July 2009 to allow Council to consider the requests.

Be Active

Healthway has approved continued support for the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt Be Active Coordinators Scheme for a further three years to June 2012. The Scheme, which involves the Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Tammin, Merredin, Westonia, and Yilgarn has been very successful in encouraging local people to become and stay active.

Healthway has supported the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt Be Active Coordinator's Scheme since 1996. The current scheme coordinator Rodney Thornton has been with the Central and Eastern Wheatbelt since May 2004 and during that time he has been the catalyst for positive change among sporting clubs and increased involvement in physical activity throughout the region.

From 1 July, the scheme will introduce a range of new initiatives aimed at catering for an even greater range of community groups over the next three years.

Rod can be contacted on 9061 1841 or by email to beactive@brucerock.wa.gov.au.

Healthy Club - Summer 2009/10

The next round of the Healthy Club sponsorship program (up to \$2,500) will be available to incorporated sporting clubs competing in a recognised competition over the Summer of 2009/10. The Healthy Club Sponsorship Program provides an incentive for sporting clubs to identify and address a range of issues that have the potential to improve the health and safety of their members and supporters within their club including:

- Safety Initiatives - First aid equipment, padding and safety equipment or injury prevention courses;
- Health Initiatives - Shade structures, sunscreen, water bottles, hats, education sessions for members;
- Education/training Initiatives - Coaching education courses, referee and umpiring courses, finance/administration resources, responsible service of alcohol training; and
- Participation Initiatives – equipment to encourage participation by people with disabilities and advertising costs for new member promotions.

Successful clubs will be required to develop a Healthy Club policy in the areas of smoking, sun protection, sport safety, alcohol and other drugs, and healthy catering.

Applications close 5pm Monday 10 August 2009 – for application forms see:

<http://www.smawa.asn.au/extra.asp?id=421&OrgID=120>

For further information on any of these issues, please contact your local Councillor or the Staff at the Shire Office.

Mick Oliver, Chief Executive Officer