

Economic development and job creation

A more open approach for enticing new businesses to town rather than a negative approach by existing businesses to protect their own patch

A prosperous rural community that can afford wages and accommodation and continuity of employment is what is needed.

Access to grants - rating poorly in development compared to Manjimup. Food, restaurants, things to do.

All the youth leave town

Appoint an Economic Development & Investment Manager and team with a budget and plan.

as per my 1st choice comments [Promote accessible courses and encourage local workshops to youth for work guidance. Build the confidence in our youth offering skills building resilience and confidence. "Business buddy" system offering work placement not just during school work placement time slots.]

attracting business to decentralise in order to keep our young people in town

Become more involved with the BGBTA, encourage economic growth through supportive planning and building processes and increased tourism.

Better policies around working from home. The council can encourage this by allowing home venues to sell products and services for locals and visitors alike. Egg artists.

Bring larger businesses into town to create more jobs.

Develop a strategy for economic development, that looks to professional opportunities, and larger business offering career paths. Look to encourage retirees to downsize to Bridgetown, to grow medical services funded through the Federal Government.

Develop job creation or town will die.

Don't stop business projects to build a wider job span and improvements because of a handful of greenies and activists getting in progress way.

Economic development - see first page re suggestion of renewable energy farm and infrastructures.

Economic develop and job creation. Create viable industrial area. Incentives to attract businesses.

Economic development - job creation.

Economic development and job creation - providing an environment where small businesses are encouraged to grow and provide greater job opportunities for people in the area.

Economic development and Job creation. Focus on what shire can do in the community to support this. Don't just have a strategic plan that everyone else must enact. Look for government projects that we can apply for that will support this.

Economic Development and Job Creation. To give our graduating school kids local jobs and opportunities.

Economic development and job creation

Economic Development and Jobs, "No brainer". Develop a realistic (close to town) industrial area with cheap land and permission for human habitation. Allow small biz to operate from small acreage rationale: Few can afford to pay for 2 properties and start a business (time and money and energy).

Economic Development. Tourism - Beautiful railway reserve. Cycleways. Image - sell this. Brand ourselves. Business owners forum. Business - support new business initiatives, streamline building processes including BAL.

ED & JC : Job creation for people with disabilities needs to be developed and supported. ACTIV options or similar would be fantastic for our Shire.

Employment

Employment - encourage development i.e biomass plants - renewable energy.

Encourage and promote sensible, ecologically sound - always protect the natural beauty - development.

Encourage business - camping, ABNB, rural homestay (to many restrictions) (to expensive to set up). These activities bring \$ to Bridgetown.

Encourage economic development that will create more employment.

Encourage more diversity in jobs/job creation away from the trades. This is the major stumbling block for newbies to town — no jobs unless you're a tradie or nurse

Encourage more unique destination holidays vacations, local crafts and produce

Encourage new businesses.

Encourage retailers to promote local products. Limit outside companies and businesses. Promote sustainable power sources for business and retail.

Encourage spaces for new business (to ? startup viability) Improve streetscape to and through Steere, Rose, Roe, Helson, Stewart and Spencer Street. Provide small business development services and subsidise rent/ad costs.

Encourage/subsidise more large tourist events during the year that are well funded and promoted and which can offer paid employment for these events.

Encourage/invite local producers/retailers to set up local business.

Find a use for vacant land on the main street.

Find a use for the unused train line as a tourist attraction

Open up the rail sheds to encourage local artisans (or similar) to set up shop there.

Look for potential tourist draw cards - look outside of the box.

What do other Shire do to increase tourism?

More visibility and collaboration with other surrounding Shires

Everything needs to change

Find someone with imagination.

Find ways to encourage business to locate here and increase local jobs

Focus on jobs for the 50+ year olds as this population are struggling to be given a chance.

Economic development and job creation

Get the economics right and the rest will follow.

Help farmers and local businesses draught proof properties. Fence and reveg remnant vegetation.

I would love to see more opportunities for our youth

Improved timing for approvals etc for developments (housing or other)

Improvements to the towns viability without the Talison mine site as a major employer

Incentives for small businesses to stay in the town.

Innovation. Stop restrictive policy on landuse and business start ups on ratepayer properties ie granny flat/B&B. Cottage industries are almost always rejected/not approved. I have 9 acres and the council will not approve any activities/business (unless is for a councillors mate)

It seems that most Job Creation is in Shop Fronts Encourage Ownerns to Invest a little more upgrading if need as People that visit and drive through Look at these things. It is Welcoming but could do more./Tourism is an ongoing constant promotion-encourage more business and support for those times when special Events being held as long as they are not Detrimental to Locals. In small towns its mostly about Local business surviving. I know we have Greenbushes Mining which provides locals with jobs. shires could and can do encourage more jobs rather than out sourcing them? I'm not sure if this is done. Job creation works with small business working together. I'm not sure of what their Rates etc cost. The Industrial area could be a Little better managed and promoted. It's a little difficult to comment on most of these as I am not a business owner. But as a local I try in every way possible to buy local and hire local. thanks

Job creation is always an issue in country towns, especially for young school leavers & they should be considered as often as possible for jobs in the district.

Jobs to attract families to the area - secure.

Keeping youth employed locally.

Look for local producers, skills and Support entrepreneurial innovative ideas for the community that encourage sustainable practices, local business and employment. A model community focused town with unique innovative ideas will support itself in many ways and also attract tourism. Art and a local food trail industry will attract visitors.

Look to see what businesses and industries could expand on those already there in the area. Is there compatible - next step along the chain in industry that may at the moment be based elsewhere. Can this next step of the chain move to the Shire? Perhaps have a workshop with one of the Universities to future think "out of the box" type of thinking for new businesses. I love heritage and history, but we need to think of the future and work towards it.

Make it easier for building and businesses, events organisers to hold events and start businesses. Red tape is horrendous.

Make it more attractive for businesses to thrive. Foster new & varied business potential not just small local boutique businesses.

Economic development and job creation

Make the most of the Shire 'assets'; we have the biggest and best source of lithium in the world but nobody really knows it, it's not properly promoted and new business opportunities don't seem to be being pursued.

More business opportunities more office space etc.
Less money spent n their own offices

More investment and focus on local job creation and business opportunities. Policies and agreements with business owners and industry (forestry, agriculture, mining, tourism & hospitality) to encourage local hire first priority.

A local Bridgetown employment / labour hire agency that works closely with all local businesses, large and small, to help create employment, training and work experience opportunities.

More jobs for 18 to 25 year old age groups.

More jobs for our kids.

More jobs needed for young people leaving school. More apprenticeship schemes.

More jobs will attract more people to the area.

More youth employment needed.

Need to attract new businesses to the Shire so there are more local jobs.

Neighbouring, shires have actively/successfully attracted funding for services and tourism projects. Both have had a positive effect in job creation - we need to do the same. - we need to seek grants and funding!

Not sure how the Shire can encourage job creation however other local governments have offered incentives for new businesses. Creating job opportunities will hopefully ensure not all of our young people need to leave the area to find employment when they leave school or finish TAFE, etc.

Open up land as planned many years ago for a light industrial area as there is no where for business to grow or new business to establish.
This needs to happen NOW.

Policy that attracts investment and encourages enterprise. Complicated planning processes can stifle this.

Relying on the mine/wood (not sustainable) look at renewable sources of energy, solar etc.

Remove impediments to building companies that chose not to operate in the Shire with BGBTA, use grant funding to establish a 'business incubator' for people with good ideas for new local businesses. provide office facilities for 6-12 months and technical support.

Shire need to to be proactive in assisting/promoting suitable developments and not throwing up barriers. Work through development issues in a timely manner without being unreasonably restrictive.

Support more shops.

Economic development and job creation

There is a big focus on relying on the mine when it comes to jobs. I think this is unfair as it is not possible for a lot of people to work there, there are also a lot of people not from town working there who's jobs were not necessarily advertised. Mine work is not a secure source of income as the job is incredibly in secure.

It would be good if the shire could focus on something other than the mine when it comes to employment opportunities.

This needs to be a plan to compliment (2) above. There are currently no businesses in Bridgetown for many demands. Residents have to go outside town for their needs. Examples solar power, insufficient dentists, insufficient vets, steel supplies, optician, computer supplies, toys, most clothing. Eating out and medical supplies have declined. Vacant shop and business premises have slowly increased. Changes are required to bring in an innovative approach to zoning and flexible application of planning opportunities. If there are more incentives and opportunities people will open small businesses. It can be directed to either town center rejuvenation or a dedicated commercial area as appropriate. The aim is to make the picture of Bridgetown as a vibrant place to live stronger and more secure. Then families will grow and want to stay for life.

To support local businesses to prosper & be a source of employment for Bridgetown / Greenbushes residents, including school leavers.

Trading hours

Try to bring more businesses to the region

Try to get more tourism dollars into town

We need more jobs or else we will just be a big retirement village.

With in this community I have met a vast array of people from very high profile positions. They are withering on the vine!

Harness the rich Human Resources we have in this community. Think Tank. Costs nothing to dream! It is a matter of leadership. I don't believe the SoBG CEO has the ability to do this. He needs to step up or be dismissed.

With the amount of housing in estates, jobs are required - open the tip longer - empty buildings in town are not a draw card.

Tourism and marketing

Tourism & marketing. Fund TV and other media advertising. Encourage establishment of restaurant(s).

A bigger effort could be made to provide more services for tourist in the vacant buildings.

A major attraction to support local businesses on par with Timber Park precinct

A really good tourist attraction to draw families to the area, railway precinct could be fantastic

A weekly market in Summer instead of fortnightly. A Christmas in July festival.

Tourism and marketing

Advertising.

Again - what is the shire doing to support this? It would appear that nothing is being done.

The volunteer tourism group do all the hard work with marketing, newspapers, festivals, etc. The shire cant even provide an acceptable building. What an eyesore.

Did you know that Jasper Jones could have been filmed in Bridgetown? But it was too hard for the shire to cope with the workload. So no movie in town. It went to Pemberton.

With all the money spent on horse trails - is this even marketed? Have you kept records of who actually uses it and how often? Where do these people camp with their horses? This could potentially be a big tourism drawcard, but it isnt being promoted. Possibly because the shire does not involve itself with either marketing and tourism.

Ageing population. Economic growth encouraging visitors which leads into: -Keeping Bridgetown a place of interest to visitors and increase!

Apply for funding options +++. Drop the bureaucratic line when anybody wants to develop tourism options.

Apply for grants to advertise and market our town. Take some tips from Manjimup and Nannup shires. Also the vistitors centre needs to be open all business hours.

Appoint a marketing team with budget and have monthly events and integrated promotion to bring visitors to the area. And link in with regional tourism groups.

As a tourist town our toilet facilities are disgusting.

As per previous comment [Hopefully have more things to do for visitors to the region , more upmarket eateries, quicker and easier building approvals so people want to build and live here]

be creative and use what natural beauty we have... Bridgetown is more than just 'Fridgetown'

Be more active and create more awareness of what Bridgetown has to offer.

Become more involved with the BGBTA, encourage economic growth through supportive planning and building processes and increased tourism.

Being proactive in promoting the region as a touurst destination - may need to engage consultants.

Better facilities for travellers/carvans within the main street to attract tourism etc. perhaps more venue's open to attract. Wineries, Restuarantes, brewery etc.

Brand our region .

Make better pamphlets and information . Collaborate better with Greenbushes

For a town that prides itself on its open gardens , the street scape doesnt reflect that. The hanging baskets are done by volunteers , not the shire .

Bridgetown has NOTHING which makes people want to come here, we are a "through" town where people are on their way to somewhere else. Look/consult with people for opportunities to make people want to come here and stop here

Consultation with the appropriate expert body's in all these areas.

Tourism and marketing

Community Development: The current section does not consult or communicate with the community. Much of their responsibilities are carried out by volunteers. Some responsibilities are micro managed and therefore poorly run eg rec centre, swimming pool and lessons, tourist centre, the section writes plans but doesn't carry them out, fail to consult local experts and fail to return calls. They 'lose' community consultation documents. The boxes I marked unsure indicate that to the best of my knowledge they are run by community organisations.

Continue supporting and development of all forms of tourism

Create a better tourist centre

Develop emerging tourist attracting things like a down hill mountain bike track or unique marathon races

Develop a better tourism plan, promote the area as a place to visit and live

Economic Development. Tourism - Beautiful railway reserve. Cycleways. Image - sell this. Brand ourselves. Business owners forum. Business - support new business initiatives, streamline building processes including BAL.

Encourage people to come visit our shire. Give them a reason to stay and make it accessible for travellers.

Encourage cafe/restaurants etc

Encourage tourist providers to make most of history, environment and arts. more advertising with regional bodies and having active visitors centre open longer hours. More development of attractions so there is some reason to come to Bridgetown and stay for longer.

Ensuring the Shire has the facilities at an acceptable level to support advertising our wonderful scenery and possible facilities to encourage visitors to stay. This will hopefully increase work opportunities for young people and maybe encouragement to seek further education/training to further develop skills.

Fund newspaper, TV and radio advertising of to promote Bridgetown as a tourist destination.

Funding

The Bridgetown Ag. Show needs to be more on the scale of Balingup Field Day and the Medieval Festival The Blues should be about the 'Blues' and not the crash, bang wallop type bands that are playing.

Advertising of event on commercial TV.

More donations to festival organisers.

Funding for mountain bike trails. We have such an amazing natural landscape. Why aren't we capitalising on for the towns benefit? Look at Nannup and Pemberton. They are doing all the right things in this space. Why not replicate it?

Get the economics right and the rest will follow.

Greater buyin from local business

Stronger promotion of the town/ region

Have an information centre that is open when tourists are travelling through, 10am to 4pm 7days a week. Able to make bookings for accommodation

Having more than just a Cidery that has events there should be more than one location for get togethers

Tourism and marketing

Hire good marketing & tourism inspired people get rid of the excess that do very little!!

I don't agree with our Shire's participation in the Local Tourism Association, to the detriment of our own Visitor Centre services. Having one person to manage the Rec Centre, Library & Visitor Centre illustrates the lack of importance that they place on Bridgetown Greenbushes tourism servicing. They expect the Visitor Centre to make money, when it is a service provider.

I just don't see it - well not outside of the town.

I often think we are the silent Shire. On the news tonight I saw a school choir from Merridin doing a promo for the town. Left me thinking I wanted to go there. I have seen numerous RAC articles on S/W travel and often Bridgetown is not mentioned.

Identify what makes the Shire attractive and unique to tourists and develop marketing around this

Improve facilities to welcome tourists to the area and make them stay (eg street beautification, public toilets).

Improve tourism facilities (Basic!) (public toilets, caravan turnarounds, parking).

improving the appearance of the town from driving into town to leaving the town (street appeal)
renovation our old railway station to house the Visitors Centre
improve parking within the town for visitors
get behind individuals who may have ideas to create new events to make them Fantastic instead of ok
generally take an interest

Increase marketing of B-G as a tourist destination.

Infrastructure to main town, give tourists something to do when they get here. Cycle path Btn - Mjp.
Blackwood river development.

Invest in new activities and/or attractions. Encourage and incentivise other tourism related businesses and activities. Beautify the main street and the Blackwood River foreshores.

It needs to be more actively involved in inspiring the community to create and be part of tourism and regional activities. Rather than palm off things such as the visitor's centre they should be on the front foot taking the lead. There should be people in the Shire dedicated to the task of building, encouraging and helping others develop tourism and community businesses, projects and activities.

Keep a well functioning tourist centre. Support the volunteers.

Keep information centre in middle of town.

Keep up the good work

Let's make more use of the river. Better signage and trails. Develop river park.

Local based tourism facility. Library and tourism to move to current shire office - central Shire can relocate.

Make a solid plan for making sure tourism is kept in our beautiful towns agenda. its so important to help groups to start and keep events of every kind started and going. Do not be a hinderance as has happened in the past. adopt a CAN DO attitude

Tourism and marketing

Make the jig-saw gallery the the unique hi-lite of the town. Use jig-saws as a theme for the whole shire. Promote jig-saw making, marketing, and jig-saw tourism. Create jig-saw logo's. Promote jig-saw food, jig-saw sculptures, maps of interesting places to visit on jig-saws. Have competitions, events, weeks or weekends. (find the jig-saw piece). This could be based around shops or businesses or places to visit. Maybe some of the empty shops etc could be used as places to promote, create or use jig-saws.

Make the town inviting to more than travellers who say " that was a pretty town we drove through on our way to - - - "

Caravanners and campers can be a big trade to local business, if invited to stay a while. At present there is no alternatives to the caravan parks, so many will drive on and stop further down the road.

There is not 'dump point' for emptying toilet effluent for these travellers, other than within the caravan park. These days as a public health issue, this is as essential as public toilets in towns, and easier to maintain.

Market Bridgetown as a sole place to visit - break away from SW Tourism Council

Market region and create tourist attractions related to natural environment and the historical significance of the region. Tourist rail over bridge.

More accomodation, more events, and development of facilities (like mountain bike trails) that will attract a world wide audience. All this whilst promoting Bridgetown for Bridgetown's identity. (Not just the cold)

More activities would attract more visitors therefore provide jobs and other small business.

More advertising is needed to encourage visitors, such as the mine open pit lookout.

More marketing to promote town

More promotion of the town

More thought in ways to present the Blackwood River to encourage tourism and locals to use it more.

Need to develop tourism attractiosn and opportunities to attract dollars to town and surrounding areas. Need to develop a "can do" attitude and approach.

Need to promote tourism - walkways need upgrading. New walk trails with signage.

Neighbouring, shires have actively/successfully attracted funding for services and tourism projects. Both have had a positive effect in job creation - we need to do the same. - we need to seek grants and funding!

Never see Bridgy advertised for a holiday destination. More advertising.

New building in more accessble area for Tourist Bureau.

New visitor tourism centre on the existing site or the park opposite
Professional management and marketing of our area (Just our area)
Public and industry consultation and use all mean available

No visual or readily information available in front of existing heritage buildings

Tourism and marketing

Part of my work has been as a Manager of a Visitor Centre elsewhere. I know that many other areas of our beautiful state have promoted themselves and are getting visitors. For approx 8 years not once did I see any promotion shared from Bridgetown. I do know that visitors do come to visit, but more are needed to not only keep current businesses going but to build and focus on the future to get more people to visit and perhaps live and work there. If ever there was an opening to assist in this, I would put my hand up.

Pass visitor centre to CRC.

People like information of what is going on in the community so we need brochures and other information.

Put Bridgetown on the map. I know a lot of locals think tourists are a nuisance in their small town but they spend money and we need them to keep the businesses afloat. Better markets, craft fairs etc. Advertise them widely and bring people to our town

Put more information out there for Tourism and more information around the town eg boards and signs to tell people where things are and places to see.

See answer to first choice. [Easing restrictions and fees for new ventures. Promote and facilitate the establishment of new arts and cultural ventures. Provide adequate promotional information to visitors every day of the week.]

Shire senior personnel can listen to tourist service providers and act on their needs rather than perusing their personnel objectives.

Reduce the cost of membership to the Bridgetown Tourist association which is quite high with little benefit and return to members.

Sort out the visitors centre

Start doing some publicity for the area on a regular basis. It's one of the main industries in town and nothing is done by the shire to encourage people to come here. The information centre is a perfect example of the lack of spending given to the area

Start with the Visitor Centre- such an embarrassing "first impression" to many visitors

Support for the LTO

The area needs to be promoted more in tourism to attract more people to the area.

the let them come moto doesn't work!

other than drinking coffee from one of 3 venues there is nothing for the tourist to do. seniors have no safe way to cross the highway.

Build the heavy vehicle bypass

The LTO is a failure and not working for local business. Horse trials and the like are ok but most people come in for one or two days and want to see a vibrant retail strip, have somewhere to eat and head back to their accommodation. The Visitors Centre should be in the centre of town and managed like business, rather than a run down information source. Bridgetown is totally destroying the Bridgetown i the Winter Brand that took so many years to build. Take leadership in this area and do not let a small amount of very loud people take control - or more and more businesses with means will just continue to do their own things.

The tourist (visitors centre) is dull, boring & needs improvement i.e. staff don't know much.

Tourism and marketing

There needs to be more attractions for tourism, farm stay accommodation often provide their own attractions for their guests but there is little in Bridgetown for families to enjoy.

This will stimulate the economy and allow businesses to grow and take on more responsibility to make the area vibrant and engaging

Tourism & marketing - need to promote Bridgetown as the perfect "base camp" to wander out yonder.
Tourism & marketing = growth opportunity.

Tourism & Marketing - We need to be applying for all these grants that every other town surrounding us does. Nannup and Manjimup are so proactive to upgrading facilities and promoting their towns and we never seem to get anything and never advertise or promote the area.

Tourism and marketing - a wildflower trail tour and education of our local areas by car, on foot or cycling and photographic opportunities, artistic opportunities.

Tourism and marketing need a total overhaul e.g. new visitors centre.

Tourism and Marketing. Develop a marketing identity to promote both produce and the natural environment to others. Encourage growth that would attract tourists - chalets, archery park, train rides, agricultural museum etc.

Tourism and marketing. Visitors Centre is important for visitors. It should be promoted rather than discouraged.

Tourism creates jobs.

Tourism is the 'life blood' to this town/region in my opinion. Whilst people in the city areas have heard of the town(s) they offer tourists. A far greater promotion/exposure required. Many of my friends in Perth haven't heard of the Blues!

Tourism which creates jobs will benefit. People travel to places that are different from their usual place of habitat eg Perth suburb. Preserving our historical buildings such as the railway station. Local tourism does not want to travel this far to see just another Perth suburb.

Tourism. Need a lot more effort in promoting the Shire. Presently it is merely a token effort due to lack of interest from top management.

Tourism. Tourist bureau moved to railway station near caravan parking. Nice walking paths into town.

Tourism/marketing - with little industry in our shire these days this should be the Shire's number one priority promoting Bridgetown/Greenbushes to facilitate growth, employment and development.

Tourism: make the VC financial viable. Reduce joining fees. Join with LTO.

Tourist businesses are few. The shire should be encouraging tourism.

Trading hours

Upgrade of tourist info centre and services (advocate) attract developer to introduction option of lifestyle village.

Tourism and marketing

Visitor Centre and Jigsaw Gallery well managed and promoted.
Support of LTO and promotion of the area.
Improve signage and public toilets.

Visitor Centre upgrade and move to a better location. Clean toilets for visitors. Shire to be more invested in promoting/advertising events that bring in visitors.

We are supposed to be a heritage town, so encourage businesses to maintain (paint etc) in a "heritage" manner, have better info regarding town & residents history. Have a proper museum and an up to date visitors centre.

What is Bridgetown striving to be, if its a tourist town then concentrate on doing up the town with more tourist attractions that will draw more people, if its just a place to live then create more entertainment & shopping venues for local people

Access to education and training opportunities

A school for Year 11 and 12 students?

Bridgetown needs to extend the District High School to become a Senior High School. We're losing our best and brightest, and all the money spent on these age groups, without this infrastructure.

Consult teachers in local schools.

Education and training - I'd like ther to be more courses offered for adult learning. I think it would give more interest for the 18-35 year age group.

Education and training (apprenticship)

Education with a goal not just university degrees. Evening classes using classrooms.

Encourage RTO's to offer education and training in Bridgetown for local and surrounding residents.
Make Bridgetown the hub for local training

Have years 11 and 12 at Bridgetown High School.

Improvement for youth to gain employment in the area by providing training AND opportunities for business.

Main role for Council here is advocacy.

Far too easy in our geographic position to run buses to Manjimup and Bunbury than to push to extend the services provided in Bridgetown.

Reputation of current facilities in Bridgetown does not auger well for the future. It actually hinders the Town's development.

A solid approach from Council and if it got of the ground CCI in the town would be a great !

New and prospective land owners are seeking places to live with schools with HIGH reputations. Rankings of schools are readily available. Schools report on their successes and failures. When was the last time a copy of our local schools report was tabled and discussed in SoBG?

More tertiary training - TAFE.

Access to education and training opportunities

Promote accessible courses and encourage local workshops to youth for work guidance. Build the confidence in our youth offering skills building resilience and confidence. "Business buddy" system offering work placement not just during school work placement time slots.

The Shire to have more workshops etc to educate people and help with their welfare.

To include year 11/12 at the high school