

## Gladstone Bowls Club Inc

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Wednesday, 26 February 2020

Ms Carly Quinn  
General Manager Strategy and Transformation  
Gladstone Regional Council  
PO Box 29  
Gladstone Qld 4680

Your reference PR3.1

Dear Carly,

In response to your request for further information in relation to the proposal to build a Military Museum in the image of a Slouch Hat and further to information discussed with Tegan McDonald and Mayor Matt Burnett, I offer the following for your information.

The concept of building a Military Museum in the image of a Slouch Hat was first raised with your council approximately 5 years ago and concept drawings have been made available to councillors for their perusal. The issue has always been to secure a suitable site and over the past five years many sites in Gladstone have been considered and rejected for reasons of availability or practicality.

Recently during discussions regarding a site, it was suggested that Anzac Park would be the best site because of its proximity to the Cenotaph and the Gladstone Bowls Club which houses the Gladstone RSL Sub Branch Administration and Drop In Centre.

The idea for a Military Museum was first developed by Graham McVean and Steve Jones (deceased) as an addition to the Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre at Gatton Queensland. Mr Jones was the Mayor of Gatton and Graham McVean the Chair of the Queensland Transport Museum which is housed within the \$14million Cultural Centre. When Steve Jones passed the Lockyer Valley Regional Council ceased to have any interest in proceeding with the concept. The copyright of the drawings has always belonged to Graham McVean who paid for them in 2010.

Tim Greer of Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects was commissioned to produce suitable design documents based on work they had undertaken for the Australian War Memorial and other public works across Australia.

The proposal to Gladstone Regional Council is that the proponents be as follows;

Gladstone Bowls Club Inc. Graham McVean and Gladstone Regional Council

It is proposed that the Museum building be situated on the corner of Goonoon and Ferris Streets Gladstone overlooking the Cenotaph and be connected to the Gladstone Bowls Club via a series of covered walkways featuring a Military Walk of Fame. All amenities such as toilets and refreshment facilities will be housed in the Bowls Club.

It is envisaged that Council will retain Trusteeship of the parcel of land that the Slouch Hat Museum will be built on and Council will enter into a long lease with the GBC for use and management of the Museum.

The Gladstone Bowls Club Inc. has had extensive talks with the Gladstone RSL Sub Branch and it is generally agreed that the Gladstone Sub Branch will enter into an agreement with GBC to assist with manning the complex with volunteer workers.

After consultation with Tim Greer of Architects TZG an agreement has been reached for TZG to undertake a full site inspection, business case, scoping study including preliminary costings and cost benefit analysis taking into consideration of the benefits such a project will have on the economy of Gladstone and Central Queensland. The cost quoted for this report will be circa \$65000. We feel it would be prudent to allow a further \$10000 for costs associated with lobbying the State and Federal Governments for the necessary funding to build the Museum.

Any costs to date involving the Concept Drawings have been absorbed by Graham McVean who is not looking for any reimbursement.

Early discussion with the Architects indicates a total project cost of between \$10 to \$15million but depending on funding the project is scalable.

Should you wish to further discuss this proposal please give me a call.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G McVean', written in a cursive style.

Graham McVean

Chair

Gladstone Bowls Club Inc.