

8.1 ASSISTANCE WITH ACCOMODATION

Responsible Councillor: Tom Morrissey

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council:

1. *Approves the allocation of \$10,000 per annum to Waverley Woodworkers to support rental accommodation for the period 2008/2009 – 2010/2011.*
2. *During this period explores potential avenues for continued support, in accordance with identified community benefit opportunities.*

INTRODUCTION

Waverley Woodworkers was formed in 1990 as a local group promoting woodcraft by creating an interest in working with wood, fostering communication amongst woodworkers and assisting them in achieving excellence in design and craftsmanship.

The group is a non-profit making institution with over one hundred members, located since its inception at a rental property in Windsor Avenue, Jordanville. The Woodworkers have been recently advised by their landlord that they are to vacate the premises by November 2008.

DISCUSSION

The Woodworkers have sought Council's support to identify a new location for their activities. The Woodworkers have demonstrated their ongoing commitment to community benefit by creating and donating toys to local groups. Equipment and storage requirements of the group preclude co-location with other community groups.

The Woodworkers have identified a property located at 3/53 Cambro Road Clayton. The Woodworkers advise that this property is suitable to the ongoing needs of the group. The property is currently available for a sum of \$11,000 per annum rental, plus utilities and \$1200 rates. To accommodate their activities, the property will require a Planning Permit as a Restricted Place of Assembly.

The Woodworkers are committed to meeting the balance of their proposed rental payment, rates and utilities applicable. The Rotary Club of Waverley has advised it will meet the relocation costs of the Woodworkers from its current to new location.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

During this proposed three year period, Council will commit to exploration of potential avenues for continued support in accordance with identified community benefit opportunities. While the demographics of the Woodworkers cross a range of ages, the objectives of Council's *Strategy for an Ageing Community 2002 – 2011* provides a relevant and appropriate framework for the activities of the group.

FINANCIAL

For the past 16 years, Council has provided \$5,000 per annum support for the Woodworkers. It is proposed that this be increased to \$10,000 per annum for the three-year period 2008/2009- 2010/2011.

CONCLUSION

Council's support of the Waverley Woodworkers has been repaid to the community by its donation of hand made toys. The Woodworkers are committed to the continuation of this community support and seek Council's continued support at this critical time, to ensure the ongoing viability and activity of the group. During the period, Council will identify potential future avenues of ongoing support. Funding of \$10,000 per annum over three years is sought to enable the activity of this valued group to continue.