## FUTURE OF THE TOWN HALL



# **Survey Results**

### Who completed the survey?



We received responses from 82 people (43% ratepayers)



- 60% of respondents are from rural properties in Mingenew
- 30% live in town
- 10% work or visit Mingenew regularly
- 54% of respondents were living with the spouse/partner and dependent children

#### Age range of respondents





#### 65+



### **Overall Ranking**

1. Day Care Centre

- 2. Road improvements
- 3. Hall Refurbishment / Replacement
- 4. Rec Center Refurbishment and Town beautification

Hall Refurbishment / Replacement 19%

We asked, "In your view, of the following, what are the priority projects for the community? [rank from most to least important]

Day Care Centre Town Beautificaion 10% Upgrade 33% **Rec Centre Refurbishment 10%** 

**Road Improvements 28%** 

## What would you like to see done with the Hall?

A majority want to see the Hall used as a multi-purpose centre that caters to a wide range of needs



14% would like to see the Hall demolished with the site vacant

49% of respondents want to see the Hall refurbished

> 15% prefer a new facility built on the current hall site

### So, how should we fund it?

We received many comments that the Hall renovations should be grant funded. We anticipate that if Council proceeds with this project, then grant funding support would most certainly be sought. However, most grant providers are not willing to support the majority of project costs and want to see a demonstrated investment within the community. To fund the shortfall, suggestions were to:

- Use community crop funding
- Proceeds from Expo
- Grain donations
- Public donations
- Other community fundraising

**60% of respondents** indicated they would donate to the project

Response to how you would support funding the project (other than through grants): 44% Loan | 40% Municipal Funds | 37% Don't proceed if not externally funded | 17% Reduce service levels in another area | 7% Overall rates increase



We hear that you want to see action, and appreciate that this has been a project on the community's mind for some time. Now that we have some initial data on current community perceptions and support, we intend to undertake a full building assessment, including an evaluation of hazardous materials, building defects and possible solutions to enable Council to get a full market estimate for the refurbishment of the Hall. Yes, we have received a number of reports detailing some of this information in the past but we need to validate and consolidate to understand the whole picture.

Following this, the future uses of the hall need to be established to determine fit out requirements, life cycle costs and capacity to fund, allowing Council to make a fully informed decision.

To secure any external funding for the project it is essential that Council has a strong business case demonstrating robust and defensible methodology, and above all, confirms community deliverables. THANK 701

We thank you for your participation in the survey and look forward to engaging with you further as the project progresses.

Full survey results are available at www.mingenew.wa.gov.au/shire-news/town-hall-survey-results/

### These are further comments people shared

"The hall has been dormant for 10 years. It's time that it was resurrected so the Community can use it once again."

"It would be very nice to have the hall open again as it has so much potential for use."

"Many activities could be staged in the hall and with the lateral thinking CRC doing a great job, this increased profile would be an attractive draw card for people thinking of coming to live in the town. It is in a great location where it is and it's renovation and use could be just what our flailing community needs."

"A major part of Mingenew's community history and an huge icon for Mingenew."

"Don't give up on it!"

"The town hall is the heart of a community. A town hall is not 'decorated' in sports memorabilia or specific to a particular group. Having a venue for indoor after school activities will allow all children the opportunity to access extra curricular activities not just those fortunate enough to travel long distances to other towns. In turn this may also encourage more money to be spent in town."

"Please maintain heritage of this town for as long as you can. I come back here a lot of time throughout the year and have so many great memories." "Mingenew doesn't need the hall and a rec centre as well , needs to prioritise on one event space. "

"Just demolish it and extend the Recreational Centre to cater for future needs. Spending money on a building that is way beyond its use by date is just a waste of money."

"I would like to see a more collaborative approach to the use of buildings in our town and for us to capitalise on the resources we currently have. I believe that the Rec Centre is in desperate need of a refurbishment and I think it would be worthwhile researching if the premises can incorporate

the functions of a Town Hall. I would not support Shire contributions being allocated to a rebuild/refurbishment of

the Town Hall independently but I would be very supportive of funds being allocated to the Rec Centre as a Sports / Entertainment / Cultural precinct. The Rec Centre location, in my opinion, is the most valuable asset we have in our town in terms of its location and the way that the outlook showcases our town and shire. It has so much potential to become an amazing resource for locals, visitors and tourists."

"Cost is a big factor for this project. It would be great to have this space back for the community and sporting groups to use but I also wondering if the money was put into the rec centre whether that would be money better spent. And also easier for the shire to manage. "

"It is part of our history and represents the hard work of our forebears and should be retained as the railway station and old bank building have been."

"The town hall would give us a larger space to use for many things as currently we are unable to seat more than 100 people in any space in Mingenew. However I would love the shire to start the process of making the rec centre our hub in town. I think all sports should be moved up there are the rec centre to be rebuilt as a one stop shop. One area with everything in it would be amazing for our town and bring community groups together as one."

"I think the community will benefit greatly from having a functional Town Hall again. It is a valuable building for community engagement."

"Over the years there have been a number of events I know of that had to be either limited or not held due to capacity numbers of current facilities . I have attended events at other town halls with the larger capacity and it is a shame that Mingenew does not have a town hall to call their own. I feel it will get the use it deserves if the renovations go ahead."

"Renovations to the hall is a must. Not building a new building. A piece of history worth hanging onto. Rec Centre has limited functionality. Height of ceiling etc." "There needs to be a review of all the towns spaces to ascertain what is really required for todays rate payers. You cannot look too far into the future as that is too uncertain."

"The shire needs to make sure that they upkeep and maintain their public buildings to a standard that will ensure use for future generations."

"MINGENEW does not need another building. With the Sports Club, Tennis Club, Rec Centre sitting empty most of the year. We need a decent building for a supermarket, cafe, roadhouse business in the Main Street. The hotel is an eye saw and the rec centre/turf club precinct is under developed and presents a wasted opportunity for a facility that could cater for all sports clubs (tennis, golf, bowls, cricket, hockey & netball) as well as the races, expo, social functions and meetings and childcare could also be incorporated into this facility as well. Child care is important but this wave of generational change will pass and soon all the families using the facilities will have school age children and there will be no need for a large centre. Once we can no longer field a footy team (next 2-5 years) then the rec centre needs to have another purpose. The hall would be better turned into a nice neat carpark beside the shire office."

"It would be great to have something that is inclusive of all ages & abilities. Majority of the surrounding towns are fortunate to have swimming pools and gyms."