



[museum@walkawaymuseum.org.au](mailto:museum@walkawaymuseum.org.au)

**WALKAWAY STATION MUSEUM**

**2 Padbury Road 9926 1976**

**HOURS**

**Tue-Fri 10-4**

**Sat-Sun 1-4**

**Closed Mondays & Public Holidays**

**08 9926 1976**

[www.walkawaymuseum.org.au](http://www.walkawaymuseum.org.au)

20 October 2014

Mrs Susan Smith  
Manager Libraries and Heritage  
City of Greater Geraldton  
PO Box 101  
Geraldton WA 6531

Dear Susan

Thank you for visiting Walkaway Station Museum to see the great new shed and to discuss the possibilities for moving the planned rolling stock from Rail Heritage WA in Bassendean. Rail Heritage has generously offered the Government and Midland Railway rolling stock on long term loan to us. The items offered are restored "O" Class Steam Locomotive (ex WAGR) and KA17, the MRC General Manager's Carriage. These are significant to Walkaway because it will be a Government Loco connected to a Midland Railway carriage, the linking of Government and private railway.

The loco B6 was moved from Midland to Walkaway 4 years ago at a cost of less than \$4000. We contacted John Holland four weeks ago and were rather stunned that the cost for moving the loco was quoted at \$15000. The costs have obviously increased in the last few years and as the engine plus the tender are oversize, an escort will be needed as will a survey of the road bridges to be crossed.

I have asked Bruce Eldridge at Brookfield Rail for some assistance. Bruce has very generously offered to help by arranging to move the load to Walkaway as a back load for some of his regular servicing of rail stock which is taken to and from Perth. This would cover a cost of approximately \$7000.

Walkaway Museum can cover up to \$2000 towards the cost and we are asking council to approve an allocation of funds of \$7000 to enable the locomotive to be moved to Walkaway.

The movement of the remaining carriage would not be as difficult nor, presumably, as expensive as it is a smaller, less weighty load. We plan to apply for a Community Grant in the next round to assist with this.

Following the arrival of both loads in Walkaway we would like a grand opening of the shed, sometime in the first few months of 2015. Now that the shed is completed, Walkaway is really looking forward to the new stock. It will be a great new drawcard for the museum which is undergoing refurbishment of its displays on an ongoing basis.

Kind regards

Ric McCracken  
President  
Walkaway Station Museum Committee Inc