



Rowan Mumford, Steven Russo, Grant Baker, David Basham, Amy Williams, Adrian Pederick, David Parsons.

Funding to help re-open local abattoir

GRUNT work by the Fleurieu Community Co-operative and the local Regional Development Australia to re-open the Strathalbyn Abattoir has been boosted by state government funding.

The abattoir closed in 2020, but RDA Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island ran a survey last year to help inform a feasibility study into its potential re-opening. The response was so positive that work began to make it happen.

It will be revamped and re-opened later this year under a co-operative model allowing buy in from local farmers, butchers, retailers, and wholesalers.

A \$3.5 million site restoration will take place beforehand, and the state government will put forward \$1.5 million to help fund this.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham said up to 20 ongoing jobs will be created and local producers could have their animals processed closer to home.

"By having a local meat processing facility re-open, farmers will have more options to have their produce

processed with lower transport costs and the potential to see higher margin local meat products. This will provide an economic boost to the region and importantly support local jobs," he said.

Through the works, facilities will be repaired and upgraded, new facilities will be built, and an automated abattoir booking management system will be installed to let operations begin, to the delight of Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick.

"To have the Strathalbyn Abattoir reopen will be a boost for local farmers and a boost for local jobs," he said.

"This will have a range of benefits including increased meat quality from less transport, lower costs and the potential to create higher value products."

Pictured: Candidate for Kavel Rowan Mumford, Fleurieu Community Co-operative directors Steven Russo and Grant Baker, Minister for Primary Industries David Basham, Candidate for Mawson Amy Williams, Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick, and co-operative chair David Parsons.

— DANI BROWN