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For Immediate Release

Vale Councillor Peter Kennelly

Light Regional Council Mourns the Loss and Honours the Legacy of Councillor Peter Kennelly

Light Regional Council is deeply saddened to announce the passing of long-serving Elected Member, Councillor Peter Joseph Kennelly. A devoted public servant, passionate primary producer, and respected community advocate, Councillor Kennelly leaves behind an enduring legacy of service to the Light region, its rural heritage, and its people.

First elected to Council in November 2006 as the representative for the Laucke Ward, Councillor Kennelly dedicated two decades to municipal governance. Over consecutive terms, his civic footprint spanned across the Laucke and Light Wards, where he became an unwavering, independent voice for the residents and rural ratepayers of Kapunda, Freeling, Greenock, Seppeltsfield, and Marananga.

An alumnus of Roseworthy Agricultural College, Councillor Kennelly drew from a lifetime of practical experience in farming, and boutique winemaking alongside his wife, Josie, under the Old Kapunda Distillery banner. On Council, he was a highly respected authority and advocate for primary production. His expertise proved vital during strategic regional debates surrounding genetically modified (GM) crops, roadside weed management, spray drift, and the protection of heritage vines from seasonal smoke taint.

As a long-standing Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, Councillor Kennelly was widely regarded as a champion for core township assets and the public purse. He consistently prioritised foundational infrastructure, advocating fiercely for the structural upkeep of the region's 1,200-kilometre unsealed country road network and supporting local community assets like the Freeling and Greenock Institutes.

His commitment to local heritage was deeply personal. With family ties to the region's military history, he maintained a close relationship with the Freeling RSL and regularly represented Council at ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services. Furthermore, his devotion to the town of Greenock was reflected in his tireless, long-term work with the Greenock Centenary Park Management Committee.

Light Regional Council formally acknowledges Councillor Kennelly's extraordinary contribution, integrity, and wisdom. His unique ability to engage others through rich storytelling, combined with a quietly mischievous sense of humour, brought genuine warmth and laughter to the chamber and the wider community. Council extends its deepest, most heartfelt sympathies to his wife Josie, the Kennelly family, and their loved ones during this time.

For further information please contact Mayor Bill Close

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