

ATTACHMENT TO AGENDA ITEM

Ordinary Meeting

20 November 2018

Agenda Item 11.1 Awarding of Heritage Grants 2018/19

**Attachment 1 Minutes extract from 21 March 2017 Ordinary Council
Meeting 114**

G R E A T E R S H E P P A R T O N
G R E A T E R F U T U R E



MINUTES

FOR THE
GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON
TUESDAY 21 MARCH, 2017
AT 5.30PM

IN THE COUNCIL BOARDROOM

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Dinny Adem (Mayor)
Cr Kim O'Keeffe (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Seema Abdullah
Cr Bruce Giovanetti
Cr Chris Hazelman
Cr Les Oroszvary
Cr Dennis Patterson
Cr Fern Summer
Cr Shelley Sutton

VISION

*A THRIVING ECONOMY IN THE FOODBOWL OF VICTORIA WITH
EXCELLENT LIFESTYLES, INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURE
A DIVERSE COMMUNITY AND
ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES*



9. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

9.4 Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Team Leader Strategic Planning

Proof reader(s): Manager Building and Planning

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

Council authorised the formation of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee (the Committee) on 17 January 2012. The primary purpose of the Committee is to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

The Committee has examined ways of establishing a program of heritage incentives to assist owners of properties in the Heritage Overlay to conserve these places. Such a program would seek to promote conservation (maintenance, preservation, reconstruction or restoration) works that improve the physical security or appearance of a place, whilst being respectful of the place's significance.

At the February Committee meeting, the Committee agreed to request that Council resolve to support a Heritage Grants Program and to commence such a program in the 2017-18 financial year. The Committee prepared the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* to provide an overarching framework to inform any future Heritage Grants Program. The Guidelines have been prepared in accordance with Council's Grants Distribution Policy.

A budget request for \$25,000 has been included in the 2017/18 Draft Budget to meet the costs associated with a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

Moved by Cr Summer
Seconded by Cr Abdullah

That the Council:

1. endorse the Greater Shepparton Heritage Grants Program;
2. adopt the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017*; and
3. resolve to commence the Greater Shepparton Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year and allocate \$25,000 to fund the Program.

CARRIED.



9. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

9.4 Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017 (continued)

Background

Council authorised the formation of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee (the Committee) on 17 January 2012. The primary purpose of the Committee is to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

In 2012, the Committee established a number of sub-committees to examine specific issues identified in the Committee's Strategic Work Plan. These sub-committees are tasked with providing advice for the Committee's consideration.

A sub-committee was established in 2013 to examine a program of heritage incentives to assist owners of properties included in the Heritage Overlay to conserve these places. The sub-committee concluded that a Heritage Grants Program was an effective and cost-efficient way of promoting good conservation practice and supporting land owners to conserve places of significance. Such a program would seek to promote conservation (maintenance, preservation, reconstruction or restoration) works that improve the physical security or appearance of a place, whilst being respectful of the place's significance.

At the February Committee meeting, the Committee agreed to request that Council resolve to support a Heritage Grants Program and to commence such a program in the 2017-18 financial year. The Committee prepared the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* to provide an overarching framework to inform any future Heritage Grants Program. The Guidelines have been prepared in accordance with Council's Grants Distribution Policy.

The objectives of the Heritage Grants Program include:

- enhance, protect and conserve places and sites included in the Heritage Overlay;
- provide financial and advisory assistance for the repair, maintenance, or enhancement of heritage sites included in the Heritage Overlay that have a community benefit;
- promote cultural heritage conservation by providing financial assistance to those in the community who may otherwise not be able to afford to undertake conservation works;
- strengthen and foster a sense of community identity and community ownership in the long-term conservation of local heritage sites; and
- increase public awareness and understanding of heritage places and sites in the Municipality.

To be eligible for funding assistance under the Heritage Grants Program, applications should satisfy the following:

1. places should be listed as one of the following:
 - an 'individually significant' place in a Heritage Overlay; or
 - a 'contributory' place in a Heritage Overlay Precinct.
2. works should satisfy all of the following:
 - be for conservation, restoration and/or reconstruction works. This includes repair and conservation works that contribute to the significance of the place or object; and
 - involve works that are visible from a public place or improve a building or structure's external appearance. The overall focus should be on the external appearance; and



9. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

9.4 Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017 (continued)

- be put forward by the property owner or a lessee who has the written consent from the owner and whose term of lease is longer than any completion deadline; and
- be completed within twelve months of being awarded funding.

Applications will be assessed against the following assessment criteria:

1. Significance of the place.
2. Need for the works.
3. Community benefit, such as the conservation of a historically or architecturally significant place or increasing the public awareness of heritage.
4. Recommendations by the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee.
5. Additional consideration will be given to projects that encourage heritage trade skills.
6. Capacity of the applicant to fund the works independently.

The Guidelines provide for grants of up to \$5,000 on a \$1 to \$1 matching funding basis.

A budget request for \$25,000 has been included in the 2017/18 Draft Budget to meet the costs associated with a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year are consistent with the following goals and objectives outlined in the *Greater Shepparton City Council Council Plan 2013-2017*:

- Goal 1: Active and Engaged Communities (Social):
 - Objective 1: Continue to enhance Community Capacity Building.
 - Objective 4: Provide sustainable community services to our community.
 - Objective 6: Value Arts Culture and Heritage as an integral part of our dynamic community.

Risk Management

By not adopting the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and by not resolving to commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year, Council would not avail of a cost effective way of promoting good conservation practice and conserving places of cultural heritage significance across the municipality.

Policy Considerations

Adopting the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and/or resolving to commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year do not conflict with existing Council policies.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017*.

Resolving to commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year will require a budget allocation. A budget request for \$25,000 has been included in the 2017/18 Draft Budget to meet the costs of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year. This budget will be required to provide grants for works to properties in the Heritage Overlay.



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9.4 Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017 (continued)

It is envisaged that advertising and promotion can be undertaken by the Building and Planning Department, and the Media and Communications Department, as well as individuals and groups on the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with the adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and/or the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

The Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee is not a Section 86 Committee under the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Heritage Grants Program will be undertaken by Council.

The Heritage Grants Program accords with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act, 2006* and *Local Government Act, 1989*. No human rights were negatively impacted upon through the preparation of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017*. The Heritage Grants Program is not foreseen to impact upon the rights of all individuals and groups with regard to freedom of expression, right to be heard, entitlement to participate in public life and property rights.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with the adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and/or the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

Social Implications

There are positive social impacts associated with the adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and/or the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

The Committee has determined that a Heritage Grants Program would promote conservation (maintenance, preservation, reconstruction or restoration) works that improve the physical security or appearance of a place, whilst being respectful of the place's significance. The Grants program is also seen as a critical way of promoting land owner participation in conserving places of cultural heritage significance generally.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with the adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and/or the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year.

Consultation

As part of the preparation of *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017*, extensive consultation took place with all Committee members. Some of these Committee members have reported the contents of the Guidelines to their respective societies, groups and organisations that they represent on the Heritage Advisory Committee.



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9.4 Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017 (continued)

Should Council resolve to commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year, a media campaign plan will be prepared by the Media and Communications, and Building and Planning Departments to promote and engage with the community. It would allow for extensive co-publicising of the event by Council and the Heritage Advisory Committee to promote the Heritage Grants Program, and call for applications.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*

The adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year are consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Environment Section of the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*, specifically:

- Direction 3: Environment: Conservation and enhancement of significant natural environments and cultural heritage.

b) Other strategic links

The adoption of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and the commencement of a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year will also develop and implement the initiatives outlined in the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIB 2013*.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council adopt of the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year. The awarding of grants will be guided by the recommendations of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee.

The Committee has determined that a Heritage Grants Program is a critical way of conserving places of cultural heritage significance, as well as recognising good conservation practices. The Heritage Grants Program is also seen as a critical way of promoting land owner participation in conservation issues.

By not adopting the *Heritage Grants Guidelines 2017* and commence a Heritage Grants Program in the 2017/18 financial year, Council risks missing an opportunity of being involved in a cost-effective, strongly supported initiative that would help to conserve the municipality's unique cultural heritage.

Attachments

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