

31 January 2012

Jovaras Westland Partnership to design new Indigo Council offices

Indigo Shire Council has appointed Jovaras Westland Partnership to design its new Council office in Yackandandah and extension at Beechworth.

JWP is a Wodonga-based medium-sized architectural practice whose principals are Mr Bernie Jovaras, who lives in Beechworth, and Mr Doug Westland, who lives in Yackandandah.

Indigo Shire Mayor Cr Larry Goldsworthy said the Expression of Interest proposal for design of the new office put forward by Jovaras Westland won on merit from a range of Expressions of Interest received from regional and metropolitan firms.

“The added benefit, from Council’s perspective, is that the design work has gone to Indigo residents,” Cr Goldsworthy said.

“The initial design concept is currently being developed further and this will be made public in the next few weeks.

“Importantly, the projects at both sites are planned to incorporate a range of environmentally sustainable design initiatives including energy efficient light fittings and appliances and appropriate passive design principles to minimise the need for active heating and cooling. This will include high levels of insulation, window shading elements to control sun exposure and solar control glazing.

“There will also be significant natural daylight to minimise the need for artificial lighting, north facing roofs to allow potential installation of photo voltaic solar cells, solar hot water system, and roof level ventilation to encourage ‘night purging’ and to optimise air quality. Where possible all timber will come from renewable sources and we will re-use stormwater for irrigation and toilet amenities.”

Cr Goldsworthy said the project, to rebuild at Yackandandah and extend at Beechworth, was made possible by a \$2.13 million grant from the Victorian Government. “This grant from the State Government has meant that Council will only need to borrow up to \$2.5 million for the office accommodation project,” he said.

“And Council also received a State Government grant of \$234,000 in December for a new library to be built as part of the new office in Yackandandah. Council will contribute \$117,824 to the library project. The new office and library will be a great boost for Yackandandah.”

The construction work for the new office involves demolishing the current front office in Yackandandah and one building in Wellsford Street as well as ‘The Shed’ meeting room, constructing a new office on the site and refurbishing the heritage-listed Ardsville site fronting High Street. In Beechworth, the existing office space will be extended behind the Memorial Hall.

Cr Goldsworthy said it was expected design work would be finalised by July this year, with construction starting soon after that and finishing by about June 2013.

END

For more:

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