

# Town Centre Subcommittee AGENDA

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## **Notice of Meeting:**

A meeting of the Town Centre Subcommittee will be held on:

**Date:** Thursday 17 September 2020  
**Time:** 3.30pm  
**Venue:** Council Chamber  
137 Havelock Street, Ashburton

## **Membership**

Chairperson	Carolyn Cameron
Members	Leen Braam John Falloon Angus McKay Diane Rawlinson Mayor Neil Brown (ex-officio)

10 September 2020

## Town Centre Subcommittee

Timetable	
3.30pm	Meeting commences

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Extraordinary Business**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**

### Minutes

- 4 Confirmation of minutes – 4/02/20**

### Reports

- 5 Christmas Tree**

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## ***4. Town Centre Subcommittee Minutes***

Minutes of the Town Centre Subcommittee meeting held on Tuesday 4 February 2020, commencing at 1.30pm, in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

### **Present**

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Councillors Carolyn Cameron (Chair), Leen Braam, John Falloon, Angus McKay and Diane Rawlinson.

### **In attendance**

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Jane Donaldson (GM Environmental Services), Ian Hyde (District Planning Manager), Crissie Drummond (Service Delivery Support Officer) and Carol McAtamney (Governance Support Officer).

### **Presentations:**

1.30pm – Tru-Line Civil – Daniel Powell (Executive Director), Grant Johnston (Commercial Manager) and Connor Redmond (Project Manager)

2.05pm – Property Economics – Tim Heath (Director)

### **1 Apologies**

Cr Liz McMillan

Sustained

### **2 Extraordinary Business**

Nil.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

Nil.

### **4 CBD Upgrade Contractor Information**

Daniel Powell, Grant Johnson and Connor Redmond from Tru-Civil Limited joined the meeting to provide an update on the CBD upgrade project.

- Expressed appreciation to Council for being able to be part of this major project
- Work has commenced on Cass Street, between Burnett and Tancred Streets
- Cass Street residents have been supportive and cooperative.

### **5 Town Centre Subcommittee Terms of Reference**

**Appendix 1**

### **Recommendation to Council**

**That** Council adopts the Terms of Reference for the Town Centre Subcommittee.

McKay/Rawlinson

Carried

## 6 Street Plaques to Highlight History of Ashburton

### Recommendation to Council

**That** Council prepare a pre-scoping report on incorporating street plaques highlighting the history of Ashburton into the town centre.

McKay/Falloon

Carried

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### Business transacted with the public excluded – 2.05pm

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
7	Ashburton Town Centre Economic Assessment (Property Economics)	Sections 7(2)(h) )	Commercial activities

Mayor/Braam

Carried

### Ashburton Town Centre Economic Assessment

Tim Heath presented his report.

There being no resolutions passed, the Committee resumed in open meeting and concluded at 3.07pm.

## 5. *Christmas Tree*

Author	<i>Verity Jackson, Events Coordinator</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Bevan Rickerby, Economic Development Manager</i>
GM Responsible	<i>Steve Fabish</i>

### Summary

- The giant Christmas tree has been located in Baring Square East since 2017.
- The giant Christmas tree is the starring feature of the annual Light up the Night event.
- The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the location for the giant Christmas tree.

### Recommendation

1. **That** Council agree the giant Christmas tree and Light up the Night should remain in Baring Square East for 2020  
and
2. **That** a review is undertaken in January 2021, after which staff report back to Council on the cost, impact on the CBD retailers, community feedback and options for relocating in late 2021.

## Background

1. The giant Christmas tree has been located in Baring Square East since 2017, and has been the starring feature of Nights of Lights Festival since 2018. The giant Christmas tree was brought to Ashburton in response to the lack of festive decorations. Light up the Night first took place in 2017 because the Mitre 10 Mega Christmas in the Park did not happen. In order for Baring Square East to accommodate the tree EA Networks installed a dedicated power connection in the ground, connected to the street light circuit in the power box located on the Havelock Street side of Baring Square East.
2. Light up the Night takes place in Baring Square East with the purpose of having the Mayor “officially” turn on the Christmas tree lights. This event coincides with the Black Friday shopping event in order to bring economic benefit to the retailers and a vibrant busy atmosphere to the CBD. The event features numerous food vendors, entertainment and children’s activities, it is a family friendly event which is attended by thousands of people. Many attendees come to the event with deck chairs and picnic blankets and settle in for an evening of entertainment. Baring Square East, with its grass areas and seating, lends itself well to this format.
3. With the impending redevelopment of Baring Square East, in early 2020 Council officers looked into relocating the tree to East Street for the 2020 Nights of Lights Festival. At the time it was determined that due to the CBD upgrade, especially East Street, along with the sale and removal of the former I-Site building, that the tree and subsequent events remain in Baring Square East for 2020, with a post festival review for relocation in 2021.
4. Baring Square East is well suited for the Christmas tree and Light up the Night event, because
  - It is a safe, family friendly space that allows people to be seated and watch the entertainment for the duration of the event
  - The surrounding roads are able to be closed without any impact on the CBD retailers, while still being adjacent to the CBD enabling people to shop and come to the event
  - The infrastructure for the tree and Light up the Night is already in place, with sub-contractors well experienced in delivering Light up the Night.

## Options analysis

5. Option One – the giant Christmas tree, and Light up the Night, remain in Baring Square East for 2020, with a review in January 2021, after which staff will report back to Council on the cost, impact on the CBD retailers, community feedback and options for relocating in late 2021.

## Legal/policy implications

6. Nil

## Financial implications

7. The giant Christmas tree, and Light up the Night, remain in Baring Square East for 2020, costs are met within existing budgets.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Costs are associated with the remedial work of the former I-Site and the installation of appropriate infrastructure .The price for the new infrastructure has not yet been sought.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	No. \$10,660.00 has been budgeted for 21/22 for maintenance only based on Festival of lights period only
Where is the funding coming from?	Council will need to agree to either an over budget result for events or new council funding found or to be included in the CBD upgrade or Baring square upgrade final budgets.
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes new money will need to be found
Finance review required?	Yes

## Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered <i>significant</i> ?	No
Level of significance	Low
Level of <i>engagement</i> selected	1 - Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	This is not a significant issue but is of relatively high public interest to the community. Council's decision will likely be reported in the local media and will be promoted through Council's usual media channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham; Strategy & Policy Manager