

Penrose Hall Management Committee and Penrose Community Association.



Hi Penrose Residents

Good news! Penrose Village Park and the Community Hall (see above) are undergoing some planning changes to revitalize the area.

You will no doubt agree that the Wingecarribee Shire Council (WSC) owned hall and reserve look pretty shabby, and uninviting. The low standard toilets, hidden playground, unused sport area, shipping container, all present badly on Penrose.

For several decades or more the Penrose Hall Management Committee (PHMC) and others have struggled with WSC to get improvements made to the hall and reserve. Countless meetings, submissions, architectural drawings, representations to counsellors had basically come to nought. Even a sum of around \$450,000 allocated to the hall has been effectively withdrawn this year.

The good news however is that the PHMC has gained two significant concessions from the WSC.

1. The PHMC will develop a 'Master Plan' for the whole of the Penrose Village Park. The WSC will (we are told) provide a survey of buildings, boundaries, vegetation, the site for future development of a community hall, play spaces, parking, public toilets and parkland, as well as location of water, waste-water and power infrastructure
The result will be a plan for optimum location of facilities so that current and future funds are expended in the most cost-effective and beneficial way.
2. The PHMC will undertake, at its own expense, the preparation of DA-approved plans for a new but modest Hall building that will suit the needs of the community into the future. We are hoping the old hall will remain, with its usage at this stage still under discussion.

We have already had significant community support to assist with the above from local people and businesses and funds in the PHMC account. We think it is achievable to complete the 'Master Plan by end of this year and DA ready plans during the first quarter of 2021.

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The WCS has advised they will support an application for partial funding, and assist with submissions to other grants etc.

The first step is the 'Master Plan' for the Penrose Village Park. We do not see the park as purely a sports facility but can envisage an area that is attractive for locals and visitors.

Some ideas to date are:

- *An Apple Grove to signify our history*
- *Adventure playground*
- *Picnic and BBQ facilities*
- *Wisteria Archway*
- *Rebound Wall for ball sports, doubling as an outdoor cinema screen*
- *Sensory Garden*
- *Local sculpture and Artworks*

We are now asking the Penrose Residents to give us suggestions that could potentially be incorporated into a plan to have a dynamic attractive gathering place. Could you take some time to think about this and send your thoughts back to the committees – by **Monday 19th October**. Be sure to include your children's ideas as well.

Suggestions can be written on the back of this notice and handed it to Anne at the Post Office or emailed to penroseca@gmail.com , or call Jeff Freeman on 0417 410 791