

Jarrahdale Heritage Park Business Plan – Public Comment Summary of Submissions

Public Notice: Nov 2023 – Jan 2024

NOTE: comments from the community are presented to Council anonymously. Key stakeholders are named.

SUBMISSIONS STATS



SUBMISSIONS (via Your Say SJ)

Submitter	Submitter Comments	Officer Comment
#1	No why aren't you spending money actually on the town site and oval. Why are we paying for tourism	Development of Heritage Park has broader benefits for the local community and businesses, as well as economic benefits for tourism. Investment in town site has occurred (Jarrahdale outdoor hub project) and will continue to occur through Council's annual budget setting process.
#2	I think it's positive and I would welcome any improvement to increase tourism in town - I do object however to any further food/beverage type businesses as Jarrahdale is well catered for with Millbrook Winery,	Comment noted. Existing local businesses would be considered first for new economic development opportunities.

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	Jarrahdale Tavern, Jarrahdale Local PO cafe, 701 cafe and Bistro by the Dam. Any further food and beverage business would impact on the existing and I believe we need to boost visitation to Jarrahdale and thus to these existing businesses that are all a short drive or walk to the Heritage Park and Lot 814 and Lot 815.	
#3	As long as it dosent effect the current community s park works and trails eg.turle creeck (behind the mill) or the wattle trail	Comment noted. Development must minimise impact on the natural environment, and includes weeds management and restoration.
#4	I do not believe that the Jarrahdale Heritage Park should be renamed. I am also concerned about the thought of allowing bikes and horses to use Foster Way. OK if Bikes only use that track to come into town, but I am quite sure that this will be abused by many. I am concerned about allowing horses as once the horses arrive at the end of Foster Way adjoining Jarrahdale Road - where are they going to go? I agree with the continuation of clearing non native species within the Heritage Park and the inclusion of some more picnic areas. I would like to see some of the old railway line enhanced in a sympathetic way. I think the northern side of the Park would be more suitable for adventurous activities. The Southern side should be retained as a relaxing environment to be used by all ages, particularly incorporating some wheel chair friendly areas that many less able residents and visitors could enjoy. Water fountains at each end of the Park by the proposed interpretive signage would be useful.	Comment noted. Further community engagement would occur with the community regarding the name of the site and if a re-naming exercise was progressed. Comments regarding trails and uses on the site would be further explored through the implementation of the business case recommendations.
#5	It would be nice to open the park again for picnics and some seating there as well along the walking paths	Comment noted.
#6	Would be amazing to see a pump track for all our young bike riding enthusiasts. Keep our young ones physicality active	Comment noted.
#7	Leave jarrahdale as it is	Comment noted.
#8	I would love to see a pram friendly walking circuit through the bush to get away from cars, an adventure playground and a cafe nearby for mums to meet at and play or walk with their kids. Take care of our local mums.	Comment noted.

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#9	[response redacted – inappropriate language]	
#10	<p>The proposal indicates the following - building a trail head and cafe offering at Millar Rd near the single men's quarters and formalized park entry at the No1 Mill location. This will cause a significant increase in traffic along Millar Rd(which is a mostly dirt road) this will have a significant impact on residents who live on Millar Rd. Impacts such as noise, traffic dust (there is no indication that the road would be upgraded to bitumen), the trail head and cafe at this location will divert most visitors to the town away from the existing cafe business's in town. The park plan does not offer much connection to these existing businesses. The plan provides limited indication for improved parking/access to the park from the middle of the town for residents - Why would horse riders need access specifically along Forster way? Forster way connects to Jarrahdale Rd which carries to much traffic to be safe for horses. A trail connection to Jarrahdale Oval (currently used and for horse float parking and proposed for further development for horse trail head) would make more sense and should be in a way that removed horses from having to travel on Millar road to the heritage park area (horse and traffic don't mix well) – The proposed community destination place, 4) near the Mill Managers House needs to be made more accessible with access directly from Jarrahdale Rd and a parking area from Forster way. a large number of community members are located a significant distance from this location so for an event/concert/markets etc would most likely still drive to the location and as such would require parking. If the Mill Managers house is going to be made a commercial venture as proposed (ie cafe, tearooms, art gallery etc) it will need to have road access for service vehicles such as deliveries, rubbish removal services etc What planning and provision will there be for stopping off road motorbikes from using the trails and graffiti and vandalism. The plan map indicates a "quad park" on Nettleton road opposite the Jarrahdale oval however the plan</p>	<p>Comment noted. Matters raised would be further explored through the implementation of the business case recommendations.</p>

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	does not make mention of this area. what is this? is there plans for an off road vehicle use area in that location?	
#11	Please leave the land in natural habatat . With no interfrrence . This is why we go hiking in the bush and visiting old natural towns . To enjoy the old ways , for peace and quite & solitude . For all the animals living peacefully . We don't want more activities and more disturbance, yltthese kind of attractions promote more people and more noise and disturbance of the nature & bush offer . I know a lot of people who agree with me . Leave alone what is beautiful and so special . Its harder and harder to find these hidden treasures here in perth wa . . People call this progress , i call it money & revenue for counceals . Not for the people who love and enjoy tue bush ... I hope our voice & opinion matter , but in my legal experience i doubt it Heritage park buisness plan for natural seating for some but no flying fox etc....	Comment noted. The Business Case recommends minimal impact on the natural environment.
#12	An Environmental impact study be done. Safe Pedestrian access crossing Jarrahdale Road needs to be addressed. Car Parking for the area needs to be addressed without damage to the existing ambience of the Park and for the safety of those who visit the park. Also showing respect to the locals of the Community as they go about their daily business. Keeping the natural aesthetics and beauty of the park because that is why visitors come here to escape the hustle and bustle of the city/suburbs and experience the simplicity of nature based involvement. Keeping the brook untouched because of the biodiversity that it holds. More undercover/open picnic tables throughout the park would be a positive as long as they are well equipped with rubbish bins and are kept maintained. Discrete signage enhancing the historical/indigenous/cultural significance of the area without taking away the aesthetics of the park and providing a educational experience. Disability/Seniors access to trials would be a positive by providing them too with a Nature based activity. Preserving/signage of the larger significant trees within the park.	Comment noted. Matters raised would be further explored through the implementation of the business case recommendations.

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#13	As a local sculptor I feel there's no support at the moment for artist. Where in other areas like Rockingham & Armadale there's events, art trails, open studios, sculptures on the beach etc . I work with Jarrah & other west Australian native woods this is why I moved to Jarrahdale as all of my work is created from local wood. I feel that Jarrahdale needs a gallery or somewhere to support local art. It's good for tourism & would brighten up the local area.	Comment noted. Economic development for Jarrahdale is identified within the Jarrahdale Trail Town Business Case and is an ongoing action for the Shire.
#14	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the JHP Business Plan 2023. As a longtime resident and one of the original JFP volunteers I am pleased to see action on a 'higher' level at last. I am not sure if the Mill Managers House and/or the Mill site are excluded from the lease proposal though I do note there is support to utilise these two important spaces which are currently part of a NTWA lease arrangement I understand. (Maybe temporary?) Site zoning - 2. I would not describe the area as pristine. It is part of the former industrial site and whilst it is returning to natural bush /forest land there is a lot of woody weed re-establishing in the area which will need to be addressed. Blackberry, wattle, arum lily, etc The 'Labyrinth Wander' whilst sounding interesting needs explanation and detail as to how it will be achieved in this space. Central Theme - Jarrah -Please note there are not many, if any, original trees in the area, those that are in the vicinity need to be cared for – dieback treatment is required urgently. The Development Approach - limiting intensive infrastructure works is commended. The use of volunteers though may need to be reviewed. Noted: Infrastructure should aim to deliver best value for money, remain lowkey and be easily maintained. Activation Strategies Table Is there a timeline? Some of the strategies are already underway. Pleasing to see the Museum being considered positively. The suggestion that it could be used as a visitor centre though needs consultation and financial consideration. Currently run by volunteers - numerous hours. Central Timber Heritage Destination - a long time vision, considerable resources needed. Utilise the existing	Comment noted. Matters raised would be further explored through the implementation of the business case recommendations.

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	<p>rail tracks. As a trail user I am excited to see emphasis being placed on trail heads, directional signage etc. Linking different paths, trails, bridal, bicycle and even drive trails will add to the value of the concept. Plan shows vision and opportunity for Jarrahdale.</p>	
#15	<p>Progressing to a lease from NTWA and the development of a Business Plan is welcome and long awaited.</p> <p>The Introduction mentions that there is over 30 years of history behind the concept of a Heritage Park in Jarrahdale. It started with the original Townscape Study by Hocking which incorporated a concept for the park from the Jarrahdale Heritage Society. The Concept was developed in response to a developing appreciation of its unique character, later reinforced by an urban development proposal over the Park area. The Townscape Study, funded by the Arts Council (Cmwlth) and the subsequent studies and documents produced should be referenced as some contain important base information (eg potential archaeological sites). There have been many negative impacts by shire officers' decisions acting without due consideration or consultation. These have either destroyed historical structures such as the old timber drains and remnants of railway lines, or made "improvements" which are problematic.</p> <p>Therefore it is strongly recommended that there is some reference group, or consultative committee whose feedback is sought before decisions are made, or works commenced. This should include at least the Jarrahdale Heritage Society, as the knowledge holder, and other community group representatives if they have a stake on the Park.</p> <p>On a general note there is a danger in trying to make the Park "all things to everyone" so there has to be a hierarchy of values agreed upon. It does have to be a park for the people of Jarrahdale to enjoy – to walk in, children to explore, walking of dogs. It has to reflect the significant timber industry that formed it, and its basis in the magnificent and highly valued Jarrah trees. It has to complement the "Historic Town " status conferred</p>	<p>Comment noted. Matters raised would be further explored through the implementation of the business case recommendations.</p>

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	<p>by the NTWA, one of eight such towns in the State and it has to be the foundation for the trails of the “Trail Town” concept.</p> <p>More specific to the Business Plan: There is no mention of the old Nurses Quarters, currently vested in DBCA who are looking for somebody to take it over. It has dormitory accommodation so suitable for group bookings and showers, kitchen etc so very useful to mountain bike riders on the Mundi Biddi. It used to be an Educational Centre used by school and university students.</p> <p>There is an under appreciation of the wealth of historical knowledge held by the JHS</p> <p>One of the big assets to the town is the Old Post Office Museum run by the Jarrahdale Heritage Society, they organised the restoration of the building in the early 1990s and were responsible for promoting the Heritage Park concept to the Shire. The naming as “heritage” not “historical” means it encompasses the natural heritage as well as the built and social heritage.</p> <p>The OPO is owned by the Shire, the building itself is of historic interest, and the Museum has achieved State recognition for its excellent curation of extensive historic collection of information and photos, including on the OPO itself. It has excellent research capability. While it’s display area is relatively small the volunteers mount changing exhibitions on different themes and could do so in places more suitable for disabled access if commissioned. It is not really suitable for a Visitor Centre because of this lack of access, opening hours, and because of its size; nor can it be altered. In time a Visitor Centre would require an additional building if at this site, and week long manning.</p> <p>Note the current Mill building is the 5th No 1 mill – remnants or evidence of earlier ones exist, and the 6th No 1 Mill was mostly demolished at the turn of the century</p> <p>P5 – outsourcing of management would be problematic and not preferred.</p>	

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	<p>P7 There is a mapped loop back to Jarrahdale for hikers on the Bibbulmun</p> <p>P13 Until the shire officer arranged planting of native trees south of the brook, and the rudis reproduced over the decades, the cleared part of the south side was mainly deciduous trees and the NTWA concept landscape plan (by Phil Palmer) was to concentrate on deciduous trees, mainly European. There has since been further planting of established ones of these by the Park volunteers – at their own cost.</p> <p>P17 recognition of the remnant railway lines which are good for trails would help.</p> <p>Bringing horse trails into the Park needs serious consultation with the equine community. Horses and Bikes don't mix, nor do horses and dogs sometimes. Why would the horse riders need to come into the park? It actually says they should remain on the edge but seems to contradict this later.</p> <p>P19 Unless already consulted the Binjarup Noongars do claim this territory and that is not so generic as Noongar.</p> <p>P20 Style guides, signage should be consistent -agreed. The historical theme was original followed by adopting dark green and dark red colours and keeping the NTWA font (?Times NR).</p> <p>P21 – Strategy 6 Mixing horses and bikes on Foster way is not wise. A small scale 'light touch' ampitheatre should be considered for minor music events.</p> <p>P23- Name – always been difficult, Valley of the Mills was one suggestion years ago.</p> <p>P25 "light touch ' is a good guiding principle! Commercial attractions would need v.careful consideration. Such normal roadworks as kerbing should not occur within the Park – see p28 also</p> <p>P28 LandcareSJ do not maintain the Park – other than the area they have been responsible for replanting. The Park does need a detailed Landscape Plan to guide future planting. This should also consider the</p>	

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	<p>use of deciduous trees as fire protection measures for buildings. as well as being in keeping with the original NTWA plan.</p> <p>At present volunteers cope with fallen trees, branches etc and much of the burning</p> <p>P29 Darling Downs is not a very good example. They had a capital fund to start with and are more of a single purpose group.</p> <p>See initial comments re the OPO and Visitors Centre – not really feasible.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment</p>	

SUBMISSIONS (Stakeholders)

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National Trust WA	<p>Thanks for the opportunity to comment on your Business Plan for the heritage park. We are supportive of your proposal and it aligns with our ambitions for the land. I have made a few minor comments in the attached. We also note that your proposal is for a \$1 lease. The National Trust no longer do 'peppercorn' leases but rather 'cost neutral' which just means that any outgoings are paid by the tenant.</p> <p>Page 2 - Respecting the natural and cultural heritage values of the place is essential to maintaining this sense of identity.</p> <p>Page 3 - note this is now leased to a private operator - details provided</p> <p>Page 9 – [adding to list of visitors analysis] visitors to events at No 1 Mill</p> <p>Page 19 – [Consider renaming the site] consider Noongar name or dual name</p> <p>Page 28 – [Responsibilities] no mention of National Trust in the section? Jarrahdale is branded a 'National Trust Town' so is there a continuing role in the promotion of the heritage values of the place?</p> <p>Page 28 – [about volunteers] volunteers who work in the park are also National Trust volunteers</p> <p>Page 35 – [Infrastructure Delivery - Trail] note the land is subject to a conservation covenant with the National Trust which may restrict/ guide some uses in relation to environmental management</p>	<p>Comments noted. The “cost neutral” was integrated in the Plan</p> <p>The existence of NTWA conservation was noted, critical for any proposed development.</p>
Jarrahdale Heritage Society	<p>The Jarrahdale Heritage Society wishes to make the following comments with regard to the Heritage Park Business Plan</p> <p>As the Jarrahdale Heritage Society played a significant role in the original concept and development of the Park admittedly some years ago, but we have continued to support its development and maintenance, both with financial assistance and volunteering in partnership with the National Trust.</p>	<p>The Jarrahdale Heritage Society (JHS) is a key asset for the project, to support Jarrahdale unique point of difference: its heritage significance for the State.</p>

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	<p>There is insufficient appreciation of the depth of historical knowledge, photographs and research material held at the Old Post Office Museum. This is an ongoing process with constant additions</p> <p>Also its status as a museum, providing research and genealogical assistance as well as displays focusing on the Town's story to both visitors and online enquiries. Our visitor numbers regularly exceed 2500 per annum.</p> <p>The concept of the Old Post office becoming an Information Centre, open only at weekends is of concern, also the building has very limited disabled access.</p> <p>What role is envisaged for the JHS in this proposal? We wish to be proactively involved.</p> <p>The plan fails to take into consideration the depth of history still to be found in the grounds of the Park, as there are several areas of archaeological interest and importance in relation to the sites original industrial use.</p> <p>WE are very supportive to the addition of public amenities, car park, seating etc.</p> <p>Also the possibility that the Old Post Office becomes a possible Trail head for the trails in and around Jarrahdale.</p>	
Park Run	<p>In regards to the Jarrahdale Heritage Park Business Plan, I wish to share my thoughts as a representative on one of the user groups that currently utilise this area on a weekly basis.</p> <p>1. The Trails As the event director for Jarrahdale Heritage parkrun I established a 5k parkrun course with weekly events to be held every Saturday morning at 8am on the trails of the Jarrahdale Heritage Park, we commenced on 26 March 2022 with approval from National Trust WA and initial funding support from Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale along with crowd funding from the local community & the broader parkrun community, to date we have completed 96 events with an average of 30 to 40 participants completing or volunteering on our 5K</p>	<p>Comments noted. Park Run is central to the activation approach for the site, as an established event, as well as for its inclusiveness and contribution to the Shire's Health & Wellbeing Strategy</p> <p>Implementation of the Business Plan recommendations could respond to needs and offer more trail running options.</p>

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	<p>course each week. Our course as per map attached utilises the existing trails of the Jarrahdale Heritage park on the southern side of Gooralong Brook. The content of the Jarrahdale Heritage Park Business Plan indicates that our existing course layout would be affected by some aspects of the planned upgrades, with our total visitor numbers over our 96 events exceeding 4000 made up of 3067 completed 5k runs / walks and 1043 volunteer occasions we are an integral part of the community providing physical and mental health benefits through participation and inclusion whilst showcasing the picturesque location of the Jarrahdale Heritage Park, many of our participants enjoy exploring the other trails in and around Jarrahdale and supporting local businesses within Jarrahdale and elsewhere in the shire as they pass through the area to visit us each week. With the Jarrahdale Heritage Park Business Plan proposing to open up more trails to the northern side of Gooralong Brook we would like to be considered in the discussions and design of these trails so that they could be utilised for a new 5K parkrun course when the planned upgrades would affect our current course layout, parkrun Australia has some specific requirements when a parkrun course is designed we would look to have open discussions with the planning team to ensure the new proposed trails would meet these course requirements whilst maintaining the natural bush feel of the area. Subject to acceptance by all parties we can then commence operating on the new course once the trails have been finished, it would be our suggestion that the new trails be established prior to an upgrade of the toilets and parking area as not being able to utilise this space would have the most impact on our participants and other users of the Heritage Park.</p> <p>2. Access to readily available drinking water. At present visitors and locals to the Heritage Park need to be self-sufficient bringing their own bottled water (not environmentally friendly) or refilling from inside</p>	

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	<p>public toilets (not ideal or hygienic)The installation of drink fountains at the main and informal entry points to the Heritage Park are necessary, this would decrease the use of bottled water, encourage more activity and provide health benefits for users and thus enhance their experience of these trails, to assist with funding a coordinated approach could see other areas in and around Jarrahdale included, we would first like to see wall mounted bubblers installed at the Jarrahdale Heritage Park and at Bruno Gianatti Hall, utilising the existing plumbing these could be done at reasonable cost, whilst longer term plans are considered to incorporate fit for purpose options into the design guidelines for future upgrades to Trails Town infrastructure as that project progresses. I welcome your comments and feedback as this project takes shape and am happy to be of assistance in the planning of this space as the business case progresses, as I am also the President of Jarrahdale Community Collective I am in the unique position of being able to communicate the expectations of a wide cross section of the local community and in turn keep them informed as Jarrahdale moves closer to be coming a trails town.</p> <p>I thank you for your time in considering this submission</p>	