



Friends of
Port Willunga
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Friends of Port Willunga 2016-2017 Summer update

As we head towards the 2017 AGM to be held at **11am** in the **Aldinga Institute** on **Sunday January 22nd 2017**, here is a quick update from the Chair on what your committee has been up to over the past year.

1. ALDI Supermarket in the Aldinga Historic Township

In late September 2016 the State Government's Development Assessment Commission approved a second proposal by Aldi for a supermarket and four retail shops with carparking, signage, landscaping, fencing, earthworks and retaining walls of 1.2m at Port Road, Aldinga, subject to the removal of the 10.4 metre high free standing sign, or the reduction in height of this sign to below the roof gable line. This compromise was negotiated by the Friends of Port Willunga and Friends of Willunga Basin who also negotiated for evergreen native plant landscaping along the north wall of the supermarket to help soften the impact of the 10m high building and earthworks, and some minor adjustments to the entry to the car park. Unfortunately our strong lobbying to reduce the height of the earthworks and retaining wall was not accepted. Construction will likely commence in 2017, and the approval will likely be followed by a proposal to develop the remaining area of the large corner paddock on Port Road and South Road for housing.

2. New roundabout at South Road and Port Road intersection

A proposed upgrade of Main South Road between Old Coach Road to Malpas Road aims to reduce the number and severity of serious and minor injury crashes. The project will deliver the following safety improvements:

- A new single lane roundabout at the junction of Port Road and Main South Road with a dedicated left slip lane for northbound vehicles from Port Road. Flour Mill Road will remain closed.
- U-turn facility north of Malpas Road.
- A two metre wide centre traffic median between Port Road and Malpas Road with central wire rope safety barrier.
- Extension of the Main South Road left turning lane into Malpas Road.
- Road widening and resurfacing, improved road lighting, road signage and line marking.
- Removing right turn movements in and out of Little Road at Main South Road.
- A shared user path crossing at Main South Road to facilitate cycling and walking between Aldinga and Willunga.
- Pedestrian and cyclist access improvements at the roundabout.
- Reinstating left turn movements out of Old Coach Road at Main South Road.

A reduction of the speed limit from 100 km/h to 90 km/h is proposed between Seaford Heights and Little Road; from 80 km/h to 70 km/h between Little Road and Hart Road; and from 100 km/h to 90 km/h between Hart Road and Sellicks Hill. A plan of the upgrade can be found at this link:

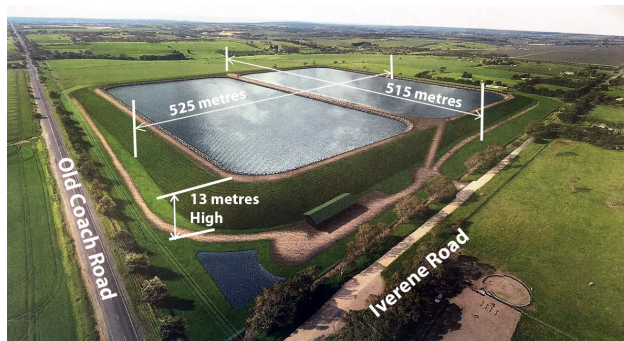
http://www.infrastructure.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/277427/DOCS_AND_FILES_10919481_15-1235_MainSouthRoad_A3_Version20.pdf

3. Aldinga Township upgrade

The Aldinga Township concept plan was prepared by the City of Onkaparinga following extensive community engagement in 2012. A recent engagement process introduced some changes to the approved plan including the introduction of a shared zone south of the Old Coach Road roundabout, and an extension of the footpath northwards to Township Lane. A proposal for a street vine "pergola" over the Aldinga Township was however put on hold. Council are now in the process of finalising detailed designs to go to tender. They are still in negotiations with Aldi and On The Run (OTR) regarding the design and upgrade of Port Road east of Old Coach Road. One of the key causes for concern with the scale and size of the OTR and Aldi developments are the traffic impacts, and impacts on the streetscape of this section of Port Road. The State Government's heritage architect acknowledged that the upgrades to accommodate increased traffic and delivery trucks will have a significant impact on the heritage character and existing vegetation of the entry to the town, and we will see this unfold as council upgrades Port Road and DPTI installs the new roundabout at Main South Road.

4. Dam proposal for Bowering Hill

Council is currently assessing a development application for two huge dams of capacity 1,200 megalitres to take up an 80 acre (32 hectare) site on the north east corner of Old Coach Road and Iverene Road, on Bowering Hill. The purpose of the twin dams is to provide additional supplementary water to irrigators in the McLaren Vale wine region. It is anticipated that they will be constructed in a staged manner, with the first 600 megalitre cell completed by June 2017 in advance of the 2017/18 irrigation season. The FOPW committee has been briefed by concerned residents who have lodged representations against the application. Their main concern is the height and length of the dam walls (approx. 525m x 515m x 13m height), the removal of land from broad acre cultivation, the impact on scenic views in the McLaren Vale Character Preservation District, the lack of information regarding the assessment of alternative locations and the fact that there has been minimal community consultation on such a high impact project. Council's Development Plan requires that the excavation and/or filling of land should "be kept to a minimum and be limited to no greater than 1.5 metres" so as to preserve the natural form of the land. The 13m walls therefore approach 10 times the excavation limit and are twice the height of the walls of a similar facility on Hahn Road. The application will be heard by Council's DAP on Thursday Feb 16 at 7pm at Council's Noarlunga offices. Further information can be obtained from local resident David Moore via email mobilemoore@bigpond.com or phone 0412 466 484.



5. Mobile phone tower proliferation

Port Willunga residents will have noticed a significant proliferation of mobile phone towers in the Willunga Basin area, most noticeably at the Malpas Road intersection on South Road and at Snapper Point. Council recently approved another 30m tower at the Port Willunga Caravan Park site despite opposition from local residents supported by the Friends of Port Willunga.

6. Martin's Farm and Harbour Master's Cottage remedial work

Council has been working closely with a Heritage Architect to undertake works to the Martin Farm ruins to improve safety and sustainability of the ruins while maintaining the heritage aspects of the area. It is expected full development consent for the project will be issued late December 2016 and works are expected to commence in early February 2017. Structural works have already been completed to the Harbour Master Cottage ruins. Additional fencing of these ruins will also be constructed as a component of the project works, and FOPW have requested to be consulted on the nature of that fencing and interpretive signage.

7. Mount Lofty Ranges World Heritage Bid – National Heritage Nomination on track

The Barossa, Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker, Onkaparinga, Alexandrina and Yankalilla Councils have recently been joined by Light Regional Council and the District Council of Clare and Gilbert Valleys to collaborate with Regional Development Australia, Barossa and the University of Adelaide to complete Stage One of the bid - National Heritage listing nomination of the Mount Lofty Ranges. The consortium is on track to submit their nomination to the federal government in early 2017, hopefully with the formal support of the state government. The bid's attention will then shift to World Heritage nomination.

I thank all our committee members for their hard work in 2016, and look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM on January 22nd, where we will bring you up to date on many more matters of interest to Friends of Port Willunga members, and provide you with an opportunity to bring any of your own concerns to the meeting.

Stephanie Johnston

Chair, Friends of Port Willunga Committee