



Dumbleyung Swimming Pool Update

- Preliminary geotechnical investigations have revealed the presence of significant groundwater (sub 1m) and clay-based materials within the swimming pool precinct
- The groundwater presence may be attributable to the original swimming pool acting as a 'dam' or 'retaining wall' blocking the natural flow of underground water from the north/north west side of the Dumbleyung townsite
- This water accumulation may also be contributing to the poor state of some of the buildings located on the Absolon/Bennett Street corner e.g. squash courts, shops, old pool plant room, etc as well as the crack in the pool structure leading to water leakage
- The presence of water is consistent with a nearby piezometer and storm water drain located on land (west) of the swimming pool precinct
- Based on the initial geotechnical results received, further extensive geotechnical investigations will be required to gain a full understanding of the below ground conditions across the entire pool precinct site
- For any new pool redevelopment to occur at the current site, solutions for both water drainage and replacement of reactive clay soil material will need to be included in a final project design
- The Dumbleyung Shire Council hosted a Dumbleyung Swimming Pool Workshop with invited community representatives, consulting architectural and pool engineering representatives on Thursday 17th February 2022
- The workshop provided an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the current situation and to consider future options moving forward
- Options discussed included potential staging of a pool redevelopment by prioritising construction of a new pool plant room & equipment (stage 1) using existing Federal Government Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) funding (circa \$857k) approved for this task; these funds must be expended by 30th June 2023
- Consideration was also given around the importance of establishing an initial pool masterplan to inform future build design and investment; prefaced by a feasibility investigation to assess risk of the various options available
- To support the creation of a pool masterplan and a development solution, the Shire has contacted the community representatives who were invited to attend last week's workshop seeking 4 nominations onto a Shire led Project Working Group
- The working group would be tasked to work with consulting architectural and pool engineering support to consider options for a pool masterplan including development solutions
- Given the time required to conduct additional geotechnical investigations, assess options, (master)plan, scope, design, cost, tender and deliver any construction task (particularly given Covid19 contracting & material supply constraints), it is now considered very unlikely that the Dumbleyung Swimming Pool will reopen in time for the 2022/23 season
- A funding strategy will also need to be adopted taking into consideration available funds (i.e. LRCI), whether to stage the development or not (i.e. build pool plant room first) and other sources of potential funds (i.e. State/Federal Govt grants, new long term loan, Bain Estate, etc)

For more information, please contact Shire of Dumbleyung CEO Gavin Treasure on 08 98634012