



Business Paper LATE REPORTS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE,
COOTAMUNDRA

6:00PM, TUESDAY 26TH APRIL, 2022

Administration Centres: 1300 459 689

LATE REPORTS

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8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8.8 TECHNICAL SERVICES

8.8.1 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO PURCHASE THE 2017 TOYOTA HIACE MINI BUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	368674
REPORTING OFFICER	Matt Stubbs, Manager Technical Services
AUTHORISING OFFICER	Les McMahon, Interim General Manager
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	4. Good governance: an actively engaged community and strong leadership team
	4.2 Active participation and engagement in local decision-making
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	There are no Financial implications associated with this report.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	There are no Legislative implications associated with this report.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	There are no Policy implications associated with this report.
ATTACHMENTS	 Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre Bus EOI ↓ Cootamundra Ex-Servicemen's and Citizen's Memorial Club Bus EOI ↓

RECOMMENDATION

Council consider the Expressions of Interest received from the Cootamundra Ex Services Club and the Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre to purchase the 2017 Toyota Hiace Mini Bus, attached to the report .

<u>Introduction</u>

At its Ordinary Meeting held 29th November, 2021, Council resolved (Min. no362/2021) to sell the 2017 Toyota Hiace Mini Bus (the bus) through public auction. Subsequently, while no expressions of interest were called to purchase the bus, an expression of interest (EoI) has been received from the Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre and the Cootamundra Ex-Services Club to purchase the bus directly from Council.

Discussion

The sale of the bus was discussed by the Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre (GNC) following advice they had received funding that would allow them to purchase a bus with wheelchair accessibility, making the bus redundant to Council.

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Recent correspondence from the GNC advised that having been unable to secure funding to source an appropriate vehicle, they have reconsidered their position and again seek to purchase the bus from Council with a view to undertake accessibility modifications as soon as possible. Currently the bus is used to provide a community transport service within the community and operates under a memorandum of understanding between GNC and CGRC.

The Cootamundra Ex-Services Club (the Club) currently operate a bus that is also used to support a variety of community groups. It also wishes to replace its current bus to continue to provide this community service as detailed in the EoI attached to this report.

Typically Council's fleet assets are sold through public auction sites. Gray's Online Auction provided an indicative price valuing the bus between \$45,000 and \$47,000. Pickles Auctions indicated a value between \$48,000 and \$51,000 for the bus.

Neither of the Eol's include a figure to purchase the bus from Council, however, both entities have been advised of the valuation received from Gray's Online and both have verbally indicated preparedness to pay up to \$45,000 for its purchase.

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21 February 2022

Matt Stubs Manager Technical Services Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council PO Box 34 Gundagai NSW 2722

Dear Matt

Purchase of 2017 Toyota Hiace

I am writing to express Gundagai Neighbourhood Centres interest in purchasing the council owned 2017 Toyota Hiace 12-seater bus. Currently the centre has been unsuccessful in sourcing funding to purchase a bus for community use with desired wheelchair access.

To allow the continuation of the current transport service and within the best interests of the community Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre would like to purchase the bus at its current market value. As a matter of urgency, the centre will seek further funding as soon as possible to allow for the modifications required for wheelchair access.

Should you wish to discuss our offer to purchase the bus further please do not hesitate to contact myself or our centre Coordinator Bonita Taylor by phoning 0269440290.

We look forward to receiving your response soon.

Regards

Cindy Smith President

Cootamundra Ex-Servicemen's & Citizens' Memorial Club Ltd



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Mr Charlie Sheahan Mayor Cootamundra - Gundagai Regional Council

Dear Charlie,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Cootamundra Ex- Servicemen's and Citizens' Memorial Club to express an interest in the purchase of the Council Bus.

The Cootamundra Ex -Services Club has been an integral part of the Cootamundra community for over 70 years and over that time has become the centre for activity for the town.

In addition to enjoying a membership base of over 3500 people, the Club sponsors many of the local sporting teams including the Cootamundra Bulldogs Rugby League Club , Strikers men's and women's Soccer Club, the Cootamundra Swimming and Lifesaving Association, and the Cootamundra Unisex touch Football Assoc to name a few. The Club is also associated with almost every charitable organisation in town. These groups often make free use of the Clubs courtesy bus.

In addition to the above, the Clubs bus is often lent out, free of charge to local schools for excursions and sporting events.

The bus has also been used for emergency transportation situations, one of which was when the XPT had broken down on an extremely hot day and the Clubs bus was called on to extricate almost 50 people plus luggage from the train station into town. The Bus has also been used by the ARTC during essential track maintenance to ferry people into town where the railway crossing was not accessible.

The Club has recently been in conference with the Cootamundra Nursing Home to create an emergency evacuation centre here at the Club for Nursing Home residents if the situation of an evacuation was arise. The Club recently installed a backup generator which makes it the perfect venue for such an event. The Clubs bus was also discussed as an option to move more able bodied patients from the Nursing Home to this venue.

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In conclusion, as you can see the Clubs Courtesy bus is much more than just a means to get Club patrons home safety and promptly. It also an important part of the town and as the Club is here for the community the bus is an essential piece of that puzzle.

Looking forward to a favourable outcome.

Kind regards

Megan Sawyer

Secretary Manager

Cootamundra Ex Services Club

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