



Shire of  
**Narrogin**  
*Love the life*

**MINUTES**  
**TOWNSCAPE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**1 JUNE 2021**

Commencing at 5:30 pm

Shire of Narrogin  
89 Earl Street  
Narrogin WA 6312

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the endorsement of these minutes at the next Meeting of Townscape Advisory Committee.

Signed:  ..... Date 1 June 2021  
(CEO)

These minutes were confirmed at the Townscape Advisory Committee Meeting held on 13 July 2021

Signed:  .....  
(Presiding Member at the meeting at which minutes were confirmed)

### **Acknowledgement of Noongar People**

The Shire of Narrogin acknowledges the Noongar people as traditional custodians of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respect to them, to their culture and to their Elders past and present.

Naatj ngiyen Birdiya Gnarojin kep unna nidja Noongar Moort ngaala maya nidja boodjera baarlap djoowak karlerl koolark. Ngalak niny ngullang karnan balang Bibolman baalap borong koorra wer boorda.

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Please note that meetings may be recorded for minute taking purposes.

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## TOWNSCAPE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 JUNE 2021

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### 1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5.35 pm.

### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES

#### **Committee Members (Voting)**

Cr C Bartron (Presiding Member)

Cr J Early

Mr B O'Neill – Narrogin Chamber of Commerce

Mrs V Chadwick – Community member (Disability)

Ms D Broad – Community member

Vacant – Community member (Indigenous)

#### **Staff (Non voting)**

Mr T Evans – Executive Manager Technical and Rural Services (EMTRS)

Ms L Bell – Administration Support Officer (ASO)

#### **Apologies**

Mr M Wray – Highbury District Community Council

#### **Absent**

Ms G Kami – Community member

Ms B Thomas – Arts Narrogin

#### **Visitors**

Cr B Seale arrived 6.49 pm

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COUNCIL EMPLOYEES IN MATTERS INCLUDED IN THE MEETING AGENDA

Nil

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE TOWNSCAPE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

Moved: Cr Early

Seconded: Mr B O'Neill

That the minutes of the Townscape Advisory Committee Meeting held on 20 April 2021 be confirmed, as an accurate record of the proceedings.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSIONED THE

Presiding Member acknowledged that Loriann is leaving the Shire and thanked her for the work she has done for this and previous Townscape Committees.

## 6. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS

Nil

## 7 MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DECISION

The Administration has no items which require a decision, however, the Townscape Advisory Committee is requested to consider and discuss the items at 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4. and make recommendations for Council's consideration.

### 7.1 NARROGIN ENTRY STATEMENTS

The Townscape Advisory Committee is requested to consider and discuss the replacement of the town Entry Statements, as per Council Resolution 0421.004 at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2021, and provide the Council with a recommendation to progress this item.

At the Townscape Advisory Committee meeting held on 9 March 2021 the Committee discussed at length the Narrogin entry statements. These are situated at five of the key entry points to the town and are comprised of five mini silos each one bearing a coloured image, which is one of the five elements that form the Shire's logo, together with a gate which features the Shire's tagline, 'Love the Life'.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2021, the Committee made the following recommendation:

*"In relation to the removal and replacement of Narrogin's entry statements, the Townscape Committee recommend that Council:*

- 1. Consider the removal of the current steel silo entry statements;*
- 2. Replace them with a design of similar construction as the rock/stone walls at the front of the administration office and the caravan park;*
- 3. Design to be workshopped with the Townscape Committee; and*
- 4. For the project to be requested in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget for Council's consideration".*

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2021, the Council did not support the Committee's recommendation and proposed the following Motion:

*"That, with respect to the request of the Townscape Advisory Committee to replace the existing Narrogin Townsite entry statements, Council:*

- 1. Requests that the CEO seeks quotes for the design and construction of five entry statements for the Narrogin Townsite and two for the Highbury Townsite. The size of*

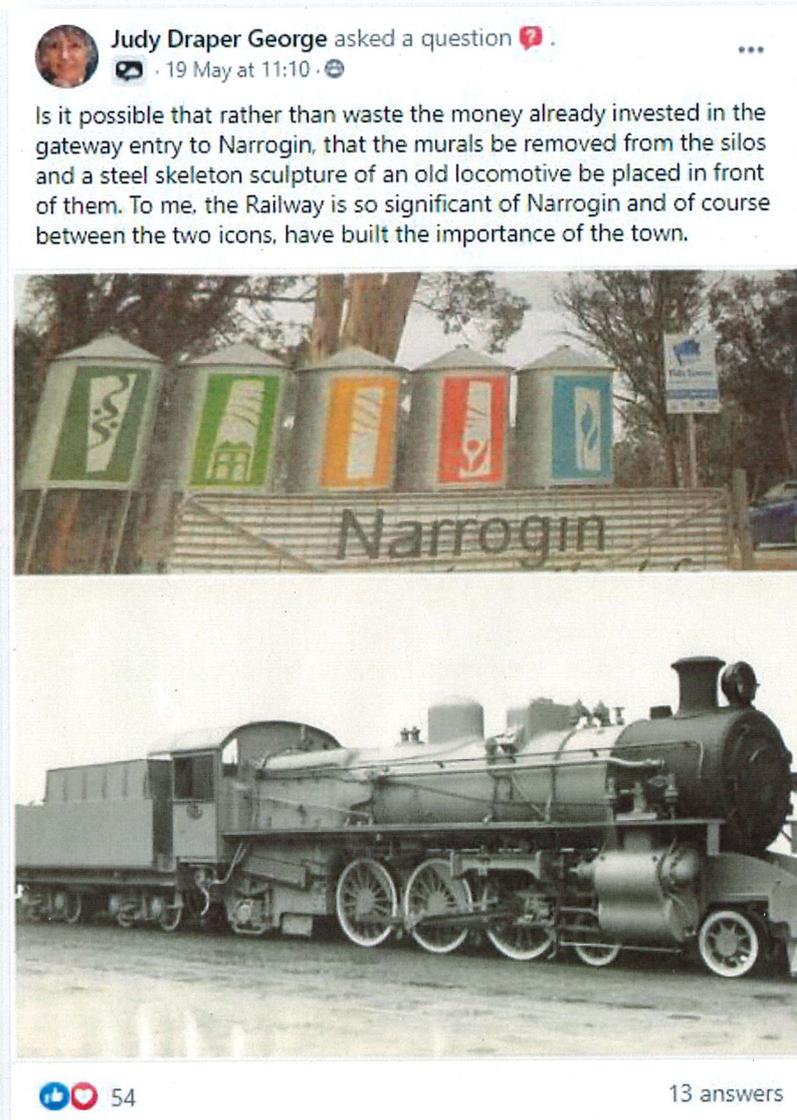
the Narrogin Townsite entry statements to be similar to the one at the front of the administration building. The two at the Highbury Townsite to be half the size, of the Narrogin entry statements.

2. Consider in the 2021/2022 draft Budget provision for the five entry statements for Narrogin and two for Highbury at approximately \$60,000”.

The Motion was lost and the Council then resolved as follows:

*“That, with respect to the request of the Townscape Advisory Committee to replace the existing Narrogin Townsite entry statements, the Administration seek further direction from the Townscape Committee”.*

The Administration notes, that community sentiment regarding the replacement of the entry statements does not appear to be in line with the Committees recommendation. The Facebook post on Ngn Chat 19 May 2021 (pictured below) received 28 written responses; six were unrelated to the topic; the remaining 22 supported leaving the silos, and/or modifying them with either (a) solar lights; (b) a skeleton sculpture of a train; or (c) replace the stickers on the silos with art by a local artist. In addition to the written responses more than 50 respondents indicated support for the original post with an emoji.



That said, the Shire has obtained approval from Main Roads WA to replace four of the current entry statements which are situated on MRWA road reserves, with the proposed stone wall design, pictured below, should the Council choose to do so.

MRWA approval is not required for locations proposed on local government roads.

MRWA approval is still to be sought for the locations in Highbury.

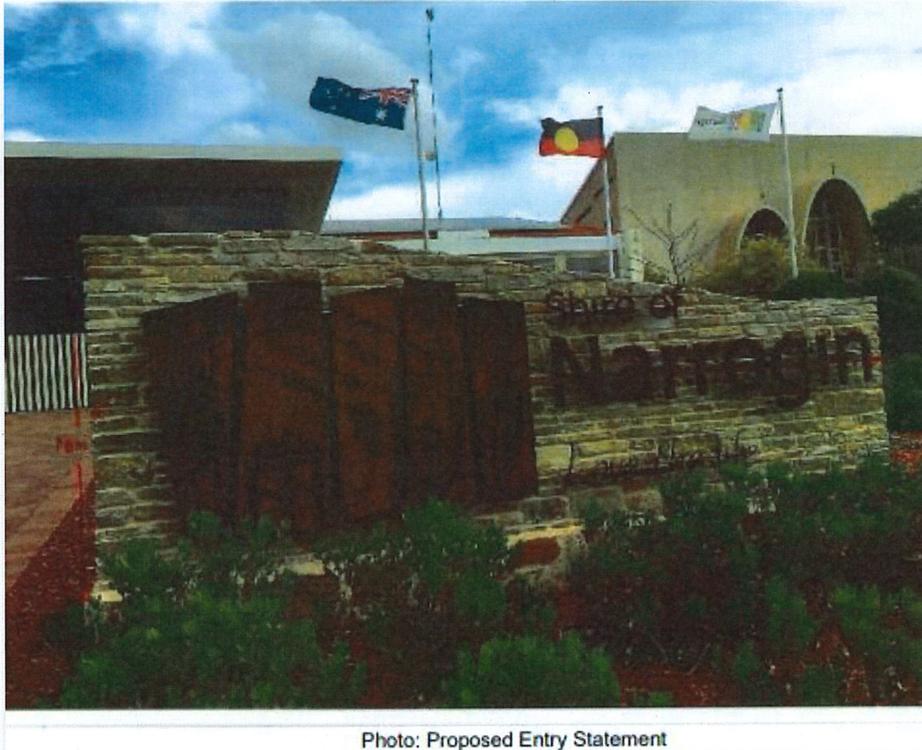


Photo: Proposed Entry Statement

Councillors at the Meeting, together with the Administration, felt that recommendation and advice to the Council was not clear in intent.

Questions remain include the following:

- Whether the community (of Narrogin and Highbury) should be engaged and if so how?
- Does the community support the current entry statements?
- Would the community support removal and investment of “x” dollars to replace them with “y” design?
- Is the indicative estimate by the Townscape Committee realistic to allow for removal and design and construction?
- Designs for Highbury versus Narrogin Townsites?
- What is the rationale behind removing the current statements when they are structurally sound?

Consideration of the above and any other matters the Committee feels relevant is encouraged before putting the matter back to Council.

## Outcome

The EMTRS to enquire with MRWA if the location of Highbury entry statements can be replaced with a design similar to the rock wall at the front of the Administration office.

The Committee members discussed the questions below, and responded with the following comments:

- *Whether the community (of Narrogin and Highbury) should be engaged and if so how?*

The members indicated that the Townscape Committee represents the community, however, the Committee recognise that consultation should be entered into with the public.

- *Does the community support the current entry statements?*

Community support is yet to be determined, possibly with a short survey, similar to the process undertaken for the Smith Street Toilets.

- *Would the community support removal and investment of "x" dollars to replace them with "y" design?*

Costings are required before this can be determined, however, a community survey following the agreed workshopped design would help gauge community support.

- *Is the indicative estimate by the Townscape Committee realistic to allow for removal and design and construction?*

An agreed design, workshopped by the Committee, followed by a cost estimate from suitably qualified contractor will determine if the indicative cost by the Committee is realistic.

- *Designs for Highbury versus Narrogin Townsites?*

The Committee will workshop designs for all seven Entry Statements at the next Townscape meeting (13 July 2021)

- *What is the rationale behind removing the current statements when they are structurally sound?*

This question is answered below

- *What is the Committee trying to achieve with replacing them?*

The mini silos are no longer representative of the town, it is more than 30 years since silos were used; the entry statements should be more attractive and inviting, and a design that will not date, something that remains relevant for years to come.

## **7.2 2016 NARROGIN TOWNSCAPE STUDY REVIEW & Highbury Townscape Plan 2017**

At the Townscape Advisory Committee meeting held on 20 April 2021, the Administration noted that the Committee's guiding document, the 2016 Townscape Study Review is a five-year-old document and was flagged for review in 2021. It was further noted that many of the recommendations outlined in the document, and which fall within the Committee's scope and objectives, have been completed, or will be completed this year.

The Administration circulated by email on 28 April 2021, a copy of the 2016 Narrogin Townscape Study Review for the committee to review and note completed recommendations.

The Highbury Townscape Plan 2017, although not flagged for review and not previously discussed, has been sent together with this meeting's agenda, also to be reviewed by the Committee.

The Committee is requested to review both documents in relation to the recommendations referenced therein and,

1. Note completed and outstanding recommendations; and
2. Prioritise outstanding recommendations for future budgeting and programming of works; and
3. Recommend for excluding from future budgeting and works programming any recommendations that are not considered worth pursuing.

### **Outcome**

The Administration circulated a copy of a report (see Attachment 3) prepared by Mitch Wray, President of the Highbury District Community Council (HDCC), which detailed completed (in blue) and outstanding (in red) recommendations from the Highbury Townscape Plan 2017. To assist with future budgeting and programming, the Administration will seek clarification from the HDCC by way of a list of prioritised outstanding recommendations and a list of recommendations that are no longer required, or considered no longer relevant.

Committee will revise the two documents and make note of outstanding actions required. The Presiding Member will meet with the EMTRS to finalise the any remaining outcomes.

## **7.3 TOWNSCAPE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 May 2021, the Council considered the Townscape Committee's request for \$100,000 for public art installations to be included in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget, and made the following resolution:

*That Council, with respect to public art considerations for the 2021/2022 Draft Budget:*

1. *Consider an amount of \$25,000 for public art projects to be identified by the Townscape Advisory Committee and to be planned for, coordinated and expended within the financial year;*
2. *Consider an amount of \$100,000 to be transferred into the Tourism and Area Promotion Reserve for the purposes of public art;*
3. *Council intends the primary focus of these monies be spent on public art in the roundabouts; and*

4. Note that the question of whether Council will be considering a provision of \$60,000 in the 2021/22 Draft Budget for replacing townscape entry statements has been referred to the Townscape Advisory Committee for clarification.

Outcome

The Committee members noted the Council resolution.

#### 7.4 SHIRE OF NARROGIN 10 YEAR PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The Committee is requested to develop a priority list of potential public art sites using recommendations contained within the Public Art Strategy and Masterplan 2019. See Attachment 1.

The EMTRS recommends that the Committee develop a priority list of sites for potential art projects and discuss and agree upon what projects should go where, and an estimated budget to fully complete the proposed projects. This document when completed by the Committee can then be recommended to Council as the Shire of Narrogin 10-Year Public Art Program for Council to consider. If adopted by Council, this document would guide the Council, Staff and future Committees with a strategic planned approach to public art work in Narrogin, and inform Councils Budgeting process including the Long Term Financial Plan and the Annual Budget.

Outcome

Committee members present were unanimous with their support for developing a 10 Year Public Art Plan as a strategic and planned approach for the Committee moving forward, based on the following priorities and budgets and for consideration the Shire's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

Townscape Advisory Committee				
10 Year Public Art Program				
Potential projects	Priority	\$cost	Comments	Duration of project
Roundabouts - artwork	1	\$100k		2 years
Murals 2 x sites	3	\$50k	Could choose 4 sites	1 year
Memorial Park - bronze soldiers x 2	8	\$60k	horses	1 year
Mackie Park – art structure clock tower location		\$60k-\$80k	Opportunity for a hero piece on Federal Street, noted in the Masterplan awaiting Dome development	1 year
Federal/Clayton - large art feature	6	\$80k-\$100k		1 year
Cemetery - art structures along Williams Rd fenceline	4	\$80k		1 year
Foxes Lair - Williams Rd art structure	5	\$50k		1 year
Entry statements x 7 replacement	2	\$150k		1-3 years

<i>Gnarojin Park</i>	<b>7</b>	<i>\$50k</i>	<i>Art structures -aboriginal</i>	
<i>Railway Bridge</i>				

**8. STATUS REPORT UPDATE**

The EMTRS would like to discuss with the Committee that the Status Report (see Attachment 2) which serves as the Committees primary project tracking document, be renamed as the Townscape Advisory Committee Action Tracker.

The current Status Report pertains mostly to the 2016 Narrogin Townscape Study Review and related projects. From time to time the Committee is tasked by Council with other recommendations and actions and the EMTRS recommends that all actions be recorded and tracked on the one document.

Outcome

The Committee supported the introduction of a new style of action tracker reporting. An example can be viewed in Attachment 4.

**9. GENERAL BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION OF THE MEETING**

Nil

**10. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business to discuss, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 7.37 pm.

The next meeting of the Townscape Advisory Committee will be held at 5.30 pm on Tuesday 13 July 2021 at this same venue.

## 5. KEY LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC ART WITHIN THE SHIRE

### 5.1 EXISTING PUBLIC ART IN THE SHIRE

A range of public art already exists within the Shire of Narrogin. For example there are Noongar and European artworks located at Gnarojin Park and several murals created through community art projects throughout the CBD and at school sites. There are three recent State Government Building

Management and Works public art projects at the Narrogin Regional Hospital, Narrogin Senior High School and the Narrogin College of Agriculture. A full catalogue of the Shire's public artworks, their definitions and types can be found at Appendix I.

### 5.2 SITE ANALYSIS AND LOCATIONS

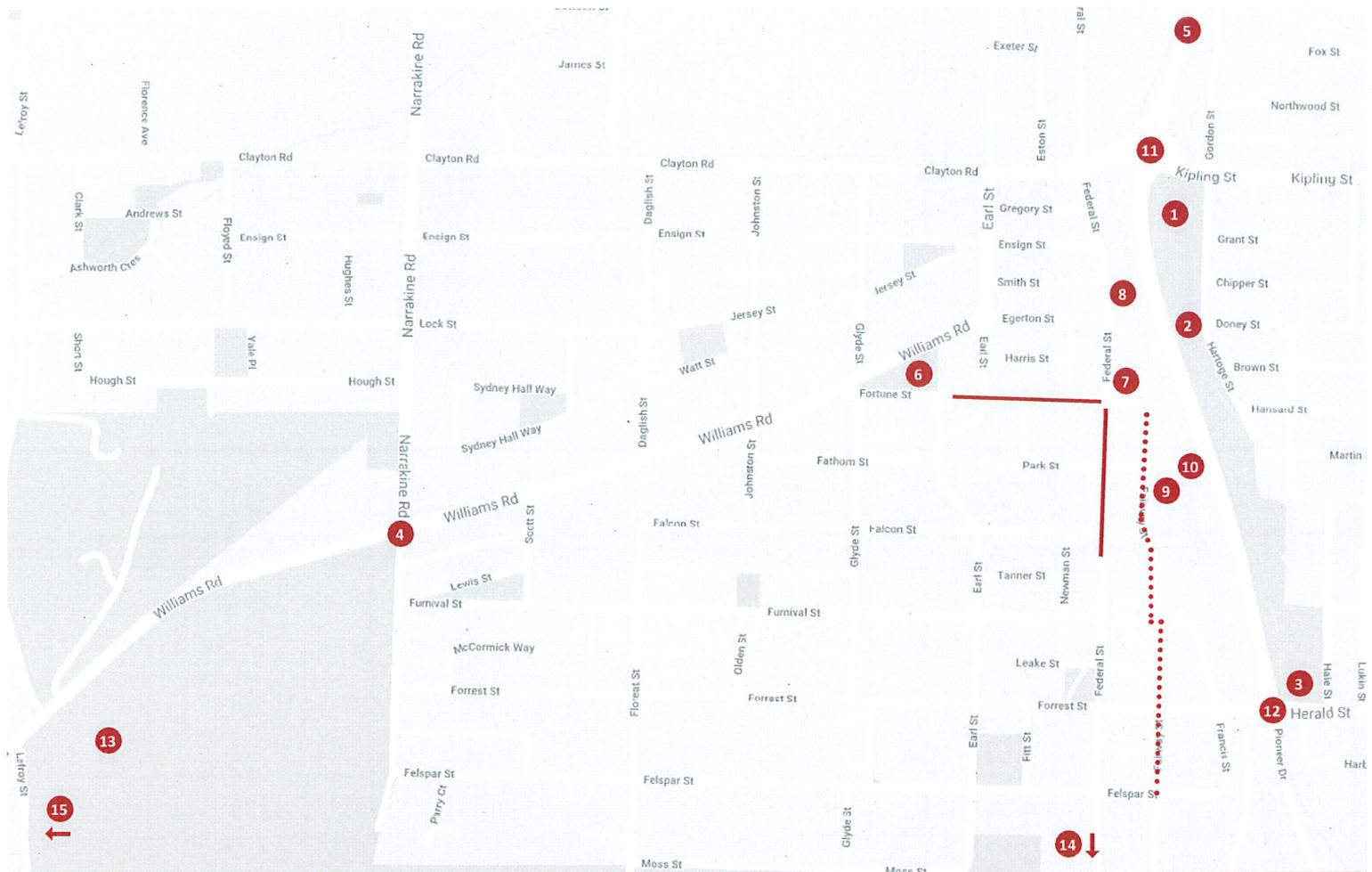
The Narrogin CBD, the surrounding woodlands and tourist sites were identified as public art sites and locations by the community during the public consultation process. The wide roads, distances between various facilities and extensive open spaces are typical features of Wheatbelt towns and they offer opportunities for further visual engagement and provide interesting site lines within the landscape.

Potential sites or locations for public art within the Shire are set out below.

- > The railway line and Gnarojin Park are two important north/south conduits of the town and divide the western and eastern housing precincts. Walkability was a key value identified in H&H Architect's 2016 Townscape Study Review. Improving connectivity within the town by strengthening east/west pedestrian routes will enhance the walkability value of the town site and provide meaningful opportunities for public art placement within Gnarojin Park and in areas adjacent to the railway line. This has been highlighted in the Gnarojin Park Masterplan (in draft at the time of writing).
- > The railway overpass provides an opportunity to scan the town at a significant height and presents interesting vistas. It provides different points of view to look down on to public artwork along Narrogin Brook, over the rooftops of the railway line and goods shed and the horizons beyond. Rooftops are possible additional sites for murals as well as the underside of the overpass which could provide an opportunity for an exciting light artwork or annual light festival (either permanent or temporary).
- > Federal and Fairway Streets adjacent to Mackie Park both provide a substantial area for nodal artwork. In addition the rear of the Federal Street buildings facing the rail line provide suitable walls for mural artwork and there is expansive roadways and light traffic streets useful for highly colourful patterns on the tarmac.
- > Mackie Park with its terraced lawns and Memorial Park provide opportunities for stand-alone artworks with commemorative or heritage subjects.
- > The railway buildings, siding and the nearby goods shed present exciting opportunities for space activation through public art. The Shire owned goods shed is located in close proximity to the Dryandra Country Visitors Centre and is a potential central location for a maker's space, crafts centre or market. Opportunities for public art may also arise at the time of any maintenance work or upgrades.
- > The Great Southern Highway, Williams-Kondinin Road, Wandering-Narrogin Road and Yilliminning Road are all potential sites for entrance artworks. These are major roads leading in and out of Narrogin with the Great Southern Highway and the Williams-Kondinin Road being major conduits for tourists.
- > The cemetery is essentially the first site viewed by travellers entering Narrogin from Williams. European cultures traditionally locate cemeteries on the outskirts of town and on a main road for easy access however an opportunity presents to install a dynamically designed screen to create privacy and constructively attract tourists from different religious backgrounds.
- > Highbury Reserve is a potential location for public art and inspiration could be taken from Northcliffe's nationally unique art and nature trail. Highbury Reserve is known for its spectacular display of spider orchids during wildflower season.

5. KEY LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC ART WITHIN THE SHIRE

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC ART IN NARROGIN



- |                                  |                               |                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1-3 Gnarogin Park                | 8-9 Mural and screen projects | 14 Railway Dam      |
| 4-5 Paint the road intersections | 10 Railway Station            | 15 The Cemetery     |
| 6 Memorial Park                  | 11-12 Roundabouts             | — Furniture         |
| 7 Mackie Park and Clock Tower    | 13 Foxes Lair                 | ..... Road painting |

# Townscape Status Report

Townscape Study Review 2018 Recommendation	Outcome	% Complete	Estimated Completion Date	Status	Status Report 1 June 2021
<b>Highbury Townscape Plan</b>	1. To provide the Committee with updates and outcomes for proposed future projects and those projects currently being undertaken. 2. Prioritise projects in accordance with the recommendations made within the 2017 Highbury Townscape Plan.				
<b>Enhancement recommendations</b>					
<b>Town Hall and surrounds enhancement</b>					
A small collection of adult outdoor gym equipment near the park would add fitness activities to the existing walk circuit being used in the town.		0%	30/06/22	Deferred to next FY	The Administration will make a request for Council consideration in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget.
<b>Stopover bay development formalising vehicle access and parking areas to reduce the expanse of open gravel</b>					
Additional tree planting for shade and to screen and soften less attractive areas		0%	30/06/22	Deferred to next FY	The Administration will make a request for Council consideration in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget.
	Install a bus shelter incorporating information board.	0%	30/06/22	Deferred to next FY	The Administration will make a request for Council consideration in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget.
	An RV waste dump point adjacent to the toilet (but not blocking access to the planned fire station).	0%	30/06/22	Deferred to next FY	The Administration will make a request for Council consideration in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget.
<b>Street verge improvements</b>					
<b>Entry Statement upgrades.</b>					
Local residents would also like to see the entry statements to the town upgraded, particularly on the north and south approaches.	Develop artwork design for new entry statements	0%	30/06/22	Deferred to next FY	The Administration will make a request for Council consideration in the 2021/2022 Draft Budget.
	Clear the verges of fallen trees and overgrown weed from the north and south entry statements all the way into town	5%	30/06/21	In Progress	
<b>2016 Narrogin Townscape Study Review Status Update Report</b>	1. To provide the Committee with updates and outcomes for proposed future projects and those projects currently being undertaken. 2. Prioritise projects in accordance with the recommendations made within the 2016 Narrogin Townscape Study Review.				
<b>Central Precinct</b>					
<b>Developing a civic and cultural heart</b>					
<b>Build and enhance existing civic amenities</b>					
Create a central civic space in the CBD	Mackie Park redevelopment proposal	0%	30/06/21	On Hold	On hold pending Dome development.
Develop opportunities for cultural and community buildings					
<b>Improve visitor experience</b>					
<b>Develop Rail heritage theme through the town centre with historic interpretation and street furniture</b>	Proposed restoration of the old diesel located at the old railway yards	0%	30/06/21	On Hold	On hold pending further advice from the CEO.
Williams Road Information Bay	Visitor Information boards - design content for visitor information bay board	50%	30/06/21	In Progress	The Administration is working with the designer to progress this.
	Smith Street toilet upgrade	0%	30/06/22	In Progress	At the Council meeting on 28 February 2021, Council resolved the following: Demolish the existing public toilet. Build a new ablution facility on the same site and in the similar style as the new toilet located in Memorial Park and shall comprise of: 1 x unisex accessible with baby change facilities; and 2 x standard self-contained cubicles. Approve the cost of supply and installation to a maximum amount of \$100,000, including \$90,000 from the existing budget provision. Tender awarded to Ranieri, anticipated completion mid-August 2021.
<b>-END REPORT</b>					

## Highbury Townscape Progress Report.

*Prepared for Narrogin Shire Townscape Advisory Committee Meeting 1 June 2021*

This report is a reflection on the progress made by the Highbury Community Council and community members, in conjunction with The Shire of Narrogin, towards the Highbury Townscape outlined by H+H Architects in 2017.

The Highbury Townscape documentation has been created by H+H Architects through visits to the town and meeting with the community to ascertain what is considered important for the future development of the town centre, followed by the preparation of this report and sketch plan.

H+H Architects report references the Narrogin Townscape study and is designed to be read as an appendix of the main report.

Based on a review of the preliminary project brief, H+H Architects identified the key aspects to the project, namely;

1. *Town Hall and surrounds enhancement;*
2. *Stopover bay development*
3. *Street verge improvements, and*
4. *Entry Statement upgrades.*

Below is a summary of actions, from the report, to address the key aspects. The actions outlined in **blue** have been progressed and completed. The actions outlined **red** are still to be progressed in order to meet the Highbury Townscape documentation.

### *Town Hall and surrounds enhancement.*

- The ANZAC memorial needs more space and to be brought into the precinct more – rather than left isolated on the road verge.
- A better park to the west of the hall (Wilbur Park) would allow a variety of community events (such as outdoor movies) to be run and provide a space for locals to enjoy as a community hub. Reticulation for grassed area under completion. Gazebo installed. Relocation of playground equipment to rear of the Tennis Club and clearing of the site completed. Footpaths in the park still to be completed.
- Play equipment needs to be located so tennis parents can supervise toddlers better and a separate space and equipment for older children is needed.
- Various plants along the street and in the park completed.
- A small collection of adult outdoor gym equipment near the park would add fitness activities to the existing walk circuit being used in the town.
- Toilets behind the hall be upgraded for better access. Pathways still need to be installed to provide access from the Town Hall and Park.

### *Stopover bay development.*

- Erection of 3 banner poles adjacent to the sun dial and windmill.
- Additional museum facilities around the existing wagon shed. (some work still ongoing)
- The adequacy of night and security lighting.
- Firefighting centre (truck, shed etc).
- Formalising vehicle access and parking areas to reduce the expanse of open gravel.

- Additional tree planting for shade and to screen and soften less attractive areas.
- Installation of a bus shelter, with the option to include information on the town and district, interpretation and/ or public artworks in the shelter. This bay is also used by the Westrail bus, and a double sided shelter is needed for waiting passengers.
- New direction signage highlighting facilities at the Town Hall, and directions to the Tavern and General Store and any other town facilities or attractions.
- Clearer and more accessible pedestrian crossing points.
- An RV waste dump point adjacent to the toilet (but not blocking access to the planned fire station).

*Street verge improvements.*

- A programme of incremental street tree planting is recommended to provide shade over footpaths and help strengthen pedestrian links. (some streets still need tree planting i.e. Campbell St.)

*Entry Statement upgrades.*

- Entry statements to the town upgraded, particularly on the north and south approaches. Residents would like to see these in keeping with The Shire of Narrogin statements in town. E.g. Narrogin Caravan Park and Shire Administration Building. Welcome to Highbury signage with recognition of The Shire of Narrogin logo and 'live the life' slogan.

In conclusion to the report, on behalf of the Highbury District Community Council, we would like to sincerely thank the Highbury community for all of their support and help over the past 3 years (since the inception of the Highbury Townscape documentation). The community have really shown their community spirit and passion, and the town of Highbury is certainly looking better for it.

Thanks must also go to The Shire of Narrogin for all of their continued support and guidance. We at Highbury feel that we really are a part of The Shire.

We look forward to continuing the work to meet the areas of improvement outlined in the Highbury Townscape documentation.

This report was prepared by President of the Highbury District Community Council, Mitchell Wray.



