



Mayor's Message

*Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council's Mayor
Cr Jason Woibo's monthly message*

Hello everyone

This is the last Council Newsletter for 2020 and so I would like to recapture some of the milestones of this year.

Living with COVID 19 has obviously dominated our lives since February/March and still, to this day, we are reminded about the importance of the health directives which have assisted in keeping us safe and we are also grateful not a single case has been identified in our region and trust this will be the case into the future.

The Local Government elections were held in March and your new Council 'hit the ground running' as we were in lock down and, of course, planning and preparing for COVID 19, if it eventuated in our community, was our first task as well as 'learning' to be Councillors being our highest priorities. Special thanks to Cr Barry for his wisdom having already served on the Hope Vale Council for the previous 4 years.

In July Council adopted its first budget and also received news that the financial acumen, previous Hope Vale Council's before us had attained, was retained when the Queensland Auditor General again approved the Council's Financial Statements for 2019/20 without question.

You will also be aware, Council has initiated and undertaken a major consultation process and review of the alcohol management plans which apply to the community and we will be preparing a comprehensive community safety plan to present to the State Government within the first few months of 2021. We trust that Governments will honour their promise to listen to community and deliver programs and services based on what 'our community needs are' and not just role out programs which have been delivered year in and year out without regular reviews of their effectiveness for Hope Vale.

One thing I can say with certainty as a 'New Mayor' and with all your Councillors beside me, we have attended many local government briefing sessions, forums, elected member updates and many other meetings to ensure we understand and can confidently advocate to Government and others with knowledge of what is important to Hope Vale and the future for our children.

On behalf of Crs Bruce, Allison, Barry and Keithean we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Festive Season.....and we look forward to providing you further News in 2021 about the work Council will undertake next year.

And finally, on behalf of Council, I thank all our staff for the commitment they make in ensuring the programs and services they provide are delivered to the best of their ability with the resources made available to them.

Mayor Cr Jason Woibo