

Message from the Mayor Your New Council

Your Elected Members have now completed the Investiture ceremony, signifying the confidence you have invested in each of us to represent and serve the needs of the entire community in a timely, appropriate, and responsive manner.



Deputy Mayor Janet Lambert and Mayor Mary Knowles OAM

Some newly elected members will begin their roles with prior knowledge of the Governance of Council, its operations and the relevant legislation under which it works while others may not have a great deal of knowledge however, as they progress through the Induction process, the role and responsibilities that go with it, will become clearer. If you want to know more about the induction process that your elected members will undertake, visit our website:

<https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/council/your-council/councillor-induction#welcome>

Northern Midlands Council is governed by various pieces of legislation including the *Local Government Act 1993 (The Act)* and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 (Tasmania)*.

The Act and accompanying Regulations require local government to be responsible and accountable for its governance and *Section 20* of the Act describes the functions and powers of council:

In addition to any functions of a council in this or any other Act, a council has the following functions:

- to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community;
- to represent and promote the interests of the community;
- to provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

Good governance involves planning for the future and considering the views and interests within the municipality to reach a majority position on what is in the best interests of the *whole* community, and how this can be achieved.

Councillors do not get involved in day-to-day operational matters. That is the role of the General Manager.

Proponents of The Church development in Bridge Street Campbell Town are being encouraged to make a formal request to Northern Midlands Council to consider provision of parking spaces on Council streets instead of on-site.

It is a requirement under the planning scheme for property developers to provide car parking at their own expense. For example, the proponents of a new building on the Anglican Church site in High Street were required to provide 55 car parks on site, The Grange's meeting room and function centre provided 32 spaces on site and the Banjo's redevelopment provided 24 spaces on site which was eight more than required under the scheme.

For this development, as per the applicant's own traffic management study, the developer was required to provide 39 car parks however, the development proponent did not want to provide parking on their own land and was proposing all 39 car parking spaces be provided on the

Council's Road reserves nevertheless, the General Manager only requested nine formal car parks in the road reserve.

There is a provision that requires permission to be sought from the General manager to locate parking on Council land where parking is not being provided within a development site. In that situation, the General Manager then determines the standard of parking required.

In line with this, the proponent has been advised to make a request to Council for their preference for car parking in Council streets which is 11 gravel parking spaces, with drainage, in Bridge Street and the use of Council streets for the remaining 28 car space requirements.

While this is unusual, by making a formal request, the whole Council would then have an opportunity to consider the request. It is then up to Councillors who can either agree with the original traffic impact statement, the proponent's preferred option, the General Manager's alternative compromise proposal, or to make some other decision.

While Council encourages investment, councillors need to weigh up the facts that the road reserves in the area around the development was not constructed to current standards for parking and that the cost of any required upgrades and maintenance would be borne by the community.

Council is aware of complaints regarding unmown reserves and parklands and potholes. The wet weather has caused delays to the usual mowing schedule, and I can assure you that officers are taking every opportunity to keep on top of this. Please be patient as this work gets underway.

On 10 November, I attended the National Over 70's Cricket Championships Launch at Ross where the Governor tossed the coin and unveiled a plaque commemorating the Tree Planting Project to honour Her Majesty's Jubilee.

The combined contributions from Veterans Cricket, Ross Community Sports Club and Council officers, has seen the transformation of the Ross Sports precinct from a disused to a remarkable facility and includes the installation of the turf wicket and restoration of the grounds. A fantastic demonstration of what can be achieved when all parties are working collaboratively towards the same goal.

Despite the unpredictable weather, residents of the Northern Midlands are spoilt for choice with the number of events available and I have certainly enjoyed attending as many as I can such as Festival of Roses at Woolmers Estate and Longford Garden Club 54th Annual Spring Flower Show



If gardening is not your thing, don't forget the Verandah Music Festival is on this weekend at various locations in Evandale.

I had the honour of attending the Longford Remembrance Day Service and laid a wreath on behalf of the Northern Midlands Council, for those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts. I also took the time to remember those who are close to me who have served and are still with us or are still serving today. *Lest we Forget.*

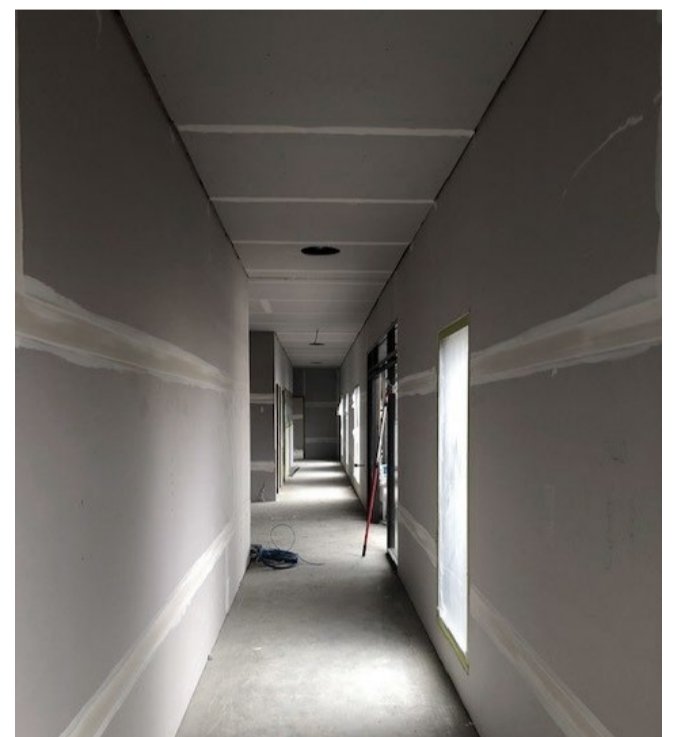


Mayor Mary Knowles OAM and Don Ives OAM at the Remembrance Day Service

Mary Knowles OAM
Mayor

Project Updates Perth Early Learning Centre

Perth Early Learning Centre is progressing well with internal linings and external brickworks. Future works will include the outdoor play space and carpark preparation works.



Fans have also been installed at the Longford Sports Centre Internal works are progressing at the Evandale Memorial Hall and all works are expected to be completed by December.

Precast walls have also been made with installation of the new public facility at Lake Leake to commence in coming weeks.