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General Manager Walgett Shire Council PO Box 31 WALGETT NSW 2832

Attn: Matt Clarkson, Town Planner

Dear Matt,

Walgett Shire LEP 2013 – Heritage Schedule Justification of removal of two items from the LEP Heritage Schedule

In October 2015 it was recommended that two items be removed from the LEP Heritage Schedule. The reasons for these recommendations are listed below.

I25 - Old Bakery Complex, 18 Wilson Street, Collarenebri

Collarenebri is a town facing a severe commercial downturn. Many of the commercial buildings in the centre of the town are vacant and some are vulnerable to vandalism. The old bakery complex was partly damaged in a fire deliberately set in a neighbouring building some years ago. At the time it was in the ownership of a gentleman who was dying of cancer. Prior to him becoming unable to work he cleared up much of the site and demolished some buildings that had been affected by fire and/or rendered unstable by termite activity. At this time he sought guidance on the possibility of converting the vacant bakery into a residence and undertook some minor demolitions with this end in view. He has since passed away and the bakery has deteriorated to the point that it represents a public hazard. It is considered that, regardless of a heritage listing, the building will not survive the next few years. It is prudent to remove it from the heritage schedule.

129 - House, 3 Warrena Street, Walgett

This timber cottage and partially detached kitchen have been uninhabited for many years and have deteriorated to the point that roofs have collapsed and the dwelling has become uninhabitable. Council has worked with the owners over some years to stabilise the building, offering some financial assistance through the Local Heritage Fund. Quotes obtained from suitably qualified tradespersons to stabilise the structure and make it habitable have been well beyond the financial means of the owners who have now requested permission to demolish the building so an affordable structure can be built on the site. In the current real estate climate in Walgett, and given the financial position of the owners, it appears that demolition is the only practical solution.

I am happy to discuss any of the above if required.



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Ray Christison Heritage Advisor Walgett Shire 2 June 2016