

Roleystone Theatre

Background

In February 2018 the Roleystone Theatre was closed for safety reasons. The integrity of the building had deteriorated to a point where it could no longer be repaired and major structural work is now required in order for it to reopen for any purpose.

In summary;

- A 110sqm public hall was built in 1922 with funds raised by the Roleystone Progress Association
- Over ensuing decades the hall became home for what is now the Roleystone Theatre Group with extensions added to the building to what has become a 520sqm theatre. While not an ideal configuration, the theatre has been used by RTG over the past 85 years or so to present productions from small scale theatre to large scale musicals
- Significant community interest has been generated following the closure of the theatre with fairly unanimous support for the theatre to be retained
- A report was considered by Council's Community Services committee on 4/12/18 which outlined the history of the building, the activities on the Roleystone Theatre Group, the importance of the building to the history of the development of the area and options for Council to consider for the future. **(The report, including preliminary concept plans is attached)** Committee's recommendations are to be considered by the full Council meeting on 17/12/18 where a decision on next steps will be made. For convenience the recommendation of Committee which is detailed in the attached report is;

RECOMMEND

C37/12/18

That Council:

- 1. Commit to the reopening of the Roleystone Theatre for occupation and use;**
- 2. Proceed with finalising a design that reflects the current scale, noting:**
 - a) The main hall is to be repaired; and**
 - b) Flytower to be restored or replaced; and**
 - c) Other areas of the building to be rebuilt to similar sizes at current standards;**
- 3. Consider and seek funding sources in preparation for consideration as part of the 2019/20 budget;**
- 4. Consider user arrangements that support the Roleystone Theatre Group as a primary tenant but considers opportunities for others.**
- 5. Commission a heritage assessment and impact statement.**

**Moved Cr M Geary
MOTION CARRIED**

(7/0)

