



# Merbein

COMMUNITY PLAN



2023-2027





# Introduction

This is the second community plan for Merbein Community, covering the period of 2023-2028 outlining the community's long-term goals, aspirations and priorities.

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## Merbein Development Association

### Our Vision

Merbein's Vision is to create a vibrant and connected community with a full range of health, community, recreation and education services that are accessible for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

### Our Values

Merbein residents value the small town and community atmosphere, this allows country lifestyle surrounded by bushland leading to the Murray River.

### Our Aspirations

Transform Merbein's main street into a vibrant and attractive place to visit, shop and enjoy for locals and visitors, in particular cafes, install street lights, create new footpaths and bike paths.



# About Merbein

## Merbein's Past

Merbein is a town just north of Mildura, Victoria, in the Sunraysia region of Australia. It is located on the Calder Highway between Mildura and the Murray River crossing at the Abbotsford Bridge to Curlwaa. The Australian Bureau of Statistics census data shows a population increase from 2016 of 1,981 to 2021 of 4,976 this is a population increase of 2,995. The Merbein township is located 12 kilometres

from Mildura, 553km from Melbourne and 389km from Adelaide.

Merbein is the most northern Victorian town and celebrated 100 years as an irrigation settlement in 2009. The Merbein irrigation settlement, originally known as White Cliffs for its river cliffs, was established on a pastoral holding in 1909.

It was one of the first state-owned pumped irrigation settlements in Victoria.

A Rotary Club of Merbein sign states: "Irrigation commenced in 1910 originally for pasture and grain crops, but quickly assumed its present economy of vineyard and orchard culture."

E.J. Kenny was the first Officer in Charge of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission

of Victoria Irrigation Area established in 1909. The hot climate and the distance from markets saw the settlement quickly change from dairying to the growing of the less perishable crops of citrus and grapes for drying and spirit-making.

Soldier settlement blocks were established in Birdwoodton and Merbein West during and

after WW1, and many streets were named after local soldiers who died in WW1. The district's horticulture and viticultural industries also attracted many European immigrants to the area.

Kenny, known as the 'Father of Merbein', died suddenly in 1925 and his contribution to the success of the settlement was acknowledged with the naming of Kenny Park. Today, Merbein

continues to be an irrigation district, diversifying from the growing of dried grapes and citrus to a wide variety of wine and table grapes, asparagus, almonds, mushrooms and vegetables. As well as a wine bottling and packaging industry and a vegetable juicing facility, Merbein has also developed as a regional transport hub for the export of district products.





# Merbein's Future and Vision

- The Merbein Development Association with the support from Council, conducted a first-round of community consultations across the month of May in 2022. Merbein residents were asked What is your vision of the future of the Merbein below are some of the verbatim comments from residents.
- Merbein into a higher quality residential area for retirees and younger families, there are some great houses in Merbein.
- A vibrant and connected community providing a full range of health, community, cultural, recreation, education services that are accessible for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.
- A lively and attractive main street precinct that not only provides for locals but also attracts visitors. Engaged and connected children and young people, who are supported through easily accessible recreation and social activities for youth and families that are local and available to all.
- Safe for my children to grow up, build friendships, engage in sports and other recreational activities.
- Footpaths to be able walk /ride to school. Good quality schooling, kindergarten and day-care programs maintained.
- To not feel like an afterthought from Council.
- More GPs and healthcare providers.
- Sense of community.
- A farmers' market comparable to Mildura/Red Cliffs.
- Development of the riverfront.
- To regain "vibrancy" while holding on to "small community" feel.
- Merbein is a lovely community in which to live. Of course, it is up to oneself to extend the hand of friendship or take a step to meet people. I would hope that the younger generation see the value in community committees and what they can contribute to the future of Merbein.

# Purpose of Community Plans

A community plan is a public document which contains specific project proposals to develop the future vision and public improvements in local community the documents are developed through a partnership between the Council endorsed Community Advisory group, residents, and Council Staff.

Community plans provide a complete, long-range vision for communities, and address aspects of community development and provide recommendations which guide development over a long period of time.

Merbein's new Community Plan identifies the priorities for improvement, but also envisions growth and future planning changes to accommodate Merbein's growing community.





# Population

People	<b>4,976</b>	Families	<b>1,312</b>
Male	<b>50.2%</b>	Average number of children per family:	
Female	<b>49.8%</b>	Families with children	<b>1.9</b>
Median age	<b>43</b>	All families	<b>0.8</b>

In the Census taken 2011 to 2021 noted an increase population from **2,671 to 4,976 people** living in the Merbein area.





### Why did we review Community Plan's?

- To refresh the community's vision for the future.
- Community needs are constantly changing.
- To bring stakeholders and interested parties together.
- To collectively identify, plan and develop actions and priorities.
- To ensure we stay up-to-date with the needs and wants of the community.

### What the community value about living Merbein?

- Friendly small town with everything you need.
- Lifestyle - friendly people and feeling of welcome and inclusion, plus a strong sense of community.
- The beautiful recreation park and its facilities.
- Access to the most beautiful areas on the riverfront within the Merbein Common and other areas along the river for fishing, photography and bird watching

### What are the communities biggest challenges?

- A lack of footpaths and cycle ways.
- Insufficient lighting.
- Improve shops - new businesses.
- Insufficient access to Health Services.
- Limit activities for young people in Merbein.

### Merbein Community Consultation

The new Merbein Community Plan has come together through a collaboration process between Mildura Rural City Council and the Merbein Development Association. Our first initial discussion took place on the 1st February 2022 with the Merbein Development Association about the Community Plan review.

A series of online short promotional films were developed and used to promote the review of the existing plan. The films highlight previous actions and celebrate key achievements and successes from the 2014-2019 Merbein Community Plan.

Advertising for the consultation of the new community plan started in May 2022, information about the various consultation sessions was promoted through local newsletters, emails, word of mouth and group conversations. This gave residents in the Merbein area multiple opportunities to participate to have input into the review process through different methods such as hard copy, online surveys, community meetings and various group meetings. The community consultation sessions took place throughout the month of May 2022, Council received 64 responses from various sporting

groups, school children, Merbein residents, community groups and business owners in the Merbein area.

Feedback from these sessions saw themes and priority actions emerging. Council staff had further discussions with the Merbein Development Association, and the group felt that some of the actions from the previous Community Plan needed to be kept and continued in the new plan.



## Community Feedback was analysed and themed.

All information received was methodically collated. The proposed actions have been then identified under each of the identified themes in this new Community Plan. These actions are a direct reflection of the

feedback and ideas presented by community members.

The construction of Merbein Community Plan highlights a desire from the whole community to connect and focus on the

aspirations and priorities for the community's future. Once the plan is completed, it will then be presented to Mildura Rural City Council, by the Merbein Development Association members, for endorsement.

## The purpose of the Merbein Development Association is:

- To support other organisations in the Merbein community to develop and implement the initiatives identified in this Community Plan.
- When required, form partnerships with other organisations to achieve community goals.
- To promote the Community Plan within the Merbein community
- To provide a report to the community to inform them of continuing actions and projects.
- Address issues of current and future concerns.
- Strive to provide opportunities for all residents to be involved in the delivery of actions within the Merbein Community Plan.
- Merbein Development Association will work with Mildura Rural City Council by acting as an Advisory and Liaison body between Council and the local community, individuals, clubs and organisations.
- Merbein Development Association work with Council to provide valuable insight into the needs, circumstances and future direction of their community.



# Achievements from the Merbein Community Plan 2014-2019

All the below projects were identified through the Merbein Community Plan.

## The refurbishment of the Sunraysia Community Building Merbein

Council's Community Futures unit, worked with the Merbein District Historical Society on applying for funds through Council's Community Plan support fund for the internal refurbishment of the previous Community Health Building in Box Street. The group also worked with Council Facility Services on the design layout and upgrade of the proposed new building.

The original concept design for the Sunraysia Community Health Building was identified as stage three part of the Merbein Community Hub, but at that stage Council did not have the capacity to carry out this future development.

Merbein District Historical Society now lease half of the Sunraysia Community Health Building; the other half of the building has been leased by the Merbein Art Group.

## Merbein South Hall upgrade

This project has been developed in consultation between Merbein South community and Mildura Rural City Council.

Residents in the Merbein South area identified they would like to use the Merbein South Hall as a public amenity for community events. The Project outcome to purchase the hall through Council Community Plan support fund, and upgrade facilities for property to be leased by Merbein South Community group.

## Swimming Pool Blanket

Another successful project that came from the 2014-2019 Merbein Community Plan was to investigate and support improvements to sports grounds and facilities. Merbein Swimming Club applied for funding through Council's Community Plan Support Fund to provide an upgrade of a new pool blankets and roller. The new blanket would benefit the Merbein Swimming Club and wider community, by retaining the water temperature

in the public pool, making it more desirable for the community to use the facilities.

## CWA Centenary book

The aim of the CWA Centenary book project was to record in a book 77 years of history within the Merbein Branch of the Country Women's Association. The members of Merbein CWA members worked with Council staff in applying for funds through Council Community Plan Support Fund, they were successful in their application. The history book that they produced was a homage to recognise and honour past Merbein CWA Branch members. The focus of the project is to record and collate relevant information from interviews and discussions, historical records (such as minute books, photograph, and press clippings).

The published history was presented in a book format which was easy to read and appealed not only to the wider community but to historians and all those interested in Merbein's social history/ organisations and personalities.



# Key Themes

## Safety

It is essential to remain diligent in maintaining and upgrading our safety and access throughout all our community for everyone.

## Health

Merbein community to investigate more improvement to local Health Services and specialist care in disability access, mental and elderly health support.

## Township Improvements

Merbein community have identified that they would like to improve accessibility and the appearance of main shopping area.

## Advocacy

Merbein community would like to investigate improvements through public space projects, grants and local developments in partnership with various business and Government stakeholders.

## Recreation

To maintain open space and rural lifestyle for all our residents and to increase the use of sporting facilities in the Merbein area. Also targeted projects for young people to have supported accessible recreation activities.

## Promotion/Tourism

To increase the promotion of Tourism in the Merbein area as a visitor destination, also exploring new and existing opportunities to encourage new businesses and industries to be developed in the area.

## Environment

Develop and maintain Merbein's natural river frontage and environmental area through community involvement and interaction with community groups, Government stakeholders and Landcare projects.

## Safety

**Objective:** To maintain and improve Merbein's safety and wellbeing for all residents.

Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate and support improvement to public street lighting and upgrade to local footpaths throughout the Merbein community.	Secure Council support to improve and upgrade local footpaths and public lighting throughout Merbein.	State and Federal Funding grants, MRCC Road Safety Officer, MRCC Asset Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community crime prevention grants/ Safer Community</li> <li>Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>Public Lighting Strategy</li> <li>MRCC Asset Plan 2022-23</li> <li>MRCC Public Lighting Strategy</li> <li>Merbein Development Association</li> <li>MRCC Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025</li> </ul>
Investigate the opportunity to have 24 hour police presence in the Merbein area.	<p>Work with Mildura police on Community Based Policing projects. Merbein community to look at opportunities to work in collaboration on projects. Eg: Community Consultative Committee.</p> <p>Re-establish Neighborhood Watch and Safety Houses programs.</p>	Mildura and Merbein Police, Council, Community Futures unit, Neighborhood Watch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Plan 2021-2025 – Advocacy Plan</li> <li>Merbein Development Association</li> <li>Mildura Police Station</li> <li>Annual Community Safety Plan</li> </ul>
Look at the opportunity to support developing a school crossing opposite Merbein P-10 School.	Work with Council Road Safety Officer and Regional Roads Victoria	MRCC Road Safety Officer, Regional Roads Victoria. Merbein P-10 School.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MRCC Road Safety Strategy</li> <li>MRCC Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>Council Plan 2021-2025</li> </ul>



Health and Wellbeing			
Objective: Encourage a broad range of public health services to assist in serving the Merbein community's needs.			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate and support improvement to public Health Services/ Specialising (eg. Youth Mental Health, Disability and Mental Health support, medical access for elderly).	Work with Sunraysia Community Health, Headspace, Northern Mallee Area Mental Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, MRCC Aged and Disability Services.	State and Federal Governments, MRCC, Sunraysia Community Health, Head space, Northern Mallee Area Mental Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, MRCC Age and Disability Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025 Advocacy Plan</li> </ul>
Investigate and support youth activities and infrastructure (eg. Activities/Outlets for youth participation, youth drop in/activity centre).	<p>Investigate opportunities for Youth Activities and events throughout the Merbein area.</p> <p>Improve accessibility for youth events. Develop partnerships. eg. Merbein P-10 and MRCC Youth Services.</p> <p>Investigate funding and grant opportunities for youth events.</p>	Merbein P-10 School, MRCC Youth Services, Victorian Police, Merbein Development Association, Local sporting groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Playground Strategy 2021-26 and Recreation Strategy 2021-31</li> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025 Advocacy Plan</li> <li>• MRCC Youth Engagement Strategy 2020-23</li> </ul>
Investigate future Merbein Community Hub usages (eg. youth activities, community group meetings, disability and mental health support group programs. Community drop-in centre - parents room, services for families etc.	Investigation opportunities with Council's Recreation Services. Investigate funding and grant opportunities for community projects.	Merbein Development Association, local sporting and community groups, Mildura Council Recreation Services. Merbein Kindergarten, Merbein P-10 School Council Supported Playgroups, Council Early Years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Youth Engagement Strategy 2020-23</li> <li>• MRCC Municipal Early Years Plan 2020-25</li> <li>• Council Plan 2021-25</li> <li>• MRCC Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25</li> </ul>







Township Improvements			
Objective: To revitalise commercial activities and stimulate pride in the Merbein Commercial Business District.			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate upgrade of new and existing footpaths and bike tracks throughout the Merbein area.	Secure Council support to improve and upgrade local footpaths and bike tracks throughout Merbein.	State and Federal Funding grants, MRCC Road Safety Officer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Asset Plan 2022-31</li> <li>• Regional Roads Victoria</li> <li>• Dept of Environment, Land, Water and Planning</li> <li>• Parks Victoria</li> <li>• Mildura Tracks and Trails Strategy July 2012</li> </ul>
Investigate beautification program for Merbein's Commercial Business District. Benefits to enhance the quality of life for residents and to attract future tourists.	Apply for funding through Council to investigate various beautification programs, or Business Plan development.	State and Federal Funding grants, MRCC Community Plan Support Fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• Mildura Rural City Council grants program</li> <li>• State and Federal Grant programs available.</li> </ul>
Investigate, implement and support environmentally friendly programs eg. green waste services, clean up days, community garden, roadside and Merbein Common litter clean up.	<p>Identify areas and groups to create a program for regular community clean up days.</p> <p>Investigate programs for roadside and public space clean ups.</p> <p>Investigate the community's interest in a community garden program.</p> <p>Support Council to implement ongoing green waste collection.</p>	<p>Merbein Development Association and Various, MRCC Environmental Sustainability Unit.</p> <p>Clean up Australia Day MRCC Parks Service, Merbein Common Group, Parks Victoria Land Care Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Education Plan 2020-24</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Sustainability Report 2020-21</li> <li>• MRCC Litter and Illegal Dumping Strategy 2020-25</li> <li>• MRCC Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022-26</li> </ul>
Investigate installation of a charging hub for mobility scooters and electric vehicles	Investigate a proposed charging hub for mobility scooters and electric vehicles in Merbein	Council Aged and Disability staff, Council Social and Inclusion staff MRCC Environmental Sustainability Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC</li> <li>• Environmental Sustainability Report 2020-21</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Policy</li> </ul>



Advocacy			
Objective: Merbein groups work with internal and external stakeholders to advocate on a variety of services and activities.			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate and improve public transport in the Merbein area.	<p>Conduct a safety and accessibility audit of bus shelters throughout the Merbein Community.</p> <p>Include readability of timetables for children, elderly, etc.</p> <p>Consult with Public Transport Victoria on bus routes during their next review.</p>	Public Transport Victoria Mildura Bus Lines Regional Roads Victoria, Merbein community, Merbein Development Association.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025 Advocacy Plan</li> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> </ul>
Investigate improvement in main shopping CBD precinct, eg. vacant shops, fronts/windows of shopping area.	Community Consultation session with residents in the Merbein area. Including internal and external stakeholders.	MRCC Staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> </ul>
Investigate viability of Fourteenth Street extension to Merbein.	<p>Establish regular communications with other local partners.</p> <p>Provide support to appropriate grant applications by local groups and organisations.</p> <p>Establish relationships with other funding partners.</p>	MRCC Staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Asset Plan 2022-31</li> <li>• MRCC Municipal Road Management Plan v5 2017</li> <li>• Annual Community Safety Plan</li> </ul>

Recreation			
Objective: To support and assist sporting clubs and organisations in creating a healthy lifestyle for the Merbein Community.			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate proposals to upgrade and improve Skate Park.	<p>Seek Council support for creating a safer outdoor skate park for young people in Merbein.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk.</p> <p>Provide support to appropriate grant applications by local groups and organisations.</p>	MRCC Recreation Staff, Community Development Staff, Merbein P-10 school, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• Bendigo Bank Community Grants</li> <li>• Chaffey Park Masterplan (new one being developed)</li> <li>• MRCC Youth Engagement Strategy 2020-23</li> <li>• MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31</li> </ul>
Support and improve upgrade of local parks and playground areas eg. Playground/family friendly near skate park area – including toilets and pump track.	<p>Seek Council support for creating a new family playground for young people in Merbein.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk and grants.</p>	MRCC Recreation Staff, Community Development staff, Merbein P-10 school, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders, Merbein Kindergarten, MRCC Parks and Gardens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31</li> <li>• Chaffey and Kenny Park Master Plans</li> <li>• MRCC Youth Engagement Strategy 2020-23</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> </ul>
Investigate the need for a public off leash dog park.	<p>Seek Council support for creating public spaces.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk and grants.</p> <p>Investigate funding and grant to support public off leash dog park.</p>	MRCC Recreation Staff, Community Development Staff, Merbein P-10 school, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31</li> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• Mildura Public Open Space Strategy 2021</li> </ul>



Recreation cont.			
Objective: To support and assist sporting clubs and organisations in creating a healthy lifestyle for the Merbein Community			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate and support improvements to sporting grounds and facilities eg. Kenny Park, Tennis Court improvements, upgrade toilets to be fully accessible for local sporting clubs and general public.	Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk and grants.	MRCC Recreation Staff, Community Development staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31</li> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• Kenny Park Master Plan 2020</li> <li>• Chaffey Park Master Plan 2009-19</li> </ul>
Promotions/Tourism			
Objective: To assist the Merbein Community to further develop and promote the area and its attractions			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Encourage and attract new businesses/ industry to Merbein.	<p>Establish a community working group to develop idea and methods in attracting new business opportunities.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community grants.</p> <p>Investigate opportunity for creating a Business Plan for Merbein CBD.</p> <p>Investigate funding opportunities for media and creative advertising to promote Merbein through social media. eg. Facebook, blogs, websites etc.</p>	Community Development staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders, MRCC Events unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> <li>• MRCC Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021-25</li> </ul>

Promotions/Tourism cont.			
Objective: To assist the Merbein Community to further develop and promote the area and its attractions			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Support local events and festivals throughout the Merbein area eg. Farmers Market, Vanilla Slice Triumph, Market / Festival/Boutique style markets. Merbein South Motor Show and events.	Investigate economic development opportunities for the Merbein Community.	Community Development staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders, Council Events unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Events Strategy 2025</li> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• Mildura Council grants.</li> <li>• State and Federal grant funding</li> </ul>
Investigate new signage throughout the Merbein area. Eg. Welcome Sign at Merbein entrance, Look Out signage, Blandowski Walk, Chaffey Trail.	Work with local community groups to develop signage and needs.	Community Development staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Township Entrance Signage Guidelines</li> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> </ul>
Support projects and activities that enhance or retain the History of Merbein.	Form partnerships with local groups to investigate grant funding.	MRCC grants, State and Federal Funding grants, Local History Grants Program, Merbein Historical Society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council Plan 2021-2025</li> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> <li>• MRCC Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021-25</li> </ul>
Environment			
Objective: Support public facilities, environment, waste management and sustainability in the Merbein community			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate the need for Community gardens.	<p>Seek Council support for creating public spaces.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk and grants.</p> <p>Investigate funding and grant to support community garden projects.</p>	MRCC Environmental staff Community Development staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders, MRCC Parks Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Community Vision 2021-40</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Sustainability Report 2020-21</li> <li>• Environmental Education Plan 2020-2024</li> </ul>



Environment cont.			
Objective: Support public facilities, environment, waste management and sustainability in the Merbein community			
Actions	Next steps	Partners	Links
Investigate, implement and support environmentally friendly programs eg. Green Waste Services, clean up days, Roadside and Merbein Common litter clean up.	<p>Identify areas and groups to create a program for regular community clean up days.</p> <p>Investigate programs for roadside and public space clean ups.</p> <p>Support Council to implement ongoing green waste collection.</p>	MRCC Environmental staff Community Futures Staff, Merbein Development Association, Community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders, Yelta Landcare group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merbein Development Association</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Education Plan 2020-24</li> <li>• MRCC Environmental Education Plan 2020-2024</li> <li>• Environmental Education Plan 2020-2024</li> <li>• Sustainability Report 2020-21</li> <li>• MRCC Litter and Illegal Dumping Strategy 2020-25</li> <li>• MRCC Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022-26</li> </ul>
Investigate and support tree planting and weed removal programs.	<p>Secure Council support for weed removal control programs.</p> <p>Identify opportunities for community involvement in National Tree planting Day.</p>	MRCC Environmental staff, Merbein Development Association, Merbein P-10 School, community groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRCC Invasive Plants and Animals Plan 2020-24</li> <li>• MRCC Vegetation Management Plan 2020-24</li> <li>• MRCC Parks and Waste Services</li> <li>• Environmental Education Plan 2020-2024</li> </ul>

## Implementation

Implementation of the Community Plan will be achieved by Merbein Development Association Inc. working together with partners and sub-committees from various key areas as outlined in relevant themes.	All sub-committees will consist of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and other members and volunteers who will put forward decisions for resolution.	objectives within this Community Plan. However, this relies heavily upon the resources of other partners, therefore, Merbein Development Association Inc. or any partners involved cannot be held liable for factors outside of its control including funding limitations.
	Merbein Development Association Inc. will be the principal administrator driving the implementation of the	

## Alteration to the Community Plan

The residents of Merbein are the responsible body for the Community Plan, amendments and alteration to priorities. Any alteration to the Community Plan requires a public meeting process.	an opportunity to propose any changes at any time and to authorise any alterations to priorities as a result of changes to community interests or circumstances.	Copies of the Community Plan can be obtained by contacting:
This public process ensures all community groups have	The Community Plan will be located for viewing at the Merbein Community Library.	The Secretary Merbein Development Association Inc. PO Box 750 Merbein Vic 3505







# Appendix Partners

## Local Government

Mildura Rural City Council, Sunraysia Modernisation Project Lower Murray Water.

## Federal and State Government

Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Parks Victoria, VicRoads.

## Community Groups

Merbein Development Association Inc, Rotary Club of Mildura Merbein Inc, Lions Club of Merbein Inc, Merbein District Historical Society, Merbein Yelta Landcare, Friends of Merbein Common, Mildura and Merbein CWA, Merbein Vanilla Slice Inc, Merbein Arts Group Incorporation.

## Sporting Clubs

Merbein Football/Netball Club, Merbein Junior Football Club, Merbein Cricket Club, Mildura City Soccer Club, Saints Baseball Club, Merbein Bowling Club, Merbein Golf Club, Merbein Swimming Club, Kenny Park Tennis Club.

## Other Community Groups

Chaffey Aged Care, Cabarita Inc, Merbein South Community Hall and Recreation Park.

## Schools

Merbein P-10 College Junior campus, Merbein P-10 College Senior campus, Merbein Kindergarten, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Primary School.

## Churches

Merbein Uniting Church, Catholic Presbytery, Merbein Altitude Church, Anglican Catholic Church.





## Appendix grant/funding opportunities

[www.mildura.vic.gov.au](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au)  
[www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au)  
[www.dpcd.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au)  
[www.lmw.vic.gov.au](http://www.lmw.vic.gov.au)  
[www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)  
[www.australia.com](http://www.australia.com)  
[www.tourism.vic.gov.au](http://www.tourism.vic.gov.au)  
[www.landcareonline.com.au](http://www.landcareonline.com.au)  
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Merbein Development Association and Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.



Mildura Rural City Council



