

# Thalassa Ward Councillor Report



JULY 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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## Noarlunga Aquatics Centre

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Noarlunga Aquatic Centre refurbishment

#### What is the City of Onkaparinga planning for the Noarlunga Aquatic Centre?

The planned works include a new roof, support column repairs, the installation of a new main switchboard, a 99kW solar system, a new pool liner, separation of the kids' pool from the main pool, the addition of an accessible ramp, and installation of a new water filtration system.

#### When will the refurbishment start?

The refurbishment is expected to begin in July 2025.

#### Why does the centre have to close and how long will it be closed?

The refurbishment will include extensive works that unfortunately cannot be completed while the facility remains open. For much of the refurbishment, the pools will need to be drained to allow work on the pool liner and to eliminate hazards to workers associated with the large body of water.

The refurbishment works could take up to 12 months to complete.

#### Will the gym and other facilities remain open during the pool shutdown?

Given the extent of the proposed work the whole centre will be closed during the upgrade.

#### I am a member of the gym. What will happen to my membership?

All current services will remain available until the closure begins in July 2025.

If you are a member of the Noarlunga Aquatic Centre gym, you can continue your fitness routine by accessing the Seaford or Aldinga gyms with your existing membership. Further details can be found on our website:

Seaford Recreation Centre  
620 Grand Boulevard, Seaford Rise SA 5169  
8488 2000 [active@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:active@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

Aldinga Recreation Centre  
2 McRae Street, Aldinga Beach SA 5173  
8488 2000 [active@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:active@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

If you wish to cancel or place your membership on hold during the closure, you can do so without cancellation fees. Please contact our team at:

8488 2099 [NARC.Reception@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:NARC.Reception@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)

I am a regular user of the pool. What alternative aquatic facilities are available? We understand this closure may impact your routine.

To assist you, we have put together a list of [alternative aquatic facilities](#) and the services they provide.

We encourage you to contact them early to secure the facilities and services you need.

How much will the refurbishment cost, how much is the council contributing, and will this impact council rates?

The refurbishment is a \$10.8 million project.

In early December 2024, the Hon Catherine King MP and the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP announced that council was successful in our application for \$5.4 million grant funding from the Federal Government through the Thriving Suburbs Program.

At the 10 December 2024 Council meeting, matched funding of \$5.4 million was approved. Council's contribution to the project has been identified in council's budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

#### What is the current condition of the roof?

The roof has been in place for over 30 years and is showing signs of deterioration. Addressing the deterioration now will ensure safety and longevity of the facility for another 30 years.

#### How will the roof be repaired?

We will remediate the support columns and replace the roof and ceiling.

#### Why is a solar system being installed?

The Noarlunga Aquatic Centre is the council's highest energy consumer and greenhouse gas emitter. A 99kW solar system will significantly reduce both energy usage and emissions.

#### Why does the lagoon pool need to be separated from the main pool?

Separating the lagoon pool from the main pool will improve temperature control and safety for younger swimmers. It will also allow for better maintenance and more efficient operation of the pools.

#### How will the new pool liner and filtration system benefit users?

New pool tiles or a vinyl lining will maintain the integrity and improve the durability of the pool and reduce the need for costly repairs, while a modern filtration system will use fewer chemicals and energy, improving water quality and sustainability.

#### Is the current pool filtration system effective?

The current system is aging and while it does treat water to the required standards so the pool is safe to swim in, the new system will provide a higher level of bather comfort, be more efficient, reliable, and cost effective to operate.

#### Will the refurbishment affect membership fees or pool entry costs?

Membership fees and pool entry costs won't be used to fund upgrades. Fees and charges are considered as part of our annual budget and council will always need to balance operating costs with cost of living pressures on the community.

<p><b>Mayor's Garden Competition</b></p>	<p>It's time to get your gardens ready!</p> <p>Entries open in August for the 2025 Mayor's Garden Competition.</p> <p>The competition recognises local gardeners who help enhance the presentation and liveability of our city.</p>  <p>2025 Mayor's Garden Competition</p> <h1>Calling all green thumbs</h1> <p>Entries opening in August</p>
<p><b>UPDATE - Jubilee Playground Port Noarlunga!</b></p>	<p>Great news for families and adventurers! The iconic Jubilee Park fort playground at Saltfleet Street, Port Noarlunga, has officially reopened after essential maintenance . We appreciate your patience during this important work and the additional delays caused by recent storm events. While some minor areas remain cordoned off , the playground is fully open and ready for fun</p>
<p><b>Kerb Repairs Coming to Main Road, Coromandel Valley (in front of Duck Inn and Vet)</b></p>	<p>Council civil maintenance officer inspected the kerb in the Coromandel Valley shopping precinct on 17 June 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repairs have been scoped and will include reinstating the kerb in the existing decorative style to maintain the character of the area.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Works are scheduled for completion by 26 September 2025.</li> </ul> <p>Thank you for your patience as we continue to improve local infrastructure!</p>
<p><b>Planning Notification – Cherry Gardens</b></p>	<p>A development application has been lodged for a new 30-metre telecommunications monopole at 264 Cherry Gardens Road, Cherry Gardens (DA 24005099).</p> <p> The proposed facility includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A 30m tall monopole</li> <li>- Antennas and associated equipment</li> <li>- Equipment cabinets</li> <li>- Fencing</li> </ul>



The land is located within the Productive Rural Landscape Zone.



Community members can have their say via the PlanSA portal:



Submit your feedback here

[https://plan.sa.gov.au/.../current\\_notified.../submission...](https://plan.sa.gov.au/.../current_notified.../submission...)

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Submissions close soon, so if you have feedback or concerns, now is the time to voice them.

More info also available via City of Onkaparinga:



<https://www.onkaparingacity.com/.../264-Cherry-Gardens...>

## Hub Gymnastics

So incredibly proud to have played a small part in one of the most amazing projects I've been involved with over the past 10 years!

👏 Congratulations to Marie, Emma, our dedicated board, tireless volunteers, and the entire Hub Gymnastics family. 🎉 When we come together, incredible things happen! 🙌 And I cannot thank Paul Murray enough for his support, mentoring, and trust in me that meant so much. I only wish you could have seen your vision come to life



## Supporting Responsible Cat Ownership

### 11. Motions on notice

#### 11.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR THEMELIOTIS – STATE WIDE CAT CONTAINMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Cr Greaves left her seat in the Chamber at 8.21pm.

MOVED Cr Themeliotis.

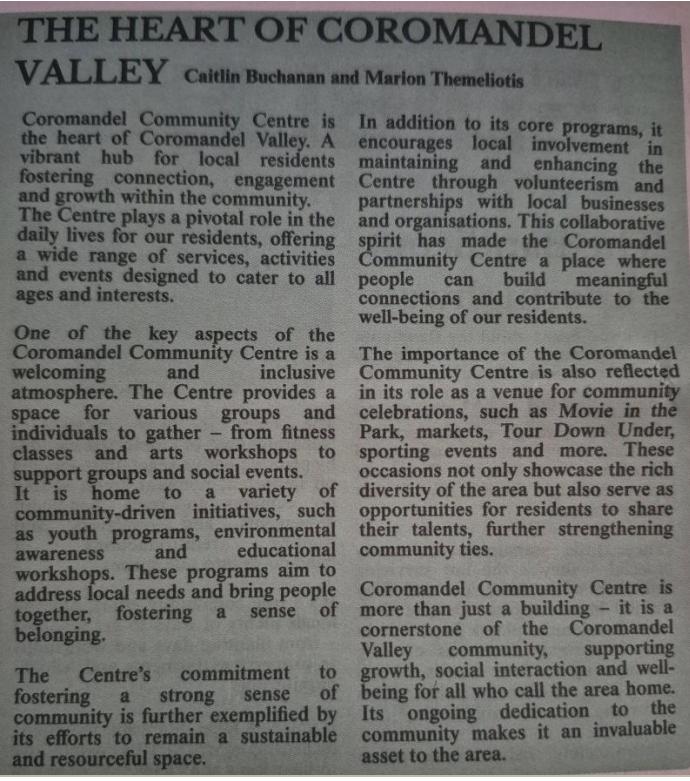
*That Council writes to the South Australian Minister for Environment and Water and the Minister for Local Government to:*

- a. *Congratulate the State Government on its progress towards a Statewide Cat Management Strategy, as outlined in the recent correspondence from Minister Close, and express Council's support for the inclusion of a statewide education and awareness campaign that promotes responsible cat ownership, including cat containment and discouraging the feeding of unowned cats; and*
- b. *Request the Mayor respond formally to Minister Close's letter reaffirming Council's support for responsible cat management and encouraging continued progress on legislative and policy reform to support the effective implementation of the Strategy.*

*Seconded by Cr Bell.*

Cr Greaves resumed her seat in the Chamber at 8.24pm.

CARRIED

<b>Heart of Coromandel Valley</b>	<p>Very proud to have worked alongside youngest board member, Megan from our Coromandel Community Centre, to help write an article celebrating our amazing local community in Coromandel Valley</p> 
<b>Happy Valley BMX Club &amp; Cove Bmx Update</b>	<p>At our last Council meeting, we endorsed a motion to support the continued use of the Happy Valley BMX Track by the Happy Valley and Cove BMX Clubs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council noted that no rescission motion was needed, as this matter relates to a decision of the former Council in 2022.</p> <p> We reviewed correspondence between the Cities of Onkaparinga and Marion, along with a formal report by AusCycling, which assessed the track's condition and outlined potential minor works to support rider safety and usability.</p> <p> What was endorsed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor works on and off the track may proceed (at the clubs' expense), subject to landowner consent</li> <li>• Test runs will be allowed to confirm the feasibility of proposed improvements</li> <li>• Our staff will provide in-kind support to the City of Marion on repairs to the Sam Willoughby BMX Facility</li> <li>• Community consultation will be undertaken with nearby residents to assess support for increased use</li> <li>• If no objections are received, the CEO may approve club access in consultation with the site lessee</li> <li>• A traffic management plan and risk analysis will be developed to ensure community and event safety</li> <li>• A final update report will come back to Council in August 2025</li> </ul> <p>Thank you to our clubs, volunteers, members and my co-councillor Cr Geoff Eaton for your support and work towards this outcome. Your voices matter, and I am committed to working with both clubs and our local community.</p>

<b>UPDATE – Slippery Footbridge at Thalassa Park</b>	<p>The footbridge near Monterey Pine Drive has been assessed, and unfortunately, previous efforts to reduce the slip hazard haven't worked as hoped.</p> <p>🛠 To improve safety, we've scheduled the installation of fibreglass non-slip treads on the bridge surface.</p> <p>📅 Works are expected to be completed by 4 July 2025.</p>
<b>Grants Gully Road – Safety &amp; Speed Update</b>	<p>Council's Operations Division has provided an update on safety concerns and potential improvements along Grants Gully Road. Here's what's happening ⬇️</p> <p>🚗 Speed Limit &amp; Safety Measures</p> <p>We're working with DIT on implementing some of the recommendations from last year's Clarendon Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Assessment. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 Lowering the speed limit</li> <li>👉 Trialling entry gateway treatments (subject to DIT approval)</li> <li>👉 Exploring short-term improvements to enhance village safety</li> </ul> <p>🤝 Support Needed</p> <p>We're encouraging the Clarendon Community Association (CCA) to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✅ A trial of entry gateway treatments</li> <li>✅ A reduced speed limit through Clarendon</li> <li>✅ Advocacy for new pedestrian crossing infrastructure 🚶🚶</li> </ul> <p>📸 Speed Cameras</p> <p>Speed camera installation is managed by the State Government. More info here:</p> <p>👉 <a href="http://www.speedcameras.sa.gov.au/how_fixed_camera...">http://www.speedcameras.sa.gov.au/how_fixed_camera...</a></p> <p>🚫 Overtaking Concerns</p> <p>Changes to central dividing lines (to prevent overtaking) must follow Australian Standards and are under DIT's authority. There are limitations, but discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>⚠ Buffer Zones?</p> <p>'Buffer zones' (intermediate speed zones) are no longer in use in SA. Entry gateway treatments could help highlight entry into a lower speed area.</p> <p>💡 Community Meeting?</p> <p>We'll be encouraging DIT to consider hosting a community meeting to directly engage with residents. Watch this space for updates! 🤗</p>
<b>Celebrate Positive Ageing in Our Community!</b>	 <p>Do you know someone who inspires others, supports positive ageing, or helps bridge the gap between generations? 🤗🤝👤 Now's your chance to recognise them! 🏆</p> <p>💬 Nominations are open for individuals aged 50+ or groups making a real difference in promoting positive ageing in our community.</p> <p>🎉 Award Categories:</p>

 Individual

 Group

 Intergenerational – connecting young and old in meaningful ways

 Nominations close Friday 25 July, 5pm!

 Winners will be recognised at a special event in October.

 How to Nominate:

 Online at [onkaparingacity.com/EGO](http://onkaparingacity.com/EGO)

 Or collect a form from council offices: Aldinga Beach, Noarlunga, Willunga, Woodcroft or Aberfoyle Park

 Call 8384 0666 to request a form

Let's celebrate those making ageing something to be proud of!

### Exciting times at our Hopgood Theatre.



This \$6 million refurbishment is set to transform the old, outdated facility into a cultural arts hub for the south! 

While the project scope includes many upgrades, the next few weeks will see the start of work on:

- Public bathrooms 
- New ceilings 
- Services and linings 

Currently, the project is on track for an official opening in late 2025! 

For more information, including design drawings and project updates, visit:

<https://yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/hopgood-theatre...> 

### Progress Update – Happy Valley Sports Park

Exciting things are happening at Happy Valley Sports Park !

Our team is hard at work making much needed improvements to the park.



**Lights Childcare  
Centre Bolton  
Court Flagstaff  
Hill**

Dear Cr Themeliotis,  
Thank you for your Elected Member Enquiry, Reference REQ2025-64852 regarding the (interior) first-floor lighting of the childcare centre at Flagstaff Hill being left on 24/7. The following response has been provided by Development Services.  
Development Compliance have spoken with the manager of the childcare centre to advise of the concerns raised. The manager of the childcare centre will investigate the matter to identify why it is occurring and resolve the problem, as they did not intend for the lights to be left on.  
Residents are welcome to contact council's Development Compliance team via 8384 0666 if lights continue to be a nuisance.  
Thank you.

Civic Governance Team

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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>