

COMMUNITY UPDATE



BULOKE
SHIRE COUNCIL



Buloke Shire COVID-19 Update

As Council has been communicating to you, we are operating in a slightly varied capacity as we continue to work in accordance with information provided by the state and federal governments.

Remember that Council is here for you during this health alert and that we remain committed to community safety and wellbeing. Council also has an obligation to look after staff, volunteers and Councillors.

Council continues to respond to community needs. Our staff are focusing on the health alert whilst maintaining their usual priority lists. Some staff have been redeployed to work directly on our COVID-19 response.

Council is working closely with the business community and the broader community in many ways. We have initiated two support teams to directly work with business and those key community groups that are so important to each of our towns.

The Community Support Team consists of staff, Community Neighborhood Houses and community members and is a reference group set up for information sharing between Buloke towns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The team has been busy identifying gaps that exist in the towns and how to coordinate an approach that covers them and best places the community. The sharing of wins and losses for this group will continue to advance each towns approach and resilience.

The Business Support Team is hard at work reaching out to our Buloke businesses. There has been a range of state and federal government announcements in the last few weeks to help underpin business.

The support team is getting in touch with each business in Buloke to understand their position and help them find and access the support they need. If you haven't received a call yet, expect one soon.

Remember, when you do need to shop, please shop local. There are a range of businesses still operating in our towns that need your patronage when shopping for essential items.

Minimising disruption is a high priority, second only to the health and wellbeing of the community. Council will continue to keep the community updated and you can find a range of resources and a full list of affected services at www.buloke.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-health-alert.

For the latest updates on the COVID-19 from the Federal Government's Department of Health visit www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert.



Playspaces Project

Council is seeking feedback from the community on the Buloke Playspaces Project.

Council is undertaking the project to improve our parks and develop a variety of play options. The project focuses on the future of five playgrounds within the Shire, Memorial Park (Donald), Gordon Park (Charlton), Centenary Park (Wycheproof), Soldier's Memorial Park (Birchip) and Tynan Park (Berriwillock).

Given the current COVID-19 situation face-to-face consultation with stakeholders will not go ahead. However, that doesn't mean we can't get your vital feedback on the project.

A survey has been developed for each park and Council invites your input on your favourite park or indeed each park. The surveys close Sunday 19 April 2020 visit www.buloke.vic.gov.au/buloke-playspaces-project to get involved.

Buloke Backyard

Easter weekend this year was always going to be different.

Instead of hitting the road to near and far, we all stayed at home. No events, no camping, no catching up at a gathering with family and friends.

Council has put together a Community Support Team, which is a reference group for information sharing between Buloke towns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The team meets regularly online and has had some great discussions about the impacts of the pandemic, including the very unique weekend we have just experienced.

From this developed an engagement idea. Buloke Backyard.

One of the great things about living in Buloke is we all have a bit of space to operate in!

So, whatever you would normally do on the Easter weekend, Council asked that residents did it in their backyard! We also asked that people shared their experiences on social media using #BulokeBackyard. This way we were able to create an online community of Buloke residents demonstrating how good it is to be in Buloke.

It is not too late to be involved. Council will be sharing posts from across the weekend. Send any images you would like included to buloke@buloke.vic.gov.au and write Buloke Backyard in the subject line.



Charlton Weir Holding Water

The reinvigoration of the Charlton Weir has been completed and new boards are in place.

The project was funded as part of the Our Rivers Our Region campaign by the Federal Government's Regional Growth Fund for foreshore redevelopments and upgrades.

The wider project for Buloke continues on the Charlton and Donald riverfronts and the Lake Tyrrell Infrastructure Project.



Notice of an Application for a Planning Permit

The land affected by the application is located at 89 Cumming Avenue, Birchip.

The application is for a permit for a **storage shed ancillary to an Emergency Service Facility (SES)**.

The applicant for the permit is **Swift Approvals**.

The application reference number is **PPA 852/20**.

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application by making contact with the office of the Responsible Authority, **Buloke Shire Office, Wycheproof**.

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge. Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the objectors name and contact details, include reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected. An objection form is available on the Planning and Building page of the Buloke Shire Council website.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before **29 April 2020**.

If you object the Responsible Authority will tell you its decision.