

Thalassa Ward Councillor Report



OCTOBER 2025

Prepared by Thalassa Ward Cr Marion Themeliotis. If you have any local issues, you would like me to follow up on or require any assistance with Council, please do not hesitate to contact me.



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**Clarendon
Cricket Pitch
Update:**

Council is planning improvements to the cricket facilities and Netball courts at Clarendon Recreation Ground, and we want to hear from YOU! Council is now moving into the project planning phase, which includes engaging with a wide range of community members including local clubs, residents, schools, and the Clarendon Community Association.

Our goal?

To create flexible, well-used cricket and netball recreation spaces that reflect the needs of the entire community and for both club and informal use, all year round.

- ➡ Community consultation will cover:
 - ➡ Cricket practice nets
 - ➡ Playing surfaces
 - ➡ Shared-use spaces
 - ➡ Netball Courts
 - ➡ Ideas for year-round use and management
 - ➡ and more
 - ➡

How to get involved:

Consultation will be held via Your Say Onkaparinga in late 2025 or early 2026, along with direct engagement with clubs, schools, and local groups.

Your voice matters, help shape the future of sport and recreation at Clarendon!

Free Family
Fun Day at the
new-look
Hopgood
Theatre

Saturday 25 October, 1:00–4:00 pm

Presented by Country Arts SA and the City of Onkaparinga

Mark your calendars! The Hopgood Theatre is opening its doors for a free community celebration packed with hands-on workshops, creative play, performances, and behind-the-scenes experiences across multiple spaces.

What's on:

- Outdoor entertainment + community BBQ
- Cardboard City construction (5–12 y/o)
- Puppet making (4–8 y/o)
- Animation workshops (5–15 y/o)
- Short film screenings (4–8 y/o)
- Music concerts & demonstrations (all ages)
- Storytime sessions (1–6 y/o)
- Costume creation & parades (all ages)
- Family-friendly chill zone
- Behind-the-scenes tours (12+)

Come for the whole afternoon or drop in anytime. Many activities repeat or run continuously from 1–4 pm.

Cost: All arts activities are free. Food and drinks available to purchase at the sausage sizzle and the theatre's candy bar.

This is your chance to explore the Hopgood Theatre's \$6 million transformation (supported by a state government grant) and get exclusive access to refreshed spaces and behind-the-scenes areas.

And there's more to come: a big program is locked in for late 2025 and into 2026, including Anh Do on 25 November 2025 and the Soweto Gospel Choir on 17 February 2026.

👉 Discover the full program and book tickets: www.hopgoodtheatre.com.au
We hope to see you there!



**Need a Council
letter of support
for a grant or
project?**

 **Apply here** 

Link: <https://www.onkaparingacity.com/.../Request-a-letter-of...>

10. Questions on notice

10.1 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE- CR THEMELIOTIS – LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS, SPORTING CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

What guidance can be provided to elected members in relation to issuing letters of support for community groups, sporting clubs, or organisations? In particular, what factors should members take into account when considering such requests?

Local community groups and businesses often seek external funding (e.g. grants) to deliver programs, events, capital works, and purchase equipment. Letters of support are a key part of many applications, helping to confirm council's backing and outline any financial or in-kind contributions.

Community groups should submit requests via the '[Request a letter of support from council](#)' portal, allowing at least 14 days for review and approval. The form helps council administration assess the request and prepare a suitable response.

Outside of this process, elected members can support community groups by issuing letters in their personal capacity, however these must not imply council endorsement or use council branding.

Council considers the following when reviewing requests:

- Sufficient lead time for review

CITY OF ONKAPARINGA MINUTES | COUNCIL MEETING 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

17

- Alignment with council Community Vision 2034, strategies and priorities
- Complete and relevant documentation
- Required approvals for activities on council-managed property
 - *Lessee Landowner Consent*
 - *Event Application Form*
- Requests for council auspicing (guidelines being drafted for internal consultation)
- Potential reputational, financial or other risks to council or the community
- Applicant's standing with council (e.g. no outstanding debts or unresolved obligations)
- Lease status—applicants on expired leases should resolve lease matters before requesting support.

Submitting a request does not guarantee approval. Council may decline support at its discretion if the request does not meet the above criteria.

Council does not issue letters of support for:

- Council-issued grants, to avoid perceived conflicts of interest and advantage.
- General support where council's role cannot be clearly defined.

 **St Ninnians Road
– signage update.**

Thank you to residents who raised, No Through Road signage with me. Council agrees a larger “No Through Road” sign will better alert motorists that St Ninnians Rd doesn’t connect to other roads.

Installation by 31 December 2025.

I'll keep you posted once it's in.

 **2025
Community
Survey – help set
Council priorities**

Onkaparinga is shaped by the people who live, work and play here, that's you. This survey is one of the most important ways Council hears directly from residents about what's working well and where we need to lift.

What you can tell us about:

- roads, paths and traffic safety
- parks, open space, trees and biodiversity
- rubbish, recycling and waste services
- libraries, community centres and youth services

- sport and recreation facilities
- arts, culture and events
- local economy, main streets and tourism
- climate resilience and sustainability
- customer service and communication

Why your feedback matters:

Your responses help inform future plans, budgets and service levels. They highlight local priorities suburb-by-suburb and guide where investment and effort go next.

Quick facts:

- It's online and takes only a few minutes to complete
- You can complete it on your phone, tablet or computer
- Responses are confidential and reported in aggregate
- Share the link with neighbours, clubs and community groups

👉 Take the survey: <https://yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/2025-community-survey>

Thank you for helping shape the future of our city, every response counts.

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| <p> Grants Gully Road – potholes & upgrade</p> | <p>Grants Gully Road is an arterial road managed by DIT (Department for Infrastructure & Transport). That means pothole repairs and upgrades are a DIT responsibility. Council has forwarded your requests to DIT and asked for a formal response. Once we receive it, I'll share the update here.</p> |
| <p> Council decisions – 16 Sept 2025</p> | <p>📱 Telecommunications tower (Seaford Rise): Council approved negotiating a lease (up to 20 years) for a new tower on Commercial Rd (subject to development approval and conditions to minimise visual impact and protect heritage). 🎉 Key to the City: Don Hopgood AO to receive the Key to the City, with presentation planned alongside the Hopgood Theatre reopening in October. 🏅 Ray Gilbert Award for Excellence: Awarded to Dean Rowe and Vicky Rowland-Knapman. 🌱 Waste plan: Draft Waste Strategic Management Plan 2025–2030 endorsed for community engagement. 🌳 Volunteer recognition: Council-endorsed native plants (grown locally) as tokens of appreciation for volunteers. 💧 McLaren Vale Water Security: Council endorsed a submission on the Draft Regional Water Security Strategy. 🏠 Marie Ave, Morphett Vale: Community land revocation approved (Ministerial approval received) to progress disposal steps. 🏠 Advance to Zero (Homelessness): New Onkaparinga project approved to June 2029, with letters to State partners seeking support; Council to fund 50% of a full-time coordinator role. 🏠 Vine Street Facility (Reynella): Short-term lease to Reynella Neighbourhood Centre (up to two years), with The People's Platter as a sub-user. 🚗 Economic Growth & Tourism: Draft 2025–30 strategy endorsed. 🛍️ Abandoned trolleys: Council will advocate for State legislation changes to improve management and collection.</p> |

- 💡 Vacant land rating: Council noted the report on options for increased rating.
- 📝 Letters of support & EM enquiries: Clarified guidance to streamline requests and improve turnaround.
- 📍 Dyson Rd → Morrow Rd (Christies Beach): Further technical work underway with DIT before community engagement on a proposed right-turn closure.
- 💡 Hackham West courts lighting petition: New security light to be installed Oct 2025; broader items added to project/prioritisation lists.
- 📍 Seventh Street, Flagstaff Hill: Council resolved to seek a formal update from the landowner (ADC) on plans, timeframes, and constraints.
- 💡 Public consultation policy: A report will return to Council on adding face-to-face engagement (e.g., doorknocking) for certain consultations.
- 💡 Harmful Algal Bloom: Council to lodge a submission to the SA Parliament Joint Committee by 10 Oct, and prepare a summer Action Plan (advocacy, safety, tourism, business support, resilience, etc.).

Full minutes here: <https://www.onkaparingacity.com/.../Agen.../Council-meetings>

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| <p>Have your say on the future of the former Port Stanvac refinery site which ceased operations in 2003.</p> | <p>The developer is seeking your feedback about the proposed Port Stanvac Mixed Use Code Amendment.</p> <p>This proposal seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rezone the former ExxonMobil Port Stanvac refinery site. ✓ Create a mixed-use precinct including housing, retail, commercial, and innovation spaces. ✓ Deliver up to 3,600 homes and around 60 hectares of land for businesses and industries that provide local jobs. ✓ Establish a coastal reserve with public access to help complete a missing link in the Coast Park, the State Government's planned continuous trail along South Australia's metropolitan coastline. <p>Important note: This consultation is being run by URPS on behalf of MAB Property Development Pty Ltd — not the City of Onkaparinga. We're sharing this opportunity as the proposed changes will directly affect communities within the council area. Find out more and have your say via the Plan SA portal:</p> <p>👉 https://plan.sa.gov.au/.../code.../view_consultation_item</p> |
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11.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR THEMELIOTIS – SEVENTH STREET FLAGSTAFF HILL SITE

Background

The Seventh Street site (Flagstaff Hill) has remained vacant for approximately 13 years, despite prior proposals for a neighbourhood shopping development. The prolonged vacancy has generated community conversation, around the use of land. A formal update from the landowner will help clarify constraints, set realistic expectations, and identify opportunities for collaboration that can progress an outcome in the public interest.

Motion

1. That the Mayor write to the Adelaide Development Company (ADC) to:
 - request an update on the previously proposed Seventh Street Shopping Development;
 - seek advice on any future plans for the site and indicative timeframes; and
 - outline any constraints currently preventing redevelopment.
2. That the response, once received, be included in the Mayor's Report to the next appropriate Council Meeting.

**Know a quiet
achiever in
Onkaparinga? 🌟
Let's celebrate
them!
Nominations are
now open for the
2026 City of
Onkaparinga
Australia Day
Awards 🎉**

 **Categories**

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year (13–30)
- Little Hero of the Year (12 or under)
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Active Citizenship (non-Australian citizen)

 Make your nomination count: include specific examples of how your nominee has inspired others or made an outstanding contribution.

 Nominations close Friday 21 November 2025

 Nominate here: onkaparingacity.com (search “Australia Day Awards”)

**Bus Stop 38 –
Main Road,
Coromandel
Valley**

Many of you have contacted me about the need for better bus stop facilities along Main Road, particularly at Stop 38 (east side). Council has confirmed that since 2004, responsibility for funding and installing new bus shelters and pads sits with the State Government through the SA Public Transport Authority (DIT). While Council does not directly install shelters, we can and will advocate to the State Government for upgrades at high-use stops. I will be pursuing this advocacy on your behalf, including requesting patronage data for Stop 38 and pressing for a shelter to be considered.

In addition, Council has a project in the works to renew the concrete staircase adjacent to the bus stop, as it is currently too steep and does not meet standards. This project is on hold while DIT completes its Adelaide Hills Productivity and Road Safety Package, but we have strongly advocated for bus stop, footpath, and pedestrian crossing upgrades to be included in that program.

Thank you to everyone who has raised this with me. I will keep you updated as further information comes through.

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| <p> Proposed Traffic Calming – Murrays Hill Road, Coromandel Valley </p> | <p>Council is seeking community feedback on a proposal to install traffic calming devices on a section of Murrays Hill Road, adjacent to Craigburn Primary School.</p> <p> The school community has long raised concerns about vehicle speeds, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up times. In response, we're planning safety improvements to reduce speeds and enhance road safety in this area.</p> <p> What's proposed?</p> <p>Installation of speed cushions over a 250m stretch of Murrays Hill Road near the school.</p> <p>Installation of concrete median islands to improve vehicle guidance around a curve north of the school crossing.</p> <p>Improvements to the right-turn lane for vehicles accessing the school's drop-off area.</p> <p> Timeline:</p> <p>Delivery is planned for the 2025–26 financial year, subject to funding through the Black Spot Program.</p> <p>If funding is unsuccessful, the project is expected to proceed in 2026–27, pending Council budget approval.</p> <p> Community Engagement</p> <p>Council will be doorknocking homes along the proposed section of Murrays Hill Road to speak directly with residents about the proposal and address any concerns.</p> <p> 14 Have Your Say – Launches Monday 1 September 2025</p> <p> Letters will be sent to local residents and the school. Variable Message Signs (VMS) will also be installed to raise awareness.</p> <p>Your feedback is essential to ensure this project delivers the best outcome for both safety and the local community.</p> <p>Thank you for your ongoing support as we work to make our roads safer for everyone.</p> |
| <p> Traffic Speeds on Potter Road, Clarendon </p> | <p>Thank you to residents who have raised concerns with me about speeding on Potter Road.</p> <p>Council staff have advised that traffic data will be collected over the coming months to measure both speed and traffic volumes. This information will help determine whether further action is required. The process will take around three months before results and next steps are available.</p> <p>In the meantime, if you witness incidents of speeding motorists, you are encouraged to report them directly to SA Police Traffic Watch on 131 444 so that enforcement can be considered.</p> <p>I will continue to monitor this matter and share updates with the community once Council provides the full assessment.</p> |

**Update - St
Ninians Road**

The following response has been provided by Development Services.

Development Application 24019316 - Land Division - 1 into 4 (Torrens Title) was granted with Planning Consent and Land Division Consent on 12 June 2025, which shows three frontages to St Ninians Road, with Lot 403 being 10m wide for a battle-axe allotment, allotment 404 has frontage off Hollitt Road. Development Approval has not yet been granted as reserved matters are outstanding.

Land division is envisaged within the Township Neighbourhood zone and seeks for a minimum frontage width for 15m and minimum site area of 1000 sqm per new allotment.

The hammerhead/battle-axe allotment was in this instance acceptable given hammerhead allotments are part of the existing pattern of development on St Ninians Road, and the proposed configuration was considered to achieve compatibility and contribute to prevailing character of the locality.

In addition to this, as part of council's assessment, comments had been sought from an independent heritage consultant given the site is within the Historic Area Overlay. This review considered the existing pattern of allotments in the locality and recommendations have been made to assist with achieving the performance outcomes of the Zone and relevant Overlays.

The demolition of buildings within the Historic Area Overlay requires a development application, which was not sought in this instance, prior to demolition. Council is continuing its enforcement of this matter.

Council's Community Health Team may investigate asbestos concerns if advised at the time the removal is occurring or if there is damage/disrepair to asbestos structures.

Any questions/reports regarding asbestos removal are to be addressed to SafeWork SA, as they are the legislative authority, which the resident advised they have already undertaken. SafeWork SA can be contacted on 1300 365 255.

**Whistler Grove,
Flagstaff Hill**

Thank you to local residents who contacted me regarding speeding and limited sight distance at the crossing point near Whistler Grove.

I can confirm that this matter has been investigated by Council. Following the review, a traffic calming project for the section of Sturt Approach between Craigburn Drive and Black Road has now been added to Council's Project and Capital Works (PCW) program.

This project received a ranking score of 21 under Council's endorsed Resource Prioritisation process — placing it among our higher-priority Traffic Management

projects. This means there is a strong likelihood of delivery within the next five years, subject to Council's budget considerations.

We take community feedback seriously, and given residents' experiences crossing Sturt Approach, we'll also explore external funding opportunities that may help bring this project forward.

In the meantime, a site assessment was undertaken on 25 September 2025, which identified vegetation on the verge affecting pedestrian sight distance to the south. To improve visibility, Council will prune this vegetation before the end of November 2025 (weather permitting).

Thank you again to everyone who raised their concerns — your input helps us make our streets safer for all. 

Get up to date information on Facebook



Keep up to date with everything happening at Council, through my new Facebook page.

You can follow the page here:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100077458014215>