

Daylesford Community Facilities



A project to investigate the potential of a community hub at Daylesford Town Hall.

Proposed schematic design

- Includes a library, multipurpose spaces, customer service and Council Officer areas.
- Includes a 'light touch' to the auditorium. Changes will focus on heritage, compliance and safety rather than increasing the technical functionality of the space.
- Will include limited internal modifications within the Town Hall.
- Entry to the facility via Bridport Street and Vincent Street. These entries are on different levels and are connected by stairs and a lift.
- Requires the demolition of the senior citizens building.
- Extends onto the Daylesford Pool site with minimal impacts to pool infrastructure. Further investigation is required to confirm where the pool infrastructure would be relocated to within the pool site.
- Impacts a sewer and water main to the rear of the Town Hall. Preliminary authority approval has been provided to realign these services.
- Maintains right of way access to properties adjacent to the Town Hall.

Reopening the Town Hall

The reopening of the Town Hall is controlled by the completion of the current conservation and electrical safety works as well as the progression and funding of the Daylesford Community Facilities project. Council wishes to minimise the community impact of the Town Hall being unavailable and will consider reopening the Town Hall if there is likely to be a minimum of 12 months between the current works being completed and the construction of the new facility commencing.

Budget summary

The project is currently funded for the completion of an endorsed schematic level design. Council needs to continue planning for long-term provision of community facilities, even during financially constraining times.

Council will consider the inclusion of the project in future budgets. The detailed design phase is next phase of the project to be funded. The endorsed schematic design can be used to seek external funding for further design phases and construction.

A detailed, independent costing will be produced as part of the schematic design phase. Based on past projects delivered by Council, it is anticipated the construction cost will be \$15-20 million. Delivery of the construction may be done in stages to match available funding.

Project Advisory Group (PAG)

The PAG was formed following a competitive expression of interest process. Members:

- Cr Lesely Hewitt
- Adam Fawcett
- Joanne Tsakoumagos
- Matt Johnson
- Sarah Bibby
- Louise Johnson



PAG members are active in the community and represent wide-ranging interests.

Members have attended eight design meetings to date and have informed and shaped the design that is on exhibition. They will assist in reviewing the feedback from the community engagement period and incorporating the feedback into the final schematic design.

Did you know?

- ? The original proposed site for the Town Hall was the corner of Vincent Street and Central Springs Road but because a design was not prepared in time, this site was snapped up and became the post office.
- ? The Town Hall was built on the site of a freshwater spring, the town water supply at the time. The spring flowed through a channel to the public baths that is now the site of the Daylesford Pool. Managing the presence of the spring will be an important consideration in the design and future construction.
- ? The original design for the Town Hall was the result of a design competition which attracted 14 submissions. Architect George Johnson's design was successful winning him 25 pounds sterling, around \$50.
- ? The front section of the Town Hall was constructed between 1882-1883, costing 4,500 pounds sterling (\$9,000). The auditorium wasn't constructed until 1885 costing 6,000 pounds sterling (\$12,000).
- ? The Town Hall has cultural heritage significance as part of the Vincent Street heritage precinct listed under the Heritage Overlay at HO694. The Town Hall itself is recognised in the Hepburn Planning Scheme in a Heritage Overlay HO290. While not heritage listed, these heritage overlays control the external paint colour and internal alterations. A heritage advisor will provide input and aid Council in assessing a future planning permit application.
- ? The ground floor of the Town Hall originally housed a library and reading room that stayed open until 9 pm. The new library will be designed with Open Access features to enable extended hours of access to inducted library users.

Have your say

www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/daylesford-facilities

