Council recently adopted the Annual Plan and Budget for 2018/19, which will see a lot of exciting projects taking place over the next year. The Budget includes a strong commitment to delivering on the outcomes of the adopted Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan. Some of the highlights are $3,714,440 for the Coastal Pathway (for which Council will fund half of this amount), significant investment in new playgrounds at the East Wynyard Foreshore ($500,000) and ANZAC Park ($150,000 Council contribution), while allocation has also been made for upgrades to the Wynyard BMX facility and irrigation systems and change rooms at the Wynyard Recreation Ground.

I know there was some confusion about this due to reports in the media, but I can categorically state that the rates will not be going up by $18 a week. The increase will amount to about $18 a year and 35 cents a week, which should keep the impact on local households to a minimum.

The Australian Hearing Bus is rolling into town again today and will be set up at Civic Park in Wynyard next to the post office. You can hop on board for a free hearing check or speak to an expert about your current hearing device between 10am and 2pm.

By now you should have started to receive your dog registration renewal notices for 2018-19. If you get in nice and early, you can take advantage of the 50% discount period. It’s been good to see lots of people are already coming in and if you haven’t had the chance to do that yet, the offer is available until the end of July.