



NEWSLETTER No 5

13 DECEMBER 2022

MEMBERS OF FURNEAUX ISLANDS PROTECTION NETWORK INC. (FIPNI)

END OF YEAR UPDATE

As we head into the Christmas holidays and end of year it is opportune to provide a briefing on activities undertaken by Furneaux Islands Protection Network Inc in the recent past.

ANNUAL MEETING

The inaugural Annual Meeting of Furneaux Islands Protection Network Inc. was held on Saturday 17 September in Whitemark.

The October newsletter listed the office bearers for the coming year and they are listed here.

President and Treasurer – Gerry Willis,
Vice President and Public Officer – Ken Stockton,
Secretary – Jude Cazaly,
Minute taker – Frances Henwood,
Committee members:
- Jan Henning, Max Parker, Eve Schulz and Sarah Lowe.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS (DAs)

The Wharfshed

FIPNI lodged a representation against a Development Application for a change of use at the Wharfshed in Whitemark to allow for tourist accommodation. This application appears to have been withdrawn because it was not included in the agenda for Flinders Council although there has been no advice from the council. The executive considered that allowing accommodation in a commercial port area was not a good use of that facility.

Bluff Road

We noted a DA for a subdevelopment of around 30 blocks in the Bluff Road area. This site is adjacent to an existing residential development at Chalkey Lane on Palana Road opposite the showgrounds. It was considered that the location provided a practical solution to the scarcity of residential blocks in the Whitemark township and FIPNI did not make any representation.

West End

FIPNI lodged a representation against a DA for a subdevelopment at West End which would result in one block being as small as 4 hectares when the Planning Scheme prescribes a minimum size of 40 hectares. However, to our disappointment Flinders Council approved the application. It is disappointing that variations to the Planning Scheme are being approved so soon after the introduction of the scheme.

Proposed developments

We are aware of proposals to develop sites on islands in Franklin Sound and in the Killiecrankie / Palana region. These developments have been on the drawing board, so to speak, for quite a while. Until a DA is presented to Flinders Council it is difficult for FIPNI to consider the development because it is only then that the details of the proposal are made public.

FIN FISH FARMING

FIPNI has not become involved with the current debate on fish farming in the Furneaux Group. It is apparent that the majority of the community does not welcome fish farming in the Furneaux Group region, and following a public meeting, Flinders Council has listened to the community and made representations to the state government to keep this activity away from here. The general feeling of FIPNI is that at this stage there is enough activity at a local level to make a substantial case against fish farming. We can continue to support those efforts made by the Council.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A subtle reminder that annual subscriptions for the year ended 30 June 2023 are now due. The amount to pay is \$20.00 which can be either:-

- posted to *FIPNI, Lady Barron Post Office, Lady Barron 7255* or
- hand delivered to *FIPNI, Lady Barron Store, Lady Barron* or

- deposited to Westpac; BSB:- 037-615; Account number:- 246217 (include your name in the deposit details).

In closing, might I wish everyone a happy and safe time over the holiday period. It will be three years in January since COVID hit the world and we can all do with a break from its effects.

Best wishes.

Gerry Willis, President

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