Mount Barker District Council has secured more open space for the community in Mount Barker with a recent agreement with Burke Urban (developer of Newenham Estate) and King’s Baptist Grammar School.

Eight hectares of land adjacent to Newenham (off Bollen Road) was purchased by Council to be developed as joint use recreational grounds and play space.

By 2025, Burke Urban will repay Council the full cost of buying the land, “in my books, this is a win-win situation for our community and another example where Council is investing wisely for a benefit to the community” said Mayor Ann Ferguson.

“We are excited a new educational facility is coming to Mount Barker and the new recreation grounds will further help address the growing demand for outdoor sporting facilities” added Mayor Ferguson.

The shared use agreement with King’s Baptist Grammar School will provide $500,000 to the construction of the first stage of the playing space (including maintenance costs) and 100 shared parking spaces.

King’s Baptist Grammar School Principal, Don Grimmett said the securing of the land for recreational purposes will improve the vista of the school as well satisfy the sporting needs of the approximately 1,200 students expected to attend the school and to community organisations and sporting groups outside of the agreed school hours.

“Signing this Shared Use Agreement is a significant milestone and a time for celebration. We can now move forward in partnership with Mount Barker Baptist Church to acquire this land and see the development of our new campus. King’s Baptist Grammar School will offer families in the Adelaide Hills a school that has a strong reputation for academic excellence, performing arts, and sporting achievements, building on the fine reputation established on our Wynn Vale campus since 1983” added Mr Grimmett.

“We are excited that our Newenham residents will have access to not only a quality private school but also to first-class recreation and play space just moments from their own home and accessed by a beautiful Linear Park Trail along Western Flat Creek” added Burke Urban Managing Director Kym Burke.

“This is another example of the benefits to the community of a strategic partnering approach and follows on from formal arrangements that council already has with both St Francis de Sales College and Cornerstone College” added Mayor Ferguson.

For more information please contact Brian Clancey (Deputy CEO/General Manager – Governance, Strategic Projects and Wastewater/Recycled Water) on 8391 7218