

# Community Newsletter

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## From the CEO

It is unfortunate that the Shire of Lake Grace did not receive any nominations to fill one (1) councilor vacancy. We are now seeking approval from the WA Electoral Commission if the Shire can continue with only eight (8) councilors until next year when the ordinary biennial council elections are held at which time some of the other Councillor terms of office expire.

The Minister for Local Government, John Carey, announced on 3rd July new reforms to the Local Government Act designed to strengthen the sector and better serve ratepayers in the long term.

Some of the major reforms to note are:

- Council meetings will be required to be recorded and stored appropriately.
- In future, councils with populations of less than 5,000 people will have a cap of 7 Councillors.
- The introduction of an independent Local Government Inspector which would give ratepayers confidence that all local governments were serving their communities responsibly and would result in a faster and less costly process in resolving complaints.
- Unnecessary red tape across a range of areas of local government responsibility will be reduced which would be beneficial for ratepayers.
- To support the transparency of decision making by councilors it is proposed that the individual votes cast by all councilors for all resolutions be required to be recorded in the council minutes to identify those for, against, on leave, absent or who left the chambers.
- It is proposed to introduce a requirement for local governments to prepare a community and stakeholder engagement charter which sets out who local governments will communicate processes and decisions within the community
- Local governments differ significantly in the complexity of their operations. At present small local governments have the same reporting requirements as those in the city. Improvements will be made to make the statements clearer and reduce unnecessary complexity for the smaller local governments.

These are only some of the reforms proposed and not all the reforms will have an impact upon our shire operation. There is still a fair bit of work to be undertaken into how the proposed reforms will be finalized however, some will be brought in during this financial year.

The Shire of Lake Grace along with the Shires of Dumbleyung, Wagin and West Arthur recently commissioned a study into short stay tourism accommodation within the shires. The draft report has been received and some of the findings are most interesting. Several gaps have been identified throughout the shires and I am sure that the Shire of Lake Grace will be keen to work with interested parties to fill some of these gaps. Details will be released once the report is finalized.

*Alan George*  
Chief Executive Officer

## Coming Events

**Keep Australia  
Beautiful Week**

15 - 21 August 2022

**Comedy Gold**

Lake Grace Hotel  
Wednesday 24 August

**Newdegate Machinery  
Field Days**

Wed 7 Thurs 8 September

## Ordinary Council Meeting

An Ordinary Council  
Meeting will be held on  
**Wednesday  
27 July 2022**  
from 3.30pm at the  
Council Chambers,  
Administration Building.

The Agenda will be  
available on

[www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)

*Everyone Welcome*

A minimum of 15 minutes is set aside for public question time, giving members of the public an opportunity to ask questions relating to Shire activities.

# Community Infrastructure Service

As we welcome the new financial year the Shire administration staff are busy finalising their 2022/2023 annual budget.

We have had a couple of staff changes over the last fortnight, we say farewell to Chris Cody and wish Chris and Lydia all the best for their move back to Ireland. We have also welcomed Winston Riveria to the team as a town gardener /general hand.

Now the cooler weather has set in contractors will be engaged to undertake tree pruning of the Lake Grace town street trees. The last time these works were undertaken contractors were confronted by the public so shire administration staff stopped the works. From this council asked for an arborist report to be undertaken before any pruning of the said trees. An arborist was contracted to complete an inspection of the trees and provided a detailed report. As part of the February 2022 Council meeting, the arborist report was presented and the following resolution was made

## RESOLUTION 13530

*Moved: Cr Hunt  
Second Cr Clarke*

*That Council:*

- *Accept the reports provided by Westworks Consultants*
- *Advise the community of the decision to carry out the required works and provide a summary of the findings if requested*
- *Authorise the removal of the trees identified in the reports provided by Westworks consultants*
- *Authorise the pruning and weight reduction as per the reports provided by Westworks consultants*

*Carried : 9/0*



The arborist report will be made available for viewing only in a single hard copy at the shire office up until the close of business 1st August 2022, no copy of the report will be sent to anyone electronically and the hard copy is not to leave the Shire administration building.

The Shire's Infrastructure team and contractors completed the following works over the past fortnight:

### Newdegate:

- Mowing sports ovals
- Spraying sports ovals
- Town site spraying
- Town site mowing
- Maintenance of gardens around town
- Maintenance to Newdegate Works Depot
- Maintenance Newdegate Rec Centre
- Install signs for the heritage walk trail around Newdegate town site
- Clean gutters Public toilets
- Paint fascia at the Newdegate Medical Centre
- Completed re-sheeting 4km of Old Ravensthorpe Road
- Working on re-sheeting 5km of Magenta Road

### Varley:

- Town site mowing
- Town site gardening

### Lake King:

- Spraying around town and cemetery
- Spraying of football and hockey ovals
- Rec grounds maintenance
- Playground maintenance
- Septic works at new toilet block
- RV Dump point installation

### Lake Grace Maintenance grading:

- Mallee Hill Road
- Bairstow Road
- Brookfield Road
- Thornton Road
- McGlinn Road
- Jarring south Road
- Tommys Dam Road

### Newdegate Maintenance grading:

- Aylemore Road
- Newdegate North Road
- Edwards Road
- Easton Road (sections)
- McCracken Road
- Kirwan Road
- Dragon Rocks Road

### Lake King / Varley Maintenance grading:

- No roads supplied

*Craig Elefsen*

Manager Infrastructure Services



# Community Information

## Office Open Hours

Monday - Friday

8.30am - 4.00pm

Staff can be contacted by phone between 8am - 5pm

## Licensing Payments

All licensing payments are to be made in person at the Shire of Lake Grace Administration office, 1 Bishop Street, Lake Grace, (please phone ahead to confirm availability)

**Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm**

As an agency, we process the majority of transactions including: renewals, transfers, number plate orders, boat registration renewals and new licence applications. With every transaction we perform, we try to offer the best service possible.

We do ask all licensing customers to be considerate, even though we are aware of people being 'locals' it does not exempt us from following the rules set by the Department of Transport.

## Driving Assessor

The Practical Driving Assessor (PDA) will be at the Shire of Lake Grace Office on:

**Friday - 5 August**

**Friday - 9 September (to be confirmed)**

Bookings are essential for all Practical Driver's Licence Assessments and we advise booking in advance as there is often a waiting list.

All bookings to be made at the Shire office on 9890 2500 until further notice.

Lake Grace has one assessment day each month held on the first Friday of the month.

For more information go to: [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au).

## Libraries

**Lake Grace Public Library** School Place Absolon St

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

Closed for lunch 12.30 - 1pm

**Newdegate Public Library** Collier St

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Closed for lunch 12noon - 1pm

Friday 9am - 2pm

**Lake King Library** Newdegate/Ravensthorpe Rd

Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am - 3.30pm

## Building Surveyor

Building Surveyor, can be contacted through the Shire Office on 9890 2500 or email [shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au).

## Town Planning & Building

The Shire's Town Planner consultant Joe Douglas, can be contacted via the Shire on 9890 2500 or email [shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au).

## Environmental Health

The Shire's Environmental Health Officer, Brendon Gerrard. Can be contacted via the Shire on 9890 2500 or email [shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au).

## Tip Times

**Lake Grace**

Monday & Wednesday 9am - 2pm

Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm

**Newdegate**

Wednesday 9am - 1pm

Saturday 9am - 1pm

**Lake King and Varley**

Open every day

## Recycling Services

Household Waste Collection is a weekly service and collected each Tuesday for Lake Grace, Newdegate, Lake King & Varley.

**Recycling** is a fortnightly service and alternates between Lake Grace and Newdegate. See below for the upcoming recycling collection dates.

Lake Grace	Newdegate
Tuesday 19 July	Tuesday 26 July
Tuesday 2 August	Tuesday 9 August

**Please Note:** There is no kerbside recycling collection service in Lake King or Varley.

The recycling bins are collected by Warren Blackwood Waste and transported to a recycling facility. If items which are not recyclable are found the content can't be recycled and the load will be directed to the landfill.

If an item is covered in food, it is not recyclable. Food is one of the worst contaminants in the recycling process. By using the yellow top recycling bin correctly you are contributing, in a combined community effort, to reduce the amount of rubbish that is directed to landfill facilities each year.

For more information on Waste Management visit the Shire's website [www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au).



Check our Facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/ShireofLakeGrace/>

# Community Emergency Service



On Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 June, we hosted 59 volunteer farm fire responders in the Shire office to complete the Rural Fire Awareness and AIMS Awareness training. We kicked off a bit after 8 am waiting for everyone to get settled, covering material around the state structure for managing incidents, fire behaviour and characteristics, safety and survival finishing off with mobilising and response at around 2 pm. Everyone enjoyed tasty morning tea and lunch provided by Mrs. G.

We have received some really good feedback saying how the course really exceeded the expectation this was just "ticking the box" for health and safety and provided real value to how we respond to fires locally.

We will be looking to get as many farm fire responders through this training before harvest 2022. Please reach out to Matt via email at [cesm@lakegrace.wa.gov.au](mailto:cesm@lakegrace.wa.gov.au) to register your interest in upcoming courses.



*Matt Castaldini*

Community Emergency Services Manager

## Facility Hire

Please contact the Shire to book Shire facilities.

You are required to read the COVID Safety Plan before using the facility.

People, groups, and clubs who hire public buildings are still required to:

- Complete the WA Government Safety Plan
- Register users of the facility
- Monitor entry and exits
- Disinfect surfaces, door handles, table chairs, showers, and toilets regularly.

At the end of the event the requirements are:

- Return tables and chairs to the designated storage area
- Put all rubbish into the outside Sulo bins provided, including rubbish in toilets
- Ensure all stoves and lights are turned off
- Report any damages incurred while hiring the facility
- Facility to be left in the same condition as found upon arrival including the floors
- All external doors are closed and locked;

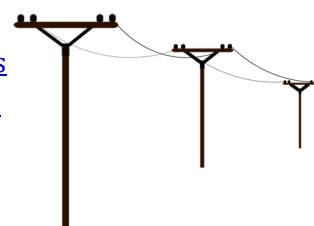
This is most important as often doors are not locked when cleaners arrive.

Shire cleaners are responsible for the general cleaning of a facility, however, they are not responsible for cleaning up and putting away tables and chairs after a function.

## Extended Power Outages

The \$80 payment is an acknowledgement of the inconvenience for customers who have experienced a long unplanned outage while waiting for repairs to be completed and restoration of power to occur.

Go to: <https://www.westernpower.com.au/faults-outages/make-a-claim/extended-outage/>



## Seen a faulty streetlight?

Western Power has automated streetlight fault reporting, making it easier to report faulty streetlights.

If a streetlight doesn't turn on, turn off or flickers, let Western Power know using the streetlight reporting tool at:

<https://westernpower.com.au/faults-outages/report-a-faulty-streetlight/> or call on 13 10 87



Check out our website [www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au](http://www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au)