SHIRE COUNCIL

Community update - April 2021

The design of the Trentham Community Hub has been revised based on feedback from the community survey conducted in the second half of last year (see survey results in document library).

We had a great response to our engagement with the community and received a lot of useful and constructive feedback on the draft design. We've spent the last few months analysing the feedback and revising the design to keep all the aspects the community liked, and to improve other elements highlighted by the community. The Project Advisory Group (PAG), made up of community members, has been highly involved in this stage. This revised design is the draft Final Concept Design, which Council will consider for adoption in June.

The survey feedback (see document library) was very positive on a number of elements, including interior and exterior design, materials and character, natural light inside the facility, incorporating the Mechanics Institute building, and visitor information design.

The greatest amount of critical feedback related to increasing the hall capacity in order to accommodate functions with a greater number of people.

In the revised design the hall is significantly larger, and there is more space for community activities.

The revised design incorporates a portable stage, which increases flexibility and usable space in the hall. This solution was supported by the majority of community in the survey. Storage space has been maximized where possible. Accessibility has been improved by utilizing a 'step-ramp' at the main rear entrance, close to the accessible car parking.

The library will now be accommodated in the Mechanics Hall, which will still be renovated to restore the original interior materials and exterior form. The use of the Mechanics Institute as the library is a great reflection of the history of facility, as Mechanic's Institutes are the precursors of public libraries in Victoria.

The cypress trees in the north east corner of the site will need to be removed for the facility – an arborist's assessment has determined that the trees are in poor health and are a safety risk. As part of the new facility, appropriate trees will be planted.

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Thank you to everyone who came along to the drop-in sessions and provided feedback on the designs.

The table below compares the sizes of some of the spaces of the previous design to the revised design.

Element	Previous Design	Revised Design	% change
Hall Size – square metres	168	250	+49%
Hall Capacity – standing/school assembly (with stage) - number of people	130	188	+45%
Hall Capacity - standing/school assembly (without stage) - number of people	162	245	+51%
Hall Capacity - function seated (with stage) - number of people	90	140	+56%
Hall Capacity - function seating (without stage) - number of people	112	170	+52%
Kitchen – square metres	26.5	37	+40%
Library *current Library in Albert St. is approx. 150m2	211	195	-8% (+30% larger than current library)
Lounge/meeting	0	43	

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