

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Gawler



Contact: Mayor Karen Redman

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19 August 2019

Mr Steve Barilla
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Dear Steve

Re: Rotary Club of Gawler support for Gawler Sport & Community Centre

Further to our meeting held on 5 August 2019, with past Presidents, Mr Bob Ahrens, Mr Brian Burt and Mr Henry Inat, Town of Gawler Chief Executive Officer, I write to thank you for the significant contribution that the Rotary Club of Gawler has made to the Gawler community and in particular to the Gawler Sport & Community Centre.

The Rotary Club of Gawler have been instrumental in the developments that have occurred to what was the Gawler Recreation Centre, now known as the Gawler Sport & Community Centre. In 1978 the club conducted a fundraiser event, with \$5,000 of the money raised being earmarked for the new Recreation Centre.

This commenced the ongoing relationship the Club continues to have with the facility today, with weekly meetings still being held in the Rotary Room at the Centre. The Rotary Club was instrumental in the facility extensions in the 1980s and again in 2007, while also contributing additional equipment and infrastructure including the stage that was installed in the stadium in 1995.

As discussed, the stage was a wonderful addition to the 'Recreation Centre' at this time. A number of significant capital improvement projects have occurred recently, or are scheduled for this financial year within the Gawler Sport & Community Centre stadium. The replacement of the entire stadium roof and installation of energy efficient LED lighting have been completed over the past eighteen months. The resurfacing of the stadium floor and investigations into the replacement of the solomite insulation with efficient glass wool insulation are currently progressing, with works planned around Christmas 2019.

A component of the planning for these projects has seen Council undertake a range of investigations related to the remediation of the stage located within the stadium. This process has included consulting with, and seeking advice from a number of members of the Rotary Club of Gawler given the link and knowledge club members have regarding the stage. These investigations have confirmed that there are numerous factors requiring immediate attention to ensure that the stage is able to be safely utilised on an ongoing basis, with the estimated cost to rectify the identified issues in excess of \$100,000. Given the significant capital cost for the remediation and alternative staging options being available and cost effective, such as the use of the portable 'bump in, bump out' stage housed at the Gawler Civic Centre, and as you are aware, Council has determined that the stage will be removed in preparation for the other capital projects within the stadium.

As discussed and agreed the stage at the Gawler Recreation and Community Centre which has been removed on 12 and 13 August will be returned to the Rotary Club for its further use and benefit of the local community. I sincerely thank you for the discussions we had in this regard.

Local Service Clubs have a long history in supporting local communities, as well as further afield, providing vital support to communities around the globe. Community members coming together are able to achieve amazing outcomes and the Rotary Club of Gawler is no exception. The time, energy and skills that the many volunteers within the Rotary Club of Gawler give so willingly truly improve this great town and the community that calls it home.

I can also confirm that I will advocate for inclusion as a budget bid for the 2020/21 financial year, a contemporary 'bump in, bump out' stage that will complement our existing equipment recently purchased for the Civic Centre and to be located at the Recreation and Community Centre. This allows for future community events and performances to be held in the Centre.

I sincerely thank you and Rotary's contribution to the Gawler community and your significant involvement in the development of the Gawler Sport & Community Centre. I look forward to continuing our valuable relationship and working together in future initiatives and events.

Kind regards



Karen Redman
Mayor

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