

Avon Valley Motor Museum Association Inc

PO Box 326
YORK
WA 6302
7th June 2017

Paul Martin CEO
Shire Of York
PO Box 22
YORK 6302

Funding Support request for Avon Valley Motor Museum Association Inc

As you are aware the Avon Valley Motor Museum Association (AVMMA) has been formed specifically to purchase and run the York Motor Museum and the members have delegated me to request you to consider providing funding support by way of grant (*\$18k per annum for three years*) to assist with the purchase of the property located on Avon Terrace York.

Background information

In late 2015 a number of York motoring enthusiasts became aware that Peter Briggs (The current owner of the York Motor Museum) was considering disposing of this business and the building asset. At this time we became aware Mr Briggs had received an offer from someone who wished to purchase and relocate the vehicles which if accepted would have closed this iconic attraction in York. Representatives of these enthusiasts approached Peter to gauge his willingness to see if there was some way the museum could be purchased by the local community group in the interest of preserving this iconic tourist attraction in York and sustain this valued tourist attraction in the Avon Valley, in particular in the town of York. Peter and his wife expressed enthusiasm for this concept and a willingness to pursue this option. *(It should be noted that Mr Briggs is prepared to leave the majority of the vehicles in the museum for the foreseeable future)*

As the York Motor Museum is arguably the second most important tourist attraction (Only surpassed by the historic relevance of the town itself) that underpins the reason people visit our town and the business tourism generates in York the following actions have occurred.

In 2016 a group of ten motor enthusiasts and business people formed the Avon Valley Motor Museum Association (inc) and developed a constitution, obtained an ABN and commenced investigating fundraising opportunities to purchase the property and name plus a significant portion of the fittings associated with the museum.

(2)

The primary objective and purpose of the association is:

“To provide for the retention of the York Motor Museum with a long term financially sustainable future”.

The AVMMMA is established as a “not for profit” association committed to the above goal and we plan to run the museum to enhance the attractiveness of the museum and generate further tourism opportunities that enhance visitor satisfaction with York as a tourist destination in WA. Profits generated by the museum will be used to improve the museum’s attractiveness to visitors and locals alike.

Because the AVMMMA is a new organisation it has no formal track record to demonstrate its capability to undertake this project. However the members of the association are all capable business people in their own right and very capable of managing the project. It does however pose difficulty in convincing funders to provide all the finances we need to fund the project and this underpins our request to the shire in the start up period of three years.

Current Progress towards Purchase

1. A formal Valuation of the property has been completed which values the property at \$790K.
2. An agreement to sell the property to the association has been signed by both parties for the sum of \$625K
3. A successful application for funding to assist with the purchase has been made to the Wheatbelt Development Commission and agreement has been reached to grant the association \$200K subject to the association being able to get commitments to fund the remainder of the Purchase price.
4. A unit trust is being established to allow individuals to contribute to the purchase.
5. A loan application has been lodged with the Bendigo Bank in York for a self supporting loan of \$405K.
6. A budget has been developed based on current operating figures which indicate the museum can meet its financial obligations once the purchase is completed.
7. A comprehensive operational plan is being developed and should be available before 30th June 2017.

For Shire consideration.

On current income we need some assistance initially to cover our financial obligations.

Request:

Shire considers contributing \$18,000 PA as a grant to the association for three years. (Commencing 2017/18 financial year providing all other funding is also committed)

(3)

Secondly: If agreed a letter of commitment to support this initiative would be required before 30 June 2017.

If further information is required please contact Julian Krieg on 0437 571 130 or email Julian.glenys@bigpond.com or Ross Ainsworth on 0428 688 828 or email ainsworth@wn.com.au

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Julian Krieg', written over a faint horizontal line.

Julian Krieg
Vice Chairperson
(on behalf of the association members)