

ITEM: 25

SUBJECT: THE HISTORIC STATION MASTERS COTTAGE – GLENBROOK

FILE NO: F00088

By Councillor Frappell:

That a report come to Council detailing possible options and actions:

1. To bring the former Station Master's Cottage at Glenbrook on the Great Western Highway into public ownership either as Crown land or Council owned land;
2. If acquisition of the land is not an option the report include the possibility of leasing the site for use by the Glenbrook & District Historical Society;
3. The possibility of the Cottage being occupied and managed by the Glenbrook & District Historical Society to provide static local historic displays; and
4. Such displays and the Cottage being marketed and managed as a Tourist attraction.

Background

The Cottage is located at 78 Great Western Highway Glenbrook, DP 823992, within the site occupied by the Caltex Garage Glenbrook.

The land is in private ownership.

There may be an opportunity for the owners of the land to agree to exchange the land occupied by the Cottage for Council owned land adjoining the garage site to the west (possibly road).

There is also the possibility that the Department of Lands may agree to acquire the land occupied by the Cottage (payment by way of a grant from the Public Reserves Management Fund) and establish a Public Reserve over the site. Such a Reserve could be managed by the Glenbrook & District Historical Society or by Council.

History of the Cottage

The following item has been supplied by Tim Miers, President, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc.



Pointsman's Cottage Glenbrook 1871

The Pointsman's Cottage was built in 1871 and became the Station Master's house in 1879. It was built to house the Pointsman who changed the points to the siding on the single line. After the 1913 deviation was complete the Stationmaster still lived there.

In 1926 the Main Roads Board built the Western Highway on the old railway bed. In 1927 Charlie Forrester bought the Pointsman's Cottage and opened up the Glenbrook Garage. There were many owners over the years. Ampol then bought it having many tenants. It was restored in 1996 when the new service station was developed. The property is now owned by Caltex.

As President of the Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc. I and my fellow members would like to see the Pointsman's Cottage developed as "Glenbrook Museum". We feel this would be an advantage to Caltex and the Blue Mountains City Council as the "Gateway to the Blue Mountains". It would also be a secure place to house the Historical Society's irreplaceable historical documents and papers including memorabilia items.

Tim Miers
President, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc.

16 May 2008

ITEM NO: 26

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSALS FOR SPRINGWOOD TOWNSHIP

FILE NO: F00088

By Councillor McInnes:

That Council receive a report, at the next Council meeting, with regards to the mechanisms and implications of slowing the process of assessing the proposals for Springwood Township to allow for thorough consultation with the community.

Comment

There has been considerable opposition from the community to any large scale shopping development in the town and strong sense that residents have been excluded from the process. In order to allay these concerns a more measured and consultative approach is appropriate.