

PUBLIC MEETING

MEDICAL / HEALTH CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2012 AT THE RSL HALL COMMENCING AT
7.30PM

1. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Mr N Young, Chairperson
Cr J Mathwin, Deputy Chairperson
Mr E Graham
Mr G Hobbs
Mrs J Matthews
Mr N Radford
Mrs J Webb
Mrs J Warland
Mrs P Crook
Cr R Hewson
Cr J Benn

Members of the Public

Cr Jane Trethowan, Shire President
Mr A Middleton, Shire Acting CEO
Jill House
Jill Robertson
Kath Mathwin
Joan O'Halloran
Agnes Paini
Glenys Hill
Margaret Sullivan
Maureen Rose
Geoff Fisher
M Riley
Richard McGuire
Denise Berryman
Bob Frances
Barbara Hobbs
Laurance House
Beth Duncan



2. INTRODUCTION

The Committee Chairperson, Mr Neil Young, declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and welcomed the public. He outlined the background to the formation of the committee and explained that the committee was seeking information to enable the best possible result for the community at an affordable price. It was not a decision making meeting.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

A question and answer and brainstorming session was undertaken as follows:

Q. What Conditions are specified in the Royalties to Regions proposed funding option?

The funding can only be used to develop and construct new infrastructure in line with the Shire of Kojonup Forward Capital Works Plan. Wages or operating type expenditure cannot be funded.

Q. Is the redevelopment of the existing building a viable option?

The cost of renovation or extension of the existing building would be similar to the cost to develop a new stand-alone facility.

Q. Is there a need for a new facility?

The Community Meeting has been called so that needs can be defined and suggestions can be put forward by community members. The present facility is structurally sound but no longer fit for purpose.

Q. Are there any existing Shire owned buildings that could be redeveloped to suit?

The needs for the new facility need to be identified and defined first, before any suitable existing building or design of a new building can be progressed.

Q. What was the initiating factor that identified the need for a new facility?

Upgrading the facility has been a long standing item on the Shires strategic plan. There are a number of factors that were identified that showed a need for a new facility including issues with the current building such as acoustics, inadequate archive storage, inadequate waiting room facilities, no staff facilities, and issues with privacy. Royalties to Regions funding opportunities are currently available and allow for a limited opportunity to access funding that may not be available in the future.

Q. Have teleconference and other services been considered as part of the planning for the facility?

Yes, however, there are similar facilities that already exist at the Kojonup Hospital.



GP Services

GP Services have seen a shift due to the fact that Allied Health is now focusing on preventative services. GP's are no longer a one stop shop for medical services as they have been in the past, but still underpin the community's expectation of a health service.

Discussion, clarification and brainstorming took place, with relation to the following items:

"What do we need?"

- Assess the need for Telehealth/ Dental services to be incorporated in planning for the new facility.
- Access to specialists and educational experts.
- Number of GP's.
- Facilities for a Practice Nurse.
- Facility designed to address privacy issues.
- Other Allied Services such as Mental Health services.
- Access to the new Facility e.g. parking, access for cars.
- Consider current shire buildings such as the RSL Hall.
- Ambulance Access.
- Further Communication between the Committee and the Community.

"Location"

- Central Location – walking distance to the CBD.
- Survey of how many users walk or drive?
- Preference for new building, planned for requirements and location near the hospital.
- If most service users wish walk, would the Old School Site (space between the Old School and the Historical Society Headquarter) be an option.
- Redevelop the existing building with the funding that has been obtained under the Royalties to Region Scheme.

"Business Structure"

- Incentives for visiting service providers such as physiotherapy and podiatry.
- 2 Doctors – one full time and the other part time.

4. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss the Chairperson thanked the Committee Members and Community Members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9:15pm.

