

MALDON TIMES

Established
1858

With which is incorporated "The Maldon News"

Circulating in Maldon, Baringhup, and Rich Loddon River Districts.

Published
Weekly

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne, for
transmission by post as a newspaper.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1963.

PRICE:
6d. PER COPY

TENDER ACCEPTED FOR MALDON SHIRE OFFICES

Maldon Shire Council has accepted a tender of £14,660 for the erection of the new shire offices, council chamber and baby health centre. Successful tenderer was Sherman and Holland of Bendigo.

There is every possibility that the contractor will begin work on the project within the next two weeks. The time limit on the job is sixteen weeks.

The building will be of brick veneer, single storey, to be erected in front of the present croquet green in the shire hall grounds.

Estimate of costs for the new baby health centre, part of the new offices at Maldon, has been confirmed by the architects.

Estimated cost for building, including cupboard and built-in fittings is £4,000.

External paving and fencing associated with the health centre is £300 and architects' fees are £301.

WHEEL CACTUS ERADICATION

Chairman of the Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board, Mr R. H. Tully, informed the Maldon Shire Council that he had directed all inspectors controlling areas within the shire to carry out remedial measures immediately against the spread of Wheel Cactus.

Mr Tully said the recommended method of control of this weed was by spraying with arsenic pentoxide. This mixture was poisonous to stock which should be removed from the area before spraying.

Mr Tully said that as much of the weed was growing on roadsides, another chemical would have to be used for its eradication.

Mr Tully said that infestations of wheel cactus would be treated by the Board.

Its inspectors had been instructed that strict enforcement of the Act was necessary. Landholders who fail

to comply with the provisions of the Act will be liable to prosecution.

Maldon Progress, Publicity and Tourist Association asked council to consider applying for a grant to erect concrete tables and seats at the tower on Mt. Tarrangower.

The association considers that seats and tables will be greatly appreciated by many people who visit the tourist attraction during the year.

Honi, secretary of the association, Mr R. H. Grigg, said the organisation would be willing to pay half the

cost towards the provision of seats and tables.

WORKS APPROVED

Maldon Shire Council's proposal to effect 5280 lineal feet of reconstruction and widening on the Castlemaine-Maldon road has been approved.

Estimated cost is £2200 and the work is to be done by direct labor.

Divisional Engineer, Mr L. Upton, said council would be re-imbursed 4/5ths of the expenditure incurred. The Board's liability is limited to the amount of the grant, £176.

BRIEFS FROM MALDON SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING

The provision of toilet facilities at the Butte Reserve is not a project which can be subsidised from the tourist fund.

Mr J. Harkins, chairman of the Tourist Development Authority, gave this reply to Maldon Shire Council which had applied for funds.

The Education Department sought council's co-operation to ensure the success of the celebration of British Commonwealth Day at district schools on Friday, May 15. It also advised of the dates of Education Week and sought council's assistance if requested by the District Inspector of Schools.

Cr. A. C. Pittard (City of Ballarat) and Cr. J. Reilly (Shire of Metcalfe) have been elected to membership of the Central Highlands Regional Committee for a further three years.

Miss D. Rodda, Parker St., Maldon, reminded council of the condition of the road fronting her residence. She requested that council consider the possibility of sealing the street.

An extension in which to claim the balance of a subsidy for Maldon Swimming Pool, has been granted until December 31.

Secretary for Local Government, Mr P. P. Mithen, said the extension was on an original subsidy of £1350.

Secretary for Local Government, Mr Mithen, said that a supplementary allocation of £10 on a £2-£1 basis had been approved towards the cost of boundary fencing at Maldon Recreation Reserve. Work should be completed and the subsidy claimed by May 15.

The appointment of a committee of Management for Baringhup Recreation Reserve has been notified in the Government Gazette.

The committee is Messrs J. Jennings, W. R. Walder,

PROGRESS ASSOCIATION MEETING

A meeting of the Maldon Progress Association was held last Friday night at which several important decisions were dealt with.

Recently, a working bee repaired the toilets at the hall and these are now in a good condition; also the grounds were cleared of all debris and bottles. Thanks were expressed to all those who took part in the work.

With the gift of £190 from the Easter Fair Committee, a discussion took place on a new floor for the hall, and it was decided that the secretary obtain particulars re price; also facilities for a kitchen was mentioned.

The president suggested that the Association go into the matter of purchasing slickers, for putting on mail and other correspondence, depicting Maldon, and these to be sold to tourists and the public. He had seen the idea at a nearby town, and was informed that it is a very good source of revenue, and excellent publicity of the town. The secretary will obtain all necessary information.

Seats and tables for the top of the Mount. The Association are waiting a reply from the Council. If this project is carried out, it will be a great advantage for visitors, as at the moment, there are no seats at the summit of the Mount.

The placing of signs on various places of historical interest, also on the rock formations was discussed, and this will be dealt with at the next meeting.

The tourist map in High Streets is to be repainted and repaired and further additions added.

Several ladies of the town have volunteered to hold a street stall to aid the funds of the Association. This will take place next Friday, May 15. Gifts, suitable for sale would be appreciated and may be left with any member of the committee, or Mrs Frank Cann, as she is the lady in charge of proceedings.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMITTEE AT TALBOT

Following an invitation by the Shire of Talbot, the Upper Loddon Soil Conservation District Advisory Committee inspected a scheme to eradicate spiny rush from Back Creek, in the township of Talbot, prior to its meeting in the Shire Hall.

Cr. A. Hall, representing Talbot Shire, showed the committee the three-quarter section of the creek in which a channel was being defined by bulldozing out spiny rush and coarse gravel.

The committee did not consider that removal of the rush would aggravate erosion in that part of the stream-bed, but was concerned at erosion along a tributary, Nuggetty Gully, which poured a heavy load of silt into Back Creek.

It has suggested that the Soil Conservation Authority and the Forests Commission might investigate the planning of remedial measures in the catchment which is mainly State Forest.

Present at the meeting were Messrs T. H. Staney, Chairman, F. T. Longmire, C. K. Hyett and A. S. Murdoch representing landholders,

ers, G. Raynor, Department of Agriculture, K. G. Knights and B. Baldwin, Soil Conservation Authority.

Mr. Longmire said 40 people had attended the Saturday afternoon field day at Campbells Creek, held to allow "week-end" farmers to hear speakers from the Soil Conservation Authority, Forests Commission and Lands Department.

Other reports by members included details of a swamp drainage scheme being carried out on Messrs J. Valance and Sons' property, using a 21-inch pipe line, and gully filling and dam construction work in Baringhup, where neighboring landholders Mr N. Nelson and Mrs P. Dohnt are co-operating to eliminate erosion problems.

The next meeting of the committee will be in August or September.

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