

# Shire CONNECT

## State Government Investment in Bridgetown & Greenbushes

published 13 Sep 2021

We recently hosted two State Government Ministers, who were in town announcing State Government investment in local projects.

The Hon. Reece Whitby, MLA, Minister for Emergency Services; Racing and Gaming, Small Business; Volunteering was in town on 26 August 2021 with Warren Blackwood MLA Jane Kelsbie to present \$282,500 to assist with the redevelopment of the Bridgetown and Greenbushes Railway Stations for volunteering and community use.

A few days later on 1 September Youth Minister Dave Kelly joined Jane Kelsbie in presenting grant

funding of \$297,274 to Blackwood Youth Action (BYA) to fund renovations and fitting out of the former Police Sargent's house as a youth space, specifically targeting at-risk and marginalised young people.

Minister Kelly and Minister Whitby took the opportunity while in town to meet with Shire President John Nicholas and CEO Tim Clynych to discuss the Shire's Growth Strategy.

### In this edition...

- ♦ September Council Meeting Outcomes
- ♦ "But My Dog is Friendly" Public Service Announcement
- ♦ Funding for Safer Roads
- ♦ Community Information Sundowner a Success
- ♦ Special Council Meeting - Mine Camp
- ♦ Bridle Trail Construction Complete
- ♦ Where \$100 of Rates Goes
- ♦ Council Election & Shire Ward Boundaries
- ♦ We're a Waterwise Council

### Want to be in the know?

To subscribe to this newsletter, access additional news stories, read Council meeting agendas, minutes, and much more, visit our website:

[www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au](http://www.bridgetown.wa.gov.au)



## Heartbeat of Rural Australia

published 17 Sep 2021

We know how vital our not for profit organizations and community groups are in providing for the social, mental, physical and emotional health and wellbeing of our residents. Thankfully, so does the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)!

FRRR is a charitable funding body that recognises the last couple of years have been tough for rural based not for profit, community and sporting groups and want to expand their understanding of those challenges. For example the impacts from COVID-19 the volunteer burn out is impacting many groups and funding is hard to come by. FRRR has recently launched a research study called,

Heartbeat of Rural Australia.

This is an opportunity for you to share the purpose, role, function and experience of your group(s) over the last 18 months and to convey the needs of your group(s) moving forward.

The findings of the research study will be shared to help organisations better advocate for support for sustainability and growth, and inform governments, philanthropy, and business about the specific needs of community organisations outside metropolitan areas. So please, take the time and opportunity to have your voice heard!

Website: [frrr.org.au/heartbeat/](http://frrr.org.au/heartbeat/)

Phone: 03 5430 2399

## September Council Meeting Outcomes

published 8 Oct 2021

Council meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month. A range of issues were addressed by Council at the September meeting including:

- Pest Plants Repeal Local Law 2021

- Acceptance of Grant Funding and Allocation of Matched Funding – Winnejump Road
- Proposed New Local Planning Policy
- Review of Aquatics Complex Season
- Review and Reprint of Trails Booklets

Council determined to make no changes with regard to the

Aquatics Complex Season for the forthcoming summer (2021/2022) but to undertake further consultation with the community regarding options to possibly extend the aquatics season for next, and subsequent, summers.

You can read the meeting agenda (with relevant attachments to officer reports) and formal minutes (outcomes) of the meeting at the Bridgetown Library.

## "But My Dog is Friendly" Public Service Announcement

published 21 Sep 2021

One of the most common issues (and complaints) our Ranger receives regarding dogs is owners not having their dog contained (no matter how friendly he or she might be!). It is courteous and responsible to remember that other dogs might need space and to keep our dogs on lead (unless in an off lead exercise area).

As dog owners we have no doubt experienced health and training challenges from time to time. If we can remember this, and be aware that other dogs and dog owners might be facing some of those challenges such as:

- leash reactivity
- be a service or working dogs
- injuries, disease or painful physical conditions
- intolerance of other animals
- recovery from surgery
- fearful of unfamiliar or rowdy dogs
- aging and elderly
- learning self-control around other dogs

By remembering that at times all dogs are in need of space we can better support our dog owning community by ensuring our dogs are restrained when in public areas (unless in a designated off lead exercise area).

## Community Information Sundowner a Success

published 1 Sep 2021

Under festoon lights, we were joined by around 65 community members for the Community Sundowner. Guests received a copy of the newly published Corporate Business Plan (CBP) to take home to review. The CBP was informed by the feedback we received in 2020 from you through the Scorecard Survey and Community Workshops. The CBP identifies key projects and direction for the next 4 years.

After an introduction to the presentation by the Shire President and Lisa Lough, the consultant who joined us

previously for the Scorecard Community Workshops, gave a presentation on the process to date and what will happen moving forward.

Following the presentation, attendees were then able to ask questions of both Councillors and Shire officers at service specific information stalls. This was a highly interactive event for the community. Of attendees who completed the event survey, 100% would "like it to be an annual event" and "found the session useful" while 91% found that they "have a better understanding of Shire roles, responsibilities and future plans."

You can view the CBP at the Bridgetown Library and other

## Funding for Safer Roads

published 10 Sep 2021

To improve road safety across the nation, the Australian government has committed \$1.1 billion to the Black Spot Program until 2023-24. The government investment is to "ensure Australians get home sooner and safer."

Under this program, we will receive \$409,650 for an upgrade of Turner Road between Giblett Road and Mattamattup Street. The funds will be used to asphalt, install barrier kerbing, line marking, reflector raised pavement markers, guideposts, advance warning signage, barriers for culverts and to remove trees which impede driving sightlines. This work is fully funded by the Black Spot Program.

strategic plans on our new Strategic Planning webpage which contains a direct feedback portal for you to continue to give us feedback specifically on our strategic planning.





## Special Council Meeting - Mine Camp

published 24 Sep 2021

There was a strong turn out in the gallery for the last Special Council Meeting which was called to finalize the application we received from Talison Lithium Mine to extend the permitted uses and timelines for the operations of the mine camp in North Greenbushes.

The issue impacts on a range of community interest groups and residents including nearby residents, local business and tourism operators as well as the

mine operations. While the final decision by Council might not have pleased everyone to the extent they might have preferred, it is hoped that the decision to allow additional uses (in terms of who can stay at the mine camp) and the timeline for the operation of the mine camp (for an additional 2 years) is a compromise that meets the majority of the needs across the community. You can read the full agenda report and decision at the Bridgetown Library.

## Where \$100 of Rates Goes

published 29 Sep 2021

Your rates are used to pay a proportionate share of what we need to provide local services and facilities. Every Shire provides services to its own unique, diverse and changing community needs.

At our recent Community Sundowner we shared an infographic that showed a breakdown of how every \$100 of rates is used.



## Council Election & Shire Ward Boundaries

published 14 Sep 2021

For the upcoming election in 16 October 2021, North and South wards will no longer apply. This means, candidates nominate to represent to the whole of the Shire district.

You can read our earlier news article regarding why this change was made here. Advantages of the changes to our ward structure are:

- Members of the community who wish to speak to a councillor will feel able to speak to any councillor not just one from their ward
- Councillors are required to represent by legislation all electors, ratepayers and residents in the district, not just those in a specific ward.

## Bridle Trail Construction Complete

published 9 Sep 2021

Construction has finished on the Warren Blackwood Stock Route, a 320km bridle trail based on the historic stock driving routes of regional pioneering farming families. This is the first regional bridle trail in WA.

The trail meanders through some of the most picturesque countryside in the South West, through Karri and Jarrah forests and farm land toward the South and west coasts. The trail includes 8 equine-friendly camp sites 40km apart along the route, with a few self-reliant sections of the trail toward the coast. The bridle trail traverses 3 local governments, land managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Main Roads and the Department of Water.

The Warren Blackwood Stock Route construction was projected managed by us on behalf of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils who now manage the trail. It was funded by the South West Development Commission, the feasibility and planning was funded by Lotterywest in partnership with Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. Lotterywest also funded trail signage and marketing as well as oral histories from 6 of the pioneering families of the region (available at each of the regional libraries). We are delighted with trail user feedback.



## Community Citizen of the Year Awards



**If you know someone, or a group,  
doing great things in our community,  
nominate them for a 2022 Australia Day Award.**

**There are four categories open:**

- ▶ **Citizen of the Year**
- ▶ **Youth Citizen of the Year**
- ▶ **Senior Citizen of the Year**
- ▶ **Active Citizenship (Group or Event)**

**Nominations close 31 October 2021 | [citizenshipawards.com.au](https://citizenshipawards.com.au)**  
**Local Government Recognising Community Champions**

## We're a Waterwise Council

published: 23 Sep 2021

Did you know that we were endorsed as a Waterwise Shire Council in February 2021? We have joined 64 local governments across WA to take Part in the Waterwise Council Program. This program is a partnership between Water Corporation, Department of Water & Environmental Regulation and participating Shires.

To achieve this endorsement we were required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding which outlined our commitment to the Waterwise Program, create an action plan to review our current water sources and identify potential improvements as well as undertake training in landscaping irrigation and water auditing. If you would like to learn more about the Shire Council's Waterwise Program please contact Alexa Tunmer.

Being a Waterwise Community is something we can all participate in! Learn about ways you can tips for simple ways you can save water.

Alexa Tunmer, Waste & Environmental Officer  
Email: [ATunmer@bridgetown.wa.gov.au](mailto:ATunmer@bridgetown.wa.gov.au)  
Phone: (08) 9761 0800



**STRATEGIC COMMUNITY  
PLAN**

**CORPORATE BUSINESS  
PLAN**



# What's On

## BRIDGETOWN LEISURE CENTRE

Indoor Soccer (Teens)

Fridays 6pm to 7:15pm

Social Mixed Volleyball

Wednesdays 6pm to 9pm

## BRIDGETOWN FITNESS CENTRE

Fit4Life

Mondays & Fridays 10:30am to 11:30am

Fit4Life Circuit

Tuesdays & Fridays 10:30am to 11:30am

Fit4Life TeenFit

Tuesdays & Fridays 4pm to 4:45pm

## BRIDGETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Canasta (Bolivia) Card Players

Mondays noon to 5pm

Tuesday Chats

Tuesdays 11am to 1pm

Games with Kaye

Tuesdays 3:15pm to 5pm

Rhyme Time

Wednesdays 10:15am - 11am

Friendship Club (Contact Enable for places)

Thursdays 10am to 2pm

Bridgetown & Manjimup Stamp & Coin Club

1st Thursday of every month  
4:30pm to 7pm

Jigsaw Club

Thursdays 5pm to 7pm

Bridgetown Critique

Fridays 10am to noon

Pen & Publish

Fridays (fortnightly) 10am to 11:30am

Mah-jong

Fridays 1pm to 4pm

Games Club (Dungeons & Dragons)

Saturdays 9am to noon

*Contact the Library for more information  
on (08) 9761 2503 or [library@bridgetown.wa.gov.au](mailto:library@bridgetown.wa.gov.au)*