



Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee

**Thursday 6 August 2020
1.30pm
Council Chambers
209 Comur Street, Yass**

Zoom Meeting ID: 925 1731 4651

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Memorial Hall will be held in Council Chambers 209 Comur Street, Yass, on Thursday 6 August 2020, commencing at **1.30pm**.

AGENDA

Page No.

Acknowledgement of Country

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interests**
- 3. Confirmation of Minutes – 16 August 20182**
- 4. Correspondence**
- 5. Mattes brought forward**
- 6. Staff Reports**
 - 6.1 Yass Memorial Hall Community Consultation Outcomes Report 6
 - a. Further consultation
 - b. Other work flowing from the report
 - c. Advice to Council
- 7. Development of a Strategic Vision for the Hall**
 - a. Relationship with other venues
 - b. Identification of other potential user groups
 - c. Committee work program
- 8. General Business**
 - a. Hall operational issues
 - b. Use of Hall facilities during the COVID outbreak
 - c. Celebration of the Centenary of Opening of the Hall
 - d. Other Business
- 9. Meeting Close**

Councillor Geoff Frost

Chair – Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee

Meeting of the Yass Memorial Hall committee held at the hall on 16 August 2018.

Meeting Opened: 3pm

Present: Cr Geoff Frost (in the Chair), Cr Kim Turner, Cr Mike Reid, James Ward, Con Novitski, Jan Scanes, Neil Turner & Peg Keogh.

In attendance: Carina Martin, Sharon Hutch, John Heggart, Penny & Brian Millett.

Declaration of Interest: No interests were declared.

Minutes: The draft Minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2018 were taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record. Moved Con Novitski, Seconded Jan Scanes. Carried.

Executive: Election of Secretary: There were no nominations for the position of Secretary. The Chairman will continue to take the minutes for the time being and seek the services of a secretary from the community.

Cenotaph modifications:

John Heggart provided a description and drawings of the new perimeter fencing to the committee. The changes will not interfere with the central stone feature, but will enhance the fence with low walls and chains. Access to the street and Hall will be maintained. Funding for the project will come from the Federal Government, the Yass Branch of the RSL and the Yass Soldiers Club, each of which will contribute \$10,000. Council is helping with engineering advice and footings valued at around \$3,000.

Long term Strategy for the Hall:

Acting General Manager Sharon Hutch spoke to the committee noting that the Hall could not stay in its present format without intervention. She suggested that the committee should work on a long term vision for the Hall, in particular regarding the type and level of community use, and to develop advice to Council about any associated capital works and the costs. In addition, the committee should look at actively recommending fees and charges and that if this involved a subsidy to the Hall, then make a case to justify it.

Committee members made comments regarding the need to fix practical items such as the heating and cooling. Some current users were happy to pay the current fees but expected good services. It was noted that the Hall was an

extremely good performance space but held back by the limited kitchen facilities and heating issues. It was noted that improved commercial kitchen facilities could potentially become a high selling point for the Hall, as could the stage area if the backstage area could be developed to better cater for performers. The RSL is concerned about the foyer area, would like to see better access to it for visitors, but did not want to have inappropriate activities in this area. There is also concern that there is a lack of promotion of the venue, even on Council's web site.

The committee agreed on the need for identifying (committed) demand for Hall services to justify the spending of the significant public resources. They agreed that the committee should develop ideas for future development and which could then be placed in front of Council and the wider community. As a first step the committee will seek Council's assistance in conducting a planning session. This session, planned for early October, will include the committee, with invitations to the Heritage Advisor, Tourism interests, the Historical Society and other appropriate stakeholders. The Council will be asked to assist by providing professional facilitation.

Resolution: That the Committee conduct planning session regarding the future use of the Memorial Hall that involves the committee and key stakeholders. Council be asked to organise and fund a professional facilitator for the event.

(Ward/Novitski)

CARRIED

Staff Report:

Carina Martin provided usage statistics for the twelve months to 13 August 2018. These showed a total of 169 bookings providing revenue of \$10,050. This included 28 Council bookings yielding \$2,810. Carina also noted one complaint which related to garbage being left in the Hall. Members asked about the ability to use of the upstairs balcony area. A report will be provided to the next meeting.

General Business:

Members canvassed the state of the laneway beside the Hall leading to the Library and the possibility of painting and lighting improvements. The issue will be referred to the Heritage advisor and to the planning session, noting that no

funds were planned for this in the current budget. In this context the Committee noted that items for consideration in the 2019-20 budget, should be raised with Council by the end of October.

Meeting closed: 4-35 pm.

6.1 YASS MEMORIAL HALL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES REPORT

SUMMARY

To present the consultation report on the future use of the Yass Memorial Hall undertaken by Elton Consulting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the consultation report outcomes on the future use of the Yass Memorial Hall be noted.

REPORT

The consultation report, undertaken by Elton Consulting, on the outcomes from the consultation report on the future use of the Yass Memorial Hall was reported to Council on 24 June 2020. Council resolved that:

“Consideration of the report on the outcomes from the consultation report on the future use of the Memorial Hall be deferred pending comments from the Yass Soldiers’ Memorial Hall Committee.”

The report is provided at **Attachment A** for the Committee’s review.

ATTACHMENTS: A. Yass Memorial Hall Consultation Outcomes Report (*Under Separate Cover*)