



Narrogin Narrative

May 2019



~ PRESIDENT'S POST ~

Council is about to launch into planning of the budget for the forthcoming financial year and, unlike large city or metro councils, Narrogin typically relies on grant monies for revenue (over and above the rates it levies) to service programs and respond to local community needs and projects. The Shire, in part of its planning role, creates long term masterplans upon which to apply for monies from State and Federal agencies. For instance, over the past two years, the Shire has applied for grants that has raised revenue almost equal to the amounts levied for rates.

Council has approved a number of masterplans and long term plans which provide a basis for applications and these include the recently endorsed: 10 year road program; 10 year footpath program; Gnarojin Park Masterplan; Railway Dam Reserve Management Plan; a Walk Trails Masterplan; and a Public Art Strategy and Masterplan.

Just recently, we have been successful with an application for a Regional Airports Development Scheme (RADS) grant to improve regional air services and air safety at the Narrogin Airport. The grant is to the value of \$40,000 which will be used to install an asphalt road surface to the water bomber apron. A sealed apron for fire-fighting aircraft increases the safety of the fire fighting operators accessing the water tank from any projectiles being generated from firefighting aircraft propellers.

Grants ranged from \$500 to some in excess of \$1M. Examples of grants received during the year include: Regional Road Group Funding; the building of the Changing Places facility at Gnarojin Park; monies to employ trainees; funds for community celebrations such as Australia Day, Skate Park opening, and Thank-a-Volunteer Sunday; and Commonwealth Homecare Packages support.

Leigh Ballard ~ Shire President

~ COUNCIL DECISIONS ~

Council decisions made at the meeting held on 24 April 2019 include:

Natural Burials

The idea of Natural Burials was presented to Council by local resident, Mrs Mary Miller. The Shire will be investigating if natural burials is a possibility for Narrogin.

Narrogin Waste Management

Council considered tender submissions for the operation and maintenance of the Narrogin Waste Management Facility, which was awarded to Great Southern Waste Disposal for another three-year period.

Community Chest Grants

Council approved the distribution of Community Chest Funds as follows: East Narrogin Primary School P&C (\$2,500) for a Mural Project; Amateur Swimming Club (\$1,000) for professional coaching; Avon Community Services (\$2,500) for a youth engagement project; Highbury Tennis Club (\$2,500) for landscaping in Highbury; and Central South Naturalist Club (\$850) for Yilliminning Rock Walk Trail.

Diesel Mechanic Business

After seeking public comment, Council approved the proposed development of a Heavy Diesel Mechanic Business at 1 Grant Street Narrogin, subject to conditions.

Former Highbury Landfill

Council will consider putting aside budget monies next financial year to clean up a section of the former Highbury Landfill site. The Council also adopted a post closure management plan for the site.

Public Art

After review of public submissions, the Public Art Strategy & Masterplan 2019 was adopted.

Sport & Recreation Plan

Council decided not to adopt the draft infrastructure plan and the item was deferred to be considered again at a future date after further engagement with stakeholders.

Walk Trails

After review of public submissions, the Narrogin Walk Trails Master Plan was adopted.

Road & Footpath Programs

10 Year programs for both footpath and road maintenance and construction were adopted as presented to Council.

LPG Supply Tender

Council awarded a three year contract to ELGAS to provide LPG for the Narrogin Regional Leisure Centre and the Narrogin Caravan Park, resulting in a net expected saving of \$40,000 over the duration of the contract.

St Matthews Rating Exemption

Council declined a rating exemption for St Matthews School staff carpark, at 14 Fathom Street Narrogin, as it did not meet the required criteria.



From Days Gone By – The Occasional Singers

This photo of the Narrogin Occasional Singers was taken in 1992. The conductor is Mike Page and Les Riley (back right). Who else do you know in this photo? Please let Kay at the Library know.

Hay Processing Facility

After review of public submissions, Council approved the application for planning for a proposed Hay Processing Facility on Blight Road in Highbury, subject to conditions. The approval is subject to the primary access of the site being off Great Southern Highway subject to the approval of Main Roads WA.

The full minutes can be found on the Shire's website with public copies available at the Library and Shire Administration. Council Meetings commence at 7:00pm and are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Community members are most welcome to attend. Entrance to the Council Chambers is via the door near the William Kennedy Way carpark.

~ SHIRE NOTICES ~

Roadworks & Projects

Capital works projects are progressing well. A few remaining projects for this year include the Railway Station car park. This project is expected to be completed in May. Re-sheeting of Whinbin Rock Road with gravel is expected to be completed in early June.

The development of a junior traffic garden at Sydney Hall Way Park is complete, now that the traffic signage is installed. Thank you to Narrogin Rotary Club for installing these signs over the weekend. A replacement concrete footpath has been installed on Felspar Street adjoining the Karinya Aged Care facility.

The new commercial stand pipe control system located at Highbury West Road near Chomley Road, has been ordered and will be installed later this month. The operation of this system for the purchase of water will be via a swipe card.

Further information on how to purchase swipe cards from the Shire administration building and the operation of this stand pipe will be advertised soon. There will be no change to the current stand pipe water availability until 1 July 2019.

Attention Community Groups

The next Narrogin Regional Business & Community Directory will be published in September 2019. The Shire refers to this very comprehensive directory as its listing for clubs, services, businesses and residents of the Narrogin Region. All Clubs, Businesses and Residents wishing to be listed in it, are encouraged to go to www.narrogin.directoryonline.com.au/ and add or update their listings. Entries are free of charge for Community Groups.

~ HOMECARE HIGHLIGHTS ~

Winter is fast approaching!

... and we recommend these tips for keeping seniors warm this season:

- #1 Ensure our seniors are getting adequate nutrients. Soups, casseroles and porridge are all nutritious meal ideas. Frequent, soft, and small portions is the way to go.
- #2 Keep blankets handy for extra warmth.
- #3 Pay attention to the thermostat on air conditioning units and heaters, and check for temperature spikes!
- #4 Be fire safe and prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. Monitor fireplaces, heaters, radiators and gas heaters.
- #5 Get regular exercise, as it encourages mobility and promotes a healthy mind. Consult your doctor before embarking on any new exercise routine.

If you're concerned about the wellbeing, loneliness or general quality-of-life of a senior, please enquire about our Narrogin Regional Homecare support services and telephone our friendly staff on 08 9890 0700.

~ IMPORTANT DATES ~

15 July 2019

The 2019/2020 Community Chest (Round 1) will open 15 July 2019 with a total of \$25,000 available for approved projects. Eligible groups are encouraged to apply for cash or in-kind support up to a total of \$2,500 for projects that will benefit the Narrogin community.

OUT 'n' ABOUT

The new junior bike track



Shire Executive Manager Torre Evans with Michael Ranieri of the Narrogin Rotary Club. Thanks to the Rotary Club for installing the traffic signs at the junior traffic garden at the park in Sydney Hall Way.

Sensory Garden School Holiday Activities



Library Officer, Tegan Winn assists Harper Nardini who is making tactile stepping stones for the Library Sensory Garden.

~ LIBRARY NEWS ~

The April school holidays were very busy in the Library with children participating every day in the activities planned for the Sensory Garden. We now have ribbon rings to run through, bottle top curtains, textural stepping stones, a water wall, melted crayon friendship tiles and a large sized abacus to play with. These objects will be kept in the Library and put out for the children to explore during activity times.

On Wednesday 22 May it will be National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) at 11am, and the launching of the "Paint the Town Read" project in Narrogin. Come and join the children from the Library, day care and the schools to meet Red *The Reading Roo* and begin to grow our own mascot for reading.

The National Simultaneous Storytime book this year is "Alpacas with Maracas" by Matt Cosgrove. NSS is run by Australian Library & Information Association and in 2018 over 1,062,230 participants read the book at 11am at over 8,255 locations.



89 Earl Street, (PO Box 1145)
Narrogin WA 6312
enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au
Tel: (08) 9890 0900
www.narrogin.wa.gov.au



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