



Minutes of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Focus Group

Thursday 6 June 2024
6.00pm
Council Chambers
209 Comur Street, Yass

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Present

Cr Kristin Butler, Annaliese Caston (Murrumbateman Community Association), Sally Jones (Murrumbateman Adult Riders Club), Steph McCall (public member), Tracey Ewens (Murrumbateman Community Association), Lisa Powick (Yass Valley Riding Club, Sal Bensley (Murrumbateman Lyons Club), Lisa Tilyard (Murrumbateman Little Athletics), Natasha Amerasinghe (Murrumbateman Tennis Club) Tom White (Murrumbateman Field Days), Mel Cooke, Julie Costa, Ralph Kunneke and Helen Prytula (Yass Valley Council)

1. Apologies

Cr Mike Reid

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Focus Group held on 5 September 2022, copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed.

That the minutes of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Focus Group held on 23 April 2024, copies of which had been circulated to all Councillors, be taken as read and confirmed.

3. Staff Reports

3.1 Sports Council Update

The last Sports Council meeting was held over two years ago and may not be fit for purpose. It was suggested that it would be better to focus on user groups per sporting facility. This was noted by the groups present at this meeting.

3.2 Open Spaces Strategy Update

Council thanks Annalise Caston and Stephanie Helm for their input into the open space strategy which due to staffing challenges was quite a drawn out process. The strategy is available to view on the Yass Valley Council website. Recommendations in the Strategy will impact the future for recreation asset planning.

Council will include the Open Space Strategy recommendations when reviewing and updating various policies and strategies.

The upcoming budget will be very tight and it is anticipated that future funding will substantially need to come from grants.

The Strategy makes recommendations for the disposal of land and the proceed of any sales would go into reserve for development of parks as detailed in the strategy.

3.3 Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Strategic Plan Review

Item	Activity	Priority	Update
1	Construct new Amenities Building	High	Almost complete - Report by 12 July - anticipate onsite works finished by Aug/Sep.
2	Construct new storage facility/clubhouse – equestrian precinct	High	Complete.
3	Upgrade tennis synthetic grass courts	Medium	Complete.
4	Construct new storage for sporting/club groups	Medium	Complete.
5	Remediate sand within equestrian arenas	Medium	Currently under investigation, trial with small sample areas (20 x 20) currently in progress.
6	Investigate power upgrade to recreation grounds	Medium	Minor power upgrade completed. It was suggested that the power boxes should be relocated to a better position to protect them from damage. Agreed to wait until all work finalised before considering relocation of power boxes.
7	Construct new Community Hall	Medium	Noted new hall not likely for number of years. MCA made a submission to Council for the 24/25 budget. A maintenance plan to be prepared and a separate action item added.
8	Seal internal roadway around oval and delineate parking	Medium	Funding approved in principle. Noted works to not occur in conflict with the Field Days event. Concern expressed about potential duplicated cost in preparation for Field Days.
9	Cricket net – Investigate new site to relocate nets	Medium	New site determined behind the weather shed pending grant funding. Concerns raised on consultation with groups and site impact on various events. Ralph will mark out the location on site for the Focus Group members to review. If the committee are not happy with location, they will need to come forward with an alternative.

Minutes of the Murrumbateman Recreation Ground Focus Group held on 6 June 2024

Item	Activity	Priority	Update
10	Install remote supervision signs throughout the recreation grounds	Medium	Part of a council wide funded project currently being undertaken.
11	Install directional signs for equestrian facilities & reduced speed signs around oval	Medium	Part of a council wide funded project currently being undertaken.
12	Construct new Dog Park	Medium	Currently in progress. Refer section 3.5 for details.
13	Install new playground at Jones Park	Medium	Requested for the park to be updated with the addition of pathways. Noted paths also continue to war memorial.
14	Construct improvements to Barton Highway entrance into recreation ground (including culvert crossing of watercourse)	Medium	Investigations are underway. Check CRIF application status as no response to date.
15	Construct linked pathway to dog park / winery trail	Medium	Work in progress.
16	Upgrade existing public toilets	Medium	Funding approved in principle from leftover funding from the grant for the Amenities Building.
17	Upgrade internal roadway to equestrian precinct	Medium	Complete.
18	Investigate water supply options following commissioning of the Yass to Murrumbateman pipeline.	Medium	Complete.
19	Prepare a Traffic and Parking Plan	Medium	To be completed as part of Item 8.
20	Examine options for tennis court cover	Low	This item may have been misinterpreted and need to be removed. Awaiting confirmation from the tennis club.
21	Relocate internal fencing to increase parking around sporting oval	Low	To be investigated in consultation with all groups.

Item	Activity	Priority	Update
22	Formalise wash bay / car parking – equestrian precinct	Low	Complete.
23	Installation of irrigation to sporting oval & install 120,000 litre tank	Low	Complete.
24	Construct new enclosed all weather multipurpose sports courts	Low	Item to remain pending investigation noting Tennis Club to commence a feasibility study.

Council to develop updated action list and circulate via Teams for comments by Focus Group members.

New installations on the Grounds also need to be included on the map.

Council to update asset register.

3.4 Grant Funding Opportunities

The GrantsGuru portal is available for clubs to search for grant funding throughout Australia. The general consensus from the groups is that this portal is working well to date. All noted that grant funding is very competitive.

3.5 Council Projects Update

- The dog park is in the final stages and is close to being completed – Committee has requested a water tap which is to be considered. Cr Butler asked if residents could put in a temporary water fountain which was agreed to by Yass Valley Council. Ralph noted that water sources could be tampered with and may be better for people to bring their own water until a tap is installed.
- The field irrigation and sports shed have been completed.
- Murrumbateman sand arena stabilisation – Ralph is waiting on user group submission for improvements.
- Amenities building - Issue with Monitoring Wells being in close proximity to Sewer Pressure System - discussion with Water NSW currently being undertaken. Noted the timing of the new toilet block and ring road seal will depend on when leftover grant funding needs to be expended by.

3.6 Community Project Discussion

- Mel advised that the AFL group has secured funding for netting to be installed behind the goal posts to prevent balls impacting area outside the oval.
- Natasha (Murrumbateman Tennis Club) advised that they are looking at funding for a feasibility study for the all-weather multi-use sports court, however in early stages.
- Tom (Murrumbateman Field Days) advised they are looking at applying for funding to install a site wired PA system for all community groups to use. They are currently waiting to hear back on the finalised cost.

- Moon Shed – Murrumbateman Field Days and Murrumbateman Community Association to undertake improvements, floor cleaning/painting in the shed to house the mowers and other equipment (and worked on as necessary). Pony Club will soon relocate their equipment and floor will be cleared and painted.
- Murrumbateman Field Days and the Murrumbateman Community Association are currently looking for grants to obtain a tractor/slasher for grounds/arena maintenance and mowing which is estimated to cost around \$100,000.
- MCA noted that some fencing was installed for safety within the equestrian area to prevent horses ending in the creek culverts – funded 50/50 by Murrumbateman Adult Riders Club and Council.
- MCA noted additional fencing and consultation required for the Hillview subdivision development pathway connection. Council waiting on updated plan from engineer. Additional fencing also required around the Amenities Building.
- MCA advised still looking for funding for fitness equipment and where to place it.

3.7 General Business

- Long Jump Pit has been damaged. Ralph advised it is a simple fix which is currently in progress.
- Cr Kristin asked if there would be landscaping in front of the Amenities Building.
- MCA raised concerns regarding impact to ground/roots of heritage trees in the Grounds including near the Amenities Building and potential parking area. Installation of bollards to be considered to exclude vehicles from these areas.
- Can Council assist with the long term maintenance management of the Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds. The Council supplied mower and MCA supplied mower are currently operated by volunteers. Volunteers won't always be available to help. Council will investigate further. MCA stated there is a current MOU with MCA/Menshed from 2017 which needed review.
- Southern Sand Arena – could this space be repurposed. Once new playground constructed Council will consult with group. Noted Annaliese advised this is a long term community consideration for when all facilities are completed in the Northern Equestrian Precinct.
- Online Booking System – users not placing a booking, not user friendly, doesn't capture all available options. Issue is under investigation.
- Old Horse Yards to be removed. Council awaiting submission from user groups. Noted to be completed before the Field Days in October as sites for exhibitors will be placed here.
- MCA asked about ensuring continuance of off-lead dog area in the Recreation Grounds in the cross-country area as the dog park is not suitable for all. Julie advised it would depend on the current requirements.
- MCA asked about rabbit proof fencing of oval and question the standard that would be needed. Council advised AFL were investigating and waiting for a proposal. Council advised they had undertaken alternative rabbit deterrence prior to the irrigation project.

4. Next Meeting

To be confirmed

The meeting closed at 7.20pm