



DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

3rd February 2009

DCCS10	HAT HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE
	FILE: 3 JMC

SUMMARY:

Reporting on a request received from the Hat Head Community Centre Committee for the provision of a shade sail at the Centre.

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Council has received the following request for assistance from the Hat Head Community Centre Committee. The request is as follows:

"We, the Hat Head Community Centre Committee, request the Council to again consider putting the sails at the Hat Head Community Centre. The centre houses the community public library. Council, due to budget cuts has deferred the erecting of the sails on two occasions in the past.

The ramp and deck is the only access to the centre for the disabled and parents with prams. During a recent event we had to erect a temporary tarpaulin to allow people (both disabled and others) to shed coats and umbrellas, as well as to protect the flooring from pelting rain.

As council supports good health and the importance of exercise for every citizen, the elderly gentle exercise group, who use the deck area, would also appreciate the sails. The Centre is used for meetings, eg Estuary management, community groups. Sails would be a great benefit to the centre to shade the windows and doorway from the sun and blowing rain. We therefore request the erecting of the sails to be reconsidered in the budget once again."

Council's budget for Hat Head Library does not include monies for this work to be carried out. The building is owned by the Anglican Church, with Council having entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for use of the building for the library, copy attached [\(Appendix F – Page J32\)](#).

Under this MOU Council has agreed to meet the costs of a number of items including: -

- ◆ Council pays all rates and water charges – latest accounts, rates \$958 and excess water \$43.
- ◆ Fund Internal Cleaning of the Building
- ◆ Pay 50% of the electricity.

The Lower Macleay Parish (owners) have agreed to: -

- ◆ Maintain the building inside and out

- ◆ Maintain the grounds
- ◆ Pay 50% of the electricity

The library opening hours are Tuesdays, 2 – 3.30 pm and Saturdays 10 am – 12 Noon.

The MOU however, does not indicate from which parties' capital works will be funded from. In 2007/2008 the Library paid for the installation of air-conditioning to the building.

Given that the MOU does not cover capital improvements Council's advice is sought concerning the above request for financial assistance towards this capital works project.

Currently at the time of writing this report the Hat Head Community Centre Committee hasn't provided details of how much they anticipate this infrastructure to cost.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

There are no environmental implications from this report

- ***Social***

The Social implications for this report are that the Hat Head Community Centre is one of the limited facilities within Hat Head for social activities.

Council continues to work in partnership with the committee with respect to the use of the building by Council in providing library services and the occasional public meeting.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

The financial implications from this report is that without knowing the full cost for the provision of this infrastructure Council is unable to determine if there is sufficient funds to meet this request from existing budgets. Furthermore this item is not budgeted for in 2009/2010

- ***Policy or Statutory***

There is no policy or statutory implications from this report.

- ***Acting Director's Review***

The Hat Head Community Centre is not a Council asset. Any improvements / additions to the centre should be borne by the owner of the facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council suggests to the Committee that they approach the Anglican Church (owner) for funds to carry out this project.

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**K E OLIVER
ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**