



**AGENDA APPENDIX 1**  
**Ordinary Meeting of Council**  
**Wednesday 27 March 2013**

**AGENDA ITEM FOR SEPARATE DISTRIBUTION TO COUNCILLORS AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM DUE TO DOCUMENT SIZE.**

**THE ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE VIA THE COUNCIL WEBSITE OR BY CONTACTING GOVERNANCE ON 03 5662 9222.**

**E.1 REQUEST BY THE DUMBALK AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED FOR A NEW LEASE OF THE FORMER DUMBALK KINDERGARTEN, 20 MILLER STREET, DUMBALK**

**CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS PLAN**

**APPENDIX 1**

9/1/2013

Helen Heley  
Property Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
Private Bag 4  
Leongatha 3953

**Ongoing lease for the Old Kindergarten Building at Dumbalk**

Dear Helen,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Dumbalk & District Progress Association (DDPA) to request an ongoing lease of the Old Kindergarten Building at Tarwin Street Dumbalk from the South Gippsland Shire Council.

After the closure of the Dumbalk Kindergarten the DDPA leased the Building at Tarwin Street Dumbalk from the Shire for the preparations of the "Dumbalk & Districts Back to Celebrations" in 2008. Incidentally, the DDPA won the "Best Community Event of the Year" for this event.

In 2009 the DDPA requested an ongoing lease from the Shire Council of the old Kinder Building at Dumbalk. At that stage the DDPA was given a short term lease.

Since then the DDPA have been negotiating with the Shire to obtain an ongoing lease of the building for Community Use and a Heritage and Historical Centre. After several meetings with Shire Staff we have a Business Plan which we will submit to the Shire Council for an ongoing lease of the Building.

During the last 3 years the DDPA have not been able to proceed with all our plans because of the uncertainty of our future at the building.

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2012 the Gardiner Foundation offered the DDPA \$5,700.00 for the Community and Heritage Hub. The Foundation is holding the money, for a short period, subject to the necessary documentation of securing the site for the Hub. The Foundation only offered funding for IT equipment and not the security windows and doors, furnishings or connections as the lease is not confirmed.

The DDPA would be grateful if the ongoing lease could be finalized as soon as possible and I look forward to discussing the requirements with you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely



Bev Hanley (Secretary DDPA)

Phone 03 5664 4344 Email [dumbalkdpa@gmail.com](mailto:dumbalkdpa@gmail.com)

# Dumbalk & District Progress Association Business Plan

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## 1. Business Overview

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### **Dumbalk & District Progress Association**

The Dumbalk & District Progress Association (DDPA) was formed in 1980 out of a need to have a voice for the community in the Dumbalk Township. Since that time it has grown to become the leading association in the district; raising funds for community groups, holding a number of annual and one off events, beautifying the township and becoming the keeper of the area's history.

After the closure of the Dumbalk Kindergarten, the DDPA leased it from the Shire on an annual basis. It has now become a community and historical hub where town meetings, seminars, social gatherings and classes are held.

Unlike other community groups in the area, whose interests are centred on their own particular area, e.g. Dumbalk Hall Committee, Dumbalk CFA, the DDPA has a much broader scope of action, to respond to community needs. As an example, when the Dumbalk General Store faced closure in 2008 it was the DDPA that alerted the community to the situation and the consequences of losing the store. The DDPA then held meetings that led to the successful sale of the business and its ongoing success as the community realised its importance and supports it.

In the immediate future the DDPA will continue its work as in the past and will seek to extend its scope of action. With a secure lease on the "Kinda" premises the DDPA will grow that centre as a community and historical hub and education

facility. The DDPA has been preparing for ongoing use of the Kinda by adding to the facilities assets, e.g. we recently purchased a computer, projector, screen and whiteboard; supporting the intention of setting the building up as a hub for community education, with much needed internet access and computer classes.

The building is already used by the community for a number of educational and leisure activities (see appendix 1a) that we intend to grow as the community identifies its interests and needs.

We will continue to build on the wealth of historical material that we have, as a result of the very successful Centenary that we instigated and co-ordinated in 2008 and work towards having the history of the Tarwin Valley on display and available for all to see.

### **Achievements of the DDPA**

- Organised working bees for tree clearing and tree plantation at the Recreation Reserve and entrances to town, after residents input. Many Waratahs were planted in the township and tree ferns in Heritage Park.
- Members constructed and planted trees at the Reg. Moore Entrance.
- Development of "Park at Cross Roads" at the crossroads.
- Co-ordinated with the Shire to purchase two allotments.
- DDPA members constructed a new boundary fence at the Park
- Redeveloped the newly named Heritage Park.
- Organised the installation of the display cabinets in the gazebo, the photograph display in the gazebo, road directory board, drink fountain and the night light for the Gum Tree; all funded with grants and donations. The Shire has since taken over the maintenance of the park.
- Members constructed the Bus Shelter for Senior Citizens and School Students in the Memorial Park.
- Co-ordinated with the Shire for Senior's transport to and from Leongatha in the 1980's and again in 2011 set up a bus service in conjunction with The Mirboo North RSL and Leongatha RSL and DDPA.



- Lobbied the Shire and State Government (with Nerrena Progress Association) for the reconstruction of Nerrena Road at Nerrena. This was the last major road works carried out by the Shire.
- Co-ordinated with the South Gippsland Water Board for the installation of the Water Treatment Plant.
- Reconstruction of Nerrena Road from Tarwin River to the township and reconstruction of McKitterick's Road, in co-operation with the Shire.
- In partnership with the Shire and Murray Goulburn, commissioned the artist Dennis Leversha to paint the Heritage Mural on Murray Goulburn's north wall. DDPA members constructed the Mural Plaque in the Mural's garden. The Shire constructed a garden in front of the mural. DDPA installed a moon on the mural.
- In 2005 members constructed the walking Track from the town to the Recreation Reserve (another excellent outcome), well within the grant budget of \$10,000; an excellent outcome (The shire's estimate for the project was \$25,000).
- Successfully lobbied Vic Roads to resurface the "Loves Lane" bends, develop a safe road junction at the corner of Loves Lane and Farmer's Road, erect animal warning signs at Nerrena, install roadside barriers rails on the "Nerrena Road" bends and repair a 'dip in the road' near Campisi's property.
- New lines installed on Nerrena Road after the DDPA met with Vic Roads and Shire staff on a number of occasions about the cross Roads.
- DDPA organised the Community New Millennium Celebrations in the Local Hall.
- DDPA organised (by Public request) public meetings in the Dumbalk Hall regarding the possibility of Wind Farms in our area. 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting: 80 people. 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting: 360 people.
- Organise annual Christmas celebrations and decorate the Memorial Park, the Annual Car Boot and Craft Sale during autumn and annual "thank you BBQ" for our CFA Members.

- The DDPA has worked with the Shire and obtained a number of grants to instigate a range of improvements in Memorial Park
  - constructed of a path through the Park and installing a seat
  - construction of a Shelter and twin BBQ's
  - Constructing and planting a garden at both ends of the shelter and at the north side of the park and maintain the area.
- Supported and encouraged the establishment of Tarwin Valley Camp Draft Club at Dumbalk Recreation Reserve.
- 'Back to Dumbalk' Celebrations in 2008; which won the Shire best Community Event in 2009.
- Construction of a public notice board at Telstra exchange, fund by a successful application to the Mirboo North Community Foundation.
- Acquisition of a filing cabinet to store historical photos, also funded by a grant application.

## 2. Products/Services

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The Dumbalk Community Hub ( Kinda) provides a base for:

- Community events, that brings the people of the Lower Tarwin Valley together to connect and socialise.
- The initiation of special projects, including organising, funding and facillitating projects through out the community that beautify, update or add to the quality of life in the Dumbalk District with new and or improved services and structures, e.g. a community bus service, Community notice boards, Signage.
- Community groups to meet and socialise.
- Community groups and other organisations to hold information sessions, seminars and leisure classes.

- Community groups to hold classes to improve or gain skills necessary in a changing world.
- Collecting, storing and displaying the history of the Lower Tarwin Valley.
- Publishing and distributing a quarterly newsletter informing the community of news and events specific to their lives whilst providing an avenue for the community to advertise, communicate and read about people and events of the Dumbalk District.
- Engaging the youth of the Dumbalk District allowing them to socialise with each other and to give them a sense of community.
- A central point for newcomers to the Dumbalk District to be informed about the area they have chosen to live.
- The development and maintenance of a website specific to the Dumbalk District to promote the area and inform the community.
- The development and maintenance of a data base of email addresses to facilitate good communications across the Dumbalk District.

### **3. Market Analysis**

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In a broader sense the community of the Lower Tarwin Valley is the market for the services DDPA provides.

- We target the whole community in the distribution of the newsletter, the community events we hold and the availability of the Community Hub and its assets.



- For educational courses we are more specific by targeting members of the community who have special needs. e.g. community members who have limited computer skills are targeted for our planned 'Introduction to Computer' course.(appendix 1b)
- The market for our services and assets is growing as more people move into the area and as modern day skills become essential in a changing world.
- There is an increasing need to preserve the history of the area and there is no other community group available to expand it and undertake its preservation.
- In the information age the DDPA is the group the community look to for education and information.

## 4. Competition

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### **Newsletter**

Whilst there are other providers of news within South Gippsland much of it is not relevant to the Dumbalk District.

### **Community Hub**

There is no other facility with in the Dumbalk District that has the facilities and is available for such a wide variety of uses.

### **Educational, Skills and Leisure courses**

Whilst there are courses held for those that wish to travel further afield the DDPA, through community consultation, is holding courses that there is already a demand for in the area. We are

also conducting them at times that are suitable for those interested. As a volunteer organisation we are able to minimise costs for these services.

### **Historical Preservation**

There is no other community group interested in preserving the areas history. Since the centenary celebration held in 2008 the DDPA has built on its extensive records of the last 100 years that it began collating for that event.

### **Competition for Committee Members**

- With limited number of people within the community willing to commit to being a part of any community group there is competition between community groups for members. The DDPA has a broader scope of interests in the Lower Tarwin Valley as a whole rather than being defined by more specific interests. There are always members of the community willing to participate with a group that has the betterment of the whole district as its main focus.

## **5. Marketing Strategy**

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The DDPA aims to be able to communicate with the people of the Dumbalk District and promote its services and assets at minimum costs.

### **Strategy for communication and promotion.**

**Newsletter:** Status – current. Self funded by advertisers.

**Lower Tarwin Valley Database:** Status: Expanding. Direct communication with the community at no cost.

**Website:** Status: Under construction by volunteers. Minimal costs. Funded by fund raising activities.

**Community Notice Boards:** Status – Current. Direct communication with the community at no cost.

**Local Media press releases:** Status – Current. No cost broader communication.

**Local Media Advertising:** Status – Current. Promotion of special events. Funded by fundraising activities.

**Phone Tree:** Status – Current. No cost direct communication by committee members.

**Town Entrance signs & Sandwich Boards:** Status – Current. No cost broader communication.

## 6. Business Structure and Management

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### **Structure**

President

Vice President X 2

Secretary

Treasurer

Newsletter Editor

Committee members

## 7. Finances

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The operations of the DDPA and the Kinda are mostly self-funded through some 'fee-for-service' activity and a number of fund raising events throughout the year.

Capital assets have been purchased as the result of fundraising and added to by the successful applications for grants

### **Dumbalk & District Progress Association**

### **Balance Sheet 1-7-2011 to 30-6-2012**

**Bank Balance as at 1st July 2011** \$7,166.49

#### **Income**

Newsletter Advertisements	\$1,063.00
Cards, craft, spinning	\$441.30
Sale of books, pens	\$317.05
Fund Raising	\$2,954.10
Grants & discretionary Fund	\$3,800.00
Donations	\$218.90
Membership Fees	\$16.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,810.35</b>

#### **Expenses**

Postage & stationary	\$232.19
Insurance, Corporate Affairs	\$627.45
Lease of Building	\$114.40
Capital Works	\$5,520.70
Power	\$483.49
Fund Raising expenses	\$164.73
Advertising	\$160.99
Donations	\$1,150.00
Miscellaneous	\$375.91
Market	\$298.47
Christmas Party	\$479.71
Newsletter Printing	\$1,512.50
	<b><u>\$11,120.54</u></b>

**Balance as at 30th June 2012** **\$4,856.30**

#### **Some explanation of Income and Expenditure listed in Balance Sheet**

##### **Income**

Grant & Discretionary Fund	
Mirboo North & District Community Foundation	\$3,200.00
South Gippsland Shire Discretionary Fund	\$600.00

**There has been \$5520.70 spent on Capital Works**

The break down of this is shown below

Blinds for Community Centre	\$1,320.00
Kathy Salmons-Sign Writing for noticeboard	\$180.00
Chairs	\$150.00
SWAT Pest Control	\$250.00
LIAT-Lap Top & accessories	\$1,000.00
Whiteboard	\$120.70
Projector & Screen	\$2,500.00
<b>Total Capital Works expenses</b>	<b><u>\$5,520.70</u></b>

## 8. Action Plan

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Key Objectives	Task	By Whom	By When
<b>Finalise Premises</b>	Secure long term lease from the South Gippsland shire.	Committee	Jan 2013
	Secure vulnerable windows in building against theft.	Committee	Sept 2012
<b>Finance</b>	Secure Funding for IT Purchases	Committee	Oct 2012
	Expand Fundraising activities	Committee	Ongoing
<b>Marketing</b>	Website	Committee	Dec 2012
	Expand Database	Committee	Ongoing
	Create a Brochure	Committee	March 2013
<b>Services</b>	Offer computer course for adults.	Committee	Jan 2013
	Engage areas Youth	Committee	Sept 2012
	Community & Heritage Hub	Com. See Appendix 1 d.	Oct.2012



## Strategic SWOT Analysis

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	<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assets.</li> <li>• Need for our Services and assets.</li> <li>• Community.</li> <li>• Communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non Secure building lease</li> <li>• Building Security</li> <li>• Communication</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Strategies using strengths to address opportunities</b>	<b>Strategies to reverse weaknesses to address opportunities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational Opportunities for Adults.</li> <li>• Youth Engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund equipment.</li> <li>• Begin Classes.</li> <li>• Exploit School Holidays</li> </ul>	Secure Long term lease on building helps to gain grants for equipment.
<b>Threats</b>	<b>Strategies to counter threats with strengths</b>	<b>Strategies to fix vulnerabilities</b>
Funding. Communication.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundraise</li> <li>• Grant Applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand communication strategies.</li> <li>• Budget.</li> <li>• Fundraise.</li> </ul>



## 9. Agreed Essential Works & Annual Maintenance Budget.

	Expenditure	Income
<b>Toilet:</b>  <b>Renovate to Standard</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$7500 Shire</b>  <b>\$7500 DDPA(Shire loan)</b>  If Shire can not do this -DDPA to raise money or apply for Grant
<b>External Repairs:</b>  e.g. Guttering, Facia Boards.	<b>\$2500</b>	<b>\$2500 Shire</b>  Shire has this listed in budget
<b>Incidentals:</b> e.g. Heating,  Additional security.	<b>\$6000</b>	<b>\$6000 DDPA</b>  ( fundraising, grant already applied for)  in-kind contributions for maintenance etc.
<b>Recurrent Expenditure</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>
<b>Internal Maintenance</b>	<b>\$2000</b>	<b>\$1100 -Community Groups</b>  Rental Groups already running- <b>Wool Spinning Cards, craft, Art Lessons, Land care.</b> All profits to DDPA.  <b>Educational Programs</b> conducted by external groups all ready in progress – Users pay  Gardiner Foundation in conjunction with South Gippsland Shire – for meetings and Grant Writing sessions- user pays  <b>Programs for elderly</b> –self funded.  The <b>CFA</b> have used building for 4 years cost free - <b>they will pay for usage.</b>  <b>Grants</b> from various foundations.  DDPA to run <b>fund raising activities</b> to cover costs.  <b>Relay for Life</b> have meetings & store goods. If necessary they pay.  <b>In Kind Catering</b> for functions.  Once lease is ongoing- <b>Singing Group, Computer interaction</b>

		<p>games for youth, games sessions.</p> <p>In Kind cleaning, repairs and maintenance.</p>
<p><b>External Maintenance</b></p> <p>e.g. grounds, painting</p>	<p><b>\$1200</b></p>	<p>\$1200</p> <p>Education Programs. e.g. Art &amp; youth group.</p> <p>Fund Raising functions by DDPA.</p> <p>The lawns, gardening and weeds -all in kind contributions.</p>
<p><b>Utilities, Phone, Internet</b></p>	<p><b>\$2000</b></p>	<p>\$2900 Fee for service,</p> <p>Fundraising.</p> <p>When DDPA started the lease for building we were instructed to ask for donations for usage.</p> <p>This has now changed with fees required</p>
<p><b>Total</b></p>	<p><b>\$28,700</b></p>	<p><b>\$28,700</b></p>

## **11. Appendix & Photos**

### **Groups and activities (appendix 1a)**

#### **Dumbalk & District Community and Historical Centre**

**In the 12 months to September 2012 the centre has been used on 128 separate occasions by nearly 20 different organizations with an attendance of approximately 880 people.**

- Dumbalk & District Progress Association (DDPA) - meetings and functions
- Working Bees for historical information.
- Dumbalk CFA meetings and training sessions for Juniors and Seniors.
- Relay for Life for South Gippsland –meetings, storage area.
- Card group, twice a month
- Craft group, twice a month
- Wool spinning group, weekly.
- Seminars and other small group functions.
- Grant writing sessions.
- Computer games evenings.
- Tarwin Valley Landcare group.
- Bee Keeping Group meetings
- Reunions and special events e.g. after a sausage sizzle and last viewing prior to auction of the former Dumbalk Primary School, visitors came back to the Kinda to view the historical information and photos of the School.
- Farewell to Community member.

## **Activities planned for in the near future. (appendix 1b )**

- Singing group
- Historical preservation Group.
- Zumba group.
- Video evenings.
- Youth Group, Computer Games.
- Art lessons
- Introduction to Computers and the Internet

**Photos plus List of activities in July 2012 (appendix 1c)**





Taken at DAN Meeting  
At Dumbalk Community Centre



Participants at the Grant Writing Session  
at the Community & Historical Hub.  
The Lap Top, Projector, Large Screen and Whiteboard in full use.

Past students viewing the photo display of the past photos  
of the Dumbalk Primary School at the Community Centre.  
This was made possible by the I. T. Equipment which was  
funded by the Mirboo North & District Community Foundation.











**Viewing of photos of the past at the Community Centre after the Sausage Sizzle to farewell the Dumbalk Primary School**



**Dumbalk CFA Members enjoying a cuppa at the Community Centre after the Garden Day which is organised annually by the DDPA to raise money for the CFA**



Visitors watching a slide show on the Big Screen



Inspecting history of the past







Model of Dumbalk of years gone by  
-Made by the late Sunny Ashenden



Poster advertising cards  
which is held twice a month



Craft held twice a month  
Held at Community Centre

**Project Plan for DDPA Community & Heritage Hub  
(appendix 1d)**

## PROJECT PLAN for DDPA November 2010

### COMMUNITY & HERITAGE HUB OF LOWER TARWIN VALLEY PROJECT FORMER KINDERGARTEN BUILDING

#### PHASE 1

- Set up an email account for Dumbalk DPA
- Install security screens to office windows and security door to external door
- Connect Phone to site
- Install internet facilities-(either ADSL.-Satellite or antennae)
- Purchase equipment- office computer, 6 lap tops and covers, laser scanner and printer, shredder. Office desk & chair, digital Dictaphone, laminator. Paper trimmer, sundry office accessories, office sundries
- Plan future education and information workshops and seek trainers for this
- Run computer classes
- Interview retired dairy farmers to obtain the history of the area
- Obtain a medium sized fireproof safe
- Provide assistance to the elderly to access internet resources and electronically storing their history.

❖ Time Line One year

#### PHASE 2

- Purchase storage cabinets, glass display cabinets and a free-standing poster size plastic protected flip file
- Design a website for Dumbalk
- Provide computer lessons for elderly residents, retired and current dairy farmers
- Investigate establishing a visiting Medical Centre in existing Infant Welfare consulting rooms
- Include primary aged students in gathering information from grandparents or other elderly residents. This could be taped oral histories or in computer or book form.
- Devise and print questionnaire style booklets to be completed by residents with: Where were you born? What was your favourite childhood pastime? Etc.
- Subscribe to the Genealogy Society of Victoria or websites like Ancestry .com
- Advertising to market our facility in tourism brochures and websites
- Continue collecting, scanning and safely storing historical local artefacts both indigenous and European
- Seek donations of identically frames historical family photos for permanent display
- Provide speakers/workshops on tracing family trees
- Devise a local "heritage trail" of European historical and dairying sites to create tourism interest

❖ Time Line – To set up and implement by end of 2014

#### PHASE 3

- Continue gathering historical information from clubs. Businesses and families
- Provide workshops to strengthen our community by looking at diversity in agriculture like niche markets, tourism and B & B's
- Employ a curator/caretaker/cleaner
- Erect solar panels on north-facing roof to upgrade to more sustainable heating and cooling of building
- Continue to be a sustainable and ongoing enterprise
- Commission an author to write about "Herd Testing" which originated in this area
- Commission author to write "History of Young Farmers" which originated in this area.
- Update present storage area to locate a Historical model of Dumbalk
- To obtain funding for a "Men's Shed" to be erected in the Community Centre site.

❖ Time Line- Ongoing



**Project Plan**  
**Community & Heritage Hub of the Lower Tarwin Valley**  
**To be implemented at the Dumbalk Community Centre.**

Date 30-10-2012  
Prepared by Bev Hanley

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Lead</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>
Set up email address for DDPA	Matthew Lawless	No cost	already completed
Connect Phone to Site	Toine Bouvill Don Couper	\$125.00	Already researched. This will happen as soon as we secure ongoing lease Jan 2013
Install security screens for 2 Offices	Don Couper	\$1350.00	March 2013
Purchase Office and other	Graeme O'Connor		April 2013
Install Internet Facilities Equipment	Toine Bouvil	\$480.00	May 2013
Plan future Workshops & Computer Courses	Bev Hanley	voluntary	March 2013
Run Workshops & Computer Courses	Bev Hanley	self funded	May 2013
Interview Retired Dairy Farmers & long term residents in various Forums	Ed Hanley Don Couper Kay Cook Stanis Fitzgerald Bev Hanley Greg Trease Students for Primary & Sec. Schools	\$349.00 for "Notetaker" equipment	Already spoken to many people March 2013 ongoing

Not in this grant application but a necessary requirement to preserve historical material safely. The DDPA will purchase a Medium sized fire proof safe when money if available. Bev Hanley will research this and hopefully this will be purchased by June 2013.



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**THE ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE VIA THE COUNCIL WEBSITE OR BY CONTACTING GOVERNANCE ON 03 5662 9222.**

**E.1 REQUEST BY THE DUMBALK AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED FOR A NEW LEASE OF THE FORMER DUMBALK KINDERGARTEN, 20 MILLER STREET, DUMBALK**

**DUMBALK COMMUNITY PLAN**

**APPENDIX 2**



# Community Directions

## Dumbalk & District Community Plan



# Where are we?



*Lifestyle*



*History*



*Recreation*



*Natural Beauty*





## Dumbalk & District

Dumbalk is a town in the South Gippsland region of Victoria, Australia. It is in the heart of South Gippsland dairy industry and features lush green pastures most of the year around. It is centred in the Tarwin Valley and it exudes beautiful surrounding views. The word Dumbalk is an Aboriginal word that means winter, frost and rain- hence the excellent production qualities. The township features a local store and cafe, a farming hardware store, commercial nursery, sign writer, sheet metal business, MDU Football/Netball Club, MDU Cricket Club and school bus transport to a variety of nearby schools. Recreational activities include; local camp drafts, football, netball, cricket, card playing, indoor recreational games, craft and regular dances in the town hall. Dumbalk is renowned for one of the best local halls in the South Gippsland area. A trip to the Dumbalk must include one of the many scenic drives in the surrounding area. (Wikipedia)

Dumbalk and District is part of the area described as Rural North East of South Gippsland, it is a predominantly rural area. Rural North East includes the small townships and localities of Allambee Reserve (part), Allambee South (part), Arawata, Berrys Creek, Boolarong, Boolarra (part), Boolarra South (part), Boorool, Darlimurla (part), Delburn (part), Dollar, **Dumbalk**, **Dumbalk North**, Fairbank, Gunyah, Hallston, Kardella, Koorooman, Leongatha North, Mardan, Mirboo (part), Mount Eccles, Mount Eccles South, Poowong East (part), Ranceby, Ruby, Strzelecki (part), Thorpdale South (part), Trida (part), Turtons Creek, Wild Dog Valley and Woorarra West. Rural North East is bounded by Baw Baw Shire and the locality of Mirboo North in the north, Latrobe City and Wellington Shire in the east, the localities of Toora North and Mount Best, the Franklin River, the locality of Wonga, Boolarra-Foster Road, the localities of Foster, Foster North, Stony Creek and Meeniyan in the south, and the localities of Nerrena, Leongatha, Kardella South, Korumburra, Poowong and Poowong North in the west.

Settlement of the area dates from the mid 1800s, with gradual growth from the late 1800s into the early 1900s. The most significant development occurred during the interwar and post-war periods. The population has declined slightly since the early 1990s, a result of few dwellings being added to the area and a decline in the average number of persons living in each dwelling. Land is used mainly for dairy and beef farming as well as cropping for potatoes, peas and vineyards. Dumbalk and District also hosts an annual Garden Day and annual Christmas Party in the memorial park.



# Who are we?

## Population Profile

### Dumbalk (Suburb)

In the 2011 Census, there were 113 families in Dumbalk (Suburb), 47 couples with children, 59 Couple families without children and 7 One Parent families with an overall district population of 412.

The median weekly individual income for persons aged 15 years and over who were usual residents was \$396, compared with \$577 in Australia. The median weekly household income was \$840, compared with \$1,234 in Australia. The median weekly family income was \$900 compared with \$1,481 in Australia.

There were a total of 157 private dwellings counted in Dumbalk (Suburb) 75 were fully owned, 60 being purchased and 16 rented with 5 being not stated. 113 were family households, 37 lone person household and 6 group households.

*(Statistics from the 2011 Census)*

*Of a total labour force of 57 individuals aged over 15 years, there were 32 employed full time, 21 part time & 4 employed away from work. There were 69 people not in the labour force. (Statistics from the 2006 Census – 2011 employment stats to be released Oct 2012)*

### Rural North East (statistics from SGSC website)

Key statistics (summary statistics)	Rural North East		South Gippsland Shire %	South Gippsland Shire %	Change 2001 to 2006
	2006	2001			
<b>Usual Residence data</b>	number	%	number	%	
<b>Usual resident population</b>					
Total population (b)	2,654	100.0	2,610	100.0	44
Males (b)	1,357	51.1	1,316	50.4	40
Females (b)	1,297	48.9	1,293	49.6	4
<b>Population characteristics</b>					
Indigenous population	17	0.6	13	0.5	4
Australian born	2,235	84.2	2,245	86.0	-10
Overseas born	269	10.2	271	10.4	-2
Australian citizens	2,434	91.7	2,466	94.5	-32
Australian citizens aged 18+	1,814	68.4	1,761	67.5	53
<b>Age structure</b>					
Infants 0 to 4 years	129	4.9	156	6.0	-28
Children 5 to 17 years	544	20.5	562	21.5	-18
Adults 18 to 64 years	1,611	60.7	1,594	61.1	17
Mature adults 65 to 84 years	353	13.3	282	10.8	71
Senior citizens 85 years and over	20	0.7	22	0.9	-3
Average household size (persons)	2.55	--	2.69	--	

Photos K.Fraser SGSC

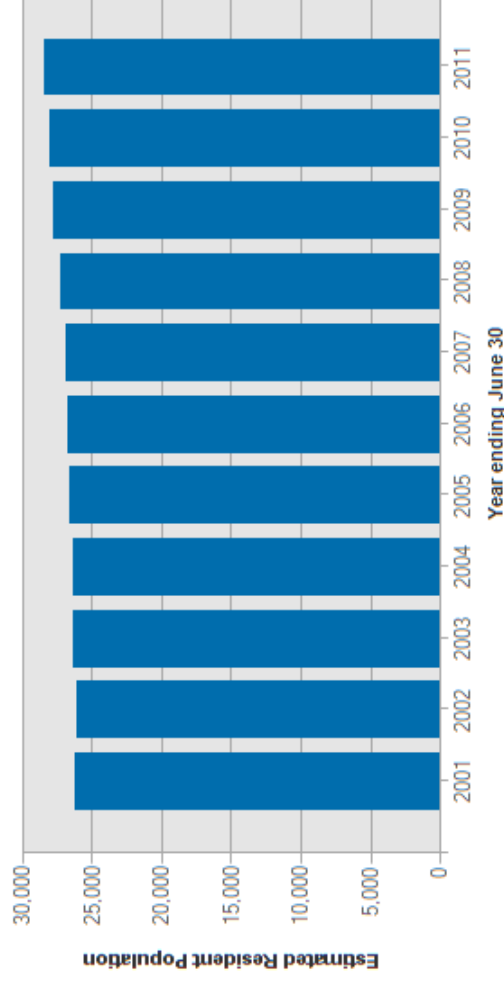
# South Gippsland Profile

## South Gippsland - Shire wide statistics

South Gippsland has a thriving economy with over 7,000 businesses contributing to an annual output of over \$2.8 billion. South Gippsland has one of the lowest unemployment rates in Australia

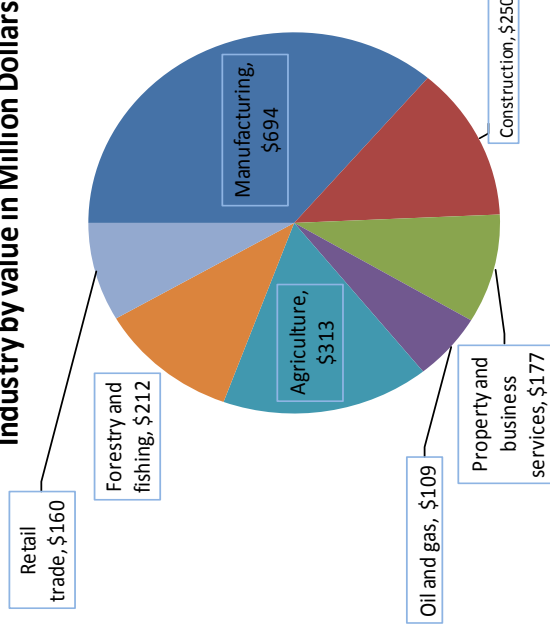
South Gippsland Shire is located just a pleasant ninety minute drive through coastal flats and rolling hills to the south east of Melbourne, and stretches from Nyora in the west, to Welshpool in the east, and Mirboo North to the north. The southern boundary is formed by the Bass Strait coastline. As well as the main towns of Korumburra, Leongatha, Mirboo North and Foster, South Gippsland has over 20 smaller communities that are an integral part of the shire. Its commercial, social, cultural and environmental qualities make it a wonderful environment to live, work and invest. The shire has an expanding population of over 28,000 and covers 3,280 square kilometres which include some of the nation's most arable farming land.

Estimated Resident Population, South Gippsland Shire Council



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Cat. No. 3218.0 - Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2009

Industry by value in Million Dollars



# Community Assets

## Community Achievements

\$40,000 raised for CFA light tanker • Annual festival Camp draft • Dumbalk village market • Refurbished public toilets • Walking track - Main Rd to Recreation Reserve • Recreation Reserve pavilion upgrade • Recreation Reserve veranda • Refurbishment of Dumbalk general store • Rehabilitation of Dollar Rd • Back to Dumbalk celebrations • winner of SGS Community Event of the year • Annual Garden Day for CFA • Annual Christmas party in Memorial Park

## Community Groups

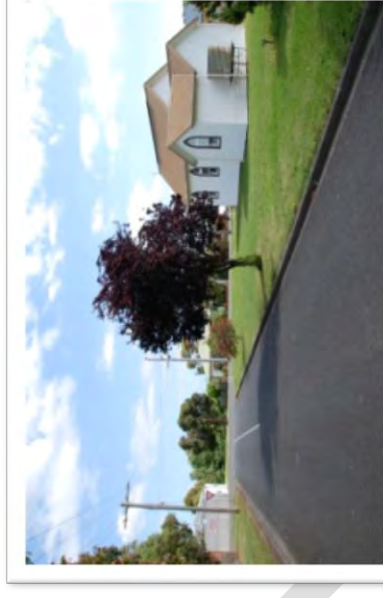
Dumbalk & District Progress Association • MDU Football & Netball Club • Dumbalk Hall Committee • Historical interest • Dumbalk Indoor Bias Bowling Club • Dumbalk village market • Tarwin Valley Camp Draft committee • Dumbalk Rural Fire Brigade • MDU Cricket Club • Dumbalk Tennis Club • Dumbalk Hall Ladies Catering Committee • Tarwin Valley Landcare • SG Bee Keeping Group • Anglicare Church Committee • Dumbalk CFA (Snr & Jrn)

## Facilities

Playground & BBQ facilities in the park • Dumbalk Hall (dance floor, supper room, full catering facilities) • CFA Tanker • Welcome boards • Community notice board • Public toilets • Newsletter • Community bus • Mural • Dumbalk Community Centre (Old kinder building) • Dumbalk Recreation Reserve • playground, electric BBQ & shelter • Camp Draft Arena & amenities • Tennis Court • Memorial Park & rotunda • Heritage Park & Historical Display • Recreation Reserve • Walking Track

## Assets

Valuable farming land • Beautiful views • Friendly people • Quiet & peaceful • History • Caring & supportive community



## **Introduction**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan is a document which may be used as a reference for any individuals or organisations wishing to understand more about the aspirations of the Dumbalk & District community. The Dumbalk & District Community Plan reflects the view of a wide cross-section of the community and contains a vision for Dumbalk and district for the next five years.

Contained in the plan is also a list of priority areas, which the community believes should be focused on to fulfil the vision. In addition, suggested action plans, which may be undertaken to fulfil the vision, are included.

Essentially, the Dumbalk & District Community Plan looks at what we value in the Dumbalk district and what we want it to become.

## **The Purpose of the Community Plan**

The purpose of the Dumbalk & District Community Plan is to provide the opportunity for the community to discuss and decide the future it sees for itself.

The plan will provide residents with certainty in regards to growth and development in the town, the types of services that can realistically be provided, the opportunities that are available now and in the future. It will set priorities in areas such as infrastructure, health, roads and the development of land.

This plan is owned by the community and will form the basis of discussion with other interested groups such as government and business in the future. It is not a static plan but an evolving one which will provide us with much needed direction into what is otherwise an uncertain future. It will be a way of mapping the future for ourselves and our children and hopefully set a good foundation for our grandchildren.



## **Community Plan Development and Distribution - process, promotion and communication**

### **1. Pre Community Promotion and Communication**

The major objective of the Community Plan development process has been to ensure that all members of the community had the opportunity to contribute to the creation of the community plan for Dumbalk & District.

As part of the Lower Tarwin Valley Districts Project, the Dumbalk & District Community Plan development process commenced with the South Gippsland Shire Council's Lower Tarwin Valley Community Facilitator gathering all existing information, reports and previous community consultations that had occurred over the past 5 years. This information was then formed into a Community Plan Working Document and introduced at the Dumbalk & District Progress Association meeting to invite the community to participate in the Community Planning process.

The Dumbalk & District Progress Association partnered with the Lower Tarwin Valley Project to become the lead community organisation to help drive the Community Planning process. Several meetings took place with the Dumbalk & District Progress Association to help facilitate community consultation, engagement and ensure the Community Planning process met the individual needs of the community prior to the Dumbalk & District Community Planning Workshop.

The community consultation and engagement process included:

- Individual presentation by the Lower Tarwin Valley Project to the Dumbalk & District Progress Association
- Establishment of a Community Planning Working Group through the Dumbalk & District Progress Association
- Advertising and promotion to the community for the Community Workshops through the delivery of notices to householders, community notices, newspaper articles and newspaper advertisements
- Community workshop held and facilitated by the South Gippsland Shire Council's Lower Tarwin Valley Project to identify Priority Projects and Community Project Teams
- Youth specific engagement sessions and meetings
- Development of the Vision for Dumbalk & District and the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan
- Presentation of the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan to community members and other key stakeholders for comment
- Distribution of the finalised Dumbalk & District Community Plan

## **2. Post Community Plan Promotion and Communication**

Once the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan was developed, the plan was distributed to members of the community to allow for review and feedback. After an agreed review period any changes were incorporated and the finalised version of the Community Plan available to the broad community of Dumbalk & District.

## **3. Community Plan Distribution and Action**

The completed Dumbalk & District Community Plan will be available to all members of the Dumbalk & District communities. South Gippsland Shire Council is committed to support the community of Dumbalk & Districts and the Project Teams to help develop actions for Priority Projects outlined in the Dumbalk & District Community Plan when appropriate. The community will be regularly informed of progress in relation to the community plan through the Dumbalk & District Progress Association.

## **Who was involved in developing the community plan?**

### **4. Community Organisation and Working Group Team**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan process began with the presentation of the community planning process to the Dumbalk & District Progress Association in July 2011

A Dumbalk & District Progress Association Community Plan Working Group was established in February 2012 to help promote and facilitate engagement of the Dumbalk & district community in the Community Planning Project. The Dumbalk & District Progress Association was the lead community organisation for the process. Forming the Working Group consisting of several key representatives from the community and South Gippsland Shire Council staff members. The Community Planning Working Group members were as follows

#### **Community Representatives**

Committee members of the Dumbalk & District Progress Association (2012)

Key contact persons: Bev Hanley & Kay Cook

#### **5. The Community**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan has been developed with those members of the community who have an interest in the future of Dumbalk. People involved in the community meetings and workshop session included residents of Dumbalk, Dollar and Districts, youth representatives and key community organisations, groups and clubs.

#### **Council Staff Members**

Marzia Maurilli – Community Facilitator – Lower Tarwin Valley Project

Barbara Look – Community Strengthening Officer

Ned Dennis - Community Strengthening Manager

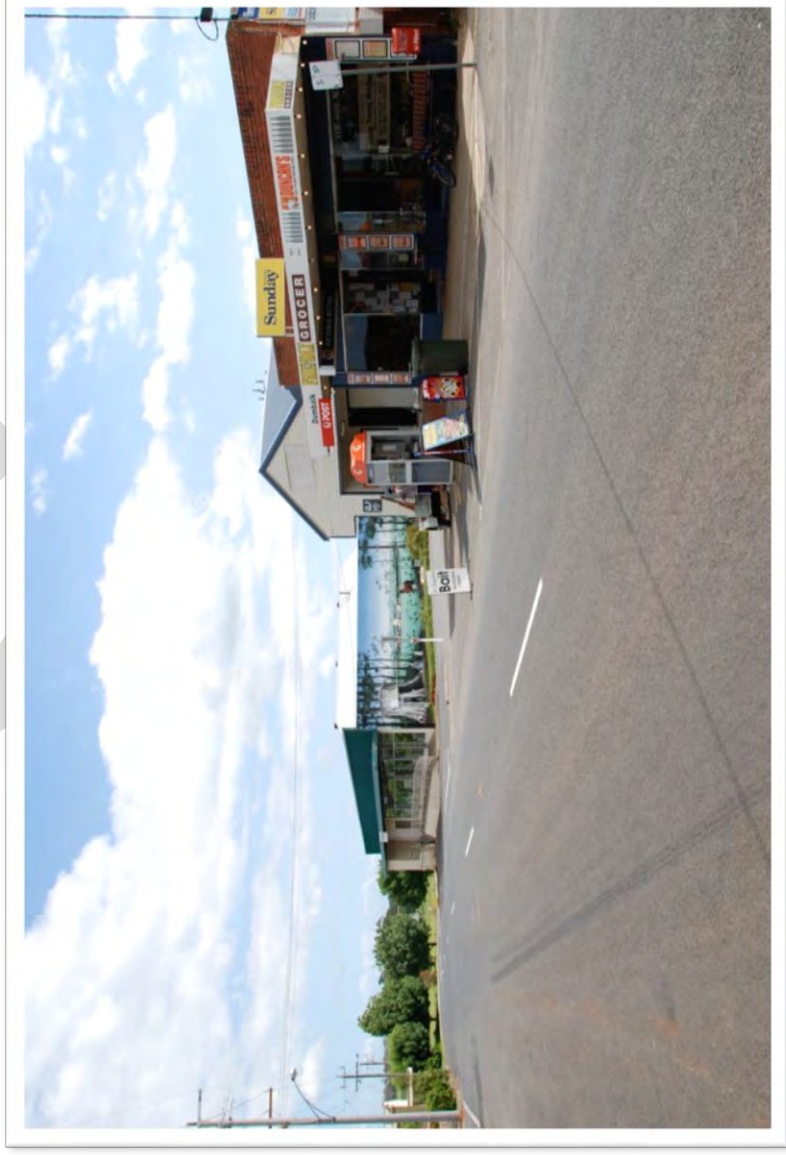
# Vision statement

## **Vision Statement**

The Dumbalk & District Community is a strong and vibrant community.

Future growth and development will be in harmony with the community, its aspirations and rural life style.

The Community respects and values the historical, economic and environmental significant of farming in the Dumbalk Districts.





# Ideas bank

First Priority Projects Group		Votes
Update of Dollar road past Ashdale Property		13
Rec Reserve master plan - upgrade recreation reserve facilities		13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value adding to Camp Draft</li> <li>• RV friendly</li> <li>• Free camping around rec reserve.</li> <li>• RV dump site for black water</li> <li>• tennis/club/committee</li> <li>• cricket club</li> </ul>		
Maintain Old Kindergarten Site as Community Centre		11

Second Priority Projects Group		Votes
Tennis Courts		10
Historical Memorabilia Display in old kindergarten		10

Projects already identified as <u>District</u> priorities For more information please refer to the groups and reports listed below	
Weather station	State Government
Mobile Phone Reception	Federal Government

# Ideas bank

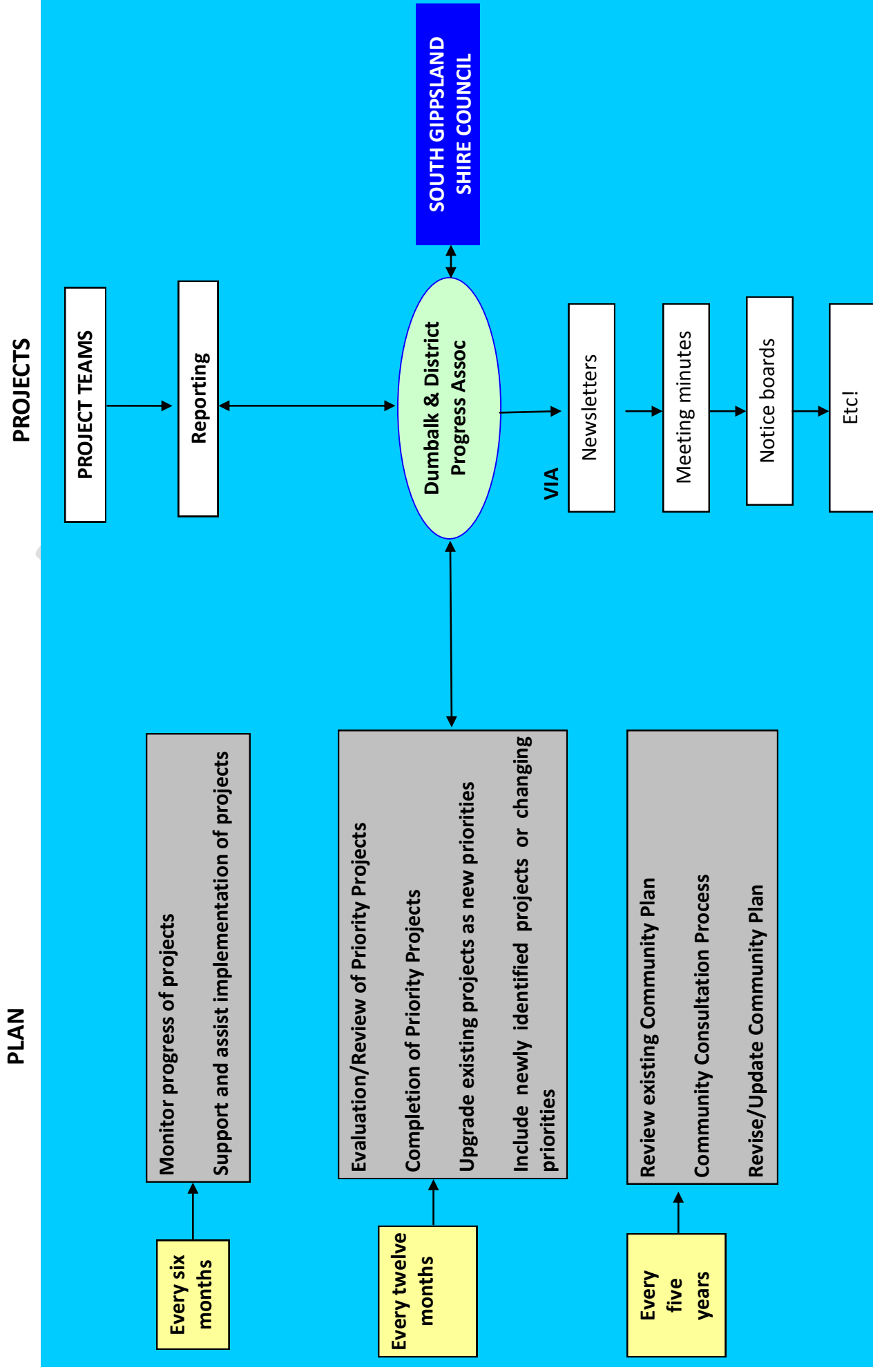
Priority Projects (to be added as above priorities are revised & reviewed)	Votes	Priority Projects (to be added as above priorities are revised & reviewed)	Votes
CFA Light Tanker – 4 wheel drive, 1200 litre	7	Medical Services	0
Sewerage	5	Kids police patrol	0
Mobile Phone Reception	4	Kids afternoon or early evening movie night for younger kids (maybe parents free)	0
Transport – Is the use of the school bus system an option for more flexible transport ability	4	Entry ramp at hall	0
Skate Park (ramps, half pipe)	4	Retirement home, nursing home (using school)	0
A fun camp for kids who are lacking fitness	4	Old school – make it a pilot workshop for students wanting to leave school early. Help them into trades and gaming.	0
Community Bus	3	Asphalt around the hall after the new public toilets are constructed outside the Hall	0
Environmentally friendly/eco village	3	Public Toilets (next to Hall) Refurbishment - Complete	0
Off road trail circuit around town and connecting existing community facilities	3	Walking track from main road to recreation reserve - Completed but maintenance required	0
Structure plan & zoning (community/commercial)	2	Better Church Facilities	0
Development of Recreation Reserve.	2	Extend Dumbalk Fire Brigade Shed	0
Bikes/jumps, somewhere and additional play facilities	2	Youth/community movie nights	0

# Ideas bank

Improved walking tracks/bicycle track/fitness track	2	Master Plan before Upgrading the infrastructure & playing field to create two fields & resurfacing at least one tennis	0
Markets/Festivals	2	Half Ring Basket Ball Court	0
Community bus to take kids to Friday night disco in Leongatha	2	Shared trail around the perimeter of the ground around recreation reserve	0
Meals on Wheels	1	Recreational cycling/cycling café culture opportunity	0
Old School Site Future	1	Consider combining management committees for parks, trails and recreation facilities into one to increase coordination and efficiencies	0
Town Signage ( trucks to not use exhaust brakes sign) Signage is on the way	1	Agri Tourism opportunity in connection with the Olive Growing Industry	0
Roads – reconstruct the two bad section of Loves Lane	1	Dairy Festival	0
Indoor sports facility at school / kinder eg gym equipment	1	Goal Posts	0
Farm Stay Accommodation Opportunities	1	Facilities for families & youth	0
Promote the town/promote tourism	1	Meals on Wheels(give food to elderly people who can't get food for themselves)	0
Extend carpark at the Dumbalk Store	1	Foodcart around town (such as hotdogs and dim sims)	0
Demolish kindergarten and change to library and computer room	1	One game night a month for kids big and small	0
Town Maintenance			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trim Trees</li> <li>• Town working bee – tidy up</li> <li>• Grass Cutting</li> <li>• Footpath from Shop</li> <li>• Roadside maintenance</li> </ul>	0	Pool (small) Teenagers and young kids in area.	0
Neighbourhood Watch Committee	0	Using school – create a camp for city kids to see a dairy community	0



# Review process





**South Gippsland Shire Council, through the Community Strengthening team, proudly supporting the Dumbalk Community in the Community Planning Process.**

Version Record – Dumbalk Community Plan	
1st Draft	8/5/12
2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft	9/5/12
Final Draft	25/5/12
3 <sup>rd</sup> Draft	18/07/12
	3 hard copies

DRAFT