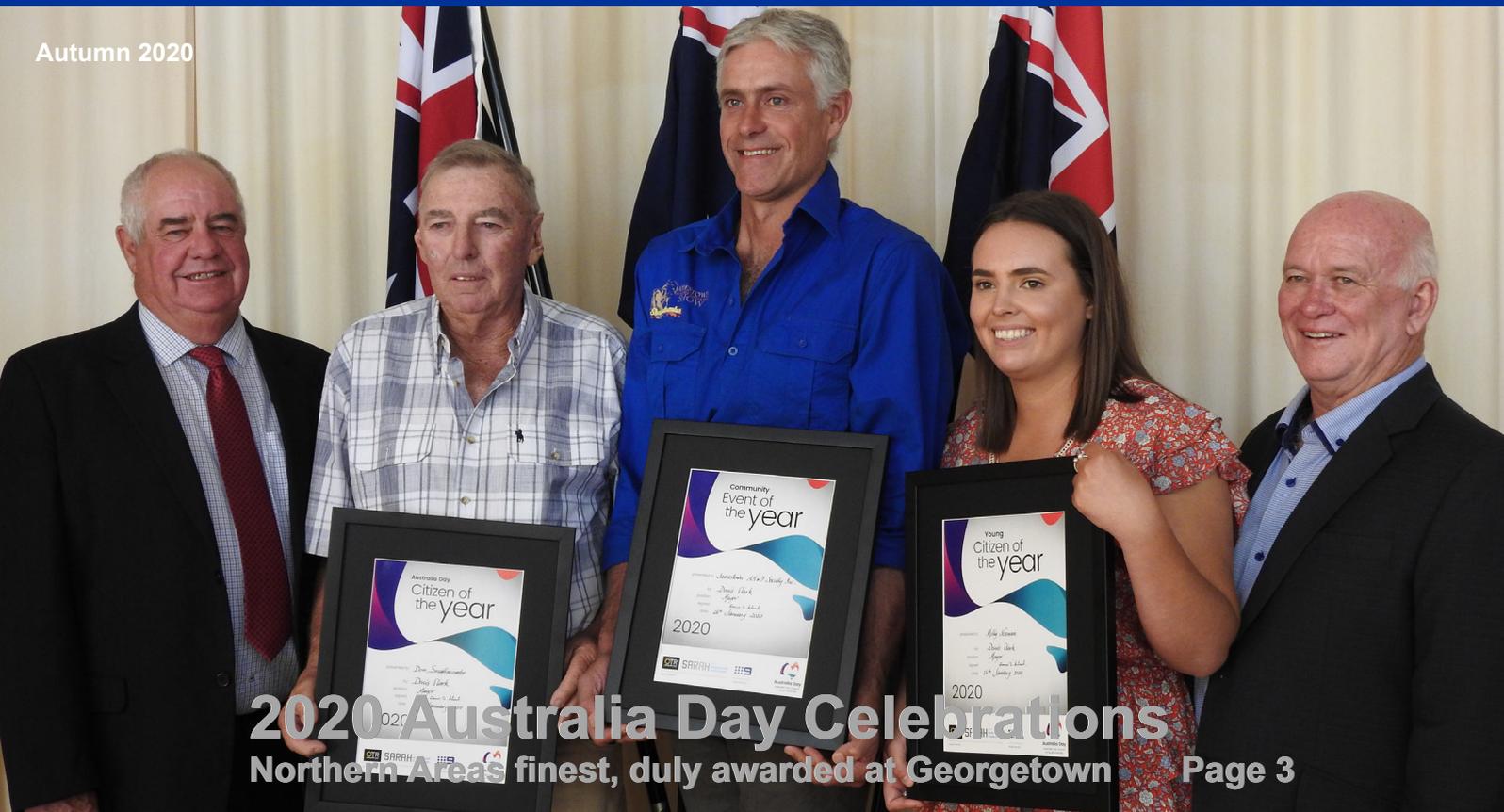




Autumn 2020



2020 Australia Day Celebrations
Northern Areas finest, duly awarded at Georgetown Page 3

4

State Planning Reform

Delay on the implementation of the new planning laws



Cross Street Gladstone Stormwater

Newly completed flood mitigation works put to the test

7

8

Micro Chipping Dogs and Cats

The importance of micro chipping and it has very Simply enabled Council to reunite pets with owners



Broadacre Burning Permits Go Online

Prior to lodging your notification to burn, a permit is obtained from Council through the online platform.

10

Mayor Clark's Message



A warm welcome to you all for 2020, of which it's very hard to believe that we're in Autumn already.

It's been pleasing to see some rain, which has not only helped put some moisture in the sub soil, but it has also helped with the fire fighting efforts both here in South Australia as well as interstate.

It was nice to hear that some of our hard working CFS volunteers from the local area travelled across to Kangaroo Island to help out their community and their brigades. It's great to see people work together to help each other when times aren't so easy.

I'm certainly hopeful that 2020 will help deliver much needed rains to not only this region, but also to our near neighbours who have been suffering the heaviest from the drought. It was nice to hear that some of the pastoral lands received much needed rains, but not everyone was so lucky. But let's hope a turn around is not far away.

I recently attended a drought forum in Orroroo, which was attended by the Premier Stephen Marshall and Member for Stuart Dan Van Holst Pellekaan. We continue to advocate to support our local communities, and it's been pleasing to hear that the State Government has launched a program to assist eligible drought affected primary producers with Council rates. Ultimately the drought recovery will depend a lot on the kindness of mother nature, but in the interim it's good to see some level of assistance available.

From a Council perspective with the financial year fast disappearing, Council's road resealing plan is underway, whilst the recent rains have helped enable the graders to get busy.

Whilst there's still nearly four months of the financial year to go, work has already commenced on the budget for the 2020/21 financial year. The process has become a far simpler exercise in recent years thanks to the development of our various Asset Management Plans, particularly in relation to our many buildings and road assets.

Finally congratulations to our 2020 Australia Day Award Winners, our Citizen of the Year Don Smallacombe, Young Citizen of the Year Molly Noonan and Community Event of the Year the Jamestown Show.

A great day was had by all and a big thank you to the Georgetown community for their hard work in putting the event together and serving up a superb breakfast.

Cr. Denis Clark
Mayor

Your Elected Member Contact Information

Belalie Ward *Jamestown, Caltowie, Tarcowie & surrounding areas*

Cr Denis Clark—Mayor
M: 0408 148 725
F: 8664 0220
E: denis.clark@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Cr Glan Moore
M: 0419 803 854
E: glan.moore@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Cr Leon Pollard
M: 0409 691 037
E: leon.pollard@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Cr Merv Robinson
P: 8664 1838
M: 0417 863 450
E: merv.robinson@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Broughton Ward *Spalding, Yacka & surrounding areas*

Cr Ben Browne
M: 0419 038 474
F: 8845 8004
E: ben.browne@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Rocky River Ward *Gladstone, Laura, Stone Hut & surrounding areas*

Cr Sue Scarman—Deputy Mayor
P: 8636 2691
M: 0418 844 935
E: sue.scarman@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Cr. Denise Higgins
M: 0428 222 610
E: denise.higgins@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Cr Kathy Webb
P: 8662 2553
M: 0412 644 665
E: kathy.webb@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Yackamoорundie Ward *Georgetown, Gulnare, Narridy & surrounding areas*

Cr. Ian Pomeranke
M: 0412 154 610
E: ian.pomeranke@nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Australia Day Celebrated in Georgetown

A crowd of approximately two hundred people were in attendance at Georgetown on Australia Day to see the presentation of the 2020 Australia Day Awards in the Northern Areas Council.

Guests were treated to a hearty cooked breakfast, with the event well catered for by the Georgetown Community Development Association, who did an exceptional job in organising the event, at the Georgetown Memorial Hall.

Don Smallacombe of Georgetown was awarded as the 2020 Citizen of the Year for his tireless community work across many decades.

Scott Crawford also of Georgetown spoke of Don's many achievements for not only the Georgetown Community, but the wider region.

Molly Noonan of Jamestown was named as the Young Citizen of the Year, having been a key member of the Jamestown Show Committee, which has significantly improved the event in recent years, since reverting back to a two day event.

Whilst the Community Event of the Year Winner was awarded to the 2019 Jamestown Show, receiving the award for the second time in the past three years.

2019 was an enormous year for the show, which included the opening of the new Heiniger Shearer Training Facility, to service both the annual show and ongoing shearer training for the North and West of South Australia as well as Western New South Wales.

The Georgetown Community did an exemplary job in hosting the event at the Georgetown Memorial Hall, with the large crowd thoroughly enjoying the hospitality.



A good crowd was on hand, at Georgetown to both enjoy a hearty breakfast and to celebrate with the award winners



Mayor Denis Clark, Citizen of the Year Don Smallacombe and CEO Colin Byles



Mayor Denis Clark, Young Citizen of the Year Molly Noonan and CEO Colin Byles



Members of the Jamestown Show Committee were on hand to receive the Community Event of the Year Award

Local Nuisance Unsightly Premises

Unsightly conditions are often the cause of local nuisance to a community, adjoining land owners and the amenity of the area, resulting in complaints to Council and disputes between neighbours.

The Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act provides legislation for Council's to deal with unsightly conditions and issues that arise from these premises and conditions.

Properties that have the potential to have an adverse impact on the amenity of a community, or neighbouring premises can be subject to an expiation notice or a request to cease an activity, however Council first approach is to seek the co operation of the property owner to remove the unsightly conditions.

The main complaints Council receives are premises involving :

- Excessive unconstrained rubbish, loose waste material or vegetation scattered around the site
- Stockpiled disused derelict items, vehicles, vehicle parts building materials etc,
- Dilapidated damaged buildings.

If you have any enquiries, additional information is available from the Council office

Planning Reform Implementation Delayed

Planning Minister Stephan Knoll has announced that the implementation of the new Planning Reform has been postponed.

The Planning Minister states that this decision has been based on the advice of the State Planning Commission, from feedback from local government, community and stakeholders.

The change will involve removing the mandated 1 July 2020 date from the PDI Act and will enable a new date to be set.

The Minister has indicated that this date will likely be July 2020 for Rural Councils and September 2020 for Metropolitan Councils.

This will allow the state government additional time to refine and test the Planning and Design Code, and give the community, Council and practitioners more time to understand the changes.

It will also allow the state government more time to complete the centralised ePlanning solution including possible necessary enhancements.

And importantly, it will allow the state government to initiate an effective training program for the new planning system and ePlanning solution and give Council time to prepare and become business-ready before the new planning system is switched on.



eplanningportal.sa.gov.au



Drought Community Program Extension Round Two

The Federal Government recently announced an additional program to assist drought affected communities, through a second round of the Drought Communities Program. Northern Areas Council was identified as one of the 128 Council areas from across Australia as being drought impacted.

This has enabled an application to be made for \$1,000,000 in funding for community infrastructure projects, with the aim of the program to be to help stimulate economic activity in local Council areas, at a time when business may be suffering as a flow on effect of primary producers enduring hardship from drought conditions.

Accordingly the Elected Members of Council engaged the local community as a means of putting project forward for consideration. At a Special Meeting of Council held on the 11th of January the following projects were approved to be shortlisted to form part of the application.

Location	Project
Footpaths across the Council Area	Additional footpath upgrades
Georgetown Memorial Park	Upgrade to the park including Irrigation, fencing and general area improvements
Gladstone Cemetery	Shelter and Tank
Gladstone War Memorial Peace Garden	Completion of garden
Gladstone Swimming Pool	Upgrade Male Change rooms
Gulnare Town Hall	Roof Repairs
Jamestown Town Entrance Signs	Town Entrance Signs
Jamestown History Centre	External Painting
Jamestown Hydrotherapy Pool	Upgrade Disability Change rooms
Jamestown Information Bay	Upgrade whole of Tourist Information Bay
Jamestown Regional Sports Stadium	Toilet Block Construction (part contribution)
Jamestown Town Hall	Kitchen Upgrade
Laura Archives Building	Repair cracks, paint and create interpretive centre
Laura Primary School	School Pedestrian Crossing
Laura Sports Ground	Drainage, bitumen seal around clubrooms, change rooms and grandstand to allow disabled access
RSL Combined Services Building Jamestown	Repair RSL Building at the Northern End
Spalding Sports Complex	Sports Court Upgrade (part contribution)
Spalding Swimming Pool	Upgrade Male Change rooms
Stone Hut	Upgrade Stone Hut Hall floor
Stone Hut	Paving Shelter & South of Hall
Victoria Park Jamestown	Bitumen Seal around clubroom and from the Stadium, to enable access to disabled toilets
Yacka Hall	Hall Upgrade, Painting, Kitchen Upgrade, improvements to the floor

Infrastructure Update



Green Waste Service Review

Council has recently written to all who receive a kerbside waste collection in rural and township areas with a survey to help assess the interest in introducing a kerbside green waste collection service in addition to the waste and recycling collections currently in place.

From previous community surveys and forums conducted around the district, there has been a level of interest expressed in this type of service and so we progress with testing the wider level of interest across the district with the survey. Your participation in the survey, returning a form with your views expressed on it will give us the information we need to make a decision that reflects the will and resources of the majority.



After Hours Emergencies

Council has an After Hours Emergency Contact Number which is **0488 999 808**.

In the past some members of the public or business agencies may have contacted a Council Officer directly for one reason or another after hours, however Council requests the emergency number above be used for this. A roster of Council staff are assigned to attend to any after hours phone calls.

Please note that after hours calls relating to dog control go directly to Council's Dog Management Officer **Garry Harris on 0419 858 375**

It is not ok to Park on the Footpath

Council has had some enquiries about this since the last newsletter and have noticed no change in much behaviour. People say the street isn't very wide.



Just think about streets in the city where only one car can travel at a time in one direction. Our streets are wider than that.

Footpaths are a very important asset for the community and this is raised to council by the community in surveys. Parking on footpaths prevents the public using them and does damage the footpath.

The fine for breach of this parking regulation is \$500 per offence and, \$500 for each hour of the offence.

Please park within your property or in an appropriate location within the road to avoid penalties.



Strategic Projects

Strategic projects are those that align with Council's current strategic plan. One of those projects is commencing at present and seeks to identify buildings that are not serving the community well with a view to reducing the cost of maintenance and ownership, to the community.

Staff are liaising with councillors and representative community committee's to consider rationalisation of council owned buildings. A report will go to Council at the end of the process with any recommendations coming from the community through the consultation process.

Capital Works

Progress with Cross St Gladstone is almost complete, the new seal will be applied in March or April and line marking will then go on to complete the project. Rain in recent weeks has tested the detention basin and the formation which proved effective.



Recent rains have provided the first test for the drainage works at Gladstone, including the new seal and the detention basin

The re-seal program will again be directed to the seals in the worst condition around the district. The aim is always to get the greatest useful life out of the existing seal and to overspray the old when the bitumen is reaching the end of its useful life. Testing of samples across the network has recently been carried out to gauge the condition of our bitumen road assets.

Various projects are in planning or getting underway with some building projects of a minor nature being carried out through contractors for renewal of plumbing, roof repairs and renewal and electrical works for compliance and upgrade.

Various consultancy projects are advancing which provide specialist technical advice, research and design for upcoming projects.

These include Ayr Street Jamestown Preliminary Design and builds on the good work of the Jamestown Development Association (JDA) in recent years; Jamestown Stormwater Management Plan which is due for public consultation on the draft very soon and Pine Creek Bridge options report which will provide the direction needed for a determination on the most cost effective option for getting the road back to a useful heavy vehicle rating.



Road re-sealing is now underway

Road Train Trial Proves to be a Successful Cost Saving

With the hire of a dolly, Council staff have been able to establish a road train with existing trailers for carting rubble to roads for re-sheeting.

This has been done as a trial initially to identify any major hurdles to the operation. All has gone well.

One of Council's prime movers was due for replacement and this enabled an upgrade of the power train to pull the load comfortably.

Like anyone else, we have permits to have approved through NHVR for DPTI (State Government) and the Council road network and there are going to be some pits or roads Council can't access with it.

Even so, Council expects to be able to deliver half of the rubble or more each year with this configuration lifting productivity by 60% and reducing the delivery cost per m³ by 33%.

The outcome in terms of value to the community is somewhere in the region of 3 to 4 more kilometers of road re-sheeted each year for the same cost.



The Importance of Micro Chipping your Dogs and Cats

Recently Council's Animal Management Officer was contacted because a cat had wandered into a property. As the cat was microchipped, Council staff were able to identify the cat's owners from the DACO records and they were reunited with their beloved moggie who had been missing from their family for 7 months!! A good news story for having your animal microchipped and registered.

Please contact Council if you find a dog wandering by phoning Council offices, contacting Council's Animal Management Officer, Garry Harris on 0419 858 375 or if it is after business hours or a weekend please call 0488 999 808 and staff will be able to check the registration records and ensure that the dog is returned to its owner as quickly as possible.

This is a good reason to make sure that your dog and/or cat is registered and all contact details are up-to-date. Council admin staff are able to help with dog and cat registration enquiries any time during business hours.



Solar Installations

You may or may not have noticed that Council has been busily expanding its solar footprint, by adding and expanding systems to existing Council buildings, as a means of further reducing energy costs over a prolonged period of time. In 2019/20 a further seven systems have been added.

Solar energy systems have been upgraded and expanded at larger sites like the various Council depots, through to the smaller sites such as public toilet blocks. One key area in which Council has looked to continue to reduce energy costs is at CWMS sites. Such sites not only include the location of the main pumps and treatment plant at the holding ponds, but also at the various pumping stations within the townships.

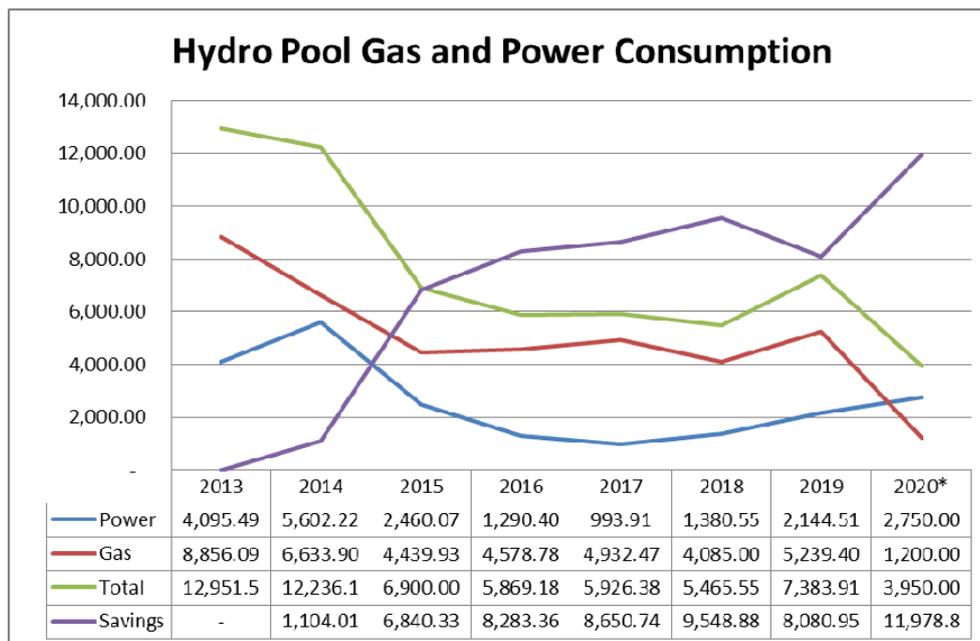


Energy Savings Achieved at Hydrotherapy Pool

Since 2013, Council has worked in conjunction with the Jamestown Hydrotherapy Pool and Gymnasium Management Committee, to seek to further improve the financial sustainability of the facility. This has included measures such as bulk purchase gas contracts, engaging the services of an industry specific consultant to undertake a Preventative Maintenance Plan and a review of energy consumption.

Following the review of energy consumption, further measures have been undertaken with the installation of a 15kw solar energy system, in addition to a solar hybrid water heating system, as an alternative to constant gas heating. In the period since 2013, significant savings have been achieved, which have then been able to be reinvested in the facility, in accordance with the Preventative Maintenance Plan, as well as any other unexpected expenditure which has arisen.

The significance of annual operational savings expenditure is the compounding impact of year on year saving, as opposed to a one off cost reduction.



**Estimated based on the half year information*

Fire Permits for Broad Acre Farming Broadacre Burning Online Notifications

Since 1st March 2020 Council have been utilising an online platform for lodging broadacre burning notifications. This means broadacre permit holders apply for a permit and notify their intention to burn through the Council online system at their convenience (rather than calling Council & CFS).

Council no longer issues permits for single days, instead a **season permit** will be issued with the permit holder having the requirement to lodge their intention to burn through Council's new online burning notification portal (<https://nac.sa.fires.elementorg.com>)

Permit holders will need to enter their full name, permit number, contact number, and properties to be burnt (or mark their paddocks on the online map).

It is imperative that prior to lodging your notification to burn, a permit is obtained from Council through the online platform.

A map view of all planned burns is viewable to the general public at this address:

<https://nac.sa.fires.elementorg.com/public-pages/burnoff-view/>

To ensure you have a burning permit prior to your intended burn date, please allow up to 48 hours for Council to receive, assess, and issue the Schedule 9 Permit.



Fire Danger Season

The Fire Danger Season is from the 1st November 2019 to 30th April 2020.

Please continue to look at your property on a regular basis and make sure your property is maintained so that you are preventing fires from starting on or moving through your property.

Fire prevention is an **OBLIGATION OF ALL LANDOWNERS**, not an option.

Property Preparation Checklist

- Maintain your lawns, groundcovers, shrubs, trees and garden beds.
- Slash or mow long grass to a maximum height of 25mm (1") and remove cut material from the land. You could use the clippings as a mulch in the garden or place them in a compost bin.
- Remove weeds around the house. Don't have any shrubs or trees leaning against the house or overhanging the roof. There must be at least 20 metres of maintained ground around the house.
- Remove weeds around garages, carports, sheds and fences. Don't have any shrubs or trees leaning against them. There must be at least 10 metres of maintained ground around them.
- Remove leaves and any dead weeds from gutters and consider gutter guard systems to help reduce the accumulated leaf litter.
- Wood piles must be at least 5 metres from the house or shed.
- Remove fallen branches and other debris.
- Do not have a creeper or vine growing on a poly rain water tank
- Check and service all of your mechanical equipment, including grass cutters, water pumps, sprinkler systems and extinguishers.
- Review and update your Bushfire Action Plan. Remember to include your pets in this plan.

Keep informed:

- CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au
- CFS facebook pages
- CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: 1300 362 361 (TTY 133 677)
- On local ABC radio, FIVEaa, or one of our other Emergency Broadcast Partner radio stations

Drought Assistance for Council Rates

The South Australian Government has announced a Drought Support Program to assist Primary Producers facing hardship.

Primary Producers may be able to access a rebate on local council rates through a Council Rate Rebate. The rebate is open to all eligible South Australian drought affected primary producers approved for Farm Household Allowance and will offer a 50% rebate (or maximum \$7,500) on council rates.

For further information please contact the PIRSA Drought Hotline on:

Phone: 1800 931 314
Email: PIRSA.drought@sa.gov.au
Website: www.pir.sa.gov.au



How to receive your Rates Notices via email

Have your rates notice delivered to any device or computer. It is quick, easy and a secure way to view your rate notice. Signing up will let you login to view your notices online at any time. You can self-manage all your properties, send notices to multiple emails addresses and print off additional copies.

Steps to register:

- Step 1 Go to www.nacouncil.enotices.com.au .
Enter your email address and eNotices Reference Number that is located on the front of your Rates Notice.
- Step 2 Check your email inbox and click the validation link.
- Step 3 Select a password and enter your mobile number.

To register additional notices, click “Add your notice” in your Dashboard and enter your eNotices Reference Number.

You will now receive notices in your inbox, and you can log in and view them online at any time.

For more information or assistance with this process, please contact Council’s Rates Officers, Bernadette McCarthy or Tanya Francis.

Single Farm Enterprise

Section 152 of the Local Government Act 1999 provides that “if two or more pieces of rateable land within the area of the Council constitute a single farm enterprise, only one fixed charge may be imposed against the whole of the land”.

If you have not completed an application form or have purchased, sold, subdivided or amalgamated any land or changed your entity you need to update your application form. Forms are available from the Jamestown, Gladstone and Spalding Offices and must be completed and returned by **5:00pm on Monday 20th June 2020.**

If the application form is not received by Council by the due date, no exemption will apply to the 2020/2021 financial year fixed charge component of your rates.

A majority of farming entities have already completed a form and are receiving a Single Farm Enterprise, and therefore a reduction on the fixed charge component of their rates.

For further information please contact Council’s Rates Officers Tanya Francis or Bernadette McCarthy at the Jamestown Office on 08 8664 1139.

Jamestown Regional Hydrotherapy Pool Volunteer Supervisors Needed

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer Hydrotherapy Pool Supervisor?

A free accreditation course will be held **Friday 1st May 2020** at the Jamestown Hydrotherapy Pool Complex. 66 Irvine Street, Jamestown

The course length is approximately 2 hours, includes Hydro Evacuation Training, CPR, First Aid Refresher with Spinal Content.

A certificate is provided upon completion at no cost.

Please Note

Becoming a volunteer Supervisor requires a genuine commitment of time which involves making yourself available to supervise Hydrotherapy Pool sessions for at least 1 hour monthly at a time convenient for you.

For further information or to register your name please contact Brooke Hansen at the Northern Areas Council Office on 8664 1139 by no later than Friday 24th April 2020

We hope you will consider giving your time to support the Jamestown Regional Hydrotherapy Pool and its community.



Calendar of Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings of Northern Areas Council are held each month at the Council Chambers at 94 Ayr Street, Jamestown.

The general public are always welcome to attend.

Upcoming meeting dates are:

Tuesday 17th March	9am
Tuesday 21st April	9am
Tuesday 19th May	9am
Tuesday 16th June	9am

For further meeting dates please visit

www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

After Hours Council Contact

Please call

0488 999 808

Public Question Time

Public Question Time is where a member of the community can appear at the Council meeting and ask a question to Council.

Questions can be in writing prior to the meeting so a researched answer can be provided.

Alternatively a it can be asked from the public gallery on the meeting day.

Guidelines for can be found on Council's website

www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

