



Scarsdale Newtown 2021 – 2024 Community Plan

What is Community Planning?

Community Planning is a process that brings people together to consider issues and take action to improve their community. Community members develop a plan that outlines projects they will undertake to make their town a better place to live.

Golden Plains Shire Council supports Community Planning by providing a professional facilitator to assist communities through the process, as well as providing grants to help implement projects in the plan.

Currently 23 communities across the Shire are working to make their townships even better places to live through community planning. To learn more about community planning visit:

<https://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-community/community-services/community-planning>

Community Coordinators

Local residents, known as Council Volunteer Community Coordinators, volunteer their time to coordinate the development and implementation of a community plan for their community.

- Are you interested in working with us to achieve our community plan outcomes?
- Would you like to volunteer for any of the projects in our plan, or become a Council Volunteer Community Coordinator?

We would love to hear from you, please contact our Volunteer Community Coordinators:

Di Moylan
0419 394 784 | dimimoylan@bigpond.com

Marg Roberts
0400 040 318 | margpeter@skymesh.com.au

Hank Tigges
0411 449 171 | hanktigges@hotmail.com

Our Community Schedule

Commenced development of the plan 2020

Plan implementation will commence in 2021

Plan finish date is 2024



“We couldn’t be prouder of Golden Plains Shire Community Coordinators, and everyone involved in community planning – they go above and beyond for their communities and they’re a big reason why Golden Plains is such a great place to live and visit” Cr Owen Sharkey, Mayor

How was our plan developed?

Residents, known as Council Volunteer Community Coordinators, volunteered their time to coordinate and lead engagement with our communities in the development of our community plan. Golden Plains Shire also provided a professional facilitator to assist us through the planning process, as well as providing seed funding of \$7500.00 for the implementation of our plan.

Ever since our last Scarsdale-Newtown plan wrapped up, different efforts were made to consult with our community about their ideas for our 2021 – 2024 community plan. Community planning engagement methods included:

- A town walk was organised allowing participants to identify areas they wanted or needed to enhance.
- Survey’s, town walks, pop-up engagement discussions, community visualisation and finally our community voted on priorities for the plan.

The plan was then made available for community for comment, this feedback was integrated into our 2021 -2024 community plan.

It is important to note that due to Covid-19, it was not possible to hold a community forum to finalise our plan, we instead made contact via email asking for feedback and endorsement of the plan.

Summary of previous achievements

A hallmark of our last Community Plan was the willingness of so many residents and local partners to work together and to achieve wonderful outcomes.

- Enhance the town look and feel by painting the bus shelters at the entrance of the town and the town centre. This made them more attractive with flower beds and were designed to increase visibility.
- We commenced work on our Scarsdale Station Project; this included a bike station, building of a station platform, flower boxes, seats, parking, labyrinth, recreation field and a shelter.
- Increased opportunities for the Scarsdale community to come together to meet and enjoy activities, through festivals, celebrations, and pop-up activities
- Improvements to the community playground through weeding, mulching, and installing a swing, planting shade trees, and adjusting equipment heights and the water tank tap.

Scarsdale – Newtown 2021-2024 Key Projects

Community Connectedness

Project Outline: Our aim is to further strengthen opportunities for our community to come together, increase local participation and a sense of community pride.

- Hold an annual community celebration to increase social connectedness and sense of community pride.
- Scarsdale Station Project: continue to develop and provide a meeting point and picnic area where we can gather and enjoy our community.
- Consideration for a 'fun run/ride/walk between towns.
- Work with our community to develop local events/activities to enable social connection and participation.

Benefit to the community: These activities bring our people together and build a spirit through connection and contribution. The strength of our connection has helped us achieve so much, and it is important that we keep that momentum going.

Through gatherings it helps us continue to better understand how we can support each other.

SEED funding allocated to this project: \$1,000

History and Heritage

Project Outline: Scarsdale and surrounding areas has a fascinating history. Our aim is to increase knowledge and understanding of our local history and heritage.

- Develop opportunities to increase knowledge of our local history and heritage.
- Install additional signage to highlight local sites of historical significance.
- Increase history and heritage knowledge of Nimmons Bridge, improve the signage at Nimmons Bridge and encourage visitation and interest.

Benefit to the community: Within all our activities, we remain open to opportunities to help community members better understand their history and heritage.

SEED funding allocated to this project: Nil



Health and Wellbeing

Project Outline: Scarsdale is an active and healthy community. We aim to support and improve opportunities for our community to come together, exercise, be healthy and enjoy our local environment.

- Scarsdale Station Project: complete the levelling of the recreation field through provision of more soil, grass seed, bollards, and chain fittings.
- Scarsdale Station Project: Install a new shelter and seats near bike station.
- Further development of our section of the Ballarat - Skipton Rail Trail, including art installations and further development of the BBQ facility

Benefit to community: These activities are aimed at continuing to support and improve opportunities for our community to come together, exercise, be healthy and enjoy our local environment.

Seed funding allocated to this project: \$6,000

Disclaimer: If major changes to the Community Plan projects need to be made within the life of the plan, Coordinators will conduct public process before making these changes.

Big Picture Advocacy

Project Outline: There are several bigger picture issues that the community would like to advocate around. These will be long term projects that the community will support through various external stakeholders.

- Better services for our community.
- Further develop of our section of the Ballarat - Skipton Rail Trail, including art installations and further development of BBQ facilities
- Road safety/ improvements
- Improvement on mobile blackspots.
- Improved rubbish management, including bins at Glenelg highway wayside stop and local swimming hole on Woody Yaloak River.
- Better management of our local environment; Protecting our wildlife/their habitat and local flora.
- Connection/collaboration with the Shire and/or DELWP to see if there are funds available to support local environmental initiatives.

Benefit to community: It is important as a community that we feel confident and well equipped to advocate with different authorities to provide the services that we deserve. We will work together to identify any bigger picture issues that arise and develop a strategy to try and bring about change we desire.

SEED funding allocated to this project: Nil

Environment

Project Outline: Our aim is to mobilise the community on key environmental issues and beautification of our town.

- Encourage community garden participation; provide wicking boxes for locals to grow vegetables and herbs.
- Setup of an information board about native grasses, wildflowers, and weeds in our area.
- Fire mitigation and protection of our public spaces.
- Seek opportunities for funding and collaboration to support local environment activities.

Benefit to community: Scarsdale community members are proud of their community. A clean, well managed local environment is part of that pride. Protecting wildlife, their habitat and local flora is important to us, including fire protection through ensuring public spaces are well managed.

SEED funding allocated to this project: \$500