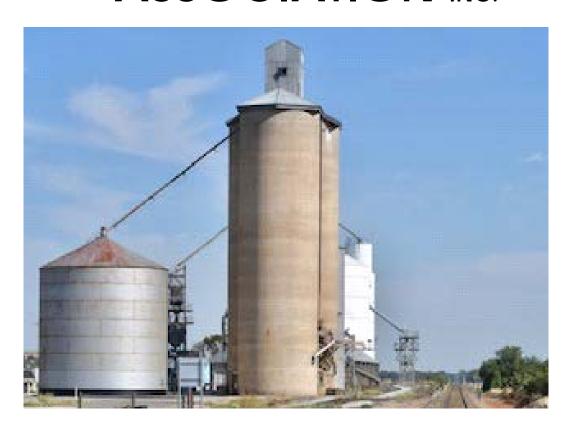
# MITIAMO PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



# COMMUNITY PLAN 2023-2032

We acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people traditional custodians of the land on which we live today and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Mitiamo 3573

# Mitiamo Progress Association Inc.

- Mitiamo is a unique small town set in a picturesque farming rural setting, with Terrick Terrick National Park to the north of the township.
- The Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. has revised the 2003 Community Plan to support, develop, enhance and preserve the Mitiamo and District community.
- Creating the community plan has re-energised the community, bringing it together to achieve important goals through consultation and sharing of ideas.
- The Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. is leading the way and looking to the future.

#### Aims of Mitiamo Progress Association Inc.

- To support the growth and development of Mitiamo and District with invested stakeholders and through the coordination and management of effective community planning.
- 2. To implement Mitiamo Community improvements that enhance the quality of lifestyle for the benefit of all age groups.
- 3. To bring together and unite the numerous Mitiamo and district community groups and individuals to listen to their ideas and concerns.
- 4. To preserve Mitiamo's unique natural environment and resources including its rich history both indigenous and since settlement.

#### History of the Mitiamo Progress Association Inc.

Founded in 1993 the Mitiamo Progress Association at request of the formally known East Loddon Shire Council

The town required a group to bring people together as one voice. The community no longer had a school council, and later the cropping, pool and hall committee's disbanded so a consultation a group was required.

The Mitiamo Progress Association has worked in partnership with key stakeholders to support Mitiamo and the District people

#### **Past Projects**

The Loddon Council has assisted the Association with improvements to Phelan Reserve, such as the establishment of playground equipment, a BBQ shelter and a pergola for shade and entertainment along with extra shade seating.

Working with the Loddon Shire Council we established 'some' foot paving around the town to enable safe mobilisation for the town's elderly, children and disabled persons, an ongoing project.

The Association with the Pool Committee and the Loddon Council improved the Mitiamo Swimming pool/public toilets with roofing, rendering and painting of the walls and new door access to the public,

The Progress Association previously assisted with the establishment of trees on the Grain Corp site near the historic water tower, planting of trees and building a succulent garden bed under the water tower.

Working in Partnership with Coliban water the Progress Association has tried to improve water quality with the introduction of the tank system, however, the high pressure from the tanks has the potential to damage established water pipes in the town and the water quality is an ongoing discussion.

The Mitiamo Progress Association has supported the local sporting clubs and other committees such as the CFA with a new bell stand and improvements to the netball courts.

With Telstra, they improved telecommunications in the district and provided a push for overall community beautification and resource management.

The Association purchased and continues to maintain the AED medical defibrillator, located at the Post Office.

The Association established trees and gardens on the cross road intersection corner, known as Cox's Corner.

The committee originally gained funding through the proceeds of the cropping committee and other committees that dismembered in Mitiamo. The committee requires new funding methods to achieve goals and pay insurance expenses.

The Mitiamo Progress Association has been involved in many projects and has supported, enhanced and refurbished the community.

The Mitiamo Progress Association for the last 13 years has found it difficult to find membership due to the changing demographic and minimal has been achieved from the 2003 community plan.

Fortunately, during 2021-2023 the Progress Association has found new motivated members and gained a new lease of life, with new and old community members the association aspiring to support the township and surrounding district.

#### Mitiamo & District - Background information



#### Census

#### Information 2021- Area Code 3573

There are very few differences between 2016 to 2021 census reports. The number of families had decreased and number of children decreased. Town population and economics stayed relatively the same.

In 2023 the population on the surface appears to have grown, with a greater transient population of residents and more families and children residing in the housing.

These 2021 figures represent both township and farming people living in 3573.

People	116
Male	42.2%
Female	51.8%
Median age	50 years
Families	28
Average number of children per family	2.2
for all households	0.4
Couples with children	34.3%
Couples without children	51.4%
One parent family (100% female)	14.3%
All private dwellings	64
Average number of people per household	2.1
Occupied private dwellings	43
Unoccupied private dwellings	11
Median weekly household income	\$982
Median monthly mortgage repayment	\$600
Median weekly rent	\$150

## **Indigenous History**

Mitiamo is situated on the land of the Dja Dja Wurrung people. The area now occupied by Terrick National Park was at the boundary of the Dja Dja Wurrung and Barabaraba aboriginal groups.

The cool granite outcrops provided shelter and semi-permanent water holes for the Indigenous people. A vast variety of plants and animals of the area provided a plentiful food source. There are carving scars on several old grey box trees where the indigenous people cut canoes, shields, carrying bowls and material to provide shelter.

The district surrounding Mitiamo is believed to be named after an indigenous man John Terrick who is believed to be one of the last full-blood aboriginals in the area. John Terrick was a descendant of Nelson Trobullock and Nora Wan-nannee. Born circa 1835 or 1843 at Terrick in the Mount Hope District he died in 1921 at Coranderrk settlement. (Healesville, Victoria)

#### **Natural Wonder**

Terrick National Park (3,880m hectares) is an important remnant of Box-Ironbark Forest; it contains a huge array of native indigenous eucalyptus and Murray Pine trees, with 31 flora species and 33 fauna species that are rare or threatened in Victoria. There are many bird varieties which attracts bird watchers and photographers. Native wildflowers bloom in spring and carpet the forest floor. There is an abundance of Grey Kangaroo, Rock Wallaby, Monitor Lizards, Echidnas, and other native animals.

Terrick Terrick Park grass lands are one of the last remaining strongholds for the Plains-Wander, an endangered Australia endemic bird species, with recent Melbourne University and Parks Victoria breeding programs adding to the bird numbers in the area. Members are passionate about the environment and there is respect and understanding of the ecosystems.



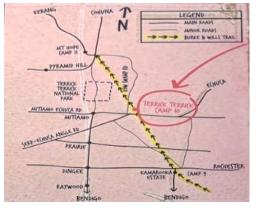
Mount Terrick (Mitiamo Rock) has magnificent 360-degree views and is visited by an increasing number of tourists. There is a basic unpowered campsite offering self-sufficient visitors the opportunity to spend a quiet night under the stars.



Terrick Terrick National Park Look out from Mitiamo Rock



#### **Burke and Wills**



Burke and Wills Trail to Camp 10 in 1860

Burke and Wills camped at Terrick Station in 1860, close to the original township on the Piccaninny Creek. Terrick Station was a large pastoral sheep station out on the Piccaninny Creek - Kow Swamp Road. Burke and Wills expedition left Royal Park, Parkville, Melbourne on the 20th of August 1860 with 19 men, 26 camels, 24 horses, six wagons and

21 tons of supplies. It took ten days for Burke and



**Burke and Wills**Crossing the Terrick Terrick Plains 1860
Sketch by Ludwig Becker (State Library of Victoria)

the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victoria Exploring Expedition in 2010 and is situated close to the original camp site.

Wills to travel from Melbourne to Mitiamo. A memorial sign was erected to commemorate

#### **Mitiamo Community History**



Old Mitiamo town marker

The original Mitiamo township was 3km's east of the existing township on the Piccanniny Creek (renamed Bendigo Creek).

Mitiamo township in its current location was surveyed in 1874, when parts of the district was subdivided for farming selections. The district is flat and subject to drought. However, during the recent floods, the Bullock Creek (3km West) and Bendigo Creek (Piccaninny Creek, 3km East) spilled over, flooding lower sections of the township and the surrounding farming district.

The township of Mitiamo today is situated on the Melbourne to Swan Hill V-Line passenger and freight rail

line. The nearest natural feature is Mount Terrick (Mitiamo Rock 197 metres above sea level) situated in the Terrick National Park.

Mitiamo was first a parish name, thought to have been derived from an Aboriginal word referring to a 'man behind me'.

**Swan Hill railway line** from Bendigo (Melbourne) was extended in 1883 attracting increased population and scope for the Anglican, Catholic and Methodist Religious Congregations, later a Uniting church. Church building constructions began between 1884 and 1893.

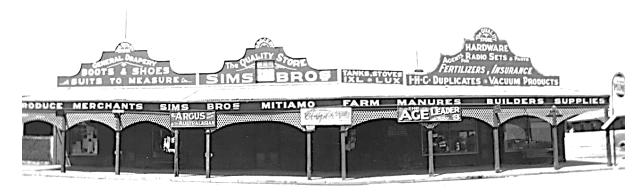
**Public hall** was built in 1885 and was last publicly used for functions in 1999. In 2009 the East Loddon Historical Society took up occupation of the building.

**State School (No. 2657)** was constructed on railway land, opened in 1875 and closed in 1993, now a private residence

Silos at Mitiamo have always been a large grain shipment centre. The silos are the most prominent feature of the town. The large concrete silo (capacity 2000 tonnes) was constructed around 1935 and additional Ascom single bin silos added in 1941- 1942. (Capacity 1900 tonnes each). Further large Ascom Jumbo Silos were built in 1980 (capacity 6850 tonnes) and smaller Kotzur steel rice silos in 2000. There is also a VOP shed for bulk storage (4000 tonnes). In 1978/79 there was a bumper wheat season, and the silos could not hold the amounts of grain farmed in the district, grain was placed in piles in the rail yards and covered by tarps. This led to the first construction of grain bunkers, which continue to be utilised today.

**Broad acre farming** of grain, sheep, dairy, beef cattle and a variety of other agricultural pursuits surround the township and have always made up a major part of the population.

**Former major businesses:** a hospital, hotel, a butcher, two banks, blacksmith, three garages, two bakeries, one hotel, a drapery, Mia Café, barber shop, shoe repairer and an array of stores from the 1800 and 1900's have closed down with buildings removed over time. A 16 HP Ruston engine private electricity plant installed by Charlie Sims serviced the town for light and power prior to SEC serviced power 1948.



Sims Bros. Stores

Cnr. Glossop and Haig Streets destroyed by fire 1943. Now Phelan Park and BBQ Reserve (Phelan Collection)

Mitiamo Police Station and the local Commercial Hotel closed in 2006 which has hurt the community immensely in particular on a social and entertainment level.

Mitiamo railway station closed for passenger travel on the 4<sup>th of</sup> October 1981 and the station building removed. Residents must travel to Pyramid Hill or Dingee. Freight rail remains.

Sport has always been a major way to unite the community. With horse racing, tennis and cricket clubs established in the early 1900's, no longer active.

**Mitiamo Golf Club** established in 1930, the historic main pavilion remains with the ongoing use of kerosene lanterns and no electricity. The 1970's almost saw the demise of the golf club however the women of the district banded to play, and the club continues to hold annual tournaments.

Mitiamo Football & Netball Club has engaged in organised competitive sport from as early1892 when it was a founder member of the Pyramid Hill and District Football Association. 1900 and the 1920's proved to be an excellent decade for Mitiamo which was a regular finalist and claimed two Premierships from the 4 finals. By contrast the 1930's produced just a single losing grand final appearance against Pyramid Hill in 1936. Post-World War two the club claimed senior flags in 1952 in the Mitiamo District Football League and then in 1967,1977,1979,1999 and 2009 in the Loddon Valley Football League. In 2016 and 2019 the senior's team was runners up and in 2021 they were minor premiers as the finals were not played due to the covid pandemic. 2022 saw the Mitiamo Senior teams competitive in Finals and the club remains at strength.

The earliest recorded Mitiamo Netball game was recorded against Sylvaterre in 1932. Joining the Loddon Valley Football League, the records show that the 'Senior team were Premiers in 1966. With the game becoming more popular grading was recognised and the top grade with the 'A Grade netball teams having won the 1882,1983, 1985, 1996,1997,1998,2002, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2019 & 2022 grand finals. With many lower graded Senior and Junior teams also winning grand finals. Netball predominantly female remains a strong sporting interest in Mitiamo.

**Mitiamo Swimming Pool** was funded by community grain cropping and built by the local community after the 1956 Olympic Games and officially opened 19<sup>th</sup> December 1961 by Minister for Local Government, Hon. M. Victor Porter, and Olympic Medallist, Miss Faith Leech. The pool was always managed by the community until 2020 when the Loddon Shire outsourced its contracted management. The Swimming Pool is the Oasis of the town during the summer periods.



Mitiamo Country Fire Authority (CFA) has no specific date documented regarding the establishment, however over the year's local men, and now women, have been an essential part of the Mitiamo community, attending emergencies of motor vehicle accidents, fires, and floods and supporting local community events i.e., delivering Santa to Christmas gathering.

Memorial corner exhibits the towns unique granite and marble Mitiamo WWI Memorial Monument. Opened by Mrs Whitfield in 1919, post the First World War, it stands tall on one corner of the main crossroad and is used for Remembrance Day Services biannually. The monument is believed to be the only one of its design in Victoria and only one of six in Australia, depicting a mother placing flowers into the grave of her soldier son.

On memorial corner also sits a Second World War Gatling gun and two granite boulders and bronze plaque bearing the names of WWII service men and women is an exact replica of the original list of names on the large wooden Honour Roll in the Mitiamo Hall.

Tourists frequently stop to pay their respects and take photographs of memorial corner.





**Phelan Reserve** is diagonally across from memorial corner. A green oasis on the diagonal corner with a shady tree ringed by seats, small playground area, shelter with BBQ, seating, and tables.



An information board displays town information.

Remaining historic structures in existence are the steam train overhead cast iron water tank, built in 1883. The Memorial Hall (now historical society and museum). The abattoir remains standing as well as Rudkin's Garage (not functional) and the former Mitiamo Cottage Hospital, Methodist Church and manse, Anglican manse, Catholic manse, teacher's residence, bakery, a garage, and Primary School all now private residences in Mitiamo.



Mitiamo Cemetery is 7km's from town in the Terrick
National Park. Here grave sites are marked with granite

head stones or traditional metal stakes. The first documented grave is from 1914. The tranquil surrounds of the pine-box grassy woodland and cypress-pines in recent years has become a very popular resting place for many locals.

Mitiamo and district stock and water system were originally situated on the southwestern regions of the Tragowel Plains, an irrigation trust established by the Rural Water Commission of Victoria 1886 – 1906 for stock and land water. Well defined shallow drainage depressions associated with the Murray and Campaspe River system. In 1990, farmers established a new land and water management plan using these established drains, which has recently in 2021/2022 been upgraded by Murray Goulburn Water.

#### Mitiamo 2023 – 2032

The Mitiamo community has reduced in population over the past 148 years but still has a large heart.

Members of the community, old and new, support the region. The town and district continue to have its important landmarks and community spirit.



**Grain Industry** 



Mitiamo General Store & Tavern



Mitiamo Golf Club



Mitiamo Football and Netball Club



Mitiamo Country Fire Authority (CFA)

#### **Services**

Mitiamo Store/Meals/Tavern and fuel stop is a small, licensed establishment and a great place for the community to socialise. Many local groups travel to town to hold their meetings at the Tavern. As one of the only remaining public venues, it has become an important location for younger farmers in the area to come and socialise. This positively assists in their matters of isolation, mental health, and wellbeing. The store provides basic grocery needs and is great for a delicious eatin or take away meal, plus a cold beverage. For the many travellers that pass through the town the fuel stops and food is beneficial to them, providing a quaint relaxed break.

**Australia Post Office** is an essential service, providing additional services of banking and daily mail plus grocery deliveries to the local farming districts. The service work in conjunction with the Mitiamo Store.

**Public Transport** is virtually non-existent in Mitiamo; the only service is a V-line bus once a week. Although the V-Line train and V-Line bus services runs through Mitiamo township daily. V-Line train service does not provide Mitiamo with a designated passenger train stop. With local industry and agricultural growth and workforce in demand it would be beneficial for Mitiamo to aim toward developing a V-Line stop. Private vehicle ownership is the only form of transport to regional centres of Echuca or Bendigo.

**Health services** are in regional centres of Echuca and Bendigo. We are fortunate to have the Dingee Bush Nursing Centre twenty kms to the towns south. They are trained Remote Area Nurses and provide first responder '000' callouts during business hours. They attend to a wide rural area to provide a variety of homebased health services by appointment on a need's basis.

There is an emergency response CERT team based at Pyramid Hill, that also attend to emergency '000' call outs.

The Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. purchased and maintain an AED defibrillator for public use if required. The defibrillator is situated at the Mitiamo Post Office under the veranda. With the defibrillator there is an emergency snake bite kit. The Mitiamo Football Club, Swimming Pool and some Farmers in the district also have defibrillators. These are vital rural services the community and industry strongly support and rely on during times of crises and health service needs.

The Dingee Bush Nursing Centre manage defibrillation education sessions.

**Town water** is delivered through the stock and domestic systems. The non-drinking water is untreated and stored in the large town reservoir. The quality of this water is often poor and is not recommended for personal hygiene purposes. Every home, business and farm must install its own water supply tank for personal household and drinking water consummation. Coliban water have planned an upgrade to the town water supply with new piped water and a tank infrastructure. The water will however will remain unfit for human consumption

Drainage within the town is efficient during dry months and inadequate with high rainfall and floods. Over time the gutters and pipe systems have broken down and water sits in sidings until it evaporates

**Disaster management** fires within the district are managed by the Mitiamo CFA unit, members are based in the town and surrounding township. Many farm properties have their own firefighting equipment. Parks Victoria are responsible for Fires in the Terrick Terrick National Park and rely on the Local CFA for assistance.

Flood and heavy rainfall events have relied on the local community and CFA to pump water, fill sandbags, and build a levy banks to protect businesses, homes and farm properties, mitigating the threat of inundation.

Heavy rainfall and flood cause the lower lying drainage system closure of the town's access roads, the town becomes isolated from delivery of goods and services.

### Recreation, Sport and Entertainment

**Phelan Reserve** has established native shrub gardens, rotunda and BBQ shelter, town information signage and children's play equipment. The Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. holds a Christmas Celebration in the park every year. Locals, community groups and tourists utilise the BBQ and park area. Recent times have seen tourists stay overnight, use the swimming pool toilets and the BBQ facilities. There is further potential for this public space.

126-year-old Mitiamo Football and Netball Club continues to be strong in the Loddon Valley Football League, however there are very few local players, and the club is always needing community support. The facilities are offered for community use via a booking process. Recently the football/netball club was allocated a grant for new recreational lighting grant from the Loddon Shire Council. The football club and the local community need to aim to come together to better to support each other in upcoming years.

Mitiamo Golf Club is thriving. Located 4km's north of the township, on the edge of the Terrick Terrick National Park, it was established in 1930. The building is original with some renovations, however, continues to use kerosene lighting with no electricity connected. Golf is a very popular winter sport, and the Mitiamo Golf Club is set in a beautiful native forest setting. This unique forested course is well regarded in the social golfing scene, regularly attracting 150 to 200 plus golfer's keen to play in Mitiamo's annual tournaments.

**Loddon Shire Swimming Pool** with public toilets is one of the town's biggest assets. The 25-metre pool was constructed in 1961 by local towns people, who raised funds with private land harvests. In such a hot dry climate the pool is an absolute oasis where community members from far and wide engage and socialise. Vic Swim provides vital swimming lessons for children and East Loddon P/12 College utilises the pool for swimming lessons.

### Heritage

Historic building structures that were in the past the Cottage Hospital, State School, Anglican Church and Manse, Methodist Church and manse, Catholic Church manse, Teacher's residence, Bakery, Garage and Primary School all now private residences in Mitiamo. There are empty blocks of land where the bank, hotel, bakehouse, butcher and one of the garages once stood.

The former town hall, and large train overhead cast iron water tank are the oldest constructions in town and have heritage overlay ratings. The community wishes to protect and maintain the towns significant heritage.

Mitiamo Memorial Hall has been the centre for the East Loddon Historical Society since 2009. They house records and local histories associated with the former Shire of East Loddon. The building includes a museum displaying local items of significance, a research centre and is a POD (Place of Deposit) for the Public Records Office of Victoria. At present the building has a damaged, weathered corrugated iron roof. Effects from 2022's unusual high-volume of rainfall, the building has developed a leaking roof and stump damage in need of urgent repair. Quotes have been sought and funding is desperately required.

**Prairie Park Homestead**, on the Bendigo Creek, is a renovated historic home to the east of Mitiamo. It dates to the early Victorian pastoral run era and is a fine display of Mitiamo agricultural history (boundary of Loddon and Campaspe Shire).

**Mitiamo Cemetery** located within the Terrick Terrick National Park is unique based on its location. The first burial is known to have been prior to the cemetery forming a Cemetery Trust during 1894.

**Industry** in Mitiamo is diverse. Since 1883 it remains a major central Victorian grain receiver and storage facility and is only getting larger. Grain Corp. has increased storage and movement of grain and oil seeds in past years. The 2022/23 season produced high yields, with some damaged grain. Grain and oil seed harvest reflects on the employment in the town and transportation movements.

In 2022/23 the Victorian government will deliver critical maintenance works to improve rail freight which is vital to the Mitiamo area. Freight volumes are expected to triple by 2051. Mitiamo forms part of the freight rail corridor across the State of Victoria. At present many large B Double Trucks carry grain to Geelong, putting excess strain on our degraded roads, parking areas and public safety.

### **Environment, Industry and Sustainability**

Friends of Terrick Terrick has members from the community and from across Victoria and NSW. They are a not-for-profit organisation, partnered with Parks Victoria established to educate and protect the Terrick Terrick National Park native flora and animals as well as support agriculture in the region. They hold an annual get together to educate the community of the natural wonder and often invite the community to assist in Terrick Terrick National Park maintenance.

In conjunction with Museums Victoria, Trust for Nature, Parks Victoria, Northern Plains Conservation Management Network and Latrobe and Melbourne Universities are monitoring, analysing, protecting, and developing new potential habitats for the critically endangered Plains-Wanderer.

**Gold drilling exploration** 5km to the west of Mitiamo has been taking place for the past 15 years. Catalyst Metals Four Eagles Project has had promising findings and therefore there is a planned expansion and build of a 20-million-dollar underground tunnel in 2023.

Accommodation in Mitiamo is a highly sort of commodity. Miners are currently accommodated in at least five private rental properties in the town. The community welcomes the prospect of mining.

The community aims to partner and support Catalyst and other mining companies in the area whilst respecting the environment.

Mitiamo Pipeline Project, District domestic and stock pipeline was established in 2020 to assist farmers with domestic and stock water. Following the existing Tragowel shallow channel system, the new system improves the local creeks and wetlands. The pipeline is extremely successful with many landowners taking up the scheme. The pipeline/tank project assists the local economy whilst ensuring farmers have access to consistent quality stock and domestic water supply. The project will run into 2023.

**Solar power farm** planning, design and location have been allocated approximately 1.5kms southwest of the township. The solar farm enterprise at present awaits the upgrade of the electrical system from Kerang. Solar power sustainability is important environmentally and for future generations.

**Rail freight** continues for the grain and agricultural industry. This freight service assists with reduction of heavy vehicle movements on rural road system and has future potential to expand as a rail freight hub.

# Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. Community Plan

#### How was the Mitiamo Community Plan developed?

The Community Plan was developed in consultation with the Mitiamo and District community members and important stake holders in the in the Mitiamo area.

- Members of the Community were invited to a Community Meeting to give their input into the community plan and the meeting was well attended.
- Individuals and groups were given the opportunity to discuss with members of the Mitiamo Progress Association Inc.
- Contribution was sought via email, formal meeting attendance and social media.

#### How we intend to Review our Community Plan.

**Annual Review** – Presentation at the AGM, invite Mitiamo community members.

- Confirmation that priorities remain valid and that no emerging issues exist.
- Identify specific actions for the future short term.
- Document and capture achievements of past year.
- Update the plan and reflect any changes.

Mid Term Review (4-5years) - Presentation at the AGM and to the Mitiamo community, engaging community Members and the community plan

- Confirm existing priorities and identify new and emerging issues.
- Community consultation to discuss outcomes of the plan mid-term.
- Reflect on the community plan achievements mid-tem.
- Review community demographics.

**Full Term Review –** Presentation of achievements and issues at the Mitiamo Progress Association AGM and the Mitiamo community.

- Documentation of achievements
- Review consistent with Loddon Shire Council Framework.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Town Drainage  Poor drainage of rainwater and grey water fall out after rain,	Consult with the town Partners.	Assess Town Drainage levels and inspect the drainage around	Loddon Shire Council Grain Corp Vic Track	1-2 yrs.	Very High	Loddon Shire Council Town planning consulted.
The following streets are of concern –		Mitiamo.				Loddon Shire Council
-Corner Haig St and Echuca- Mitiamo Rd		Clean drains, Assess & correct drainage levels.				engineers reviewing town drainage
-Mitiamo- Kerang Rd (behind residents)		Renew pipes				levels. Vic Track
-Corner Patrick St and Echuca Mitiamo Rd						cleaned out drain under rail line in
Images after rain						Dec 2022
T						Glossop St in Vic roads planning.
Echuca- Mitiamo Rd/Haig St	Echuca- Mitia	amo Rd	Cnr Pat	rick St-Echuca/Mi	tiamo	

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Maintenance and improvement of roads.  Ongoing review and improvements to sealed and gravel roads in our town region	Preventative maintenance and repair of road surfaces	Review, assessment, and repairs of road surfaces Loddon Shire works to improve the street	Vic Roads Loddon Shire Council	1year	Very High	Ready
Sealed Street Widening in Joffre St. Business Precinct  Large trucks and other vehicle movement creates dust and is a potential health and safety risk.  There is a high risk of vehicle accidents due to shop business customer parking.	Consultation A coordinated effort between Grain Corp and the Loddon Council.  Planning and widening of the sealed road area in Joffre St	Grain Corp	Joffre St – truck movement	1-2 years	High	Consultation required Ready for Risk Assessment & build

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Communications  Town has no effective telephone & internet service.  -Rectify ongoing issues with phone service connection.	Telstra tower technical improvements to improve coverage.	Advocacy and Consultation with telecommunica tion companies, Repair and improvements to existing service.	Loddon Shire Council & Communicatio ns Networks	6months	Very High	New Telstra tower erected. Change over to 4G & 5G Telstra aware of ongoing issues
-NBN  Aim is to obtain better phone and internet coverage and improve the capacity of our residents and businesses to use technology	Local government and progress association to investigate the NBN services and have NBN communicatio ns in Mitiamo and District	NBN improvement to phone and internet coverage		1-2years	High	support working to rectify. Telstra informed of problems and technicians reviewing.  Consultation required

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Investigate Water Pressure and Quality  Education regarding water management  Improved Quality of Water	Meetings with Coliban Water and discuss water management. New Pipe and	Organise Public Information Session.  Communication between town residents	Coliban Water	2 months	Very High	Public Meeting held March 2023 Organised by the Mitiamo Progress Association
Improved Water Pressure Ideal is Drinkable water.	Tank infrastructure to be installed.	and Coliban water				New restructure of
	Cleaning of pondage tank required.  Renewed and		Ĩ	16		water system to go into place by end of 2023.
	frequently cleaned water pipe system.				6	Pipe cleaning and pondage cleaning to be further
	Better communicatio n between town residents and Coliban Water					investigated.  Investigation required into how to improve water pressure.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Swimming Pool Improvements - Improvement on operating hours - Pool Appearance - "town pride" - Improve the toilet facilities	Pool opening hours maintained  Attention to Cleaning and Regular Mowing required	Discussion with Loddon Shire Council and Belgravia Contractors to increase Life Guard Numbers.	Loddon Shire Council Belgravia Contactors Loddon Shire Council	Months	Very High Very High	Discussions have occurred between members of the Progress Association and Belgravia, assisting on recruitment of life guards,
Cracking concrete in pool bathrooms	Replace and repair the pool toilet floors for hygienic cleaning purposes.				High	Season 22/23 pool opening Time improvement  Members of Progress Association have had discussions with Loddon Shire Council Recreation Department

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Safety of public  - Lighting in Swimming Pool public toilet cubicles	No lighting in cubicles	Install lighting using existing power source	Loddon Shire Council	Months	Very High	Management Discussions had by members of the Progress Association with Belgravia contractors
Keeping Swimming Pool Open  - Maintaining the East Loddon P/12 College Swimming Sports Carnival	Collaborate with the East Loddon P/12 College to maintain the annual Swimming Carnival at Mitiamo	Consultation between all parties.	East Loddon P/12 College	Months	1-2yrears	Consultation and Letter written to Loddon Shire Council Unfortunately, 2023 saw East
Supporting the Promotion of Swimming Pool  Swimming Pool	Maintain relationships with major stake holders and engage with the community	Consultation between all parties.  Encourage Membership	Loddon Shire Council Private Contactor – Belgravia	Ongoing	High	Loddon P/12 College hold their swim carnival in Pyramid Hill. Consultation ongoing.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Phelan Recreation Reserve Park  - Equipment There has been removal of playground equipment from the park area and no replacements.	Safe play Playground equipment is required to replace that which has been removed	Costing of new playground equipment and installation	Loddon Shire Council	1-2years	Medium	Ready
- Signage  Signage requires Renewal and Update of information  Gateway to the Terricks	Update and improvements to signage	Corrections to existing signage in the interest of Private property owners	Loddon Shire Council	6months	Very High	Requests placed with Loddon Shire Council.  Potentially will be renewed late 2023

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Heritage  - Town Hall  Maintenance to the Historic structure  -As one of the oldest buildings in the town the Progress Committee agrees to support the East Loddon Historical Society.	The East Loddon Historical Society requires support and funding to repair/replace the town hall roof and guttering.	Access damage  Seek out quotes  Seek out funding – grants and fundraising.  Professional to repair water damage	Loddon Shire Council East Loddon Historical Society	1year	Very High	Quotes have been sort out by the East Loddon Historical Society and fundraising plan is in progress.  Funding assistance required.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Town foot path planning						
- Prevention of Injury from falls and continued installation of foot pathing	Continuation of the building of foot pathing on one side of street around townIncluding a sealed path from the top of Haig St (hall) to Joffre St (shop)	Ongoing installation of foot paths	Loddon Shire Council	1-2 years	Very High	Consultation. Loddon Shire Council Planning
Basic footpath requirement						

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Tourism Promotion						
- RV Park						
Formation of an overnight tourism stop over  RV Campsite	Promote Tourism to the town and Support Business.	Decision on location. (Two potential areas available.)  Decision on electrical requirement.  Decision on Public Toilet usage	Loddon Shire Council Tourism Services	1-5years	Medium	Concept, Requires consolation

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Historic Water Tower  Maintenance, Preservation, and acknowledgment of the historical water tower  Water Tank  Story boards or plaque on historical significant sites and buildings.  Observing and remembering Community history	Investigate ownership.  East Loddon Historical Society to provide historic information.  Design story board or plaque and display  Fence the historic stream train structure for safety.	Investigate who is responsible for the structure. Seek out funding. Create historic marker Professional maintenance of water tower  Consultation with Parties involved. Design, Placement and build.	Loddon Shire Council Grain Corp Historical Society  Loddon Shire Council Tourism Services Grain Corp Vic Track Home owners.	1-5yrs 1-2 years	Medium	Investigating who is responsible for tower.  Communications with Coliban Water and Grain Corp regarding ownership and Desired outcome.  Commenced concept discussions with Loddon Shire Council Tourism Services.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
BBQ Shelter Blinds  - Installation of blinds on Phelan Reserve BBQ Shelter to protect users from extreme weather conditions	Investigate costings and build	Installation of blinds on Mitiamo's Phelan Reserve BBQ Shelter to protect users from extreme weather conditions	Loddon Shire Council Progress Association,	1-2 year	High	Mitiamo Progress Association Inc. investigating types of blinds, costing and quotes in consultation with Loddon Shire Council.
- BBQ Shelter Lighting  image of shelter	Create a safe BBQ space and increase the evening use during winter months	Install solar automated lighting	Loddon Shire Council	months	High Priority	Consultation with Loddon Shire Council

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Weed Management Spray or removal of Gazanias and Prickly Pear weeds with in a 10km radius of the Terrick Terrick National Park  Gazanias  Gazanias  Prickly Pear	Protect the Terrick Terrick Terrick Terrick National Park from weed infestation	Consultation Spraying and/or removal of weeds road side and in adjoining farmer's properties  Farmer education.	Friends of Terrick Terrick.  Loddon Shire Council  Local Farmers	1year	High	Consultation between Parties involved required.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Road re-building  Sealing a dirt road inside the town boundary.  Sealing the Mitiamo/Kerang Rd. ('Three Chain Rd') for	Removal of dirt road inside town boundary through consultation and planning	Consult Plan, Fund and Build	Loddon Shire Council Grain Corp Vic Roads	Medium	1-5years	Requires consultation & Planning.
approximately 1km north of Pyramid Hill/Mitiamo Rd (back of Joffre St Residents)						
To assist in Large Grain truck movement to Grain Corp silos, poor road drainage, health and safety						
Improving drainage to road reserves				Image Mitiar	no/Kerang	
Improve the cross road intersection; Bendigo, Pyramid Hill/Mitiamo Rd and Prairie Road	Prevent ongoing road accidents and death	Engineering of road design modification of intersection	Vic Roads Loddon Shire Council	1-5years	Medium	Consultation and Prioritisation for future planning

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Sporting Clubs  - Re-establishment of the Mitiamo Tennis Courts.  Create a family friendly sporting club, promote fitness and wellbeing	Refurbish the existing tennis courts.  Establish members to join as a competitive club in local competition  Construct a tennis pavilion	Costing the refurbishment Seek out funding Work with partners to plan, refurbish and build on existing tennis courts.	Loddon Shire Council  Mitiamo Football and Netball club  Associate with the Loddon and Campaspe Tennis Associations	1-2years	Medium	Football club and netball club previously painted lines on netball courts and purchased moveable net. Net missing and courts resurfaced, lines removed (est. \$2,000 for lines)
Continue relationships with clubs and associations including Golf Club, Football & Netball Clubs	Establish and maintain good relationships with all stakeholders	Consultation	Mitiamo Golf Club & Football and Netball Club	Ongoing	Medium	Ongoing support and consultation

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Well Being and Education of the Community Community Book Share	Utilisation of a small storage unit for placement in a sheltered area in town for community access and sharing of books	-Allocated placement for book storage unit -Design, build and erect the book unitSupervision of the booksDonation of books from the community.	Mitiamo Progress Association conjunction with land owner Loddon Shire Council	1-5years	Medium	Concept  Books are ready to be donated.  Require Cabinet and secure location,  Consultation
Community Space						
For socialisation of residence and surrounding areas to participate in activities such as art and indoor physical activity	Create a community space with in the Mitiamo where people young and old can come together to perform activities	Collaborate with Mitiamo Recreation reserve/football and netball club and with other community groups, such as Lions Club	Loddon Council Mitiamo Football and Netball Club	1-5years	Medium	Attempt made previous, requires better community marketing and engagement.

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Town Sewage Plan Poor town water drainage, open grey water drainage with potential for health issues	Repair grey water drainage systems. Work towards town sewer system (like Pyramid Hill) Cost evaluations	Review sewage systems. Find best environmental health and financial solutions to improving sewage systems	Loddon Shire Council	Medium 5years	Low	Concept

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Sustainability Solar farming	Support the establish of the planned solar farm for sustainable energy for Mitiamo and District.  Involve the community.	Encourage the build  Work with Partners  Promoter the construction of a solar energy farm.	Victoria Sustainable Energy Victorian Government Loddon Shire Council Energy Company Land Holders	1-5years	Low	Awaiting decisions and improvements to Kerang electricity grid.
Vehicle Charging Station  Large distances in our area between vehicle charging stations	Installation of an All Vehicle charging station	Consultation with partners. Ongoing Plan and Installation	Loddon Shire Council Evie Networks/ Vehicle charging company Electrical/Solar Company	1-5years	Low	Concept

Goal	Action	Task	Partners	Time frame	Priority	Status
Mitiamo 150 years Supporting the East Loddon Historical Society and the Mitiamo 150 years Celebration Committee	Bring the old and new Mitiamo community together.	Assist as requested by the East Loddon Historical 150years celebration committee	East Loddon Historical Society Loddon Shire Council	1-3years	High	Supporting

#### Acknowledgement

Special Thank you to the Mitiamo and District Community members for their input into this plan.