



COUNCIL COMMENTS

The cooler weather has arrived and the tourists are starting to venture into our area. All residents are requested to keep their yards clean and tidy to assist in the promotion of Mount Magnet as a tourist destination. First impressions of an untidy town and tourists will keep on travelling.

GRAMS MEDICAL CENTRE

Recently, Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS) has requested Council consider land that is in a central location of town for a possible Medical Centre.

This Medical Centre will provide a permanent Doctor in town for all residents as well as other medical services. The Doctor may rotate with others at the Geraldton centre, but there will always be one in Mount Magnet. Other Medical Services that may be available are:

- Physiotherapy
- Women's Health
- Diabetic Health
- Ante Natal Services
- Oral health, etc)

The current location considered by Council as the best location is the lot alongside the hardware store in Hepburn Street. This location is central to the town, so it is easily accessible. There is ample parking in Hepburn Street or Naughton Street. Staff parking is also available in the vacant lot behind the proposed centre lot.



Council is aware that there may be concerns about people waiting in the streets for other family members attending the medical services and this matter has been raised with GRAMS. All possible precautions will be taken to ensure that this is minimal, but we must also focus on the positives of having a permanent medical facility in town and the benefits that come with that.

A copy of the current floor plan is attached at the back of this newsletter along with a location map for the centre. Also available is the Murchison Primary Health Care Stocktake Report by CUCRH which highlights the need for additional medical facilities in the area.

Council is requesting that any members of the public wishing to make comment about the proposed medical service and its location, **please write to the Shire by the 22nd April 2009**. All submissions will be considered before Council makes a final decision on the location of the Centre.

SWIMMING POOL CLOSED

The swimming pool is closed for the winter season. The closing was marked with a special day and sausage sizzle. Many thanks to Brad and JJ for organising this day that was enjoyed by all.

The pool will be re-opened later this year.

MOUNT MAGNET MINING AND PASTORAL MUSEUM

The Mount Magnet Mining and Pastoral Museum building was raised at the March Council Meeting and the two submissions Council received considered. Both were positive to the proposal for the museum and Council thanks the respondents for their time and effort in completing the submissions.

Council has applied for a grant in excess of \$2 million from the Federal Government in order for the entire museum infrastructure to be completed in one project rather than a little each year.

To date, we have not received any advice of the outcomes of the grant submissions. As this will have an enormous effect on the museum proposal and what Council can do, all we can do is wait and see. Once the result is known, Council will endeavour to let the public know.



PUBLIC TOILETS

The new public toilets in Federation/Foster Park are soon to be open to the public. The toilets will be opened at dawn and locked at dusk.

New signs will be installed shortly to give directions to the toilets. Signs will also be placed away from the toilets indicating that they are ahead.

SUGGESTION BOXES

Residents may have seen the new Shire Suggestion boxes. There is one in the Administration Building and one in the Post Office. If any resident or interested person has a suggestion that they would like Council to consider, please complete the forms and drop it in the box. These are collected weekly.

Suggestions that have been received to date are:

Suggestion 1 – Water the lawn at race track!

Reply – Water is now being pumped to the racetrack for watering of the lawns. As long as the bore can supply the required water, this will continue. Currently the lawns are being watered daily.

Suggestion 2 – This area should be advertised as “Mount Magnet, the heart of the gold country in the Murchison”

Reply – bit long, “Hub of the Murchison” is easier.

Suggestion 3 – More signs so people know where the public library is (mean tourist). They keep going up to the school. They are told at the school.

Reply – will take this on board and look at additional signage.

Suggestion 4 –

- a) A verge pickup to get rid of some of the rubbish people cannot take to the tip themselves.
- b) Letters to the residents that have more rubbish in their yard than @ the local rubbish tip
- c) Access Lanes – Clean + spray weeds. As you enter our town it looks like a war zone.

Reply –

- a) *A verge pickup can leave streets untidy as items notice has to be given of the pickup and items left in the street for the pick up, but this will be considered further;*
- b) *Council is sending letters to owners of properties that look untidy requesting something be done.*

- c) *Councils Town/Depot Leading Hand has recently started a program to tidy up the access lanes. This will be expanded and spraying and cleaning a regular activity.*

CASUAL FOR A CAUSE

Anyone visiting the Shire Administration Office on the first Friday of the month may have notice that staff are usually in casual dress instead of normal uniforms. Staff are penalised a gold coin donation for this. The penalty is sent to a worthwhile cause annually. Collections from last year raised \$54 which was sent as part of the Victorian Fire Appeal.

Perhaps some other businesses or offices in town would like to consider being a part of this?

ABANDONED VEHICLES

If you have any abandoned vehicles that you would like cleared away, Council is looking at a 'once off' vehicle pick-up where the standard charges will be waived. This will be done on the 8th May. If you have any vehicle to be removed, please drop into the Shire office to complete the forms and provide details of location of vehicle, type/colour of vehicle and any other information available

Any vehicle removed after this date will be subject to the standard removal charge of \$132.00.

EASTER OFFICE HOURS / RUBBISH COLLECTION

Please be advised that the Shire Office will be closed from Thursday 9th April 4.00pm until Wednesday 15th April 9.00am. This closure also applies to Library hours.

Centrelink will be open from 9am to 12 noon on Tuesday 14th April.

Over the Easter break rubbish pickups will be on Tuesday 14th April.

Councillors and Staff wish everyone a safe and happy Easter break.



NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

Council has received a request for this newsletter to be sent out via e-mail. If you wish to receive the newsletter in electronic format, please email the Shire office at shire@mtmagnet.wa.gov.au. Notice will be sent out in a PDF format. Subscribers will need to download Adobe Reader (available free over the internet) to view the document. If you still cannot read the newsletter, let us know and we will try a different format.

***Remember: Double Demerits apply for the Easter Holidays.
Make sure you follow the road rules.***



SHIRE OF
MOUNT MAGNET

POSTAGE
PAID
MT
MAGNET
6638

TO THE HOUSEHOLDER