

## **Yea Community Planning meeting notes**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**Yea RSL meeting room 6.00 - 8.15pm**

Present: 8 community members were present, and Julie Kirkwood and Anna Paix from Murrindindi Shire Council.

Apologies: Ian Marshman, Iain McPherson, Mother Eden Nicholls, Elaine White

### **1. Introductions and acknowledgements**

We acknowledged the Taungurung people as the traditional custodians of the land. We also thanked the RSL for hosting the meeting. We were very sad to hear of the passing of Kate Hawkins and our thoughts are with Ron and family at this difficult time.

A reminder that we sent out an invitation to a free training with the Social Enterprise Academy on 31 Oct-1 November (invitation attached).

### **2. Steering group for community planning**

We asked for volunteers to help steer the development and writing of the Yea Community Plan. Interested community members will get together separately to develop the details around a prioritisation process and event, and subsequent preparation of a draft community plan for community comment. We envisage a prioritisation event could potentially be planned for February, but will discuss this with interested community members. (A Terms of Reference for the Steering Group is available for interested people.)

Those interested are welcome to meet with us on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 1.30-2.30pm.

### **3. Emerging issues**

A number of issues are emerging as important topics for community collaboration, and are benefiting from early discussion and brainstorming from interested community members.

These include:

- A networking group (similar to the previously held Monday Night Club),
- A Yea Community Consultative Committee (advisory group for Yea),
- A Community Facilitator role (potentially through the Community House),
- Improved activation of the Yea Shire Hall for arts activity,
- A range of ideas collected at the Environment and Heritage meeting (notes included in Appendix below).

### **4. Round-the-table**

Everyone was invited around the table to add to these emerging issues and/or share issues arising for their group. These will be added to the list of Yea ideas so far collected:

- Genna (Nexus Primary Health – Respond Project). The Respond project has held workshops to identify priorities and actions for healthy eating and activity for children in Yea and surrounds. A list of existing and potential projects has been collated.
- Brad – Very interested in the group structure for coordination (Consultative Committee) and sees the potential benefits; is already having informal discussions with other clubs. Sports and kids are his primary focus. Current challenges for the Football-Netball Club (FNC) are around financial viability (fundraising) and attracting volunteers/volunteer fatigue, including amongst parents.
- Bob – Yea Arts Inc already partner with other groups at events, especially for fundraising (eg. Yea Primary School, Rotary, FNC), and there are opportunities to do

more. Would like to see improved communications, especially between groups regarding events. A community noticeboard could be valuable or a community calendar.

- Jack
  - o opportunities for mentoring within community from older people with previous experience with groups.
  - o Needs of people with limited mobility are important to consider, especially for crossing the main road at Yea.
  - o Activation of the Yea Shire Hall, including affordability.
  - o St Luke's dinner is a great opportunity for input to the community plan. Also, noting that those at the dinner were unable to attend this meeting due to clash with times.
- Adele – Interested in an “Open the gate” initiative for Yea, Festival of Fire, and to revisit the Cittaslow video “What we love about Yea” and update it.
- Elaine –
  - o a mini-grid (solar) for Yea. This was also seen as a possible social enterprise to support groups like the FNC.
  - o Community Education Foundation – to support young people who want to stay in the town and not leave for work/study
  - o Lobby-group to advocate Department of Education for students to study particular topics remotely
  - o Community-care for eg. Supporting people with cancer – transport, respite or fundraising
  - o A central hub for groups would be valuable.
  - o Also keen to explore higher-level goals for Yea rather than just projects. Eg. Mental health and youth unemployment.

#### **5. Broader opportunities for input.**

- Anna and Julie are meeting with the Taungurung Land and Waters Corporation this month to keep them informed and invite their input.
- We are also keen to hold a stall at the Yea Market (potentially 2<sup>nd</sup> November) to invite broader community input – volunteers are sought to enable this to happen.
- We are also still keen to include input from children and young people, and others not yet having input to the community plan ideas.

#### **6. Next steps.**

- Steering Group to meet in October – please contact Julie or Anna if interested (Date now decided as Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup> at 1.30 to 2.30pm)
- Yea Market – 2 November; volunteers needed.
- All encouraged to keep discussing ideas you're passionate about and let people know there will be a prioritisation event/dinner in the coming months.

**Appendix: Environment and Heritage sub-group meeting notes, Yea Community Planning , 6 August 2019, Y Water Centre**

- Better use of Yea River to the junction of the Goulburn River. Also involves Y Water, CMA, fishing groups and landcare. (Jeff)
- Better access to the southern wetlands, particularly through clearance of weeds and car access. Nb Investigate if this is covered by Yea Wetlands Plan. Issues with gate and road safety. Better access by foot as well and a plaque explaining about the elms. (Elaine W)
- Old Cemetery: identification of unmarked graves. RSL has an interest. Dept of Veteran Affairs has funding to WW1 Veteran graves. A question was asked about non-war graves. Angela also has an interest in the research of all unmarked graves, and using ground-penetrating equipment to solve the mystery regarding if there are graves in the top right hand corner of the cemetery, as well as an area outside the fence line that requires investigation. This includes Franklin Family and other Taungurung graves. Angela would like to see what we can do for all broken headstones as well, and suggested a sign saying how old the cemetery is, the first person buried there, and/or some other interesting information about the cemetery, such as why that block of land was chosen? The work of Garden Club, Historical society and Cemetery Trust was also noted. Bec noted that Yea Cemetery Trust will have their AGM before the next Yea Council meeting (TBC). (Jeff, Elaine, Angela, Carlie)
- Improved access to Council chambers by Community House and greater resourcing to enable Community House to support community group projects (Carlie)
- Soldiers memorial needing upgrade and potentially moving to a new site that would be safer on large memorial days, where there would be less passing traffic (Jeff)
- Research and signage, telling the local story of the Taungurung people, at meeting of the waters and other significant sites throughout Yea. (Angela)
- There was mention of an existing project - Historical research of Yea, involving digitising of local historical records – Jeff and Elaine working with Royal Historical Society and grant funds (not Council funds). Carlie wanted to know if others could be involved in the digitising of the documents workshops. Angela is interested in that process as well, for potential to research local Taungurung information.