CHAFFEY PARK
MASTER PLAN 2009 - 2019

Mildura Rural City Council

Victoria
The Place To Be
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Council thanks the community for its contribution to the Chaffey Park Master Plan by attending community planning meetings, forwarding submissions and providing feedback on draft documents.

Council also takes this opportunity to acknowledge the many individuals and community organisations that help make the park the valuable community asset it is today.

The clubs and organisations that co-ordinate activities at Chaffey Park are also recognised for their commitment to developing sport and recreation opportunities for the wider community.
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Master Plan
The purpose of the Chaffey Park Master Plan is to provide a framework to guide the planning and development of Chaffey Park over the next 10 years.

While this is a 10 year plan it is based on a 30+ year vision the community and in particular tenants have for the park. Through this master plan the community articulates its aspirations for the park and how it wants the park to reflect ‘community pride’ and sense of place. The community also recognise that a longterm strategy is necessary to ensure the park provides for future generations in a sustainable and responsible manner.

The master plan should be a document that is reviewed regularly and modified in response to changing needs and additional requirements identified over the period of the plan.

1.2 Chaffey Park
Chaffey Park is approximately 4.8 hectares in size and currently includes:

- 1 sports field that caters for cricket, baseball and football (training only)
- 1 playground
- Picnic and BBQ facilities
- A skate facility and a
- CFA training track

Chaffey Park is crown land (Department of Sustainability and Environment) with council the designated committee of management. Tenant groups use the park under a lease agreement or service agreement with council. The following table provides an overview of the organisations that use facilities at the park:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUB / ASSOCIATION</th>
<th>OVAL 1 (Grass wicket)</th>
<th>CFA training track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merbein South Cricket Club (Sunraysia Cricket Association)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saints Baseball Club (Sunraysia Baseball League)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meringur Football Club (training only) (Millewa Football Netball League)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merbein CFA (training only)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Code: s=summer, w=winter)
1.3 Participation Trends

The following provides a summary of sport participation trends at the park:

Saints Baseball Club
Player membership at the Saints Baseball Club, which has been operating for 25 years, has increased by 45% from 80 players in 2007 to 116 players in 2009. Over that time the number of teams have increased from 9 to 11. There were 13 teams in 2008 which dropped back to 11 teams in 2009 despite the club increasing players number marginally between 2008 and 2009.

The Sunraysia Baseball Association report both senior and junior participation numbers to have been stable over the last 3 years. The association also reports an increase in playing standard with the Saints Baseball Club being a strong club in the league.

Merbein Cricket Club
Player membership has declined by approximately 25 players from 140 in 2007 to 115 in 2009. The most significant decline was in junior boys which dropped by 15 players from 50 to 35 players between the 2007 and 2009 seasons. Senior men's numbers also dropped by 10 to 35 players in the same time. Team numbers dropped by 1 (junior boys from 4 to 3 teams) while senior men (4 teams) and women's team (1 team) numbers remained the same.

Meringur Football Club
Meringur Football Club membership has remained consistent over the last 3 years with approximately 30 senior players and 1 senior team. The club does not have any junior members but reports a volunteer / social membership of 30 in additional to its playing members. The club only trains at Caffey Park, the club’s home ground for competition is at Lake Cullulleraine.

2.0 Background Information

Chaffey Park is located on the eastern fringe of the town of Merbein which is approximately 18 kilometres north-west of Mildura. Merbein is at the heart of the Sunraysia Irrigation District which means its primary citrus, grape and dried fruit industries are sustained by irrigation from the Murray River.

At the last census (2006) the population of Merbein / Merbein South was 3,127 having declined to 3,127, a decline of 250 people or 7.4% between the 2001 and the 2006 census. Compared to the population of Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) area overall Merbein / Merbein South has a slightly higher percentage of its population in the 5-14 (18.6%, MRCC 15.9%) and the 55-64 age groups (13.5%, MRCC at 10.8%) and a lower percentage of population in the 0-4 (4.9%, MRCC at 6.5%) and the over 65 age groups (11.9%, MRCC at 14.8%). The most predominant age group in Merbein is the 25-54 age group (39.3% of the population). The area has a higher proportion of families with children (46.6%) and families without children (40.7%) compared to MRCC as a whole (41.9%, 37.4%).
The most predominant form of employment in Merbein / Merbein South is in fruit and nut tree growing (14.3, MRCC 10%) and in 2006 Merbein had an unemployment rate of 5.3% compared to at MRCC 7.1%.

Merbein / Merbein South has a level of volunteering that is more consistent with the urban areas of Mildura (approximately 21% of the population) than with the more rural areas of the municipality (e.g. Ouyen 42%). The level of volunteering is lower than rural Victoria as a whole (24%).

References: Mildura Social Indicators Report 2008 (Mildura Rural City Council); Quickstats (State suburb for Merbein and Merbein South), ABS 3.0 Project Methodology

3.0 Project Methodology

This master plan is one of 12 master plans prepared for township parks across the municipality. The project involved workshops with sporting club and park representatives, review of project submissions, interviews with stakeholders and workshops with council staff. Communication with key stakeholders has been ongoing throughout the project to refine the master plan.

In addition, this project has incorporated relevant findings and comments from a range of planning sessions conducted with communities over the last 6-8 months in relation to Community Plans and the preparation of the Council Plan. A summary of information drawn from these sources is included in appendix 2.

4.0 Summary of Key Findings Directions

The following points provide a summary of the key directions articulated by the community through the project and through other community planning sessions conducted by council (1)

The priorities for Chaffey Park are:
- Upgraded / expanded pavilion to cater for both cricket and baseball
- Completion of skate facilities and landscaping of the area
- Upgrading of playing surface and irrigation system
- Management / restriction of traffic through the park
- Greening of the park with additional tree and vegetation plantings through the park and along adjoining roadsides, and removal of hazardous trees
- Upgrading of ‘family friendly’ features including play areas, picnic / BBQ areas and shade

(1) Council Plan and Community Plan consultation meetings
5.0 Discussion of Issues and Needs

This section provides a discussion of the issues and opportunities raised through various consultation forums. This section should be read in conjunction with the Action Plan as it provides the basis for the tasks and priorities detailed in the plan.

Chaffey Park is a small park that is tenanted by clubs that have a reputation for their friendly and efficient management of their sports and facilities, and for the manner in which they work together to provide facilities for the community. Information in this section reflects feedback received through this project and also through other community planning meetings conducted over the last 6-8 months.

For the purpose of the discussion the park has been divided into a number of precincts.

Recreation and Play (North) Precinct (including car parking on the north corner)

This north most point of the park and the east and west edges of the park accommodates significant local car parking (business) and significant visitor parking (winery). This has occurred in the area primarily because of the shade afforded by the large sugar gum trees and trees that have been newly established over time along roadsides. This master plan recognises the risk management issues associated with sugar gum trees because of inappropriate pruning techniques used in the past. As a result the trees are prone to dropping branches when under heat stress and will need to be progressively removed and replaced.

The removal of these trees will have an impact on the overall amenity of the park in the short to medium term but the replanting regime will establish an attractive and sustainable treed environment for the longer term. In order to ensure the establishment of trees and other vegetation along roadsides it is necessary to restrict car parking. This is challenging given the natural desire to park vehicles out of the sun. The master plan does however propose a more formal management of car parking in the precinct to reduce the ill-effects over time of compaction caused by vehicles under new plantings.

Council has worked over time to establish trees along McEdwards Street and this master plan proposes additional plantings along this street to define the park and strengthen the profile of the park. Cluster plantings of trees are encouraged so that over time vehicle access can be managed so as to reduce the impact on trees (e.g. impaction of soil). Cluster plantings will also provide wide shade canopies under which people can recreate or view sport. Additional tree plantings are also proposed along Riverside Avenue. Bollards along the entire boundary of the park with both McEdwards Street and River Avenue are planned to restrict vehicle access across the park and into sensitive areas. Angle car parking will be retained along both streets.

The precinct contains basic playground equipment and a BBQ picnic area. The master plan proposes the enhancement of these facilities over time, in particular with the addition of play equipment that caters for a wider range of age groups and creative play opportunities. Consideration was given to relocating the playground closer to sporting facilities however space requirements did not support this option and wider project considerations supported the retention of the playground to the north of the proposed car park.
The master plan recommends the construction of a car park in between the play area and the sporting facilities. This will reduce the area required for car parking by using the space more efficiently. It will also manage car parking around trees and assist to minimise the inappropriate use of the park as a vehicle shortcut between River Avenue and McEdwards Street. This remedy should be supported by an education program with local community members who use the park in this manner.

The master plan identifies Chaffey Park as a possible site for a recreation vehicle grey water pumping station. The actual site will be determined following further research and discussion with relevant stakeholders.

Oval and Pavilion Precinct
This master plan recognises the need to respond to the current sporting needs at the park which are well established and have maintained their membership numbers and level of activity over time.

The Sunraysia Baseball League recognise the Saints Baseball Club as one of the league’s most successful (on and off the field) and resilient clubs. Their participation numbers have remained stable over the last 3 years and the club has a strong junior participation which is required for the viability of senior teams (i.e. transition between juniors and seniors).

The clubs have a co-operative relationship and work together to optimise the sharing and development of facilities. This master plan supports the development of an expanded clubroom facility to more appropriately accommodate the needs of the sport e.g. change rooms for visitors and women / girls and expanded clubroom / kitchen facilities.

The cricket nets are located too close to the oval which results in wear of the playing surface (i.e. practice net run-up area). It is proposed that the nets be set back to minimise this impact. The fencing on the east most practice wicket will be extended to provide a back net for the bullpit area. The master plan also recommends the installation of additional lighting towers so that football training can be dispersed across the oval and minimise the intensity of use under existing lighting. Additional lighting will also enable baseball to conduct additional training activities.

The oval playing surface is rough and requires significant upgrade. In addition, the spacing of sprinkler heads on the oval does not allow for the effective irrigation of the ground. Allowance has been made for the replacement of the system. Also proposed in this precinct are minor additions to baseball facilities including spectator fencing and seating and additional tree and vegetation plantings.

Skate and Recreation (South) Precinct
A skate park was installed in this precinct in 2008 and council has recently provided a shade shelter and drinking water to the area. The skate structure has not been supported with appropriate landscaping so erosion is occurring and dirt and mud are detracting from the site and impacting on the usability of the skate structure.

The master plan proposes appropriate landscaping and the provision of a designated car park as part of the skate park precinct. This together with other traffic management solutions will minimise car access to the area and associated inappropriate behaviours.
Vehicle access to the area will be restricted other than for emergency, service and the CFA vehicles. The CFA uses a sealed training track in the precinct. The master plan proposes significant re-vegetation of the precinct.

Generic Considerations
The following provides an overview of issues that apply to the park as a whole.

Vegetation
This master plan proposes significant tree / vegetation plantings throughout the park. Where possible informal landscaping treatments will be used to managed vehicle access to the park however more formal treatments e.g. bollards may be required in some areas.

Greening of the park was recognised as an opportunity to improve the overall amenity of the park and provide for future generations. The challenge of achieving this in Mildura’s climate was acknowledged but the investment recognised as an important priority. This was a consistent message across all master plans.

Signage
The need for effective signage to the park along major access roadways and at park entries was identified as a priority for both ease of access for newcomers, and to profile opportunities and activities at the park. Additional signage in the park is proposed to increase the profile of the skate park and other nearby sites of interest e.g. Chaffey’s landing.

Grey water pumping station
The master plan notes that this park may be considered as a possible site (refer also Kenny Park) for a future grey water pumping station for caravans. The actual site will be determined as part of council's future planning for visitor / tourist services.

6.0 Review and Implementation of the Master Plan

This master plan has been prepared to guide the development of Chaffey Park. It is important the master plan be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it responds to the current priorities of the community, to changing community sport and recreation participation trends and to funding availability and opportunities.

The timing of various tasks outlined in the master plan may vary depending on a number of factors including:
- the capacity of the community to raise local funds
- the availability of state and federal government grants
- the availability of council grants and other competing council budget items and
- changing community priorities and needs
7.0 Action Plan

This section contains the ‘action plan’ that lists tasks required to guide the development of Chaffey Park over the next 10 years. Some actions will fall outside the 10 year scope of the plan. They have however been documented so they are retained for future consideration.

The action plan also identifies the key stakeholders responsible for facilitating / resourcing the tasks, cost estimates and timelines. Priorities identified for any given year do not commit any potential funding partners, government or community. Rather they provide a guide for future planning, government budget allocations and community fund-raising.

Priorities have been determined according to whether the action:

- has any risk management implications
- has significant implications for the future / survival of the sport
- caters for a priority need in the broader community
- was significant throughout the community consultation process
- has health and wellbeing implications for the broader community
- has particular implications in relation to the demographic profile of the area
- has been identified as a priority by Council, state and federal government agencies.

The cost items in the master plan are estimates only. Final costs will be subject to the final scope of works approved / agreed and detailed design findings. They will also vary depending on fluctuations in the price in materials and labour, access to volunteer labour and in-kind support, and environmental conditions identified as part of detailed design process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>TASKLIST</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST ESTIMATE</th>
<th>POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Progressive removal of sugar gum trees</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Planting of shade trees in the north corner of the park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Formalising of car parking between the pavilion and the playground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Protection of vegetation, risk management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sealing of main car park</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Dust suppression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Upgrade and consolidation of play equipment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Replacement of perimeter fencing around playground. Bollards</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Construction of new car park to service play ground and sporting activities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Bollards around perimeter of car park to restrict access across the park. Minimises erosion and the impact of cars around trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>TASKLIST</td>
<td>YEAR</td>
<td>COST ESTIMATE</td>
<td>POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS</td>
<td>COMMENT</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Additional shade tree plantings in playground</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Cluster plantings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Extension of pavilion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt., community</td>
<td>To accommodate additional male change facilities, female change facilities, disability toilet, store, kitchen, extension of social rooms and verandah.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Provision for services upgrade to the pavilion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Relocation of cricket nets to the north of current location</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>clubs, council</td>
<td>Nets too close to the oval therefore wear and tear on playing surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Extension of east most side of cricket net fencing to form 'back / safety fencing for the bullpit</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>clubs, council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Upgrading of playing surface</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Upgrading of irrigation system</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td>Current spacing of sprinkler heads does not provide good coverage of the oval. Including irrigation of run-up area in front of the realigned cricket nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Replacement of oval boundary fencing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Or as required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provision of boundary seating in front of pavilion and along part of the west oval perimeter</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>clubs, council</td>
<td>As boundary fencing is replaced / upgraded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Extension of (low) barrier fencing along east oval perimeter (baseball)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>clubs</td>
<td>Extension from protective fencing. Risk management - barrier for spectators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Provision of seating behind barrier fencing (baseball)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>clubs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Provision for power upgrade for lighting towers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Provision of additional light tower on the north-west side of the oval</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td>To spread training load / wear &amp; tear on the oval &amp; increase carrying capacity of the oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Provision of two additional light towers at south end of the oval</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>clubs, council, state govt.</td>
<td>South-east &amp; south-west cns. To spread training load / wear &amp; tear on the oval &amp; increase carrying capacity of the oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Skate and Recreation (South) Precinct</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Completion of skate park surrounds</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Landscaping and sealing of immediate surrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Seating / tables</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### CHAFFEY PARK - MASTER PLAN ACTIONS & COST ESTIMATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>TASKLIST</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST ESTIMATE</th>
<th>POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Installation of bollards along McEdwards St. between the oval &amp; the irrigation channel</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Provision of car park to the north of the skate facility</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Intense vegetation of the south / skate precinct</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Shade trees only not low level bushes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>TASKLIST</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST ESTIMATE</th>
<th>POTENTIAL FUNDING PARTNERS</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Bollards along entire length of River Ave. boundary with the park to junction with Ranfurly Way. (Provision for keyed access to south precinct of the park)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Risk management - to prevent cars taking shortcut through the reserve &amp; associated activity zones. Provision for angle car parking to remain. Prevents access to the south precinct of the reserve. Formalises presentation of the reserve to the main road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Bollards along entire length of McEdwards St. boundary with the park to junction with Ranfurly Way. (Provision for keyed access to south precinct of the park)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>Refer above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Additional tree plantings along entire length of River Ave. to junction with Ranfurly Way</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Enhances amenity and provides strong interface of the park with the streetscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Additional tree plantings along entire length of McEdwards St. to junction with Ranfurly Way</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>council, community</td>
<td>Enhances amenity and provides strong interface of the park with the streetscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Directional signage on highway</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Directional signage to Chaffey landing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Directional signage from north end of the reserve to the skate park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Provision for grey water pumping station for recreation vehicles at north end of the park</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>council</td>
<td>This will be dependant on council policy re council role in providing the service &amp; consideration of alternative sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,058,500</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 8.0 Site Plan

The site plan provides a graphic representation of the master plan.
9.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Photographs

Ranfurly Way looking towards clubrooms

Cricket nets

Playground

Sugar gums at north end of the reserve

McEdwards Street

Skate park
Picnic area

Skate park

Baseball Pitch

To the north of the baseball pitch
Appendix 2 – Relevant Information from Council Plan and Community Planning Meetings

COUNCIL PLAN (Consultation Meetings, February 2009)
The following is a summary of information / comments from council consultation meetings (Feb 2009) relevant to the master plans:

- **Overall Comments**
  - Want to be able to walk in the park at night without being attacked
  - Lighting - good at intersections but gaps around town
  - More sporting and recreational opportunities for older people
  - Trees get planted but not watered
  - Continuation of parks
  - Focus on walking trails

- **Recreation and Sport**
  - More regular events e.g. sports events
  - More sporting facilities
  - Need the pool all year round - have a come and try day - activity sports centre for youth
  - Need shade at skate park Number 3 oval - weed control
  - More sporting and recreational opportunities for older people
  - Maintenance and upkeep of sporting grounds important

The following is a summary of information from the Community Plan that is relevant to the master plan:

- **There are 9 priorities identified in the Community Plan. Priority 2 has implications for the master plan**
  - Priority 2 – Indoor Sports Precinct
    - Improved indoor sport and recreation opportunities and facilities. In particular give consideration to developing the pool into a sporting complex including a gymnasium, with a stadium and all indoor sports facilities in the one precinct

(*Note that the above precinct is the subject of redesign works and modifications to the outdoor pool / tennis precinct)

Community Planning Meetings (2008 / 2009)
The following is a summary of information / comments from various community planning meetings in 2008 / 09 undertaken to update the 2007 Community Plan and that are relevant to the master plan:

- **Chaffey Park**
  - Only caters for a basic level of sport – facilities need expansion / existing buildings do not cater for needs
  - Access to facility not clear / Not enough information about the parks location
  - Information board with contact details for all clubs / organisations / Lack of signs
  - Skate park not a great outcome – needs to be finished off
- Tidy up gardens

**General Comments**
- Bushes hanging over footpaths and cars parked on footpaths - obstacles for people to get past
- Parks require attention
- More shade trees / mulch and value trees
- Water recycling / harvesting opportunities
- Valuing / supporting volunteers
- Assistance with grant seeking

**Swimming /Tennis Precinct**
- Creation of a multi-purpose / all year swimming facility (‘community pool’)
- Features – ‘water park elements, lap swimming, family oriented
- Car parking – proposed for behind the pool as part of the concept
Appendix 3 - Submissions To The Project

Submission 1 – Merbein Development Association Inc.

- Association acknowledges the great improvements to Merbein’s parks and township generally in recent times
- Notes that the community planning meetings have identified the need for improvement to sporting facilities at Kenny Park and Chaffey Park including:
  - The completion of the skate park
  - Upgrade of tennis / pool facilities and a sharing of these facilities between the two groups
  - Maintenance of new sprinkler systems and extension of watering to maintain health of trees and grassed areas
  - Investigation of options for recycling water for preservation of trees and gardens
  - Upgrading of power in area behind the pool and to the guide hall – public events
  - Regular pruning of trees – preservation in drought conditions
  - BBQ areas / areas of high use – bare and dusty. Need appropriate plantings / ground treatment / watering
  - Replacement of pine posts / bollards
  - Playgrounds – needs upgrading, removal of bollards (safety), maintenance
  - Toilets – need regular cleaning and maintenance. Kenny Park toilets (behind pool) need upgrading and disability toilets added
  - Sth Merbein Cricket Club – support facility expansion plans
  - Encourage full use of Kenny Park and Chaffey Park. Encourage recreation and health and fitness use / activities e.g. walking / exercise groups
- Note that the CFA have identified mulch in some areas to be a fire hazard