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MEDIA RELEASE

Jeparit Community Conversation – Planned Infrastructure Projects

Hindmarsh Shire Council extends an invitation to residents of Jeparit and district to attend a community conversation to learn more about a number of community based infrastructure projects planned for Jeparit.

The community conversation will be held in the Jeparit Senior Citizens Room at the Jeparit Memorial Hall on Monday 9 December 2019 from 5:30pm.

Hindmarsh Shire Council Mayor, Cr Rob Gersch said “This will be a great opportunity for the residents of Jeparit and district to gain a better understanding about a number of exciting initiatives being planned by Council for Jeparit and for residents to ask questions about them”.

Proposed infrastructure projects that are being planned for Jeparit include the following:

- The refurbishment of the existing Council Customer Service Centre and Senior Citizens Room to incorporate a public library.
- The redevelopment of the area between the Jeparit Caravan Park / Jeparit Tennis Club and the Wimmera River to establish the Jeparit Visitor Node of the Wimmera River Discovery Trail.
- The redevelopment of the terraced erosion control system at the Wimmera River area known locally as the Jeparit Swimming Hole, and
- Landscaping and streetscape improvements in Roy Street.

Cr Gersch said, “Council is aware that there have been discussions and concerns raised by the Jeparit community regarding the proposed refurbishment of the existing Council Customer Service Centre and Senior Citizens Room to establish a public library. The community conversation will be a great opportunity for the community to gain a better understanding of the plans and Council’s objectives for this proposal. It will also be able to assure people that the room will continue to be available for current activities including senior citizens and those involving the billiard table”.

Hindmarsh Shire Council has previously reviewed its Library services and resolved to withdraw from

the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation effective 1 July 2020.

Jeparit and Rainbow are currently served by a mobile library receiving two hours per fortnight and two and a half hours per fortnight respectively.

Council resolved to establish static libraries jointly located with Council Customer Service Centre's in each of these towns in order to provide residents with a minimum of one and a half days of service per week.

Hindmarsh Shire Council and Yarriambiack Shire Council have agreed to share library services which will include the implementation of new and improved systems and operations to increase access for the broad range of services that modern libraries are now providing elsewhere.

Cr Gersch added, "The development of the Wimmera River Discovery Trail and the fact that it will going through Jeparit means it is important that appropriate facilities are available for visitors. But, because of the location of the Jeparit Visitor Node these facilities will need to be as equally available to local residents".

"All of the initiatives that will be discussed at the Community Conversation event are aimed at improving community and public spaces and therefore increasing the aesthetics and amenities for Jeparit residents and visitors. If you have an interest in future developments for Jeparit then please attend the Community Conversation", concluded Cr Gersch.

If you would like any further information about this event please contact Phil King, Manager Economic and Community Development on 03 53914444 or at pking@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Greg Wood
Chief Executive Officer