

Boorhaman & Boorhaman North Community Plan 2010/2011

What is community planning & what does the Boorhaman community hope to achieve?

A Community Plan talks about the key issues facing a community and recommends strategies that Council and/or agencies could implement to address your identified needs. The community hope to improve services and facilities through a collective approach. We hope to build on the rich history of the district and preserve and promote our heritage.

Profile

Boorhaman & Boorhaman North are located on the northern boundary of the Rural City of Wangaratta, and run parallel with the Ovens River to the Murray Valley Highway. Boorhaman village is located 16.9km north of Wangaratta and 68.6km south west of Albury. The district is represented by grazing and cropping enterprises. The village of Boorhaman has approximately 25 residents and the surrounding farmland has 125 road side deliveries. The Boorhaman Hall & Golf Club provide a meeting and recreational space for locals. The Boorhaman Primary School closed on 20 December, 2008 and the residents are keen to discuss the future opportunities for the site. The Boorhaman Hotel and Brewery attracts visitors to the area. There is a disused railway line adjacent to the silos that once formed part of the north-east railway network. The environment is valued for its wetlands, river access, native grasses, orchids and massive red gums. These features attract campers and fishing enthusiasts to the Warby-Ovens National Park.



The Park was created in June 2010 to protect and enhance the remaining River Red gum forests in Victoria. The lower Ovens River has significant wetlands which are part of a larger ecosystem that links to the Killawarra Forest and Warby Ranges. The Boorhaman Grasslands are special as they provide a glimpse of the typical vegetation Major Mitchell would have encountered when passing through the district. Local native grass enthusiasts conduct nature walks along the remnant vegetation found along the road sides.

Background

The district residents were invited to a community planning meeting, facilitated by the Wangaratta Rural City on Sunday 1 August 2010 at the Boorhaman Hall. A follow up workshop on Sunday 5 September brought the community champions together to develop their priority needs into projects and shape their community plan.



What Community Groups exist?

Boorhaman CFA
Bowser CFA
Boorhaman CWA
Boorhaman District Landcare
Boorhaman Hall Committee
Boorhaman Golf Club
Boorhaman North Recreation Reserve
Boorhaman Recreation Reserve
Boorhaman Tennis Club
North Boorhaman Tennis Club
St Martin's Catholic Church

How do locals communicate?

No links to a community newsletter at present

Community facilities...

Boorhaman Cemetery
Boorhaman CFA
Boorhaman Hall & Rec Reserve
Boorhaman Golf Course
Boorhaman North Rec Reserve &
Boorhaman & North Boorhaman Tennis Courts
Boorhaman Standpipe
Boorhaman Transfer Station
Public toilets open 24/7 behind the Hall

What Community Events are held?

Australia Day Event
Melbourne Cup Eve Calcutta – fundraiser
Royal Children's Hospital Appeal fundraiser

What Memorials exist in your community?

Boorhaman Memorial Avenue
Old Docker Plains School Site
State School Roll of Honour Board

Existing Documents, Plans & Strategies...

"A history of **Boorhaman**" by Barrie R Vowles
Boorhaman Recreation Reserve Strategic Plan

What attracts tourists to your area?

The Boorhaman Brewery and Boorhaman Hotel are well known attractions.

The recent expansion of the Warby-Ovens National Park now covers the dispersed camping areas of Robinsons, McQuades, Parolas, Camerons and Seven Bridges Bends with easterly access, whereas Frost Crossing is accessed from the west. The Ovens River offers eco-tourism in the form of camping, fishing and canoeing. Black Swamp, though not part of the Park, also offers access to wild life areas.

Koalas can be found in the district.

There are several accommodation options, such as: Rangeview, Red Rattler Retreat; and Renaissance Farm which offers chocolate making.

Warby-Ovens National Park created in June 2010



What are the key features of your area?

River flats, wetlands, river red gums and grazing/cropping country.

Links to other communities – schooling, health & shopping...

Schooling - Rutherglen, Springhurst, Wangaratta & home schooling
Mail – Rutherglen & Wangaratta
Health – Wangaratta & Rutherglen

Themes from the community meeting held on 1 August 2010

This is a list of the individual needs identified during the table brainstorming session:

History plaque for Boorhaman – Kelly & Dan Morgan site

Signage

Agriculture – minimise lifestyle blocks, use land based on sustainability, low product land for housing

Renewable energy use – climate change means we need farmland

Health access

Public transport – access for elderly, use of buses & light Rail

Bicycle – loop over bridge Peechelba bike track

Community – Stirling engine over emission power

Underground powerlines

Solar energy at the Hall

Centre line on unlined roads

Upgrade of Boorhaman Road – white line, current issue with school bus route, safety, increase in produce & goods

Upgrade Swamp Road & bridges

Tree pruning – overhanging limbs

Children's play area/ground – liberty swing and wheelchair friendly

Gas mining – dangers to community & ground water

Roadside fire prevention

Use of school site – community centre solar & broadband, education, BBQ & family space

Jazz festival satellite events/cultural events, Agricultural events

Rutherglen Wine Festival

Environmental/Educational Events

These needs were then prioritised and champions (community members attending the meeting) nominated to progress the needs

as projects which are detailed on the action plan attached.

\$5,000 Community Planning Grant

The community were also asked how they could allocate a \$5,000 community planning grant to a particular need in the community.

The group decided that the Community Planning Grant be used to purchase a display cabinet for memorabilia. The cabinet will be located at the Boorhaman Hall.



Community Information Night
Friday 11 February 2011
Boorhaman Hall



Boorhaman & North Boorhaman Community Action Plan 2010/2011

Rural landscape & Environment

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Agriculture -maintain productive land for food & commodity production	Mick McKenzie	To improve farming practice through strengthening relationships with Landcare and increase participation in Landcare activities.	Improved farm productivity and increase participation rates in Landcare activities.	RCoW-Economic Development DSE & DPI Landcare

Community – Young, Senior, Families, New residents

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Old School community facility -Playground -BBQ -Community centre -Feasibility study	Wayne Robinson & Kim Patterson Sandra Cheshire	To investigate opportunities for community involvement in the old school site.	A vision for the old school site.	Department of Education & Training & Early Childhood Development RCoW-Community & Amenity

Arts, Culture & Heritage – events, preservation group, projects

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Memorabilia display cabinet	Mick McKenzie	Create a suitable display cabinet in the local hall to house memorabilia from the school and other historical events.	Display cabinet installed in hall.	RCoW – Community Planning

Infrastructure & Amenities

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Road upgrades -centre line -tree pruning -Signage -Bike loop across bridges -Widen Boorhaman Road -Sealing of gravel roads	Sandra Ambrose Mick McKenzie	Upgrade and improve road system.	Sealing of more strategic roads.	RCoW-Infrastructure
Community Noticeboard	Barry Byrne	Relocate community noticeboard from school site to outside Boorhaman Hotel.	Community noticeboard relocated.	Publican
Boorhaman Hall & Recreation Reserve upgrade -cooling/heating -playground -replace lining walls & ceiling	Barry Byrne	To improve hall facilities to meet standards and increase opportunities for hall hiring.	Well maintained hall with increase patronage.	RCoW-Community & Amenity
Solar Energy	Alan Lappin	To increase community awareness and education about solar power outcomes.	To have solar power/hot water installed on hall by 2011.	RCoW-Sustainability
Town Water Supply from Bore	Mick McKenzie	Investigate a community bore to provide water for future development of township.	Community bore established for township residents.	RCoW-Community & Amenity



COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

BOORHAMAN - COMMUNITY PLANNING

Rural landscape & Environment – What it looks like and how it's managed

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
<p>To improve farming practice through strengthening relationships with Landcare and increase participation in Landcare activities.</p> <p>Goal - Improved farm productivity and increase participation rates in Landcare activities.</p>	<p>Deliver the recommendations of the Agricultural Land Strategy, including the outcomes from the Rural Landscape evaluation (distinction between the farming landscape and the natural landscape) and supporting a variety of agricultural industries which can all contribute to the liveability and identity of this municipality.</p> <p>Explore alternative, sustainable farming practices.</p>	<p>Work with agencies and community organisations to encourage sustainable rural land management and enhance conservation values.</p> <p>Investigate the impacts of climate change on land use and how the outcomes may be incorporated into the Planning Scheme.</p>	<p>Agricultural Land Study and Strategy.</p>	<p>RCoW-Economic Development DSE & DPI Landcare</p>

A Vibrant and Healthy Community – Young, Senior, Families, New residents

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
<p>To investigate opportunities for community involvement in the old school site.</p> <p>Goal - A vision for the old school site.</p>		<p>Encourage collaborative use of community and education facilities.</p>		<p>Department of Education & Training & Early Childhood Development RCoW-Community & Amenity</p>

Arts, Culture & Heritage – events, preservation group, projects

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
<p>Create a suitable display cabinet in the local hall to house memorabilia from the school and other historical events.</p> <p>Goal - Display cabinet installed in hall.</p>	<p>Support arts, cultural and heritage providers.</p>	<p>Support cultural groups to celebrate their heritage.</p> <p>Work with the communities in townships to identify and preserve local character.</p>		<p>RCoW – Community Planning</p>

Infrastructure – roads, signs, halls

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
Upgrade and improve road system Goal - Sealing of more strategic roads.				RCoW-Infrastructure
To improve hall facilities to meet standards and increase opportunities for hall hiring. Goal - Well maintained hall with increase patronage	Identify and develop infrastructure which supports and facilitates linking people to their community is e.g. meeting places, walking tracks, information technology, neighbourhood playgrounds, and transport.	Assist with the development of strategic plans for recreation reserve Committees of Management. Continue to upgrade facilities to ensure communities have access to a place to meet for social, recreational and learning opportunities.	Wangaratta Recreation Parklands Masterplan	RCoW-Community & Amenity
To increase community awareness and education about solar power outcomes. Goal - To have solar power/hot water installed on hall by 2011.	Advocate for and identify financial incentives to allow businesses and households to develop renewable energy capacity. Facilitate uptake of solar energy by community through partnership programs (e.g. Towong model). Assess the needs and develop	Support community based climate change and sustainability initiatives.		RCoW-Sustainability

	<p>renewable energy targets for the community.</p> <p>Assist community to achieve energy saving target.</p>			
<p>Investigate a community bore to provide water for the township.</p> <p>Goal - Community bore established for township residents.</p>	<p>Council to maintain a significant advocacy role in all water security issues.</p> <p>Build working links with North East Region Water Authority (NERWA) in strategic water supply planning.</p>		<p>Rural City of Wangaratta Sustainable Water use Plan.</p>	<p>RCoW-Community & Amenity</p>
<p>Relocate community noticeboard from school site to outside Boorhaman Hotel.</p> <p>Goal - Community noticeboard relocated.</p>	<p>Ensure community information is accessible and in numerous forms languages.</p> <p>Continue to seek more creative ways to communicate with groups who do not often engage</p>			<p>Publican Community</p>

If you would like to know more about the Rural City of Wangaratta's Community Planning Program, please contact the Community Planning Unit on 5722 0824 or 5722 0828.