

Late Agenda Item

15.2.3 Restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room

REPORT TITLE: Restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room
DATE OF MEETING: 9th March, 2010
AUTHOR: Ronni Barnden
AUTHOR'S TITLE: Deputy Chief Executive Officer
REPRESENTORS: Nil
FILE NUMBER:
ATTACHMENTS:

PURPOSE

For Council to consider, under the recommendation of the Robe Institute Management S41 Committee, inviting the Friends of the Robe Institute Inc. to undertake the planning and supervision of the restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room and the adjacent passage. Further, that Council limit the amount of funds available from the current budget, for the restoration works, to \$15,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council invites the Friends of the Robe Institute Inc. to undertake the planning and supervision of the restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room and the adjacent passage.**
- 2. That Council limit the amount of funds available towards the restoration work to funds currently available in the 09/10 budget for repairs and maintenance to the institute, being \$15,000.00**

BACKGROUND

Some time ago Council was approached by a representative of the Friends of the Robe Institute advising that the "Friends" would like to plan and supervise the restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room and the adjacent passage. The "Friends" will supply some of the labour on a voluntary basis, however, much of the work will require the services of professional tradesmen. Council was also requested to consider what, if any, of the repairs and maintenance budget for the Institute was left and whether it would be possible for any remaining funds to be used on the restoration work. The restoration project has the full backing of the Section 41 Robe Institute Management Committee and at the last meeting of the S41 committee on 4/3/10 the following resolution was passed :

*Lyall Domaschenz moved **that the Robe Institute Management Committee recommends that the District Council of Robe invites the Friends of the Robe Institute Incorporated to undertake the planning and supervision of the restoration of the Kathleen Browne Room and the adjacent passage but limiting DCR contribution towards the restoration work to funds available in the 2009/10 budget approximating \$20,000.00***

DISCUSSION

It is a widely known fact that repairs and restorative works have been required in the Kathleen Browne Room for some time, but a lack of resources has restricted any actions regarding this. The longer repairs and restorative works are put off, the greater the risk becomes of losing this space in the iconic institute.

In the 2009/10 budget, funding of \$30,000.00 were allowed, primarily for roofing and guttering repairs. The repairs to the roof did not cost as much as expected which has left an available balance of approx \$24,000.00.

Discussions have been held with Councils accountant and the CEO and it has been decided that, as another very wet autumn and winter is predicted, it would be remiss of Council not to keep further funds aside in the event that further heavy rains and prevailing winds may cause damage to be done to the roof. To this end, it has been decided that an amount of \$8,000.00 should be held for further roofing repairs should they become necessary, which will leave \$16,000.00 in funds which can be applied to the restorative works in the Kathleen Browne Room. The Friends of the Robe Institute do have access to funds of their own to fund any works over and above the \$16,000.00.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Compliance in governance will be maintained.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil – all expenditure will be within the current repairs and maintenance budget for the Institute.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Services

Through provision, facilitation & advocacy seek to ensure our community has an appropriate range & level of community services and

Governance & Finance

To ensure the delivery of sustainable, high quality, corporate governance for the District Council of Robe

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

None required.