

Milawa & Markwood Community Plan 2010-2011

Introduction

Welcome to the Milawa-Markwood Community Plan. This plan began as an initiative of the Wangaratta Rural City and has developed with the generous support of Council.

The first community planning meeting was held in February 2010 with 27 people present and several meetings have been held since then. People from both Milawa and Markwood and representatives of many of our local businesses have contributed to the development of the plan.

As a result of the planning process, we have recently developed a Milawa-Markwood Development Group that aims to link the various community, tourism and recreation groups. We look forward to working together with them all to achieve the five strategies agreed through our planning process. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the development of our 2010-2011 plan. A special note of thanks goes to those people who have offered to take a leadership role for our community and “champion” one of the strategies.

John G. Brown
Interim Chairman
Milawa-Markwood Development Group



Visions of Victoria

Profile of Milawa & Markwood

The Milawa township of approximately 200 people is located at “The Crossroads”, south east of Wangaratta.

Milawa was named in 1874 after being known only as The Square for many years prior. The word “Milawa” is aboriginal in origin and is said to mean “flat land”.

Markwood, extending from beautiful Henley Ridge to the lush Oxley Flats, was originally known as “Tea Garden”, after the Tea Garden Creek that flows through the area. In more recent times, the area was renamed Markwood, recognising the Marks and Wood families who had settled in the area.

The Milawa - Markwood area is well known as the gourmet food and wine hub in North East Victoria and supports many popular wineries, food venues and events.

Vision Statement

“The planning and future of Milawa village is built around a thriving gourmet food and wine centre, cultural diversity, innovation, education, recreation and tourism, encapsulating local experience and expertise”

STRATEGIES 2010-2011

Strategy #1: A Vibrant and Healthy Community

To provide the community with social connection, accessibility, improved sporting facilities and up to date technology.

Strategy #2: A Thriving Economy

To strengthen tourism and investigate alternative energy options.

Strategy #3: Safety and Accessibility

To have safer roads for pedestrians and vehicles.

Strategy # 4: Arts, Culture & Heritage

To collate and record the history of Milawa and Markwood.

Strategy # 5: Infrastructure, Roads, Signs, Halls

To provide up to date infrastructure for the Milawa-Markwood community whilst maintaining the village lifestyle.

Existing Plans & Strategies

Milawa Recreation Reserve Strategy
Milawa Gourmet Region Strategy

Community Groups

Milawa & Markwood Development Association
Milawa & Oxley Rotary Club
Milawa Bowling Club
Milawa Cemetery Trust
Milawa CFA
Milawa Football & Netball Club
Milawa Gourmet Region Association
Milawa Hall Committee
Milawa Heritage Group
Milawa Recreation Reserve Committee
Milawa Squash Club
Milawa Tennis Club

Community facilities

John McLeese Park
Markwood Hall
Markwood Transfer Station
Milawa Cemetery
Milawa Hall
Milawa Primary School
Milawa Recreation Reserve

Community Events

Australia Day Celebration
Christmas Carols in the Park
Milawa Muster/Family Fun Day

Communications

Milawa Primary School Newsletter
King Valley Grapevine
Community website Milawa.vic.au
Noticeboard at the store & the hotel
Brown Brothers Newsletter



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Strategy #1: A Vibrant and Healthy Community

To provide the community with social connection, accessibility, improved sporting facilities and up to date technology.

Priority Need	Champions	Aim	Goal	Stakeholders
Engage the whole community	Sally Rodgers Ken Smith Faye Smart	To provide events & to build social connection in the community.	A community event held each year. Milawa Muster/Family Fun Day/Event	RCOW – Community local clubs & businesses DPCD – funding
Recreation	Beat Allan Sally Rodgers	To improve sporting facilities & increase participation in sport.	Upgraded recreation reserve facilities & strong sporting clubs.	RCOW – Community & Recreation, The Centre - CARN
Shared path	Kevin De Henin	To provide a safe and accessible shared path that links town centre with recreation reserve. To improve physical health & wellbeing of community.	A shared path established. Health & wellbeing of community improved.	Milawa Rec Reserve RCOW – Infrastructure, Community & Recreation RDV VicRoads
Community website	Sally Rodgers	To provide a community website to promote events, community groups and businesses.	Website established & launched.	RCOW - Community AUCD – Geographical Domain Names

Strategy #2: A Thriving Economy

To strengthen tourism and investigate alternative energy options.



Priority Need	Champions	Aim	Goal	Stakeholders
Tourism	Kevin De Henin	To improve, connect & strengthen the tourism experience.	Bus parking established.	RCOW – Community & Economic Development Milawa GRA
• Infrastructure	Eb Kunze		Toilet amenity block established.	
• Visitor facilities	Steve Collins Peter Hoppach Beat Allan		Visitor information board installed.	

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- Food & wine hub with gourmet theme

More seating and shade trees within the streetscape.
Rail trail/walking & bike path
Playground & seating

Natural Gas	Terry Hallinan	To investigate alternate energy options for the Milawa community.	Establish an alternate and sustainable energy source in Milawa.	Wangaratta Unlimited Origin Energy
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Strategy #3: Safety and Accessibility

To have safer roads for pedestrians and vehicles.

Priority Need	Champions	Aim	Goal	Stakeholders
Speed Limits	Doug Brockfield	To make roads safer for vehicles & pedestrians.	Speed limits installed as per Customer Action Requests.	Rotary Club RCOW - Infrastructure VicRoads
Street Lighting	Doug Brockfield	To increase visibility at crossroads.	Street lighting installed at crossroads.	RCOW VicRoads
Shared path (As above #1)				

Strategy # 4: Arts, Culture & Heritage

To collate and record the history of Milawa and Markwood.

Priority Need	Champions	Aim	Goal	Stakeholders
Development of Arts, Culture & Heritage	John Brown Col Reid	To collate heritage of Oxley Plains and record in digital format, book and electronically for future generations.	Book published and heritage promoted to the wider community.	RCOW – Cultural Development Arts Victoria Public Records Victoria Heritage Victoria

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Strategy # 5: Infrastructure, Roads, Signs, Halls

To provide up to date infrastructure for the Milawa-Markwood community while maintaining the village lifestyle.

Priority Need	Champions	Aim	Goal	Stakeholders
Sewerage	John Brown Jenny Tober	To implement a sewerage service for Milawa that incorporates modern techniques and environmental preferences where the community chooses the preferred option from statutory & commercial offerings.	A sewerage reticulation system established to address the long-standing issue of groundwater contamination by existing waste disposal and meet EPA standards.	North East Water Rural City of Wangaratta (RCOW) - Infrastructure
Drainage	John Brown Jenny Tober	To provide roadside drainage in order to avoid pooling following rainfall, remove the risk of flood damage & mosquito breeding.	Roadside drainage upgraded in Milawa.	RCOW – Infrastructure & Environment
Water	John Brown Jenny Tober	To protect the health of residents & visitors and remove the burden of supply & maintenance from landholders.	Potable reticulated water supply to houses in the main centres established.	RCOW - Community North East Water
Hall & Park Upgrade	Jill McGillivray Col Reid	To maintain hall & park for expanded community use therefore increasing hall hiring.	Hall & park upgraded and maintained. Increased hall hiring.	Milawa Hall Committee RCOW - Community RDV – funding RCOW - Planning
Zoning – lifestyle rural	Terry Hallinan	An informed community to manage rezoning to protect the village lifestyle.	Existing & potential zoning arrangements researched.	RCOW – Eco Dev & Infrastructure VicRoads
Signage	Doug Brockfield	To review and upgrade signage in the Milawa District.	Signage upgraded.	