

LEIGH CREEK NEWS



Leigh Creek's Transitioning Waste Management Process

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) has been actively working on a sustainable waste management model that will ensure the communities' waste needs are met moving forward, while also working towards the implementation of Australia's 'National Waste Policy' along with a need to comply with the obligations under its EPA licence for the Leigh Creek Landfill.

The National Waste Policy has been designed to respond to the challenges facing waste management and resource recovery in Australia and help Australia move towards a circular economy. It aims to eliminate excess waste from going into landfill by re-using resources via recycling, remanufacturing, repairing and the sale of second-hand goods.

The Leigh Creek landfill is transitioning to receiving exclusively domestic putrescible waste (waste that is capable of rapid decomposition e.g. food waste) and a purpose-built Resource Recovery Centre is being constructed closer to Leigh Creek that will accept locally generated hard waste (wood, metal etc) and locally generated solvents, paints, oils, and batteries that will be sent away for recycling. Until the Resource Recovery Centre is constructed, hard waste deposits are available through prior arrangement with the Leigh Creek OCA Office.

To encourage the community to join the circular economy and to keep fees to a minimum, the OCA will be setting up a Reuse / Recycle shop where you will be able to donate and buy second-hand goods as well as have the opportunity to volunteer.

This model has been highly successful in communities throughout Australia, not just for encouraging recycling, but also for reducing reusable items going into landfill.

As part of the new waste management model, user-pay charges will be implemented in January 2023 to manage kerbside collection and disposal operations. The OCA is evaluating plans to introduce a recycling system to further reduce items going into landfill by 1 January 2023.

The OCA highly encourages the local community to look at waste management as a shared responsibility. The choices we make in what we buy, how we use products and how we dispose of them are central to improving the way we manage waste in our region. The OCA will also be looking at providing education on recycling and waste management as this new model comes into effect.

Join us on Wednesday 31st August 6.30 - 7.30 pm at the Leigh Creek Good Shepherd Church and on Thursday 1 September 2.00 - 3.00 pm at the Copley tennis courts for an information session where we will provide details on how the OCA sees the new Waste Management Model working moving forward and to hear community views on this model.

LEIGH CREEK FUTURE TOWNSHIP

Leigh Creek Task Force update

Paul Case, Chair and representatives from the Leigh Creek Task Force and Implementation Committee attended the 18 August 2022 Community Meeting to provide a progress update on the various elements of the Future Town Plan program, and importantly to engage with community members. In addition to the Chair's update, Craig Packard, Chief Executive Officer of Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network presented a draft concept design for the new health clinic and ambulance facility, anticipated to be operational by September 2023.

Updates were also provided by Mark Muller, Project Manager, DIT on the demolition program and by Dan Luscombe, Manager Property Directorate, DIT on the sales program. The August meeting presentation can be accessed online at <https://www.oca.sa.gov.au/communities/leigh-creek-transformation>.

The Leigh Creek Task Force and its Implementation Committee continue to review progress and issues, and to plan, coordinate and deliver on the many activities that are occurring for the Future Township Plan. The latest update on the Future Town Plan program follows.

A new town management model with opportunity for wider representation from the northern Flinders Ranges communities

Final community feedback has been collated in relation to the independent facilitator's report on community engagement regarding a future town vision and model for Leigh Creek. The final report summarises the engagement that was undertaken by the OCA between May and June 2022 and can be accessed on the OCA webpage. Opportunity to comment closed on 5 August 2022.

Further OCA community engagement dates are listed further in the newsletter. The next township developments include refurbishment of the tennis courts and clubrooms to include netball facilities and the Progress Association's installation of a pump track on the current netball courts. Telstra will commence its consultation process shortly on its rollout of the 4G network at Leigh Creek.

Demolition of surplus houses and commercial structures and decommissioning of infrastructure

Delta Group has completed the demolition of surplus houses within the large, fenced area and has cleared the land ready for the new clinic site. Delta will now expand its works program to include the swimming pool, golf club and TAFE building and also some additional houses which will complete the sale of vacant blocks. These works are anticipated to be completed by mid-September 2022.

Demolition in the smaller fenced zone by Widi Ngaruwa is well underway, also anticipating completion in mid-September. A schedule of workdays has been published on the OCA transformation webpage.

The next tranche of demolition will commence September with expected completion in November 2022, includes (Birubi Australia) Archery Club, BMX track and clearance of new caravan park site and (Intract Australia) Pony Club.

DIT PROPERTY UPDATE

Sales

With the recent release of the OCA Future of Leigh Creek Stakeholder and Community Engagement report which confirmed that the local community did not wish to retain the Recreation Centre and were comfortable to see the OCA relocate away from the OCA Depot the Task Force has given approval for the Department to now release these properties for sale to the open market. In conjunction with this, the Departments current remaining residential properties will also be released which includes the former Departments unit and 4 other houses. These will be listed from early September and full details can be obtained from Simon Lambert of McGees Real Estate on M 0408 846 999 T 08 8414 7812.

Settlements

It is intended that all settlements should have occurred by December this year. Should any issue arise prior to settlement please ensure you have arranged with your conveyancer to advise the agent or Cowell Clarke (the Departments solicitors) of these matters so suitable settlement dates can be finalised.

Outstanding Works

The Department is continuing to arrange the final works around the township. For those community titled areas, the final gardening works should be completed shortly as well as line marking and preparation of the bin sites. Additional fire safety works are also underway and are hoped to be completed by Christmas 2022. In addition please note the following;

- 1) The Department has arranged for SA Water to complete works to some properties in order to comply with the requirements of the Office of the Technical Regulator. The Department has agreed to pay for these works and you will be notified if your property is affected.
- 2) The Department has arranged for the asbestos registers to be updated for the town commercial & community buildings which are currently under the Departments control

Maintenance

To report maintenance issues if you are a current tenant, please email DIT.LeighCreekProperty@sa.gov.au. If you would like to discuss any other tenancy issues, please contact Peter Thomas on 08 7133 2476 or email peter.thomas5@sa.gov.au

Please note, Simon Muecke has moved from the Leigh Creek Property team and is now working within the Marine Property portfolio.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Leigh Creek Waste Management Information Session

6:30pm – 7:30pm – Wednesday 31st August – Leigh Creek Church

An information session on changes to the Leigh Creek dump, future waste management changes and how this impacts on residents of Leigh Creek.

Copley Waste Management Information Session

2:00pm – 3:00pm – Thursday 1st September – Copley Tennis Courts

An information session on changes to the Leigh Creek dump, future waste management changes and how this impacts on residents of Copley.

Leigh Creek Residents and Business Meeting

6:30pm – 8:30pm – Thursday 15th September – Leigh Creek Church

An open forum for Leigh Creek residents and business operators to discuss a future governance model for Leigh Creek. Light refreshments provided.

Leigh Creek Community Contribution Scheme Discussion

6:30pm – Wednesday 5th October – Leigh Creek Church

A forum to discuss the level of service residents of Leigh Creek require moving forwards, costs associated with these services and the cost of a waste management model. Light refreshments provided.

Copley Waste Management Information Session

5:00pm – Thursday 6th October – Copley Community Hall

An information session focused on future waste model and associated costings for Copley residents.

Leigh Creek Community Taskforce Update

5:30pm – Thursday 20th October – Leigh Creek Church

The Leigh Creek Community Progress Association meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Visitor Information Office. All are welcome to attend.

UPCOMING WEEDS SURVEY

The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board and the State Herbarium will conduct a weeds survey in Leigh Creek and surrounding areas from 12-15 September.

The survey will follow on from work carried out over the previous few years to identify potential weeds lurking in abandoned backyards. It was one of these surveys that unearthed the first record in Australia of pine cone cactus.

Next month's survey will focus on the demolition area, along with weed spread pathways like roads, creek and tourist routes.

If you have noticed any new weeds or plants in the area you would like identified, get in touch with North Flinders Community Landscape Officer Matt Westover on 0438 816 210 or Matthew.Westover@sa.gov.au to arrange to meet during the survey.



Pictured above: A Landscape Officer identifying weeds.



Pictured above: Kelvin and Jill with the framed painting.

LCCPA Return Significant Painting

Soon after Leigh Creek Progress Association commenced creating the Leigh Creek VIO Kelvin Johnson, of Nepabunna, offered an outstanding painting celebrating his mother and her contributions to her community for ongoing display to visitors to our area.

The artwork had been created as the centrepiece of a monument to her life which is situated on the Arkaroola Road near her birth place in Finke Creek.

To say thank you Jill Murdoch arranged for the artwork to be professionally framed for preservation and just last week delivered the finished piece to Kelvin at his home in Nepabunna.

Jill told Kelvin "An artist visited the VIO while we were working there and after remarking on the outstanding work pointed out some major inadequacies in its presentation. She recommended the professional framing with space between the glass and painting, plus using acid free materials.

I asked Progress to fund this work as a thank you to you for lending it to us."

Kelvin was speechless on viewing the painting in its new framed setting but later marvelled at the frame and backing colour highlighting the details in the work. He thanked Leigh Creek Progress and Jill in particular.

Progress made a copy at the time of framing to allow for the image to remain part of the VIO's promotion of Adnyamathanha Culture and the features for visitors to enjoy when travelling on the Arkaroola Road.

Article written by Colin Murdoch



LEIGH CREEK SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

- Web www.libraries.sa.gov.au/leighcreek
- Email library.leighcreek@gmail.com
- Phone / Fax 8675 2803



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**CURRENT COMMUNITY
OPENING HOURS**

School Terms Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5pm * Saturday 9 - 1.30
School Holidays Monday - Friday 1 - 5 * Saturday 9 - 1.30

OUT AND ABOUT



2022 Copley & Districts Gymkhana

Despite the wind and dust spectators and competitors at the 2022 Copley & Districts Gymkhana (held on Saturday 30th July) had a great day.

Horse races, motorbike races and an auction all provided plenty of entertainment throughout the day, with the event being rounded out by a killer set from DJ Stano.

Leigh Creek IGA

The Leigh Creek IGA is looking better than ever with the completion of their new refrigerated section. The installation of the new refrigeration units means customers can now enjoy a wider range of fresh fruit and veg, meat, small good, deli items and dairy than ever!



Festival Of Small Halls Comes To Beltana

The 2022 Festival Of Small Halls tour stopped off at the Beltana Community Hall on Saturday 27th August. The show consisted of award-winning First Nations Australian singer Chris Tamwoy, singer and beatboxer Mal Webb and multi-instrumentalist Kylie Morrigan who all put on stellar performances.

