

# Street works progressing



The new one-way exit from the service road into Arbutnot Street has been criticised as impractical and possibly dangerous.

# ‘Bottleneck’ designed to ease speed

JENNY DENTON

ROAD work intended to streamline traffic in Main Street, Koondrook is being criticised by local residents for creating a bottleneck in the town’s central business district.

One business owner in the area said “the general consensus” among customers was that the curved one-way exit from the service road into Arbutnot Street opposite the historic Kerang-Koondrook railway goods shed was impractical and possibly dangerous.

He said trucks would continue to use the road but would find it more difficult to navigate.

“Whether there are accidents or dramas remains to be seen,” he said.

Some local residents were also concerned about a reduction in parking as a result of the area’s rejuvenation, particularly in front of the public toilets in Arbutnot Street, where visitors with mobility issues would no longer be able to park.

The work, which has been funded by Regional Roads Victoria’s Fixing Country Roads program, is part of the second stage of the redevelopment of the Koondrook CBD, which

is now 85 per cent complete and on track to be finished by the end of June, according to Gannawarra Shire Council.

It forms part of a wider plan to better connect the township to its river frontage and to a “glamping” camp area, where six safari style camping huts will be constructed in the bend of the Gunbower Creek.

Work on the huts has not yet begun.

Koondrook Development Committee president, Bryan Goble said he had received a large number of comments and complaints about the road works.

The design had been “out of [the group’s] hands”, Mr Goble said, but he pointed out that the work was not yet finished.

“At the end of the day, I think it’ll probably turn out okay,” he said.

Murray ward shire councillor, Steve Tasker said the changes were deliberately aimed at slowing the traffic down.

“We want to put an all-ability playground there, so we don’t want the traffic going too fast.”

“People just need a bit of common sense, courtesy and road sense,” he said.

Cr Tasker said that he had not received any complaints about the issue.



Work is progressing on the streetscape works at Koondrook.

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