

As per the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 October 2021, public comment is sought for the proposed naming of Lot 500 Brockman Street, Pemberton to “Balang Miya Pemberton Community Hub”.

The proposal is details below.

BACKGROUND:

The Pemberton Community Co-location Project (‘the Project’) is a collaboration of seven (7) community not-for-profit groups in Pemberton working towards a ‘fit-for-purpose’ solution. These groups/services are:

- Pemberton Public Library;
- Pemberton Community Resource Centre;
- Pemberton Visitor Centre;
- Pemberton Heritage & History Group;
- Pemberton Arts Group;
- Returned & Services League Pemberton Sub-branch; and
- Pemberton Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

This Project aims to address a number of issues in current facilities and operations. The primary focus is to deliver long term surety to the Pemberton community that key services will continue.

The building construction is currently underway and is anticipated to be completed mid-2022.

Since the project’s inception, there has been a stakeholder group whom regularly meet. This stakeholder group currently meet monthly and have a single representative from each group/service, facilitated by a Shire officer(s). This stakeholder group have deliberated over a formal location name that encompasses the nature of the development.

The purpose of this report is to propose a location name to go to public consultation for consideration.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

Nil.

COMMENT (Includes Options):

The stakeholder representative group have proposed the following name for the location:

Balang Miya Pemberton Community Hub

Balang Miya is Bibbulmun-Noongar language from the Traditional Custodians on the land on which Pemberton stands. *Balang* means ‘many’ and *Miya* means ‘dwelling’, together meaning ‘many houses’ representing the collective nature of the site being the home of many community services. The traditional language component of the name was originally proposed by Noongar Elder Suzanne Kelly.

The stakeholder group believe it is important for the Bibbulmun-Noongar language to form part of the name to acknowledge and embrace the language and culture of the Traditional Custodians of the land. Further the proposal is in keeping with the Shire of Manjimup's Draft Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) intentions in raising awareness and advocating for inclusiveness.

If endorsed, the proposed name would be displayed in signage on the building(s), accompanied by wayfinding and information signage detailing the residents within the location, opening hours etc. The name will also be used as the formal reference for the site (e.g. addressing letters, future Council reports etc.).

In addition to the location signage, signage (new and/or original) will be on the existing buildings; the RSL Hall and Old Infant Health Centre, to ensure ongoing recognition of these buildings and their original uses.

Note the naming of this location is the responsibility of the Shire of Manjimup only i.e. no State governing body have management/responsibility of the naming of Shire owned community infrastructure. Nonetheless the process is informed by Landgate's Aboriginal Naming Guidelines to ensure best practice in location naming. The key governing document in this matter then is Shire policy 3.1.6 Naming of Shire Assets, Tree Plantings, Memorials and Plaques (attached). The proposed name meets the criteria listed in section 1 of this policy. As per the Policy, the following process is proposed:

- a) The proposed name is released for public consultation inclusive of direct consultation with the Shire's Reconciliation Action Plan Focus Group and the South West Sea and Land Council; and
- b) Following the consultation process, a further report be prepared for Council consideration having regard to the submissions received.

ATTACHMENT: 9.9.3(1)

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

Local Government Act 1995.

POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The proposed location name is consistent with the following recommendations of the Shire's Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031:

- C1. Encourage co-locations, partnerships and resource sharing to deliver community services.*
- C23. Work with stakeholders to preserve and share local indigenous tradition and culture, including identified sites of significance.*

The proposed name and process for naming is in keeping with Shire of Manjimup Policy 3.1.6 Naming of Shire Assets, Tree Plantings, Memorials and Plaques.

ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Cost for establishment of signage is built into existing project funding, inclusive of proposed grant funding pursuits.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Environmental: Nil.

Economic: Nil.

Social: The proposed name will have a positive step towards the Shire's Reconciliation goals, promoting and advocating for inclusivity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within all communities. The name itself dually connects both the traditional custodians and the community today.