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**The CEO and the Councillors of**
**Ravensthorpe Shire Council**
**Morgans Street,**
**Ravensthorpe WA 6346**

**9 July, 2015**

Herbarium Annexe to the Town Hall

**Dear Ian and Councillors,**

**As you are aware (see February 2015 council minutes), the Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show (RWS) committee is seeking funds to build an annexe to the Ravensthorpe Town Hall. RWS is appreciative of Council's preliminary agreement to the project and now seeks further support.**

**So far, RWS has successfully applied to the Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Future Fund ($30,000) and is presently working to find the balance for the proposal. Ian Goldfinch discussed the Herbarium annexe project with Kate Grosso, Grants Manager of Lotterywest. Ms Grosso was very complimentary about Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun in general and most encouraging about the Wildflower Show committee's proposed Herbarium annexe. She suggested that the Ravensthorpe Shire apply for a grant under Community Spaces to cover the actual annexe building. RWS should simultaneously apply for a Furniture and Fittings grant to purchase all necessary storage and office furniture and floor coverings.**

**As outlined in the Future Fund application the Herbarium annexe addresses several points in the Ravensthorpe Strategic Plan (2010-2015), namely:**

- *107, "Support...the tourism industry and (its) development to broaden the economic base of the Shire"; the Wildflower Show and the herbarium are visitor draw cards.*
- *301, "Tourism Planning Strategy (2010)" which recommends that marketing of the region stress the uniqueness of the Shire's flora and natural attributes. No better way to do that than by collecting, identifying and displaying the Shire's flora.*
- *401 "Promotion for a University place of learning" its in with the Wildflower Show committee's intention to invite University students of Botany and Natural Resource Management to visit the area during the show; they will use the herbarium and help with identification.*

RWS formerly requests that Council consider lodging an application to Lotterywest for the balance of the funds needed to build the Herbarium annexe, and managing the building project.

The committee thanks Council for its consideration and looks forward to a positive reply.

Yours faithfully,

Chenda Goldfinch

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**Hon. President RWS**