



Media Release

Charlton Park to be Realised

27 October 2017

The final piece of the funding puzzle for the Charlton Park 2020 project was placed when Minister for Regional Development Jaala Pulford announced \$1.5 million dollars of State Government funding for the project in Charlton on Friday.

The multipurpose facility will become a reality after the announcement comprising of funding from the Regional Infrastructure Fund (\$1.1 million) and Victorian Racing Industry Fund (\$400,000).

Charlton Park 2020 Committee has been working since 2006 to develop a multi-purpose facility at Charlton Park. They have managed to raise over \$1 million towards the project in a town of only 1,100 people.

The proposed new facility will replace all the disjointed buildings with one large building catering for football, netball, hockey, cricket, harness racing, gym, Agricultural & Pastoral Society and community activities.

“Charlton was badly hit by floods in 2011 and then drought in 2015 but today we celebrate a massive community effort and are proud to help make the Charlton 2020 vision a reality.”

“We are proud to provide \$1.5 million to develop the multi-purpose facility to help make Charlton an even better place to live, work and do business,” said Minister Pulford.

Mr John Harley, Chair of the Charlton Park 2020 Committee spoke at length of his team’s vision and drive, and now it seems the 2020 project will be completed in mid-2019.

“As many of us know the project has been through a number of planning processes as well as redrafting of plans to get to the project we now have to proceed with,” said Mr Harley.

“I think that a portion of our community has doubted whether our project would ever happen and I guess 11 years is a long time to wait. However, with today’s announcement we can now say that our project will now go ahead. So all those people who said during our recent fundraising campaign that they will give to our cause, but will wait until they see that the go-ahead is confirmed, then today should give them the surety that they can contribute now and they will be able to assist our project to become a reality. Our fundraising continues and our final specifications for the plans are close to completion and we now hope to go to tender before the end of 2017,” he said.



The \$4.2 million project has so far been funded by State Government \$1.5 million, Charlton Community fundraising \$1.325 million, Federal Government \$775,000, Buloke Shire Council \$500,000 and \$100,000 from harness racing funding.

“The development of this integrated community hub will accommodate a wide range of community and sporting groups and is a key project for Charlton and Buloke Shire Council. The Charlton community and primarily the Charlton Park 2020 committee have both advocated and fundraised to an extraordinary level for this for such a long time. To see their work rewarded with such an announcement today is an exceptional reward for the entire community,” said Mayor Cr David Pollard.

The project plans are currently being finalised ahead of a call for tenders. Completion date is set for June 2019.

End release

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