



## From the Ordinary Council Meeting

Ordinary Council Meetings are always open to the public and there is an opportunity for public question time at the start and before the meeting ends. Every month there is a Financial Services Report that goes to Council which is available in the agenda. This week's Ordinary Council Meeting took place on Wednesday 26 April with the Council resolving to:

- Adopt the Esperance Town Centre Parking, Traffic & Pedestrian Strategy and endorse its Implementation Plan after being open for public comment
- Approved an amendment to the 2016/2017 Budget after the successful application for sponsorship from Southern Ports Authority and Horizon Power for Youth Activities to run Tailtap Skate Clinics
- Adopt the revised Long Term Financial Plan
- Accept the grant funding from the Goldfields – Esperance Development Commission on behalf of the Gibson Bush Fire Brigade 2 and amend the 16/17 budget by \$39,950 to reflect the variation of this grant funding. This funding will go towards a truck wash down bay and shed extension.

To read the full agenda and minutes please go to the Shire [website](#). Should you have any questions about a report item, please do not hesitate to call the Shire or your elected representatives. Community members are encouraged to source accurate information and ask questions on Shire services.

## Norfolk Pines

You may have noticed a number of the Norfolk Island Pine trees throughout the Esperance town site have been showing signs of decline from the tops of the trees downward. These trees are very significant to the Shire of Esperance, and the Shire has been investigating the cause of decline.

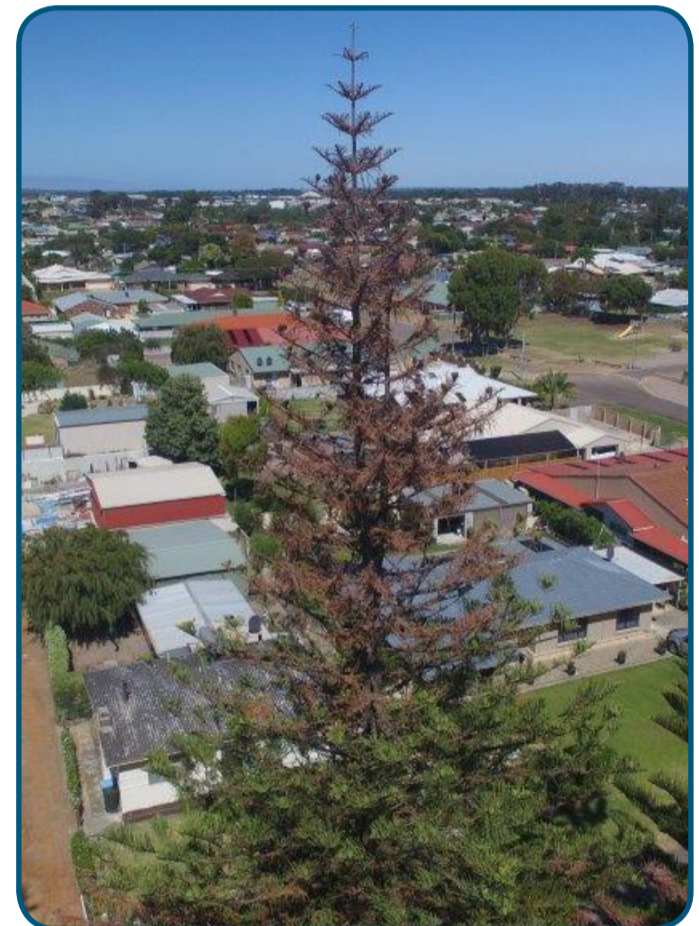
Soil, leaf and wood samples were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis. The results confirm the presence of a pathogen called *Neofusicoccum parvum*, which is a fungal disease.

Recommendations received through consultation with the laboratory and a qualified Arborist includes removing the infected upper part of the tree, and applying nutrients to the soil. We believe birds may be responsible for the spread of the disease.

These works are scheduled to be undertaken in May, 2017 and the Shire of Esperance will continue to monitor the trees to ensure they are managed effectively into the future.

## Smoke Alarms

The DFES theme for this month is installing and maintaining smoke alarms so it's a good time to make sure your smoke alarms are installed and working correctly. Smoke alarms that are working and installed in the right place can provide the critical early warning needed to save lives. Residential fires often occur at night, so it is important to position smoke alarms near where people sleep. It is also important to test smoke alarms regularly and keep them clean by removing dust and other build up. For more information visit the [DFES website](#).



## Upcoming Meetings

- Esperance Roadwise Committee:** 3pm, 1 May, Council Meeting Room
- Esperance Twin Towns Committee:** 5pm, 1 May, Council Meeting Room
- Agenda Briefing:** 1pm, 16 May, Council Chambers
- Ordinary Council Meeting:** 4pm, 23 May, Council Chambers

To view the agenda for upcoming meetings please visit the Shire [website](#).

## Quagi Beach Campground Upgrade

Quagi Beach will be closed from 1-31 May for upgrades. Camp bays, picnic areas, beach access points, parking, and signage will be upgraded and degraded vegetation will be rehabilitated.

The upgrades can go ahead because of successful funding from State Natural Management Program Community Action Grants, made possible through Royalties for Regions. The \$55,000 upgrades are to restore and improve reserve infrastructure that was destroyed during the 2015 bushfire.

## Thanks for your feedback!

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback and participated in workshops for our Strategic Community Plan. We received over 280 surveys, both hard copies and online versions, and over 400 people were involved in consultation workshops, Council Corners and other feedback groups.