

WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL COUNCIL CONNECTS

Wentworth Shire Council community newsletter for the interest of residents and visitors

March 2022

Message from the Mayor



The floods in Far North NSW have shown us how lucky we are to live in a region not often touched by acute natural disasters. We've had our share of drought and the like in this corner of the state, but to see that footage on the news you feel for the people affected. It was great to see local fire service personnel extend the Wentworth Shire spirit of helping out when needed by giving up their time to head over to areas badly affected by the floods.

We hope all involved get back on their feet soon and the mess is cleaned up for people to get on with their lives.

On the local front Easter is fast approaching, and so is the Wentworth District Rowing Club's Easter Regatta.

The regatta and the annual Junction Junk Easter Garage Sale are great for the town of Wentworth and the district so keep an eye out for more advertising for both these terrific events and support them however you can. The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 20 April 2022 at 6:30pm. Members of the public are permitted to attend meetings however Council must adhere to limitations on attendee numbers as directed by the NSW Government.

Attendees must be double vaccinated to enter the Council Chambers for a meeting.

You can also view the live public sessions of each Council meeting on Facebook.

Footage of the meeting can be viewed on the Council website <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/council/about-the-shire/council-meetings/> following the meeting.

Regards,

Tim Elstone
MAYOR

BANK BRANCH TURNS ONE



Wentworth Shire Council Team Leader Customer Service Annette Fraser, Community Bank Wentworth and District Branch Manager Janine Smith, Chair of the Community Bank Wentworth & District Becky Bysouth, Wentworth Shire Council Deputy Mayor Daniel Linklater and Wentworth Shire Council Customer Service Officer Melissa Hoskin help celebrate the Midway Centre Bendigo Bank Agency's first birthday.

The Bendigo Bank Agency at Midway Service Centre celebrated its first birthday on 2 March 2022. The agency opened at the Midway Service Centre in March 2021 and is operated by the Community Bank Wentworth and District and staffed by Wentworth Shire Council's Customer Service Team.

It offers core day-to-day banking facilities to existing and new customers of Bendigo Bank.

Wentworth Shire Council Mayor Tim Elstone said it was great to see services expand at the Midway Centre, with the Community Bank Wentworth and District and Wentworth Shire Council working together to serve the needs of the community.

"In an age when services in regional areas seem to be readily stripped back it is great to see the Bendigo Bank Agency at the Midway Service Centre going strong," Cr Elstone said. "I would like to thank Community

Bank Wentworth and District and the community themselves for supporting this venture and ensuring it remains viable, to keep services here local." Chair of the Community Bank Wentworth & District Becky Bysouth thanked the valued customers who support the agency.

"When you bank with us profits are invested back into the community through grants, sponsorship and donations."

"It is only through increasing our customer base that we will be able to continue to grow and further broaden our assistance to the community.

"We have formed a great partnership with the Wentworth Shire Council and this is just another example of both parties working together to bring services to the local area."

The agency's hours are Monday to Friday 10:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

DRAFT COUNCIL POLICIES

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, notice is hereby given that Wentworth Shire Council has placed the following Policies on public display for a period of 28 days:

- AF003 – Financial Assistance Policy (closes 15 April)
- GOV024 – Credit Card Policy (closes 15 April)

The following policies are currently on public exhibition but are due to expire in the next week.

- GOV018 - Revised Code of Meeting Practice (closes 25 March)
- PR016 – Mobile Food Vending Vehicle Policy (closes 23 March)

Copies of these documents are available at Council's Shire Offices 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth and the Midway Service Centre 6 Midway Drive Buronga and on Council's website <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-policies/public-exhibitions-hearings/Submissions> can made in person, by mail to PO Box 81 Wentworth NSW 2648 or by email to council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au.

WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS SUBSCRIPTION

Do you want to keep up to date with projects and other goings-on in Wentworth Shire?

Wentworth Shire Council is offering a quarterly eNewsletter direct to your email inbox on top of the monthly Council Connects.

Keep informed about our projects, future events and more.

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera or a QR scanning app to register your interest in joining Council's subscriber list.



This newsletter has been produced by the Wentworth Shire Council for the benefit of the residents of the Shire and visitors to the region.
Ken Ross
General Manager

Meeting mentions

Council calls for Menindee Lakes engineering assessment

Wentworth Shire Council at its March Ordinary Meeting resolved to write to head of the Department of Primary Industries and Environment Jim Betts, NSW Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts and Water NSW Chair Kaye Dalton to urgently undertake an Engineering assessment of the Menindee levee banks that are preventing 21,000ML/ day releases and establish what remediation measures are required to the levees to allow 25,000ML/ day releases as per the recommendation of the South Western Water Users Association.

The rationale behind the motion, put forward by Councillor Peter Crisp, included to provide for aquifer recharge and flood plan rejuvenation in the Lower Darling and to allow some of the Anabranch lakes to fill, providing both environmental and economic benefits.

Development applications continue to roll in

For the month of February 2022, a total of 5 Development Applications and two S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$781,115.30.

This brings the year to date total to 14 Development Applications and 4 S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$2,574,291.30.

Monthly finance report

Rates and Charges collections for the month of February 2022 were \$1,086,821.02.

After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 74.76%.

For comparison purposes 68.62% of the levy had been collected at the end of February 2021.

Council currently has \$34,808,405.18 in cash and investments.

Community Outreach Events in Shire

The National Recovery and Resilience Agency works hand-in-hand with communities, all levels of government, charities and agricultural organisations to support farmers and rural and regional Australians living through the immediate and longer-term effects of drought, flood, bushfires and other disasters.

Its aim is to ensure people and communities are given the support they need to be better prepared now and into the future.

The Agency is conducting community outreach events throughout affected

districts in regional Australia to bring together community members and share with them important information about available government support and how to access it.

Sessions are planned for Wentworth, Pooncarie and Mungo

- Pooncarie Hall - 6 Wednesday 6 April 2022 8:30am-11:30am
- Mungo Lodge Wednesday 6 April 2022 3:00pm-6:00pm
- Wentworth Town Hall - Thursday 7 April 2022 2:30pm-6:30pm

Main Service Centre 26-28 Adelaide Street
Wentworth
Midway Service Centre - Midway Drive
Buronga
T: 03 5027 5027
E: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au
W: www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Follow us on social media:



For current road condition information go to <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/engineering-services/roads-and-traffic/road-condition-report/> or call the 24 hour Road Information Hotline on 03 5027 5027

WENTWORTH SHIRE YOUTH WEEK CELEBRATIONS

FEATURING...



- The Professor Silly Show and Kazoo Workshop
- Live Entertainment and DJs
- Jumping Castle, Face Painting and Games
 - Food Vans
- Tainflow Fire Twirler

WENTWORTH RIVERFRONT FRIDAY 8 APRIL - 4:00PM-9:00PM

FREE EVENT



WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL
WORTH THE DRIVE

