



# BOORT COMMUNITY PLAN 2022 – 2031



# OUTLINING A COMMUNITY PLAN

Community Plans are developed by the community for the community.

Community planning is a forum that enables community members to identify what is important in their community.

Community planning encourages people in the community to have their say, encouraging them to be actively and genuinely involved in providing their thoughts and visions for the future of their community. Community planning assists in identifying the direction the community wants to take to move forward, as well as documenting some of the ideas and suggestions to make it happen.

Community planning encourages local people to get involved. It is designed to have a strong 'grass-roots' approach to shaping the future of communities, where needs are determined by the community, with local residents taking charge of their community's destinies. This "bottom-up" community engagement mechanism is centered on community-driven action and change, and has delivered positive outcomes to the municipality's communities over a number of years.

Community planning has a strong and proud history in the Loddon Shire Council, having delivered many important and significant projects which communities use and enjoy. Once developed, Community Plans serve as frameworks for community members, Council and other organisations to identify and prioritise projects that are important to our communities.

*The benefits of community planning can be seen across three inter-related areas:*

## 1. Connecting with communities

- community members meet each other and/or develop their connections
- similar concerns / projects of interest are identified
- common values are identified and documented

## 2. Developing resilience

- generosity and helpfulness is developed amongst community members
- community successes are recognised together and shared together
- community members coordinate to help each other

## 3. Connecting with Council and other organisations

- communities work to achieve community outcomes with assistance from Council and other organisations
- council is informed and attuned to community needs and wants

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# VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

## VISION

To develop a successful, co-operative and constructive relationship between the Loddon Shire Council and the Boort Community.

Boort is situated on Little Lake Boort and Lake Boort. It is a town to learn, live, work and play in a vibrant, safe and culturally inclusive community. Our town is clean, green and environmentally sustainable.

The Community Vision forms a framework that ensures it incorporates the long-term view of the community's desired future into strategic planning and decision making. More specifically, the aspirations and priorities in the Community Plan will influence Council's long-term resourcing strategies and medium-term strategic plans and policies, included in the Council Plan.

The Community Vision is a voice to ensure our partnerships with organisations and sectors in the community, such as not-for-profits, service organisations and local businesses are working towards the same community plan.



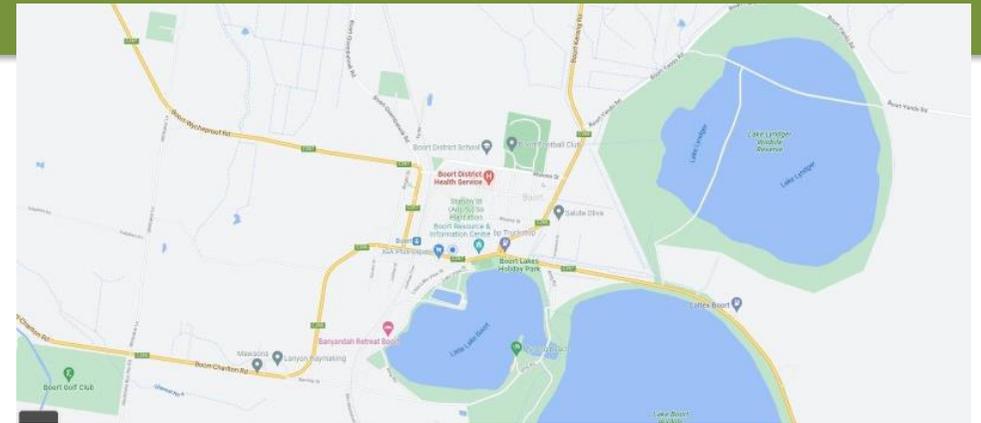
## MISSION

Moulded by its past, Boort is an energetic community driven by its desire to improve and grow into the future. The skills and strengths of each member of the community binds it together so that the community may prosper. Although there are many exciting possibilities for future development this can only occur if there is a sustainable infrastructure within the town to support these activities.

# BOORT

Boort, and its surrounding district, forms part of the Loddon Shire Council, located in North Central Victoria, 255 kilometers north west of Melbourne.

The Boort district forms part of the northern region of the shire. Boort, the aboriginal word for smoke, and Bald Hill where the town now stands, was a major signaling ground for the aborigines who lived in the area. Major Thomas Mitchell, on his 1836 expedition, passed through the Fernihurst area and, later, Burke & Wills led their expedition through the district passing near Durham Ox at a time when white settlement had begun. "Boort" Station was first owned by Mr. Thomas Bear who sold it to the Godfrey family in 1842.



From then on Boort's future as an Agricultural Centre was established. Despite diversification from traditional grain and sheep farming into more intensive forms such as dairying, viticulture, tomatoes, oil seed, pulses, olive and fodder crops, the rural character of the district has been maintained, "The prosperity of any country town depends almost entirely upon the prosperity of the surrounding district" [Smoke From the Hill - Page 10 - Author, Fae Stevens] and Boort is no exception. Within the scope of this plan there are thirteen of these small communities, and each has a proud record of achievement – Barraport, Canary Island, Catumnal, Durham Ox, Fernihurst, Gredgwin, Leighur, Lake Marmal. Minmindie, Mysia, Terrapee, Wychitella and Yando – but Boort has remained the heart of the locality.



Built on the banks of the lake, Boort grew and developed, being incorporated into the Gordon Shire in 1885. During the shire amalgamations and redistributions of boundaries in 1995 the Shire of Gordon ceased to exist and became part of the present-day Shire of Loddon. Today Boort is a thriving rural community but it must plan for the future. Following a public meeting on 6th February 2003, facilitated by the Shire of Loddon, the Boort Community Planning Team was formed for the purpose of developing a community plan with a vision for the future development of Boort and district. A bus trip to closely study the local area together with public consultation and “brainstorming” ideas from a public meeting have been considered and collated. The map based on one from the book ‘Smoke From the Hill’, gives a schematic diagram of the district

Boort is a tourist destination all year round, particularly during the warmer months from September to the end of April. Tourists come to explore and seek adventure, relax and take in nature or enjoy the Little Lake Boort for boating, water skiing, canoeing, sailing, fishing, swimming and bird watching.

Boort has a unique setting with a caravan park situated directly on the foreshore of ten grassy acres on the edge of the pristine Little Lake Boort. Tourist also have access to local produce including award winning gourmet green tomatoes and olive products. The Arts are strongly represented with access to the evolving Metal Sculpture trail. Boort is also home to the “Spanner Man”, world class metal sculptures.

Working in partnership with the Loddon Shire Council, Boort will strive to encourage the development of projects and events leading to a strong and economically viable local community.



## BOORT AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The township of Boort is located within a unique agricultural district. We are very fortunate to have a multitude of varying agricultural commodities and production methods. From the rich heavy soils that follow the flood plain of the Loddon River, to the fertile sandy loam soils that border the Wimmera and Mallee cropping districts, we are fortunate to have such versatile soil types. Only to be strengthened by a reliable irrigation system, within the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District.

The irrigation within our district, along with our soil types have allowed for great investment in our district. This includes the production of olives, grapes, tomatoes, corn and other intensive irrigated crops. This has therefore attracted large corporate companies to our region who see great value in our lands, and in turn have created many employment opportunities in our town.

Boort is a powerhouse in the production of the main stays of broad acre agriculture, from wheat, barley and canola to legumes like lentils and faba beans. Hay is a large proportion of our agricultural program, with vetch hay being a staple of most cropping rotations and some oaten hay throughout the district. Lucerne has traditionally been a very popular hay crop in the district as it is a very high quality, high yielding crop when irrigated. Our district is also a prominent livestock producing region, with prime lamb production as well as merino wool production being abundant. There are also Angora Goats, producing Mohair largely for export.

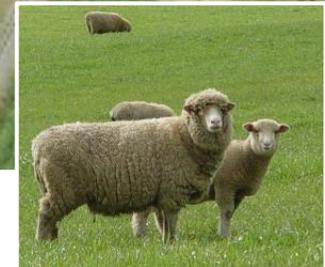
The greater Boort district is also home to many more artisan agricultural and horticultural businesses. From the creation of locally made olive oils and marinated olives, as well as Chilli preserves and sauces, to locally made Woollen Bedding and Quilts. There is great value in these unique agricultural businesses not only regarding their produce but also the value they bring to tourism in the area. With Bendigo right on our doorstep as 'Australia's City of Gastronomy', we should take great pride in the agricultural produce that originates in Boort.

### Year-round activities

- Freight of grain and hay from district to port/dairies/feed mills
- Sale of livestock
- Shearing/crutching/livestock contractors
- Freight of fertilizer/chemicals into the district

From **Table 1** on page 8, we can extrapolate that there is always a large agricultural harvest taking place, no matter the season. This results in large labor requirements and shortages in these times. Especially in olive harvest, tomato weeding and harvest periods, and grain harvest. This also results in great demand on our road network throughout the year, not only at grain harvest. Therefore we need to ensure that we allocate greater resources in the maintenance of the roads greatest affected by traffic from multiple industries.

TABLE 1	
<p><b>January</b> Complete Cereal Grain Harvesting Baling Lucerne Hay Grain Receiving Terminals - works all year</p>	<p><b>July</b> Shearing</p>
<p><b>February</b> Baling Lucerne</p>	<p><b>August</b> Shearing</p>
<p><b>March</b> Tomato Harvest      Grape Harvest Baling Lucerne              Sheep Crutching</p>	<p><b>September</b> Cutting Vetch for Hay      Shearing Cutting Oaten Hay</p>
<p><b>April</b> Olive and Corn Harvest Grape Harvest includes carting the grapes to South Australia Sowing the Crops commence</p>	<p><b>October</b> Baling Vetch and Oaten Hay Shearing</p>
<p><b>May</b> Olive and Corn Harvest Sowing of Crops continues</p>	<p><b>November</b> Harvest Barley/Canola Wheat/Faba Beans/Lentils/ Chick Peas and Peas Baling Lucerne</p>
<p><b>June</b> Complete Olive Harvest      Lamb Marking Sowing completed</p>	<p><b>December</b> Harvesting Wheat and Barley Baling Lucerne Tomato Weeding</p>



# BOORT COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, SPORT AND RECREATION GROUPS

*\*note that groups with lines through them have previously been in operation and are currently not active.*

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| • Boort Park Asset Management Committee        | • <del>Boort Red Cross</del>               | • Boort Historical Society                             |
| • Boort Badminton Club                         | • Boort Catholic Church                    | • Boort A & P Society                                  |
| • Boort / Yando Cricket Club                   | • Boort Church of Christ                   | • Boort Memorial Hall Asset Committee                  |
| • Boort Basketball Association                 | • <del>Boort Presbyterian Church</del>     | • Local – Scouts, Cubs, <del>Guides, Brownies</del>    |
| • Boort Trotting Club                          | • Boort Uniting Church                     | • Boort District Health                                |
| • Boort Tennis Club                            | • Boort Baptist Church                     | • Boort ACO  |
| • Boort Swimming Club                          | • The Eternity Centre                      | • Boort Senior Citizens                                |
| • <del>Boort Sailing Club</del>                | • <del>Boort Anglican Church</del>         | • <del>Boort RSL Ladies Auxiliary</del>                |
| • Boort Angling Club                           | • Boort Aerodrome Asset Committee          | • Boort Returned Services League                       |
| • Boort Bowling Club                           | • Little Lake Boort Asset Committee        | • Boort Probus Club                                    |
| • <del>Clay Target</del>                       | • Boort Tourism and Development            | • Boort Cemetery Trust                                 |
| • Boort Football, Netball & Hockey Club        | • Boort Pre-School                         | • <del>Durham Ox Development Authority</del>           |
| • Boort Golf Club                              | • Boort Play Group                         | • Boort Amity Club                                     |
| • Boort Croquet Club                           | • Boort District P-12 School               | • <del>Boort CWA</del>                                 |
| • Boort Ski Club                               | • Fire Brigades (each district not listed) | • <del>Boort Rotary Club</del>                         |
| • Boort Indoor Bias Bowls                      | • Boort District Health Auxiliary          | • Boort Men’s Shed                                     |
| • Boort Resource and Information Centre (BRIC) | • Boort Self-defense                       | • Boort Book Group                                     |
| • <del>Boort Regional Art Group (BRAG)</del>   | • Boort Babblers                           | • BBAC (Boort Buckrabanyule & Communities Productions) |

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL: *(SECTION 65 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES)*

- Boort Aerodrome Community Asset Committee
- Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee
- Boort Park Community Asset Committee
- Little Lake Boort Community Asset Committee
- Yando Public Hall Community Asset Committee
- Mysia Rec Reserve Asset Committee

# THE COMMUNITY PLAN STRUCTURE

Boort Tourism and Development (BTD) Committee consult with the Loddon Shire Council to advocate for the direction of the development of the Boort Township and Community.

Funding is provided to the community through the Loddon Shire Council Smarty Grants. There are Community and Event Smarty Grants available through the Loddon Shire Council throughout the year, as needs arise. There is also funding provided to each Shire Ward every 5 Years, and these funds are helpful and often necessary to gain further funding from other grants, to instigate large projects for the town.

Each heading lists the areas where the community sees a need for improvement or change. The document provides a summary of the need and where it has been identified as priorities between HIGH, MEDIUM and LOW.

If an item is listed as a HIGH priority, this means the community believe that action should be taken to improve or make a change for the future of the town immediately or start to engage the Loddon Shire Council in preparation for the change to occur. It may also mean that funding through the Smarty Grants will be required.

Some items listed do not seek any funding through the Loddon Shire Council, however, they may require approval through the Council. These projects may or may not be listed as a priority, as they are they do not rely on funds from the Community Smarty Grant funds. This does not mean that the projects are less important, or do not seek community attention, they are still key items to further develop the region.

A MEDIUM OR LOW priority item does not also mean that it isn't currently being addressed or working towards a resolution.

It simply means that the community will not greatly suffer if the timeframe is extended beyond a year, or it may take at least a year to bring the project to fruition.

Many projects may take years to complete from the initial planning stages, seeking approvals and breaking ground. Other projects may run in conjunction with larger projects and be completed quickly, depending on the services required.

**In line with the guidelines from the Loddon Shire Council, the Boort Community Plan is organised under the following eleven headings listed below:**

<b>1. Improving our livability</b>	<b>2. Community Health and Wellbeing</b>
<b>3. Sport and Recreation</b>	<b>4. Social opportunities</b>
<b>5. Learning and Knowledge</b>	<b>6. Built Environment and Town Beautification/ INFRASTRUCTURE</b>
<b>7. Improving our Safety</b>	<b>8. Natural Environment</b>
<b>9. Improving our Local Economy – Business focus</b>	<b>10. Heritage, Arts and Culture</b>
<b>11. Tourism and Marketing</b>	

## IMPROVING OUR LIVABILITY

*What potential community planning projects could improve our local facilities and services?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>PRIORITY 2.</b> HIGH	<p>Godfrey Street / Street Scape <i>Godfrey Street is the hub of the township and currently has many key shopping facilities/businesses: Home Hardware, Coffee Shops, Chemist, Wool Shop, Opportunity Shop, Supermarket, News agency, Gift Shop, Butcher, Post Office, Hairdresser, Quilting Shop, Veterinary Clinic, Hotel, Caravan Park, Resource Centre, Library, Neighbourhood House, Insurance Broker and Steel Fabricator.</i></p> <p><i>Other shops/businesses in the town include: Wellbeing Centre, Tyre-Service, BP, Mechanic.</i></p> <p><i>Signwriting, North West Ag, Nutrien Ag Supplies, Earth Moving, Couatts Ag, Paul Smith Transport, Beattie Transport, Perry Transport, Macintosh Transport, Pilates, Sofitness, Fencing Contractors, Shearing Contractors, Spray Contractors.</i></p>	<p>2016 plans drawn up.</p> <p>The road surface has been built up by VicRoads and therefore this has resulted in a deep gutter on the North Side of the road. This deep gutter has resulted in making parking and access to and from cars extremely difficult. Limited all ability, inclusive parking on both sides of Godfrey Street, due to the deep gutters and steep road to gutter issue.</p> <p>The school crossing no longer exists.</p> <p>Some streets in Boort that have high traffic footpaths, but currently do not have an even, and well-maintained path for all-inclusive access or safe even paving.</p> <p>Poor drainage.</p> <p>Overhead powerlines.</p>	<p>Fix Kerb and Guttering: Document with details provided to CEO on 3/07/2023 at the BT&amp;D meeting. Safe crossing that is inclusive of all abilities. Greater safety required.</p> <p>Parking needs to be addressed – dangerous backing out with trucks increasing in the main street and aging population.</p> <p>Provision of off-street parking.</p> <p>Improved street lighting.</p> <p>Power to go underground.</p> <p>Improved access to public buildings and shops for the disabled.</p> <p>Seating areas (possible consideration to utilise the IGA vacant land)</p> <p>Suggestion to have fairy lights installed permanently in Godfrey Street.</p> <p>Improve pedestrian access from high traffic areas to the main street and facilities.</p> <p>Hospital to Godfrey Street, Nolen’s Park from the road side following the tennis courts down towards the toilet facilities.</p> <p>Access to the Swimming Pool, Croquet Green, Picnic area for all pedestrians including mobility scooters and disabled access.</p> <p>Parking facilities with a footpath, opposite the Railway Hotel under the peppercorn trees.</p>	<p>LSC BTD VicRoads</p>
<b>PRIORITY 3.</b> HIGH	<p>Boort Park CoM – female friendly change-rooms and Netball Courts resurfacing <i>*see Sport and Recreation section</i></p>	<p>*see notes in SPORT AND RECREATION</p>	<p>Grant or LSC funding to upgrade facilities.</p>	<p>LSC BFN&amp;H Boort Park CoM Harness Racing Vic</p>

PRIORITY 6. HIGH	Boort/Amity Shed	Shed exists with a gravel floor	To concrete to reduce dust, rodents and make the volunteer load less to maintain the shed and the equipment stored in it.	Amity, BT&D, LSC
MEDIUM	Priority for vacant land to be made available for housing	LSC are aware.	Old primary School Site on King Street. Boort Park CoM 10 lots potentially available.	Education Department
MEDIUM	Banking facilities	Post Office – limited services available. Bendigo Bank – Chemist site, limited services available. ATM – Armguard installed in a local business Window	To ensure that the community maintain access to basic banking facilities locally. To not rely only on online banking.	Post Office Armguard Bendigo Bank
MEDIUM	Wi-Fi public access  Internet access Internet Coverage	Library Facility at BRIC Mon – Fri 10am – 3.30pm. Not available outside in public areas. Memorial Hall has free WiFi as an access point in the event of a community meeting safe place.	Free public Wi-Fi at BRIC Memorial Hall – access to low signal Wi-Fi  Work towards great capacity for areas in farming zones.	BRIC Goldfields Library Memorial Hall
MEDIUM	Water Security	Coliban Water are frequently reporting to the community and offering service advice.	Encourage home water tanks. Improved water supply.	Coliban
MEDIUM	Housing for rent or buy: The need to increase population by attracting new residents and retaining those already here.	Limit for land development within the township.	Purchase old Primary School Site on King Street Boort – develop into housing, child care facility. Boort Park Asset MC: 10 lots proposed.	LSC Ed Dept
MEDIUM	Assisted Living/Aged Care	BDH	To offer opportunities for people that require assisted living arrangements or aged care.	BDH
MEDIUM	Transportation and disability access, e.g. Taxi, community car or van with access for transporting a person while seated in a wheelchair or mobility scooter.	Boort District Heath are in discussion with the Advisory Board.	To improve access to and from activities, services and events for people with a disability in Boort and reduce isolation and limited access.	BDH
MEDIUM	Disability access	The Boort townships built and natural environments are currently mostly accessible for all, this includes people with a disability.	The Boort township must ensure safe accessibility for people with a disability, so they are able to move around safely, and reach to the places they want or need to access.	LSC Vic Roads

MEDIUM	Business Development	Under Review at Loddon Shire Council.	To encourage opportunities for people to start up business in Boort. To sustain what Boort business already offer.	LSC
LOW	Public Transport - Better access within the town. Services to link people out of town.	VLine Bus currently runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Saturday and Sundays are limited service.	No dedicated disabled transport for general public. VLine do not have the facilities to take a mobility scooter. Bendigo do not have access to a VLine taxi bus that can load and transport a mobility scooter.	VLine Whitmore's Bus Lines
LOW	Police Presence Security Cameras/Surveillance	One person police station in Boort with a residence for them provided. No cameras available in the main street or entrances to town	Maintain a Police Station that has a fulltime person, situated in Boort township. Public Safety – Install security cameras in Godfrey Street and entry points into town.	Victoria Police
LOW	Shade sail over the play equipment at Nolens Park	Play equipment is under trees and the seating area is in an undercover area. The gym equipment is uncovered. There are BBQ areas and seating, with some undercover areas.	Provide greater shade to be more SunSmart in the harsh summers. To encourage people to stay longer to enjoy the water side and play area and also have the ability to be in the shade.	LSC

## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

*What projects would assist in improving physical and mental health outcomes for the community?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>PRIORITY 1.</b> HIGH	Little Lake Boort Rec Precinct (also listed under Sport and Rec) – could also be classified under Tourism	Planning stages with Loddon Shire Council have begun in August 2022.	To formalise the plan with Loddon Shire Council and begin works for a Skate Park and Half Basketball Court, new fencing and upgrade facilities at the Tennis Courts, facilities at Croquet Club in early 2023.	LLBMC LSC BT&D Boort Tennis Club Boort Croquet Club Boort Lawn Bowls Club
HIGH	Childcare	No long day childcare or childcare for 0 – 5 in the Loddon Shire Council.	Shire to promote access to Childcare. Support private enterprise to open a childcare facility in Boort.	LSC
MEDIUM	Community Hub – Youth, general activities and program for community.	At the Dec/Jan school holidays a youth group have previous run the 'Moose Café'	Developing a youth drop in activity space on a permanent basis.	A Life Simply Lived

MEDIUM	Mental Health – Royal Flying Doctors (RFD) Station Street Wellbeing Centre	Station Street private practice running. RFD currently visit BDH. Orange Door	Increase provider access across Loddon Shire Council Doctors in Schools Fulltime nurse at BDS	Ed D, RFD A Life Simply Lived Doctors in Schools BDH Orange Door
MEDIUM	Information Centre and Community Supports and Services- Access and Resources provided by the Boort Resource and Information Centre (BRIC)	Offers NDCH services within the building. Centre Link Access Point, Vic Roads Agency, VLine Agency, Goldfields Library, Business Hub, About Boort, Published, Gymnasium, Short Courses, About Boort. Legal Service -Joliman Lawyers	Continue partnerships. Developing the Website and About Boort publication (monthly) for community connectedness. Improved ability to reach people using both social media and non-social media platforms.	NDCH Centre Link Vic Roads VLine Goldfields Library BRIC LSC Joliman Lawyers
MEDIUM	Community Health – Breast Screening, Hearing Testing,	Boort Medical Clinic – provide access to a nurse for breast screening and audiology service provider.	Expand NDCH and BDH services including telehealth	Boort Medical Clinic BDH
MEDIUM	Boort District Health programs	Walking group Healthy Heart programs Domestic Violence	Increase cardiac, rehabilitation, strengthen exercise, family violence. The Orange Door, Healthcare Care That Counts, ORFOS Wellbeing Programs.	BDH
MEDIUM	Mental Health Supports: Visitation program at hospital and aged care. Art programs – art therapy classes People living alone, workshop shops, community own building – projects, repairs – Are U OK Chair.	BDH run inhouse workshops with the Aged Care residents.	Loddon Shire Council support to encourage private enterprise to utilise the empty shops in Godfrey Street. Grant funding.	BDH Local Businesses
LOW	Park Run	Began in Sept 2022	Currently operational.	LSC Park Run Vic

## SPORT AND RECREATION

*Greater involvement in physical activity has enormous benefits for the community. What community planning projects would help provide better physical activity opportunities for residents of all ages?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>PRIORITY 1.</b> HIGH	Little Lake Boort Recreational Precinct (also listed under Community Health and Wellbeing) – could also be classified under Tourism	Steering Committee created in conjunction with BT&D. Loddon Shire Council appointed Community Support Development staff. Little Lake Boort Management Plan (plan created but requires updating)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skate Park, Half Basketball Court, Fencing &amp; Lighting for tennis, artificial turf for some tennis courts, synthetic green for bowling club, croquet club, roads into Tennis Club.</li> <li>Recreational facilities on the lake foreshore suited to all generations.</li> <li>Funding – Loddon Shire Council and external Grants.</li> </ul>	LLBMC LSC BT&D Boort Tennis Club Boort Croquet Club Boort Lawn Bowls Club
<b>PRIORITY 3.</b> HIGH	Boort Park CoM (Also listed in Improving our livability)	<p><b>Utilised by: Football, Netball, Hockey, Harness Racing, A&amp;P Society, Amity.</b></p> <p>The building structure from the canteen down towards the secretary office requires updating. No umpire facilities – currently get changed in the secretary office.</p> <p>Female and male rooms do not have full inclusive access.</p> <p>Facilities are dated and require equality in the facilities for female, males, ambient and umpire rooms.</p> <p>A&amp;P Pavilion Building requires maintenance Netting behind Goal Posts completed in 2023 Lighting on back court.</p> <p><b>Netball Courts – ash felt cracking on front court</b></p> <p>Safety issue – netball Victoria are the governing body and their guidelines are currently in breach of standards. Needing resurfacing after the Boort Show and work in with Harness Racing timeframes. This leaves Oct or January, must be done prior to the next netball season.</p> <p>Cracking of the asphalt has been happening in the last 12 months.</p>	<p><b>Upgrade Facilities</b> - Unisex changerooms Female friendly Changerooms Develop facilities to be user friendly and to meet preferred Local facility guidelines by the AFL.</p> <p>Electronic Score Board</p> <p>Building works on Pavilion (used by A&amp;P on Boort Show Day)</p> <p><b>Resurface Netball Courts</b> Netball Courts – engineer to come and assess damage/conditions and decide what needs doing to fix. Surface to be discussed. Size must adhere to standards. Tony Ballenger BT&amp;S Pools and Courts - \$32,000 was a quote in 2023 to resurface on top of the existing courts with a rebound surface.</p>	Boort Park CoM LSC BFN&H Harness Racing Vic Boort Netball Club

<p><b>PRIORITY 4.</b> <b>HIGH</b></p>	<p>Cricket Club facilities</p>	<p>Currently no club house - as use school oval. Can't move to Boort Park CoM due to clash with sowing of new grass for trotting meeting/footy season. Have agreement with BDS for continued shared use of school oval.</p>	<p>Full support to create home for club at the school oval. Shed required for shade of players and spectators Storage required for club gear (currently shared between club members) Area for afternoon tea/refreshments to be served.</p>	<p>BDS Boort Cricket Club</p>
<p>MEDIUM</p>	<p>Community Stadium – dated, needs upgrading for the community.</p>	<p>Owned by Education Department Utilised by: Football, Basketball Badminton, Netball, Hockey, Cricket Club and A&amp;P Society, Theatre Group</p>	<p>Resurface floor in main stadium Heating &amp; Cooling Roof structure repairs Access to community.</p>	<p>BDS Ed Dept</p>
<p>MEDIUM</p>	<p>Swimming Pool Facility.</p>	<p>Loddon Shire Council owned facility. Daily operations/management is currently contracted to Belgravia Leisure. This outdoor pool offers a 50-metre lap/recreational pool as well as an infant wading pool and a program pool. The kiosk offers drinks, treats and ice-creams and parents can relax with a book on the shaded grass area while the kids enjoy the water. Boort Swimming Pool also features an outdoor BBQ available for patrons to use. There are also onsite showers, toilets and change rooms available to visitors. The pool is open from November to March.</p>	<p>Continue to update and maintain this high-quality community resource and ensure its opening hours reflect community needs.</p>	<p>Belgravia LSC</p>
<p>LOW</p>	<p>Golf Club</p>	<p>Upgrades done on bathrooms and kitchen. Golf committee that maintains the course. Full liquor License, Available to hire for events 18-hole course set across beautifully manicured &amp; gently undulated, grassed fairways. Each fairway is bordered by large trees. Club House offers a fantastic facility for players to gather before &amp; after the game to enjoy a social time. The playing season is from April to September. Competition Days are Saturday and Wednesday when both Ladies and Men are welcome.</p>	<p>Maintain current status. Upgrade tractor.</p>	<p>Boort Golf Club LSC</p>

LOW	Clay Target Shooting	Currently closed on Lake Boort site. Boort District School currently offer interschool competition, however not able to use the facilities.	Potential to open a new club facility at the aerodrome site or another site in Boort. Community members are interested in forming a group.	DELP Closed
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## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

*Isolation is an issue which impacts on rural communities far more than our metropolitan counterparts, and it can have negative effects on all aspects of life. How can community planning projects allow community members from all walks of life to have the opportunity to experience the benefits from interacting with their community?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
HIGH	Boort A & P Society Show and Truck Show	Celebrated in October The 135th Boort Agricultural & Pastoral Society Show will be held in 2023. Shearing Competition, Fireworks Display, Carnival events. Horse events & Dog trials, Animal farm and the pavilion. Held at the Boort Showgrounds	Maintain event. Promotion of the event. Pavilion Shed requires significant maintenance. Shearing area to be reviewed and updated. Speakers/Audio improved to be a permanent fixture. Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility.	A&P Society Saunders Signage Boort Park CoM LSC Sponsors
MEDIUM	Australia Day The day includes the announcement and presentation of Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Community Group/Event of the Year awards and Community Services Award, as well as speeches from Australia Day ambassadors.	2022 and 2023 A&P Society in – received a grant for \$30,000 to host event through the Australia Day Council.  Amity – receive a grant through the Australia Day Council to run the flag raising and guest speaker component of the day. Loddon Shire Council support event.	Maintain the funding to keep the event consistent. This will attract people and encourage return visitors if they are guaranteed the same quality event each year.	Amity BRIC A&P Society Cubs
MEDIUM	Easter Tennis	Ongoing event organised by Boort Tennis Club committee. Large tourism event for the town.	<b><i>(Part of the Precinct Project)</i></b>	Boort Tennis Club

LOW	Trotting Club	Two meetings in January and March	Ongoing support	Harness Racing Vic
LOW	Boort Angling Club	Limited number of active members to run events and limited committee members with positions of responsibility.	Assistance to encourage committee members to hold positions of responsibility.	Boort Angling Club Sponsors
LOW	Christmas Party in the Street	Currently running in December Amity and Christmas Committee running the event with sponsorship from local businesses. Great family event that involves all the community to celebrate the year.	Maintain Stalls, food, music, activities, late night shopping and a visit from Santa! The opportunity to get together to celebrate Christmas, with family and our community.	Amity Christmas Committee
LOW	Anzac Day and Remembrance Day	Local RSL run the events, open to general public.	Loddon Shire Council to assist with permits for events. Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility.	RSL LSC
LOW	Scouts and Cubs	Currently Cubs only	Loddon Shire Council to assist with permits for events. Events such as the Billy Cart Derby. Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility that are qualified in these areas. To encourage All ages of Youth to participate.	Scouts Victoria

## LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE

*How can we enhance the wider community's knowledge? Examples could include learning about Indigenous art and culture or improving education opportunities for a group or groups of residents.*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
MEDIUM	Indigenous Cultural Centre, Museum and Information Centre	DJAARA (Formally -Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation) The Temporary Keeping Place – Paul and Cathie Haw	To construct a purpose build facility in the township of Boort to preserve, display and educate people about the artifacts and local history. To provide historical information about Boort to visitors and locals. To facilitate a Tourism Hub that provided a place for tourism to be accessible and advertised with consistency and professionalism, to promote the amazing offerings here in Boort.	LSC Djaara

MEDIUM	Boort Historical Society	Currently open to public on set days	Increase volunteer program. Increase capacity for visitors to attend. Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility.	Boort Historical Society
LOW	Mysia Rec Reserve Committee of Management	Active group that manages the Mysia War Memorial School.	Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility. Historical importance, historical information Centre for the area.	DELP LSC

## BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND TOWN BEAUTIFICATION / INFRASTRUCTURE

*What capital works and infrastructure does our community need? Examples could include streetscape projects, community buildings, or recreation reserve enhancements.*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>PRIORITY 2.</b> HIGH	Street Scape ( <i>listed in Improving Our Livability and Improving Our Safety</i> )			LSC BT&D
<b>PRIORITY 5.</b> HIGH	Improvement of drainage & extension of the Boort Lakes Behind the Holiday Park (Channel #3)	Lease holders of the caravan park are in consultation with the Loddon Shire Council and GMW.  Awaiting a response from GMW Costing and feasibility study <b>Consultation with irrigation farmers is a priority, as this also has an impact on their productivity on farm.</b>	The channel behind the caravan park up to Yots Bridge – feasibility to pipe the channel and give the Caravan Park access to the channel site and up to the ring road. To grass the area, make it safer, assist drainage issues. Possible replacement of Yots Bridge for bus access, to accommodate tourism opportunities.	GMW LSC BLHP
MEDIUM	Public Halls and Historic Buildings	James Boyle Hall, Memorial Hall, Churches, Pavilion at Boort Park CoM	To upgrade and maintain the facilities. Pavilion at Boort Park is currently in a state of needing the plumbing connection and drainage fixed. The floor would ideally need to be concreted and bottom of walls require replacement. Internal fixtures require attention.	LSC Boort Park CoM
MEDIUM	Outdoor seating area at the G.F Library (BRIC)	Shade sail has been installed.	Living Library Grant required to finish off fencing and landscaping of the area.	BRIC, LSC Goldfields Library Living Libraries Infrastructure Program

MEDIUM	Enhancement of the Salt Lake area and all entrances to the town.	Salt Lake currently looks like a waste land.	Clean up the area and promote the salt as a tourism attraction, the colours are vibrant at particular times of the year. Plant Vegetation to encourage wildlife. Create walking and or pushbike tracks. Signage into the town requires attention and a purpose.	LSC
MEDIUM	Weed control	Bindi and Cactus Wheel spreading in areas around Boort.	Look up and possibly to create a weed management control program: 5 – 10 Year Plan. Township and farming zones. Work with farmers to eradicate Cactus Wheel – provide funding for chemical to control the weed.	Victorian Catchment Management Authority LSC VicRoads
MEDIUM	<b>Improvement to arterial roads &amp; identification of dangerous traffic hazards.</b> 1. Boort Kerang Road 2. Railway crossings 3. Ring Road – Tourism Route 4. Boort – Wedderburn Road 5. Township streets and Kerb & Channel 6. Access roads outside of the township 7. Whittaker’s lane and Bartletts Lane.		VIC Roads concern – to be flagged through Loddon Shire Council. 1. Requires attention to surface 2. Malone St. railway crossing unlit at night and trains often block crossing at night. Godfrey Street lights only. 3. Tourism Route, create bike path, mark out a lane for walking, cycling, mobility scooters, electric bikes. 4. Improve safety at the intersection at Mysia. 5. Upgrade township streets and Kerb & Channel 6. Require grading and gravel re-sheeting. 7. Upgrade and seal	LSC VicRoads
MEDIUM	Ring Road Entrance – at Boort – Pyramid Road		Ring Road Entrance to be improved and developed into a tourist drive/attraction. Signage that highlights the Ring Road.	LSC VicRoads

## IMPROVING OUR SAFETY

*Identification of any community safety initiatives and strategies to address these.*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
<b>PRIORITY 2.</b> HIGH	<b>Street Scape:</b> 1. Godfrey Street 2. Seating or places to rest in Godfrey Street. 3. Off-street parking 4. Footpaths, Paving in front of IGA Supermarket 5. Kerb and Gutter 6. Street lighting 7. Public toilets and amenities 8. Drinking water/bubble tap 9. Pedestrian Crossing	1. Hand Rails on Godfrey Street for elderly trying to step up onto the street from the road. Currently an old-style Horse Hitching Rail near IGA 2. Seating or places to rest for the elderly on the shop side of Godfrey Street. Currently some seats on the opposite side to shops. Not easily accessible for elderly or disabled. 3. None 4. Footpaths are old and safety has become compromised over the years. 5. Kerb and Gutter is too deep on the North Side of the road, causing safety issues - has become compromised over the years with the level of the road. 6. Street lighting exists in some areas, but is old and not efficient. 7. Public toilets and amenities near the Old Court House and Nolen's Park. 8. Drink tap has been removed from the front of the IGA 9. No safe pedestrian crossing for elderly and children. The increase in trucks through town has compromised the safety of pedestrians.	1. Rails along the shop side of the street to assist elderly and disabled. 2. Need to be easily accessible for community including elderly or disabled. IGA has a vacant piece of land at the end on the corner that was once a plant nursery. This could be opened up for seating. 3. Off street parking on even surfaces. Possibly near the Home Hardware building. 4. Construction of additional Footpaths & upgrade of existing Footpaths 5. Upgrade of Kerb and Gutter in Godfrey Street. 6. Improved street lighting 7. Fairy Lights permanently in trees in Godfrey 8. Regular cleaning of public toilets and amenities. 9. Security Camera at Toilet facility 10. Improved access to public drinking water. 11. Bike racks 12. Safer pedestrian crossing at the Lake View and Godfrey Street intersection and at the Godfrey and Station Street intersections.	LSC BT&D Coliban Water VicRoads
MEDIUM	Speed limit on Godfrey Street	50km/hr zone between Boort Preschool and Railway Crescent	Provide safe crossing	Vic Roads LSC
MEDIUM	Flood mitigation	No formal recognition of any group currently responsible to report on floods.	Prepare a flood works plan for township. Prepare a flood works plan for farmers. Catchment Management Authority to address the town in a community meeting after a flood.	Catchment Management Authority GMW LSC

## IMPROVING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY - Business

*Local business is the backbone of our economy, with any increase in business turnover benefitting us all. What projects can drive economic development? Are there social enterprise opportunities?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
MEDIUM	Encourage business growth & assist new business development.  Increased employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empty shops in the main street of Boort.</li> <li>Commercial Hotel closed.</li> <li>Weekends are difficult to stay open due to lack of traffic through Boort.</li> </ul>	<p>Possibility of a Cooperative to take over the Commercial Hotel.</p> <p>Encourage business development in the main street.</p> <p>Greater food businesses in Boort – greater opening hours.</p>	LSC - Loddon Shire Council Economic Development
MEDIUM	Support for greater accommodation facilities	<p>Boort Lakes Holiday Park</p> <p>Privately managed rental facilities</p> <p>Free camping at Boort Park</p> <p>Railway Hotel</p> <p>Air BnB's privately managed</p>	<p>Offer all necessary support to the investor.</p> <p>Maybe Commercial Hotel could build motel accommodation.</p>	<p>BLHP</p> <p>LSC</p> <p>Railway Hotel</p> <p>Boort Lakes Holiday Park</p>
MEDIUM	Tourism Opportunities: Web page to promote town with economic, tourist and accommodation links	<p>Web page exists.</p> <p>Bendigo and Loddon Tourism, Loddon Arts Trail</p>	<p>Link to Shire web page and develop further.</p> <p>Consistency with Tourism through the Loddon Shire Council to promote events in Boort.</p> <p>Establish a Tourist &amp; Promotion group and utilise Shire Tourism Officer.</p> <p>Provide printed material that is up to date for the Boort area.</p> <p>Create a visitors Centre in Boort.</p>	<p>BT&amp;D</p> <p>LSC</p>

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

*Each community in the Loddon Shire Council has its own unique natural beauty. What community planning projects could preserve, enhance and promote our natural environment?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
MEDIUM	Weed control	<p>Bindi eye and Cactus Wheel growing areas around Boort and Granites.</p> <p>North Central Catchment Management Authority</p>	<p>Create a weed management control program – 5 – 10 Year Plan.</p> <p>Township and farming zones. Work with farmers to eradicate Cactus Wheel – provide funding for</p>	<p>LSC</p> <p>NCCMA</p> <p>Ag Vic</p>

		and Ag Vic. <a href="https://www.nccma.vic.gov.au/north-central-regional-catchment-strategy">https://www.nccma.vic.gov.au/north-central-regional-catchment-strategy</a> <a href="https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/">https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/</a>	chemical to control the weed. Eradicate Bindi eye from township high traffic areas for push bike, mobility scooters.	
MEDIUM	Community Kitchen /Garden	BDH currently are developing an area between the Men's Shed and the Hospital, the old Hostel Site. They have begun the project. This is situated on crown land.	To extend the area and incorporate more features to benefit the hospital residents and the greater community. To maintain the current part of the project. To seek funding for further development.	BDH
MEDIUM	Landscaping within the town - Plans for more tree planting and revegetate areas.	Areas have been planted with native trees and shrubs. Most nature strips have trees.	Old horse yards/cattle yards. Old Speedway & Waits Hill. Crown Land Nature Strips in town to have a planting program to be consistent and suitable for the climate and wildlife. Salt Lake – to be vegetated	LSC
LOW	Facilities for travellers/tourists e.g. Travelers Rest Electric Car Charging point	Rest stops Free Camping at Boort Park for limited nights. Dump sites at Nolen's Park and Boort Park. Truck stop - parking with access to food, hot shower and toilet facilities.	Electric Car charging station	LSC
LOW	Ski Club site on Boort's Little Lake.	Currently has a committee that manage the facility (LLBMC). Run events in summer. Great lawn area and facility. Available to hire for private events/functions. Launching Ramp.	Maintain Committee	LLBMC LSC BLHP
LOW	Boort Angling Club Site on Boort's Little Lake	Available to hire for events. Great Lawn area maintained by Loddon Shire Council. Launching ramp. Near the Slalom Ski site on Little Lake Boort. Toilet Block, Fishing Platform, Provision for fishing habitat.	Maintain Committee Assistance to find committee members to hold positions of responsibility.	BAC LLBMC
LOW	Lake Boort Management Plan -	Parks Vic and DEECA have developed a plan for	Environmental Water in Lake Boort	Parks Vic

	Natural Walking Track - Scar Tree project	tourism development. Walking tracks, platforms and camping	Tourism Development	DEECA LSC
LOW	Myrnong Beach	Seating and grass areas maintained by Loddon Shire Council.	Shade, more seating, toilet facilities, BBQ Facility. Canoe launch pad. Bird Hide – Myrnong Beach	LSC
LOW	Recycling facilities	Waste Station open in Boort twice a week. Recycling Bins for each home in township. Recycling station at Boort.	Recyclingbins in main street and park / high walking traffic areas. Easy access to battery recycling	LSC

## HERITAGE, ARTS AND CULTURE

*Each community in Loddon Shire Council has a lot to celebrate in heritage, arts and culture. How can projects capitalise on this and make the community a richer place to live as a result?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
MEDIUM	Indigenous Cultural Centre, Museum and Information Centre Historical information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boort Historical Society</li> <li>• The Temporary Keeping place: Aboriginal history including Kerr's photos– oldest photos in Australia,</li> <li>• Smoke on the Hill – Book</li> <li>• Crow Country book</li> <li>• Bollards in Godfrey Street</li> <li>• "Footprints Across the Loddon Plains"- book</li> <li>• A Chat with Old Friends, DVD and Book</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater opening hours for Historical society and promotion over school holidays.</li> <li>• History Bollards – Need refurbishing, could put electronic message, existing bollards need upgrade.</li> <li>• Signboards around LLB to detail attractions.</li> </ul>	LSC DJAARA Boort Historical Society Paul and Cathie Haw (The Temporary Keeping Place)
MEDIUM	Arts Trail and Silo Art	<p>Sculptures around the Little Lake Boort donated and made by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Piccoli</li> <li>• Men's Shed Boort</li> <li>• Darren Moresi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain sculptures and lighting to enhance the work.</li> <li>• Provide an opportunity to develop a greater Arts Trail</li> <li>• Silo Art in Boort or out lying districts, such as Barraport, Gredgwin, Quambatook</li> </ul>	Railway Vic Australian Silo Art Trail Loddon Valley Arts Trail/LSC

## TOURISM AND MARKETING

*Increasing visitors to our communities has enormous benefits, both economically and socially. What community planning projects could promote our region to increase traffic numbers to our attractions?*

PRIORITY	ITEM	STATUS	FUTURE ACTION	PARTNERS
MEDIUM	Central Tourism promotional material	Loddon Shire Council – very outdated promotional material for Boort Create branding that is central to Boort’s offerings for Tourism and building our local economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flyer/Brochures to promote Boort</li> <li>Promotion of local industry &amp; events.</li> <li>Package what we have got already into a marketing campaign for families.</li> <li>Walking and Cycling track brochures</li> <li>Engage with Loddon Shire Council</li> </ul>	LSC BT&D
MEDIUM	Improve communication notifications within the Boort area. Use of existing Newsletters, Noticeboards. Use of media to promote activities in the town and inform residents	Boort Website – BRIC facilitate BTD – Website (volunteer run) About Boort Publication – BRIC facilitate IGA Notice Board Boort Connections - (volunteer run) Nolen’s Park Notice Board – BRIC Boort Buy, Swap Sell	Smarty Grants/Loddon Shire Council to support ongoing need. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centralise communication through Website linked to Tourism.</li> </ul>	LSC BT&D
MEDIUM	Dining experiences, number of cafes and restaurants and opening hours	Coffee Shops (Spanner Café at BDH, Godfrey & Bear) Boort BP for Takeaway Private catering companies Boort Park/Trotting rooms Railway Hotel Bluebird Barn – takeaway Fridays only. Catering	Increase the capacity for Boort to attract workers to the region. Offering housing and childcare would assist this need.	LSC
MEDIUM	Boort Branding and Promotion	Boort has various approaches to Marketing its local treasures. The community has tea towels, stubby holders, stickers, mugs etc. sold at various shops. The town has various social media points, Facebook – Boort Connections, Buy Swap Sell and a website. There are a few names that Boort have been known for such as ‘Smoke on the Hill’, ‘The Northern Oasis’ and ‘Boort Wer’zat?’.	Create a Branding to promote the town and its qualities in one. Bring together the promotional information and coordinate it with suppliers.	Local Businesses Tourism Operators LSC BT&D

MEDIUM	The Temporary Keeping Place – Aboriginal culture	Paul and Kathy Haw run this as a tourist and cultural information centre.	Support growth as a Visitor Centre.	LSC DJAARA
MEDIUM	Merry Go Round	Currently run my Men’s Shed, Amity and volunteer’s.	Maintain integrity of the facility	LSC
MEDIUM	Silos at Barraport or within Boort, paintings on buildings	Barraport silos are leased privately. Boort buildings that could potentially be part of the Arts Trail possibly: Memorial Hall, Boort Silos, Vacant Shop windows.	Idea to increase tourism interest and add Boort community to the Silo Arts Trail. To establish a grant committee and community consultation on the concept.	LSC Victorian Railways
LOW	Cobram Estate Olives Limited	Cobram Estate Olives Limited (“Cobram Estate Olives” or “CBO” or “the Company”), formerly known as Boundary Bend Limited, was founded by Paul Riordan and Rob Mc Gavin in 1998. Over more than 20 years the Company has grown to become the market leader in the Australian olive industry and a global leader in sustainable olive farming with operations in Australia and the USA and a portfolio of premium brands. Today, CBO’s extra virgin olive oils are recognised for their world class quality, receiving 475 awards since 2003 including one of our Cobram Estate® products from California being named one of the world’s healthiest extra virgin olive oils in 2017 and 2022.	Discover if the company would consider promoting the brand and what it offers Boort as a potential tourism site.	CBO
LOW	Opening Hours of local businesses	Trading Hours vary: <b>Mon – Fri:</b> approx. 8.30/9am – 4pm/5pm/5.30pm <b>Sat:</b> Some businesses open 9am – 12pm / 1pm <b>Sun:</b> IGA 10 – 1pm	Consistency of shopping hours. Consistency for tourists to access facilities.	LSC Boort Community/Local Businesses
LOW	Loddon Herald – free local newspaper every Thursday	Provides communication notifications within the Boort and surrounding area. The local newspaper is a key part of any communications engagement for our local communities.	Improve communication notifications within the Boort area. Prompting more people and organisations to remember to include the Loddon Herald in thinking when getting news out.	<b>Chris Earl</b> Managing Editor, Loddon Herald

		<p>Local news for us just that, local news - not just the big stories for all stories and information is important to our readers.</p> <p>Chris Earl is happy to meet and talk with local organisations about how the Loddon Herald can benefit our communities.</p>		
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## PROJECTS TO BE PRIORITISED

### PRIORITY 1.

**Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreational Precinct** (delivered by Loddon Shire Council).

In 2019 the Boort Tourism and Development Committee began to develop a Master Plan for the Boort Recreation Precinct (Nolen's Park). A core component of the project included a review of the area and the need to develop the park to include a wider variety of accessible activities. Nolen's Park is located on Godfrey Street and rests on the Little Lake in Boort and adjacent to the Boort Lakes Holiday Park. The facility is currently home to a range of user groups including tennis, scouts, family history research, indoor sports (boxing, martial arts) at the James Boyle Hall, water sports, playground, Merry Go Round, large community events, Ski Club, Lawn Bowls, Croquet, Walking Track and Park Run. The overall vision for Recreational Precinct, is to meet the needs and requirements of the user groups, community and council. Ultimately, the Master Plan will guide council and user group decision-making and resource allocation. The Precinct has undergone changes in recent years to meet the sporting needs of the community and visitors. A number of these upgrades, additions and changes have resulted in ad hoc development around the site without following a strategic, united plan and vision to meet anticipated future needs. Refurbishment of the Tennis Club fencing and lighting has been an additional driver for this project. Through analytical site analysis, background research and community consultation, the Master Plan aims to provide optimal and innovative use of the Precinct for sport and recreation groups including providing a range of opportunities for all ages and abilities.

#### GOAL

**To increase options in the town for Sport and Recreation facilities and make them accessible for all ages and all year-round activities.**

The staging of the Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project as follows:

**Stage 1** Boort Bowls Club Inc Synthetic Turf Project

**Stage 2** Master Plan of Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project which will include costing estimates and identification of potential external funding opportunities.

This includes the skate park, tennis court fencing and lighting, half basketball court and croquet facilities.

**Stage 3** Construction of Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project as identified in the stage 2 design

#### ACTION

The Project budget currently has \$500,000 available. Following the allocation of funding for Stage 1 of the project, the remaining funds will support the planning component of Stage 2 and any unspent funds held to attract identified external funding opportunities to deliver the remaining components of the project (Stage 3). Stage 1 will require some administration and supervision by Council officers. Council will be providing resources to deliver the project.

#### TASK

##### **Sport and Recreation**

- It is important and exciting to note that the Boort community have prioritised the need to provide facilities for sporting, recreation and community activities:
- Ensuring public areas are accessible for older people and those with a disability. Clearly, these two issues have direct links with the development of the facilities within Park.

##### **Health and Wellbeing**

- This theme includes the following strategies: Promote physical activity and recreation

Support community-based sport and recreation organisations and programs.

The project scope includes:

- bowls club synthetic green
- tennis courts fencing
- tennis courts lighting and other possible upgrades, to service and attract people to play tennis
- installation of a skate park/recreational facilities
- installation of a basketball half court
- Croquet equipment shed replacement, toilets upgraded, pavers replaced with concrete and 3 shelter sheds constructed.

#### PARTNERS

Loddon Shire Council, Boort Tennis Club, Croquet Club, Lawn Bowls

#### TIMEFRAME

Short: 1-2 years

Medium: 1-5 years

Short: 1-2 years

Medium: 1-5 years

Long: 1-10 years

**Stage 1** - replacement of the Boort Bowls Club irrigated turf with a suitable synthetic alternative. (Complete in Sept 2022)

**Stages 2 and 3** are to be completed as a single project, planned and delivered in line with Council's Annual Plan timeline.

**Master Plan:** being the planning, design and costing of the skate park and basketball half-court, tennis fencing and lighting and works at the croquet club. There may be additional works to support these identified elements such as footpaths and drainage.

**Stage 3** being the funding and construction of the works as identified in **Stage 2**.

#### PRIORITY

High

Medium

Low

#### STATUS

Idea

Concept

Ready

This project will be funded from the Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project (the Project) budget and the Loddon Shire Council

Approval the funding application from Boort Bowls Club for the amount of \$301,970 to deliver **Stage 1**.

To separate the project into three stages and commit funds from the Project budget to complete **Stage 1**, being the Boort Bowls Club (the Club) synthetic turf installation. The Club will install a World Bowls approved synthetic surface at the Bowls Club, with the project costing \$301,970 exGST. The Club have registered for GST and have committed to covering the GST component of the project. The Club have also committed to taking responsibility for any cost overruns. If the proposed staging arrangement were approved by Council including Stage 1 being funded prior to the design stage, the Club will be required to enter into a formal funding agreement, with specific milestones and acquittal requirements. The project and payment milestones have been provided by the Club as per their application for funding. The application has been assessed by a panel of Council

officers and has been deemed to be satisfactory. There are no funding guidelines available to direct the assessment panel, rather the application is deemed compliant, as sufficient information has been provided to enable an understanding of the project particulars, to develop a funding agreement and to assess the planned delivery of the project. This model of funding the project delivery has been considered as the project is being delivered on an existing like for like footprint with a low risk of unidentified issues.

## PRIORITY 2.

**Godfrey Street, Boort Street Scope:** The aim of the Street Scope is to revitalise the Boort main street (Godfrey Street) to attract new business activity and people to the Town Centre. It is envisioned that this will be realised through a series of public realm, built form and streetscape interventions that will improve the visual amenity, design quality, vitality and function of the urban environment within Godfrey Street. The Plan will assist Council to prioritise public domain improvement works, anticipate future renewal works and improve the overall function of the local street. It will also inform preferred future-built form outcomes. The Plan could include several areas of focus such as public realm and streetscape, key development opportunities, infrastructure and services, heritage, built form control, retail strategy and housing strategy. The focus for now is public realm and streetscape, although the plan will also touch on built form, heritage and retail where it interfaces with public realm. The Plan will seek to outline improvements in the public realm that can also act as catalyst by triggering private investment. The public realm refers to any publicly owned land. This includes streets, footpaths, parks, and government-owned land.

***The Plan may seek to influence the design of:***

- Footpaths, laneways and street scape
- Parking
- Places for sitting, gathering, socialising, outdoor dining
- Bicycle infrastructure
- Street trees and canopy
- Wayfinding and signage
- Façades

### GOAL

To improve the Street Scope in Godfrey Street, Boort

### ACTION

**The Loddon Shire Council will:** complete a plan, seek funding , consult with the community, action the stages of the plan

### TASK

Place power underground

Fix Godfrey Street parking bays. It is currently difficult and dangerous to exit your car from parallel parking and dangerous to back out of the angle parking. Parking needs to be addressed – dangerous backing out with trucks increasing in the main street.

Fix paving outside the IGA store and other areas on Godfrey Street

Provide hand rails on shopping strip side (as per the current rail near the Opportunity Shop)

Approach the IGA Store to utilise the vacant land between the supermarket and Railway Hotel for seating

Revegetation of plants and trees

Suggestion to have fairy lights installed permanently in the main street (Godfrey Street)

Provision of off-street parking

Improved street lighting Improved access to public buildings and shops for the disabled
<b>PARTNERS</b> Loddon Shire Council, VicRoads
<b>TIMEFRAME</b> Short: 1-2 years <b>Medium: 1-5 years</b>
<b>PRIORITY</b> <b>High</b> Medium      Low
<b>STATUS</b> 2016 a plan was drawn up

**PRIORITY 3.**

**Boort Park: Upgrade Facilities**

Netball Courts are not meeting Netball Victoria Standards for safe playing, due to the cracked surface. Community sports and recreation facilities are quickly becoming outdated. Boort Park facilities do not provide the range of amenities to attract and sustain women and girls to sport. The facilities do not have adequate disability access and also do not provide the required facilities for umpires of football. Throughout Victoria and in particular small communities, there is a lower participation rate in sport and active recreation of women to men, mainly due to inadequate facilities. The facilities at Boort Park play a key factor in encouraging female participation. This includes players and umpires. It is vital for female friendly change rooms at Boort Park for female participation to increase. Facilities at Boort Park should appropriately and equitably meet the particular needs of females in the community. Facility access demand is increasing through the growth in junior and female participation. Most of the facilities that are used for football have historically been built to cater for male usage only. If we are to continue to attract more girls and women, there is a need to provide welcoming physical environments. This includes ensuring that all players and umpires have access to appropriate change, shower and toilet facilities. People often think of female change rooms as separate dedicated change facilities. This is not the case. Rather it is about transforming the existing amenities to cater for greater flexibility in use, removing urinals and open showers and replacing with toilet cubicles and shower cubicles that allow showering and changing in privacy. In other words, great change facilities cater equally well for all users. There are also other facility elements that help make a welcoming facility and club environment. These include cleanliness of the change, shower and toilet areas, provision of sanitary bins and external pavilion and car park lighting to provide additional safety and security during and after training and night matches. These elements should also be front of mind when considering new and upgraded facilities.

<b>GOAL</b> To fix/resurface the netball court surface. To upgrade change rooms facilities. To move the Time keepers Box.
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## ACTION

To complete a scope/design, apply for funding, apply for permit, have plans drawn up. Begin construction out of key usage times.  
To complete the tasks in two stages: Netball courts are a priority to meet standards for the next season.

## TASK(S) – Two stages

### STAGE 1: To resurface the netball courts x 2

**Usage** - The Netball Courts usage season and training begins in February through to the end of September. In October the A&P Society utilise the area for Boort Show events and the Harness Racing utilise the surface for seating to be near TAB area in January and March.

Netball Courts – engineer to come and assess damage/conditions and decide what needs doing to fix.

Surface to be discussed. There are no regulations with Netball Vic, so the type of surface is up to the Boort Committee. The Size must adhere to standards.

**Quote already received** - \$32,000 was a quote in 2023 to resurface on top of the existing courts with a rebound surface. The Boort Netball club have already fundraised to assist with the payment and are also looking at grants to assist fund the project.

### STAGE 2: To upgrade change rooms facilities and move the timekeepers box

Avoid trough and individual wall hung urinals. Convert all urinals into individual partitioned toilet pans. Provide as a minimum one ambulant accessible toilet cubicle in each amenity and umpires rooms as required by current codes and standards. Avoid wall-hung basins with no shelf space. Provide vanity / shelving / ledge and mirror behind. Provide electrical outlets in close proximity to vanities.

**Player amenities** (toilet / showers) As a minimum, provision for two change rooms to cater for home and away teams per oval on site is required. Showers: lockable cubicle showers are preferred.

Toilets: there is no expectation to install urinals in player amenity areas. Replacement of urinals with an additional toilet pan or appropriate screening should be considered to provide more flexible usage options. Three showers with three pan toilets.

**Changes rooms** Two separate change rooms (one home and one away team) with bench seating provided around the room perimeter. If lockers are included then the size of the room may need to increase to compensate. Clothing bags / hooks above bench seating.

**Massage / strapping room** / separate room immediately adjacent to each change room is to be provided with massage / strapping tables for use by home and away teams. Can be performed within a change room with appropriate screening to cater for more flexible usage options.

**Umpires rooms:** Umpires rooms need to be gender neutral and cater for diversity, particularly female umpires. The provision of areas where changing can occur in private is critical to the retention of umpires. Options also should be considered for a 'common area' with benches for use during breaks where umpires are able to congregate.

#### All facility:

Showers: two (minimum) within a lockable cubicle toilet

Hand basin: one

Seating: bench seating and clothes / bag hooks

## PARTNERS

Boort Park CoM, LSC, Boort Football, Netball, Hockey, Harness Racing Victoria

## TIMEFRAME

Short: 1-2 years

Medium: 1-5 years

**PRIORITY**

High Medium Low

**STATUS**

Cracked Netball Courts – not meeting Netball Vic Standards.  
 Old changeroom facilities in use.  
 Timekeepers box not in a position that allows for easy viewing of the clubrooms.

**PRIORITY 4.****Cricket Club Shed and Shade facilities**

The Boort - Yando Cricket Club is seeking funding to build a shed/clubhouse and shade structure to create a home for the members of the club. The Cricket Club currently has no facilities, and would like to build a shed/clubhouse on the Boort District School oval. This shed/clubhouse would be able to house the clubs equipment, provide shade for the players, children and spectators and to have a kitchenette where food and drinks could be prepared and served.

**GOAL**

To build a shed/clubhouse that would become the home base for the Boort-Yando Cricket Club. Shed would consist of lockable storage area for equipment, kitchenette, with canteen style roller doors and bench tops for food service. Open shed with veranda to give shade for spectators.

**ACTION**

**Stage 1:** Fundraising to get \$65,000 for stage 1: build shed/clubhouse and concreting of site. Long term agreement for use of facilities with Boort District School. Permits with council for project. Preparation of site for build. Shed/clubhouse construction and concreting of site.  
**Stage 2:** Further fundraising for stage 2.

**TASK**

**Stage 1:** Fundraising is well underway. There is a current agreement with the BDS for use of grounds. BYCC would like to see an extension to this agreement prior to any works being completed. Shed/clubhouse to be constructed once agreement and final fundraising complete  
**Stage 2:** Internal fit out.

**PARTNERS**

Boort Yando Cricket Club, Boort District School, Loddon Shire Council, Department of Education, Cricket Victoria

**TIMEFRAME**

Short: 1-2 years Medium: 1-5 years

**PRIORITY**

High Medium Low

**STATUS**

Have \$10,000 council grant. Looking for more to reach fundraising goal sooner. More funding would go towards completing Stage 2 of the shed project.

## PRIORITY 5.

**GMW Channel:** Improvement of drainage, maintain current flow rate and extend the Boort Lakes Holiday Park on top of the channel. (Channel to be piped)

### GOAL

To pipe the no. 3 channel from Yot's bridge on the Ring Road to the bridge on the Boort-Pyramid Road (approx 400m). To maintain the same flow rate required to supply farms. To fix Yot's Bridge for easier access for long vehicles around the Ring Road.

### ACTION

To carry out design, costing and construction of this project. To carry out feasibility study to ensure flow rate remains the same.

### TASK

To continue to supply water to irrigation farms at the current or better flow capacity.  
To have the irrigation water piped to provide safety and extension of caravan park to the east of the channel.

### PARTNERS

Goulburn-Murray Water and Loddon Shire Council, Farmers that rely on irrigation supply from this channel.

### TIMEFRAME

Short: 1-2 years      Medium: 1-5 years

### PRIORITY

High      Medium      Low

### • STATUS

GMW have inspected the site and are aware these works are required, mainly for safety reasons as the channels is adjacent to the Boort Lakes Holiday Park. A detailed design and costing is to be carried out by GMW.  
Consultation with irrigation farmers that rely on the water supply/demand must still be met.  
Lease holders of the caravan park are in consultation with the Loddon Sire Council and GMW.  
The channel behind the caravan park up to Yots Bridge – feasibility to pipe the channel and give the Caravan Park access to the channel site and up to the Ring Road.

## PRIORITY 6.

**Amity shed:** To concrete floor

<b>GOAL</b> To concrete to reduce dust, rodents and make the volunteer load less to maintain the shed and the equipment stored in it. To be environmentally sustainable, economically sustainable and safer for all users (volenteers).
<b>ACTION</b> To receive a Smarty Grant and organise works to be completed. To ensure environmentally sustainable measures are in place. To ensure incorporate economically sustainable measures. To action the set up for concrete to be poured: Streader Constructions to complete the works.
<b>TASK</b> Seek funding from the Loddon Shire Council Smarty Grant Remove items currently in the shed Concrete floor of the shed
<b>PARTNERS</b> Boort Tourism and Development Inc, Amity, Loddon Shire Council
<b>TIMEFRAME</b> Short: 1-2 years      Medium: 1-5 years
<b>PRIORITY</b> High      Medium      Low
<b>STATUS</b> Smarty Grant approval from LSC. Waiting on Streader Construction availability.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BT&D	Boort Tourism and Development
LSC	Loddon Shire Council
LLBMC	Little Lake Boort Management Committee
BYCC	Boort Yando Cricket Club
CBO	Cobram Estate Olives Limited
BDH	Boort District Health
NDCH	Northern District Community Health
BLHP	Boort Lakes Holiday Park
BAC	Boort Angling Club
Ed Dept	Education Department
GMW	Goulburn Murray Water
BFN&H	Boort Football, Netball and Hockey Club
BP	Boort Park CoM
Djaara	Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation

## REVIEWING THE PLAN

### How we intend to review our plan

- **Annually:**

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

- **Mid- term review (4-5 years):** Community engagement process to confirm existing priorities and identify new and emerging issues.

- Community consultation to test the priorities and content in the plan.
- Review community demographics.

- **Full term:** Full review process undertaken

- Consistent with council framework.

### Acknowledgements

A special thanks to the Boort Tourism and Development Committee for creating the Community Plan Document, and the people of the Boort Community for their input into this plan.