



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Bundarra backs Grace Munro Aged Care Centre Committee formed to pursue options

The small community of Bundarra is not going to let their Grace Munro Aged Care Centre close without a fight and have formed a Committee with a view to setting up a community based structure to operate it.

That was the outcome of a meeting of community members crammed into the Bundarra CWA House on Tuesday and attended by Uralla Shire Council representatives (the owners of the building) and the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Since learning of the decision by H.N. McLean Memorial Retirement Village not to renew their operating contract, Mr Windsor has been in close contact with the Minister for Ageing, the Hon Justine Elliot looking at ways to have the Grace Munro Centre maintained.

“I have held discussions with the Minister for Ageing, the Hon Justine Elliot and her senior staff as well as with other service providers and professionals in the field to look at the options.

“It appears that a community based organisation could be a solution to keeping the doors open.

“The Minister is waiting for a proposal to be put to her for her Department to assess,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor is pleased that the Bundarra community is prepared to again get behind their aged care facility.

“I am very pleased that the meeting was unanimous in its commitment to wanting the Grace Munro Centre to remain open and to move towards setting up an appropriate community based structure to take on the role of running the facility.

“The people of the Bundarra community worked very hard over a long period of time to get the Grace Munro Centre in their old hospital raising a lot of money through the local community groups as well as all levels of Government and international sources.

“They have continued to fundraise and support the facility in many ways since it was officially opened five years ago.

“The Committee will meet next week to develop the proposal as quickly as possible and I look forward to working with the people of Bundarra to bring about the desired result,” Mr Windsor said.

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