

JUNE 2021

Council Newsletter

SHIRE OF WYALKATCHEM



April 2021

June 2021



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Council's Vision

That Wyalkatchem is an inclusive, dynamic community where all share in a thriving economy and a sustainable, safe and valued environment

Our Purpose

The Council of Wyalkatchem works with the community to protect and enhance the quality of life for current and future generations.



Road Works

The Shire has completed the current stage of the Cunderdin Rd and is now conducting maintenance grading while conditions are good.

I will endeavour to provide the roads that are being worked on in each edition of the Wylie Weekly. At the moment we are working on Wylie North road, the Old Nalkain road and Lackman road. Please keep an eye out for the road plant, and please slow down and pass safely.

Thank you

Terry Delane – Manager of Works

Family Day Care

The Wyalkatchem Family Day Care Centre has been formally approved for operation. The Centre, located at the old Tennis Clubrooms was inspected by the Department of Communities last Wednesday and passed with flying colours.

Stephanie Brown – the Centre’s educator, plans to start the Wednesday & Thursday service from Wednesday, 30th of June. Opening the Centre on additional days is under consideration but ultimately will be demand driven.

For those interested, Stephanie will be hosting an ‘open day’ on Tuesday, 29th of June from 4pm to 7pm to answer any questions, allow kids to familiarise themselves with the Centre and to accept additional bookings. Some light refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

The re-establishment of a childcare service has been a priority project for the Wyalkatchem Shire. Shire President Quentin Davies thanked the efforts of Shire staff in planning and delivering the upgrade. Quentin said, “the centre’s opening is a terrific outcome for the Wyalkatchem community and will provide important support for families in the district with young children”.

“The former Tennis Clubrooms have had a major facelift which has involved replacing the weathered carpet with a new floating floor, the provision of more secure fencing and window treatments. This upgrade was made possible by a \$15,000 economic stimulus grant (COVID-19 grant) from the Federal Government and technical advice and support from the Shire of Williams.”

Stephanie Brown can be contacted via email on
admin@kulangarearlylearning.com

Main Street Upgrade

The Shire is making positive steps in its plans to improve Railway Terrace aesthetics.

Landscape architects, Ecoscape has now produced a four stage masterplan and this was presented to the Streetscape Working Group and Council on Wednesday 15 June. A second Working Group meeting is planned to confirm the project elements that will progress to detailed design.

The elements currently favoured for detailed design are as follows;

STAGE 1 (Initial funding)

 Zone 1 - Town Centre

HIGH PRIORITY

- Playground and shade structure
- Footpaths/pedestrian connections
- New street furniture throughout and picnic setting under existing shade structure
- Tree planting
- Garden bed planting
- Improvements to grassed area
- Resurfacing of carpark
- Drainage culvert with handrails and crossing

LOW PRIORITY

- Shade structure to Pioneers Wall
- Interpretive/wayfinding signage
- Road artwork
- Infill planting to Wheatbelt garden



 Zone 2 - Town Centre

HIGH PRIORITY

- Improvements and infill planting to waterwise garden

LOW PRIORITY

- Picnic Space with table setting, shade structure and compacted gravel surface

The Shire's ability to deliver this project is also supported by a Federal government economic stimulus grant and we look forward to providing further updates as this project matures.



Wyalkatchem Landfill

The Shire acknowledges that landfill management requires additional attention to improve access and reduce the escape of dumped plastics and paper.

The Council's investment in upgrading the existing facility is being influenced by ongoing discussions with neighbouring shires about a regional landfill strategy.

The Wyalkatchem Shire is a member of the North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils (NEWROC) that involves the shires of Dowerin, Trayning, Koorda, Nungarin, Mukinbudin and Mount Marshall. NEWROC has appointed ASK Waste Management to assist it in developing a regional proposal for its consideration.

In the meantime, the Wyalkatchem Shire is considering options to close the existing landfill pit and replace this with smaller cells that are more easily controlled.

Again we look forward to providing further updates as these plans develop.

National Australia Bank Closure

The Shire has been disappointed with the NAB's decision to close the Wyalkatchem branch and has been critical of the lack of consultation and the way the service and therefore transaction statistics have been manipulated over the last few years.

The Council has engaged with bank management and in particular Agribusiness Executive Jeff Pontifex to express our disappointment and ensure that alternate arrangements are in place to minimise disadvantage to the Wyalkatchem community.

Shire President Quentin Davies believes the bank has been insensitive to the needs of our community and the impact their decision has on wellbeing and community morale.

NAB reports that 86% of transactions that have occurred at the Wyalkatchem Branch are capable of being serviced through arrangements that are being put in place with the Wyalkatchem Post Office.

The bank will officially close on 9 September.



COVID-19 Vaccinations

The Wyalkatchem Medical Centre is now able to issue AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccinations and those that wish to be vaccinated are encouraged to make a booking with the Medical Centre.

The AstraZeneca vaccine is now recommended for those over 60 years but those under 50 who have already had the first AstraZeneca shot are also being encouraged by medical health experts to get their second AstraZeneca shot.

Those under 50 may also elect to be vaccinated with the AstraZeneca vaccine subject to consultation with the doctor.

Pfizer vaccinations are available through Northam and Merredin.

Shire of Wyalkatchem

If you have any queries, issues or require more information on any Shire of Wyalkatchem matters, please feel free to contact the Shire Staff:

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