

Media Release



Shire of
Donnybrook Balingup

Local contractor announced for Donnybrook's central heritage project

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South-west builders Perkins will pave the way for delivery of the Donnybrook Town Centre Revitalisation Project after being announced as the successful contractor for the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup's latest project.

The preferred tenderer for the iconic heritage project was approved at the Council Meeting held in May and contract negotiations between the Shire and Perkins Builders were finalised this week.

Manager Director Dan Perkins said, "Perkins is extremely pleased to be involved in this important community project which not only recognises and preserves the cultural heritage of Donnybrook but also provides business and employment opportunities for the region."

Perkins Builders, a south-west family owned company, with its land interests within the Shire, has been involved in several major projects in the area recently, including the recent expansion and upgrade to Donnybrook IGA and the farmhouse at Bangadang Farm.

Shire President Brian Piesse said "when completed, this significant State government funded project will activate Donnybrook's town centre between South Western Highway and Collins Street, connecting the public space on both sides of the iconic railway station precinct and the Apple Fun Park, while creating an asset that will provide a range of benefits to the local economy and tourism industry. The key to the project is the renewal and adaption of the heritage-listed Goods Shed to showcase the region's heritage in an interpretive and interactive way. This exciting initiative will be enjoyed by visitors and locals alike and it is noteworthy that this heritage-inspired project is being initiated in the year of the 120th anniversary of the first planting of Granny Smith apples in Donnybrook."

Extensive consultation with key stakeholders has taken place over the past twelve months by both the Shire and more recently with the contractor Perkins Builders, which has included meetings with local heritage groups and discussions with representatives in the community.

The \$2m funding for the project was secured in 2019 through the Royalties for Regions program and activity on the site is expected to commence in late September.

It is anticipated that completion of the project will take place in February/March 2021, just ahead of the region's busiest time of the year when visitors flock to the area to attend major events such as the Donnybrook Apple Festival and Balingup Small Farm Field Day.

Details of the design and project updates are available on the Shire website.

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