

## Community Age Services Forum

Tuesday, 1 December 2020 6pm -8pm

### Forum Agenda:

Ageing does not mean the same thing to everyone.

What does it mean to you? - Community members were invited to be a part of this conversation with the Shire.

Twenty-Seven people attended, including Cr Hughes, Cr Ross, Cr Curtis and Cr Angus. Also in attendance were the Shire CEO and Principal Planner. The Shire Community Development Coordinator facilitated the workshop.

Through an appreciative inquiry approach, participants were asked to focus on what Ageing in place means to them to assist us in identifying what our community priorities should be.

### Workshop outcomes

**Discovery** – What is it that makes the Shire of Chittering a place where you want to grow old? e.g. community linkages, intergenerational exchange at our community venues such as Chinkabee and at community events, access to nature, the beauty of the place, proximity to metro, family, friends, people who are and stop to ask after me, knowing a lot of people etc.)

Participants were asked to break out in small groups for the **Discovery** phase and to then feedback to the whole group with their comments. The outcomes of this phase were:

- Community Spirit
- Community links and support
- It's not Perth –not in the rat race, we like the country living
- Localised solutions
- Community bus service
- Family & friends
- A strong community – that comes together in times of need
- Rural lifestyle
- Always someone you know
- Shops are close / facilities are easy to access
- Community wants to be a part of things – people are not apathetic
- Satellite town with the proximity to the metro area
- Quiet atmosphere
- Safety for those living alone
- 55 yr. old + groups
- Low crime rate

**Dream** – what could be? Imagine the potential for aging in Chittering, what could this be?

What have you seen or heard of that has inspired or motivated you to think about your options for aging in the Shire of Chittering.

(Cluster housing examples, Jurien Bay Residential facility, community resource centres, wellbeing hubs, neighbourhood hubs, Dementia Café, Dementia friendly town etc.)

What exists within our community that could be built on?

What else would you need to make Ageing in Chittering a reality for you?

Participants were asked to break out in small groups for the **Dream** phase and to then feedback to the whole group with their comments.

- Open up smaller lots - not such a large lot to look after
- Not having to leave the area with solutions to stop this
- Medical centre linkages with Ferguson House
- A regional high care facility
- Winding down options – cluster housing and single living within the community designed for privacy from neighbours, available in each location
- Options for granny flats on family properties
- Stay at home with wrap around supports
- Lots of footpaths – if you don't use it you lose it!
- Community transport – especially to access medical services
- Services property – palliative support
- Choice of buying or leasing independent housing
- Home delivery options – supporting local businesses
- Build on strong community networks to and establish community patrons – support each other in times of need
- Establish a community connector / liaison point.

### **Design** – what should be?

Drawing on what we have already discussed, what do you think has real, positive potential for our community?

Let's identify these. Can we reach some consensus on what's needed?

Breakout groups then considered the **Design** phase prior to discussions as a whole group where we identified what we could reach consensus on as a community to move forward on.

- Cluster homes spread around the community (potentially transportable) low entry point, modern and convenient to services. Aiming for below \$200,000 + site and other on costs.
- When built within the town site this provides interconnections and age friendly community, with no need to build separate communal facilities for aged living as this is provided by the townsite.
- Non asset teste, rental or lease for life
- Small blocks clustered in close proximity to enable best use of service supports coming into the home
- Service systems to support aging at home
- Community transport
- Community gardens
- Support from local businesses to provide home delivery services
- Need options to provide all life stages and needs that are commercially viable, sustainable and stimulate the local economy
- Just build something – we have been talking about this for too long!

### **Destiny** – what will we do?

What vision are we working towards? Is it Ageing in Place! Or something else?

What systems or structures will we need to support this?

Who are the stakeholders that we need to make this happen?

Do you want to remain involved in this? How can we do this?

Based on the above discussion, participants were asked to identify what they felt was the vision for our community.

***“We want to live in our community for as long as possible”***

Stakeholders important to this vision include:

- The Shire of Chittering - talk to other Shires. Look at land, viability and costings. Survey the community about options and provide costings for these options
- Establish a community liaison group – liaise with Government and Service providers
- Service providers – they will enable the vision
- Potential tenants – what they want and are prepared to pay
- Medical providers – keep us alive and provide advise
- Residents and Ratepayers – fund any shortfall and approach businesses and service to identify need and ask them to do something about it. Drum up support for ideas, answer surveys, and consider what are the conditions that will enable them to move into another housing option. Talk to people.
- Utility providers – what services they can provide
- A community chest fund – managed by a community organization or the Shire.

#### **Where to next?**

- Feedback the outcomes of this forum to the Chittering Health Advisory Group and Shire Council for consideration and development of the Bindoon Masterplan.
- Inform the activities and projects of the Shire Community Development Team
- Inform the review of the Shire LTFP and related strategic documents
- Any other actions identified in the Destiny phase.