

TOONGABBIE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PLAN

October 2010

Introduction

This plan has been developed with input from members of the Toongabbie community through a variety of means such as public forums, one on one consultations, community meetings and group meetings over a number of years. This plan was reviewed at a public forum held in October 2010, with the support of Latrobe City Council, and will be used to guide community action over the next 3 – 5 years.

The plan is intended to be **community owned and driven** and its purpose is to help:

- Provide a clearer direction of where the Toongabbie community wishes to be in the future
- Attract funding
- Attract volunteers and additional support
- Influence government planning and decisions
- Demonstrate to others that Toongabbie is an organised community

Implementation of the plan will be driven by community leaders and groups in Toongabbie as outlined in the table below under “Nominated Driver or Group”. It is important that community effort is focused on ideas and activities that are achievable. Projects will need to be realistic and new community members may be required to step up and take leadership on some of these ideas. If no one is willing or able to drive the initiatives, then the idea may remain on hold until someone is able to offer the leadership to progress it.

The status of each project has been identified as either “In Progress”, “To Be Initiated” or “On Hold” and **classified as either “Very High”, “High” or “Moderate” priorities**. Projects which have been completed have been included in a separate table, at the end of this document, as a way of keeping a record of past community achievements.

Review of Plan & Township Communication

There are a range of community groups operating in Toongabbie as outlined below (correct at time of printing):

Community Group Name	Contact Person	PHONE	EMAIL
Toongabbie Recreation Reserve COM			
Toongabbie Township Planning and Development Group			
Toongabbie Primary School			
Gippsland Plains Rail Trail Committee			
St David's Anglican Church			
Toongabbie Cemetery Trust			
Toongabbie Pony Club			
Toongabbie RDA			
Adult Riding Club			
Toongabbie Riders Club			
Toongabbie CFA			
Toongabbie Wetlands Committee			
Toongabbie Beautification Committee			
Toongabbie Mechanics Institute			
Toongabbie Golf Club			
Toongabbie Cricket Club			
Wellington Latrobe Lions Club			
County Womens Association			
Toongabbie Tennis Club			
Cowwarr Landcare Group			
Toongabbie Badminton Club			
Toongabbie Aerobics			
Toongabbie Playgroup			

This information is provided in an effort to assist community groups and members to make contact with each other. In addition, it was agreed, at the October 2010 forum, that:

- the names and contact details of everyone in attendance at the October 2010 forum be shared with the other attendees as a way of keeping communication lines open.
- an annual meeting be held inviting representatives from the existing community groups in town to discuss respective programs and report on progress. A notice will also be placed in the shop or local notice board inviting any other interested person to attend. The first annual meeting is to be held before end October 2011.
- the allocation of future funding will be discussed at this forum.

	IN PROGRESS		TO BE INITIATED		ON HOLD
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	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND AIMS	DATE/FORUM PROJECT IDENTIFIED	PARTNERSHIPS/STAKEHOLDERS	OUTCOMES/NEXT STEPS	COMMUNITY ROLE	NOMINATED DRIVER OR GROUP	FUNDING SOURCE / AMOUNT	STATUS	PRIORITY
Rail Trail and Wetlands Area	Rail Trail completion	To complete Rail Trail connection from Traralgon through to Cowwarr to promote Tourism / recreation and develop economic security including a bridge over Latrobe River and improved surfaces (fine pea gravel suggested)	CBI Dec 2006 & CBI Forum March 2010	DSE, Rail Trail Alliance, Rail Trail CoM, LCC, Wellington Shire	Community support, all levels of govt to access grant opportunities. Formation of Rail Trail Alliance to drive this process. Further consultation required when funds received.	ADVOCACY	Rail Trail Alliance	\$2.5 million GOVERNMENT \$800,000 committed Coalition pledge	IN PROGRESS Grant application to Fed regional Growth Fund \$2.3 million May 2011	VH
	Promote Rail Trail/Wetlands	Improved use of Rail Trail and Wetland area		Wetlands Comm. LCC, Rail Trail Comm,	To be promoted on the township website once it is up and running. Completed	MANAGE	Rail Trail COM Wetlands Committee	COMMUNITY GRANTS	completed	M
	Board walks at Toongabbie Wetlands	To construct board walks surrounding ponds at Toongabbie Wetlands to promote Tourism / Recreation. This project forms part of a masterplan for the wetlands.	2009	WGCMA, DSE	Apply for grant funding. Check if Permit approval is current	MANAGE	Phillip O'Malley	\$5,000 - \$20,000 COMMUNITY GRANTS	IN PROGRESS	M
	Diversion of drainage into wetlands	Town stormwater drainage from roadside collection system to be diverted through wetlands and borrow pits to be filtered before entering Toongabbie Creek	CBI Forum March 2010	Wetlands Comm, WGCMA, LCC, VicRoads	This project forms part of the Wetlands Master Plan. Stage 1 involved the diversion of drainage from the western part of town and has been completed. Stage 2 plans to divert the drainage from the eastern part of the town along Stringers and Howar Street through the borrow pits. Still to be costed and grant sought.	MANAGE / ADVOCACY	Wetlands Committee	Stage 1 - \$49,000 Community Water Grants COMMUNITY GRANTS/GOVERNMENT	TO BE INITIATED	M
Town promotion	New entry signs	Beautification of town entrances	CBI Dec 2006	Community, LCC, Vic Rds	Sought designs, quotes and permission. Awaiting Council approval.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	Approx \$3,500 / LCC	IN PROGRESS ALMOST COMPLETE	H
	Internet Community Website	To develop a website to improve – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community information access Real Estate & tourism potential 	CBI Dec 2006 & 2007 CBI Forum March 2010	Community	Need to seek volunteer to take on this project. Training to be offered to volunteers. May need to consider subsidising internet usage download costs of volunteer. Grant application has been made by Tracey Anton to assist. Completed	MANAGE	Cassandra Tolsma Tracey Anton	N/A	Completed	H

	Relocate visitors information booth/ gazebo	Remove and repair existing information gazebo and place near toilets to improve access to community information for tourists.	Dec 2009 CBI Forum March 2010	Community, VicRoads, LCC	Apply for grant funding.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	COMMUNITY GRANTS Coalition pledge \$5,000	IN PROGRESS Funds received Aug 2011	VH
	Public Computer Access	A place where people who do not own a computer can have access to the internet and other computer functions.	October 2010	Community, Local School, Neighbourhood House	Investigate possibility with local school.	MANAGE	Harry Edtmaier	N/A	TO BE INITIATED	H
Communication	More communication between community groups and with broader community	Ideas for achieving this include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Toongabbie Action Group Register for issues of concern to townspeople Information at General store Suggestions box at shop or central location Place for feedback on website Events calendar 	CBI - Aug 2008 CBI Forum March 2010	Relevant Groups, LCC, DSE, CFA, WGCMA	It was agreed that the names and contact details of everyone in attendance at the October 2010 forum be shared with each other as a way of keeping communication lines open. It was also agreed that an annual meeting be held inviting representatives from the existing community groups in town to discuss respective programs and report on progress. A notice will also be placed in the shop or local notice board inviting any other interested person to attend. The first annual meeting is to be held before end October 2011. Allocation of future funding to be discussed at this forum.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	N/A	Utilising website for issues of concern	VH
Government Collaboration	Weed management Toongabbie creek & township weed buildup	Fire control > need to determine annual maintenance requirements and responsibilities. Support Landcare groups and volunteers access herbicide for weed control.	May 2009 CBI Forum March 2010	DSE, LCC, Private Landowners, CFA, WGCMA, Landcare	Submission supplied to DSE and WGCMA for consideration and assessment. Feedback from WGCMA who agree to remove willows and no native trees. Permission for agistment (to keep grass down) not supported.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	N/A	IN PROGRESS	H
	Flood management and erosion prevention along Toongabbie creek	Flood control > need to determine annual maintenance requirements and responsibilities Seek support from WGCMA for erosion issues	May 2009 CBI Forum March 2010	WGCMA, DSE	Meeting held with LCC, DSE, & WGCMA staff. Submission supplied to DSE and WGCMA for consideration and assessment. Awaiting feedback. Ongoing maintenance actions still to be determined.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton John and Jenny Clubley	N/A	IN PROGRESS Awaiting Feedback	H
Roads and Drains	Extend 60km speed limit zone in Township	Extend township 60 km zone by moving sign further south towards Traralgon. This will improve roadside safety & access for CFA volunteers, road & rail trail users, wetlands visitors and pedestrians.	2008	Vic Roads, CFA	Approach has been made to VicRoads however they have advised that it doesn't meet criteria for safety concern to justify request. Ongoing review with VicRoads on action to be taken. Police to be reminded of speed issues.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton Roger Ries Harry Edtmaier	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
	Give Way signs Foxes & Wykes Rd (off Cowwarr Weir Rd)	A give way sign is needed at the junction point on descent at Foxes & Wykes Rd (off Cowwarr Weir Rd). This will	2007	Council	Approach has been made to Council.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton Roger Ries Harry Edtmaier	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	M

		improve safety for drivers and motorcyclists exiting state forest.								
	King St Intersection Traralgon Maffra Rd	Additional line marking and Give Way sign required to improved road safety.	2008	VicRoads	VicRoads to complete promised Line marking and additional Give Way signage to make intersection safer. Intersection rated as "Grey" by VicRoads. Ongoing review with VicRoads to fund.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton Roger Ries Harry Edtmaier	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	M
	Information roadside sapling growth in spoon drains and permission to remove	Sapling growth will encroach on road space as they get older impacting on safety and sight. Need to be removed as part of maintenance of spoon drains.	2009	Council, DSE	DSE & Council to give permission for sapling removal <u>** Note > Community to initiate works once approved</u> Updated education to be provided for the community through website	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	GOVERNMENT	ON HOLD (till website)	M
	Re-development of nominated spoon drains and pits	Improve roadside safety, access, paving options & maintenance	CBI Dec 2006 CBI Forum March 2010	Council	Council engineer provided drain assessment on 21/10/0. Improvements will be made over a 5 year period. Some works to be considered as part of 2011/12 Council budget. Community to continue to advocate.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	M
	Safer School Crossing across Main Rd	Request for crossing supervisor or flashing speed limit/crossing signs to improve safety for children crossing the road.	CBI Dec 2006	VicRoads, LCC	Request for school crossing supervisors made. However usage numbers do not meet criteria for this service. Possibility to set up volunteer crossing supervisors – training available through Council.	ADVOCACY	Harry Edtmaier	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
	Stringers Rd Widening	Seek wider road sealing on Stringers Road in order to improve traffic access and safety for pedestrians	CBI Dec 2006	LCC, community	Community to advocate for action.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton Roger Ries	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
Footpaths/Walking Tracks (not Rail Trail)	Share pathways (Bicycle and walking tracks) commencement	Safer connections and promotion of physical activity Construction of connections over 2-4 yr period	Initiated by LCC 2005 CBI Forum March 2010	LCC	Dependent on ability for LCC to attract external funding to implement bicycle strategy	ADVOCACY / MANAGE	Tracey Anton	GOVERNMENT / COMMUNITY GRANTS	IN PROGRESS	H
	More interpretative signs – link paths	To recognise heritage of area and significant features and points of interest	CBI Forum March 2010	Community		MANAGE		COMMUNITY GRANTS	ON HOLD (until rail trail completion)	M
Recreation Reserve and Sporting Facilities	Tennis clubroom upgrade	Improved club facilities and sports promotion	CBI Feb 2009	LCC, Tennis Club, Rec. Reserve Comm.	Finalising interior lining to be completed for summer season.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton Tennis Club	\$15,000 LCC \$10,000 Fed	IN PROGRESS ALMOST COMPLETE	H
	Resurface Tennis Court	Temporary fix to address fungus growth issue on courts to enable courts to be sued for 2010/2011 summer season.	2010	Rec Reserve, LCC, Tennis Club	Seek advice from Tennis Victoria.	MANAGE	Carmel Shippen	COMMUNITY GRANTS LCC funds \$4,300	IN PROGRESS Complete	VH
		Major upgrade works planned as part of Northern Towns Rec Plan.	2010	Rec Reserve, LCC, Tennis Club	Budgeted amount outlined in Northern Towns Rec Plan unlikely to be adequate. Budeget to allocate ?\$100,000	ADVOCATE	Carmel Shippen	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS On hold	VH

	Tennis Rebound Wall	Install Tennis Rebound Wall at Rec Reserve to encourage Community/youth involvement and develop abilities and co-ordination skills.	2008	Rec Reserve, Tennis Club, DSE, LCC	Apply for grant funding.	MANAGE	Tennis Club Rec Reserve COM	COMMUNITY GRANTS	TO BE INITIATED	M
	Sound Issues near tennis courts caused by Skatepark use	Investigate solutions for reducing noise issues between different uses at rec reserve. Possible relocation of one facility or sound barrier	October 2010	Tennis Club, LCC, Rec Reserve CoM	Investigate possible solutions	MANAGE/ADVOCA Y	Carmel Shippen	??	TO BE INITIATED	H
	Cricket Practise Wickets	Install cricket practice wickets to encourage Community/youth involvement and develop abilities and co-ordination skills	Feb 2009	DSE, cricket club, Rec Reserve CoM	Apply for grant funding.	MANAGE	Cricket Club	COMMUNITY GRANTS	TO BE INITIATED	M
	Village Green Fencing/Bollards	Establish fence or barrier around village green to prevent traffic driving onto grounds/vandalism and for beautification of area. Improve lighting to walking paths	2010 CBI Forum March 2010	DSE, Rec Reserve CoM	Project is to be undertaken in two stages. First stage will involve landscaping and seating and a LCC Minor Capital Works grant has been allocated for 2010/2011	MANAGE	Roger Ries	COMMUNITY GRANTS \$3,000 Coalition pledge for 2 nd stage	IN PROGRESS	H
	Sealing the perimeter of the Rec Reserve and improve parking area	Improved parking and asphalt sealing around reserve to assist with dust issues and maintenance.	CBI Forum March 2010	DSE, Rec Reserve COM	Committee has applied twice to DSE unsuccessfully. Now looking at a compromise of using stone.	MANAGE / ADVOCACY	Rec Reserve COM	COMMUNITY GRANTS / GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	M
	Big deck mower for the town	Currently private mowers are being used – decision made to purchase mower for use by all community groups on community land.	CBI Forum March 2010	All	Funds to be raised by selling some existing assets, and contributions through community groups.	MANAGE	Rec Reserve COM	\$16,000 COMMUNITY GRANTS / FUND RAISING	IN PROGRESS Purchased \$5,000 allocation funds LCC	VH
	Shade protection for all recreational facilities	To provide sun protection and comfort at all recreational facilities	2009	Community	Develop a separate plan to identify shade protection needs at each facility. Prioritise works and apply for grants.	MANAGE / ADVOCACY		COMMUNITY GRANTS / GOVERNMENT	ON HOLD	M
Other Community Assets	Complete cemetery fencing		CBI Forum March 2010	Cemetery Trust	Materials bought, to be erected in due course.	MANAGE	Rob (Cemetrey Trust)	COMMUNITY GRANTS	IN PROGRESS	M
Future Development	Improved subdivision/planning permits	Clarification Flood overlays	CBI Forum March 2010	LCC, Community	David has asked around town to find out what they want – there are some people adjacent to the town who are interested in rural living (i.e. 1 acre minimum lots). To be raised as part of structure plan process.	ADVOCACY	David Unthank Tracey Anton	PRIVATE DEVELOPER / GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS Structure plan to be commenced 2012/13. No decision to be made prior	H
	Investment in unit accommodation and developers	Sub divisions Incentives from council expand elderly living	CBI Forum March 2010	LCC, Community	To be raised as part of structure plan process.	ADVOCACY	David Unthank Tracey Anton	PRIVATE DEVELOPER / GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
	Increase amenities to		CBI Forum March 2010	LCC, Community	To be raised as part of structure plan process.	ADVOCACY	David Unthank	GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H

	support expanding population						Tracey Anton			
	Promote development of road side services & businesses	Additional development to focus on attracting visitors and retaining through traffic	CBI Forum March 2010	Local businesses, community, LCC	Local shop owner is working on significant improvements to shop area and services provided.	ADVOCACY	Shirley Tech	PRIVATE DEVELOPER / GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
Access to Services	Affordable, reliable, accessible transport	Identify priority transport gaps	CBI Forum March 2010	LCC, Community, V,Line, buses etc	Communicate transport needs to LCC through Transport Connections Program	ADVOCACY	All	GOVERNMENT	TO BE INITIATED	M
	Community Resource Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities available Mobile library 	Access to community training opportunities through neighbourhood Houses such as website computer training.	CBI Forum March 2010	Community, Neighbourhood Houses	Heyfield or Traralgon Neighbourhood Houses may be able to assist	MANAGE / ADVOCACY		COMMUNITY GRANTS / GOVERNMENT	ON HOLD	M
	Natural Gas Pipeline to Glengarry and Toongabbie	Advocate for access to natural gas in the towns.	Aug 2008	LCC, State, Federal Gov't	Continue to advocate need as appropriate	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	GOVERNMENT	ON HOLD (until opportunity arises)	H
	Improve Mobile Telecommunication coverage	Advocate for improved telecommunication coverage in rural areas.	Aug 2008	Telstra	Steve contacted Telstra who have agreed to upgrade the power output to the Tyers Telecommunications tower to provide more coverage.	ADVOCACY	Steve Unthank	\$110,000 GOVERNMENT	IN PROGRESS	H
	Township Beautification	Beautify Shop	Encourage shop owners to beautify shop area.	CBI Forum March 2010	Shop owner	Extensive beautification works being undertaken by shop owner.	ADVOCACY		PRIVATE LANDOWNER	IN PROGRESS
More beautification projects along main road		Need to identify priority areas.	CBI Forum March 2010	Community, LCC, VicRoads, Rail Trail CoM, Wetlands Comm	New members and volunteers needed for Beautification Committee	MANAGE		COMMUNITY GRANTS	ON HOLD	M
CFA Redevelopment – additional landscaping		Additional funds required to complete landscaping and footpaths due to unforeseen sewerage costs.	2010	CFA	Request funding from LCC Grant Allocation	MANAGE	CFA - Rob	COMMUNITY GRANTS Coalition pledge \$7,000	TO BE INITIATED CFA managed funds available Aug 2011	H
Issues	Police to enforce laws, hooning and alcohol behaviours	Seek greater Police assistance.	CBI Forum March 2010	Police	Police to be requested to monitor hooning and alcohol issues	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	POLICE	TO BE INITIATED	H
	Liquor sold to underage	This may have been an issue with previous shop owners and will need to be monitored.	CBI Forum March 2010	Police, Community	Monitor issue	ADVOCACY	All	LOCAL BUSINESSES	IN PROGRESS	M

COMPLETED PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND AIMS	DATE/FORUM PROJECT IDENTIFIED	PARTNERSHIPS/S TAKEHOLDERS	OUTCOMES/NEXT STEPS	COMMUNITY ROLE	NOMINATED DRIVER OR GROUP	FUNDING SOURCE / AMOUNT	STATUS
Clean up Rail Trail	Issue is dumping of green waste between Hill St & Main Rd. There is a need for community education and enforcement of illegal dumping.	CBI - Aug 2008	DSE, LCC Engineer, By-laws, CFA, Landcare Volunteer, Community Volunteer, Rail Trail Committee,	Made residents aware of bylaws via newsletter and personally spoke with offender.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	N/A	COMPLETED

			Newsletter					
Wetland bridge	Access over Toongabbie creek for Rail Trail.	CBI – Dec 2006	LCC, RDV, Wetlands Committee	Works to install bridge overseen by Wetland Committee volunteers with funding provided through Regional Development Victoria Exceptional Circumstances Funding.	ADVOCACY	Wetlands Committee	\$42,000 / RDV	COMPLETED
Welcome packs	Develop presentational material and information pack for township to promote tourism, real estate options etc.	CBI - Dec 2006	LCC, DPCD, Local Graphic Designer	Folders printed and information collated. Welcome Packs available at Post Office.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	\$900 / DPCD Quickwins	COMPLETED
Improved local mail service	Agreed improvement of mail options with installation of external post boxes	Aug 2008 & CBI Forum March 2010	Federal gov., Aust post	Federal member lobbied Aust post on behalf of community for improved mail service which has now been achieved. Disability access to new mail boxes to be investigated.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	N/A	COMPLETED
Land mapping/grey areas	There is a need for better communication b/w departments and residents for ongoing maintenance issues	CBI - Aug 08	LCC , DSE, WGCMA	Spoke with DSE, Vic Roads, LCC, and WGCMA about identified areas and sought clarification of maintenance responsibility.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	N/A	COMPLETED
DSE permission to clear fallen trees and dead branches in water reserve, (Stringers Rd) ➤ Fire hazard	Clear dangerous trees, clean up rubbish. Create walking tracks for the future	CBI Dec 2006 and 2009 CBI Forum March 2010	Rec Reserve Comm. DSE, LCC Arborist	Sought permission from DSE who undertook appropriate clearing for fire protection. Burning program planned for area. Raise issue of future land use as part of structure plan consultations.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton Roger Ries	N/A	COMPLETED Ongoing clearing to be assessed on annual basis
Dangerous pot holes around Local shop	Clarify ownership of area and take action to fix pot holes in order to improve safety & vehicle access to parking.	CBI Dec 2006 & CBI Forum March 2010	LCC, shop owner	Met with LCC chief engineer and Infrastructure manager. Vic Roads & Council agreed on renewed demarcation lines with ongoing responsibility for maintenance to be attended by shop owners. LCC to draw up license agreement outlining responsibility of shop owner.	ADVOCACY	Tracey Anton	PRIVATE LANDOWNER	COMPLETED Yearly license for maintenance responsibility signed
Outdoor BBQ seating for wetlands & Village Green	New picnic facilities	CBI - Dec 2006 & Aug 2008	Rec. Reserve Committee, LCC, Wetlands Comm	Quick wins contributed to some cost of Village Green seating. Seating completed as part of the information shelter at the wetlands.	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	\$1000 / DPCD Quickwin	COMPLETED
Ensuring adequate Water supplies	Provide recreational areas with permanent water supplies to ensure facilities can maintain recreational and sports options for residents & visitors	CBI - Dec 2006 & Aug 2008	LCC, Southern Rural Water, Rec. Reserve Comm., Golf Club, Cricket Club	Bore sunk on Golf grounds and purchased water rights to access permanent water for irrigating of golf course and cricket ground	MANAGE	Tracey Anton Rec Reserve COM	\$10,000 / LCC Special Water Funding Grant	COMPLETED
Ned stringer	Improved signage to feature historical significance.	CBI 2009	Volunteer, Newsletter Comm	Signage replaced to better identify memorial	MANAGE	Roger Ries	\$126	COMPLETED
Improve equipment for conventions (at Mechanics Institute)	To improve power wattage, lighting and entry access	CBI Forum March 2010	Mechanics Inst COM	New chairs and tables purchased Still to attend lighting and increased power wattage	MANAGE	Tracey Anton	\$1000 DPCD Quickwins/ VOLUNTEER GRANT	COMPLETED