

Serpentine and District Community Plan

2026-2036



Serpentine and District is a vibrant, active, inclusive and sustainable rural community that contributes to a prosperous and progressive Shire.

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Acknowledgements

We pay our deepest respects to Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the ongoing cultural, physical and spiritual connections that Aboriginal people have with the lands and waters and recognise and value that traditional owner groups have cared for and protected them for thousands of generations.



We would also like to thank the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group for their time and assistance, and the input from each community group and sporting club in identifying opportunities for improvement.

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Our community plan

Purpose of our community plan

This community plan has been prepared by the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group in partnership with the local community (including community groups, service providers, business and special interest groups).

The purpose of the Serpentine and District Community Plan is to:

- Provide opportunities for the community to be involved in shaping the future of the town and district
- Determine a vision for the community and a clear action plan to achieve that vision
- Identify the strengths and existing assets within the community
- Identify specific issues and challenges that may impact the community now or in the future
- Identify potential opportunities to enhance the community
- Create a sense of ownership of the plan by the community
- Develop a tool that can be used when applying for external funding.
- Provide Loddon Shire Council with an advocacy document identifying the community's priorities.

History of community planning in Serpentine

In 2002 Loddon Shire Council activated the initial community planning program, encouraging communities to develop and submit their own community plans. The program was designed to create a sense of ownership and empower all community members to have input into developing a long-term vision and a set of strategic actions that will enable them to achieve that vision. The community plans were also intended to be an important tool for Council to use when preparing its own strategic plans.

The process of developing the first community plan for Serpentine was coordinated by local Serpentine residents and published in 2002. Then in 2021 the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group was reformed to develop a revised plan

Our achievements since the first community plan was developed

Since 2002 many projects have been followed through to completion, including but not limited to:

- Redevelopment of the Janiember Park Recreation Reserve Hall and football and netball facilities
- Pondage Redevelopment – creating Pon Bon Reserve. This is now an area of native bushland offering walk trails.
- School Bus stop - established off the main highway to make it much safer for children to board and exit the bus from P-12 East Loddon College
- Improvements at Tom Rudkins Reserve and footpaths around the town

The process of developing and reviewing our new plan

Loddon Shire Council introduced a new Community Planning Framework in November 2019.

This framework provided a guide to Community planning groups in regard to:

- Governance of Community planning groups.
- Community plan document format and content
- Levels of community engagement required to appropriately inform the development of the Community plan.

The development of the latest iteration of the community plan has been undertaken by a group of volunteers that represents a wide cross section of the local community, including:

- Community and sporting groups
- Young families and residents
- Businesses and farmers
- Seniors, including retirees and elderly residents

Initially a review of the content and format of the plan was undertaken by the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group to ensure that the plan was suitably presented and that it included relevant data as required by the framework.

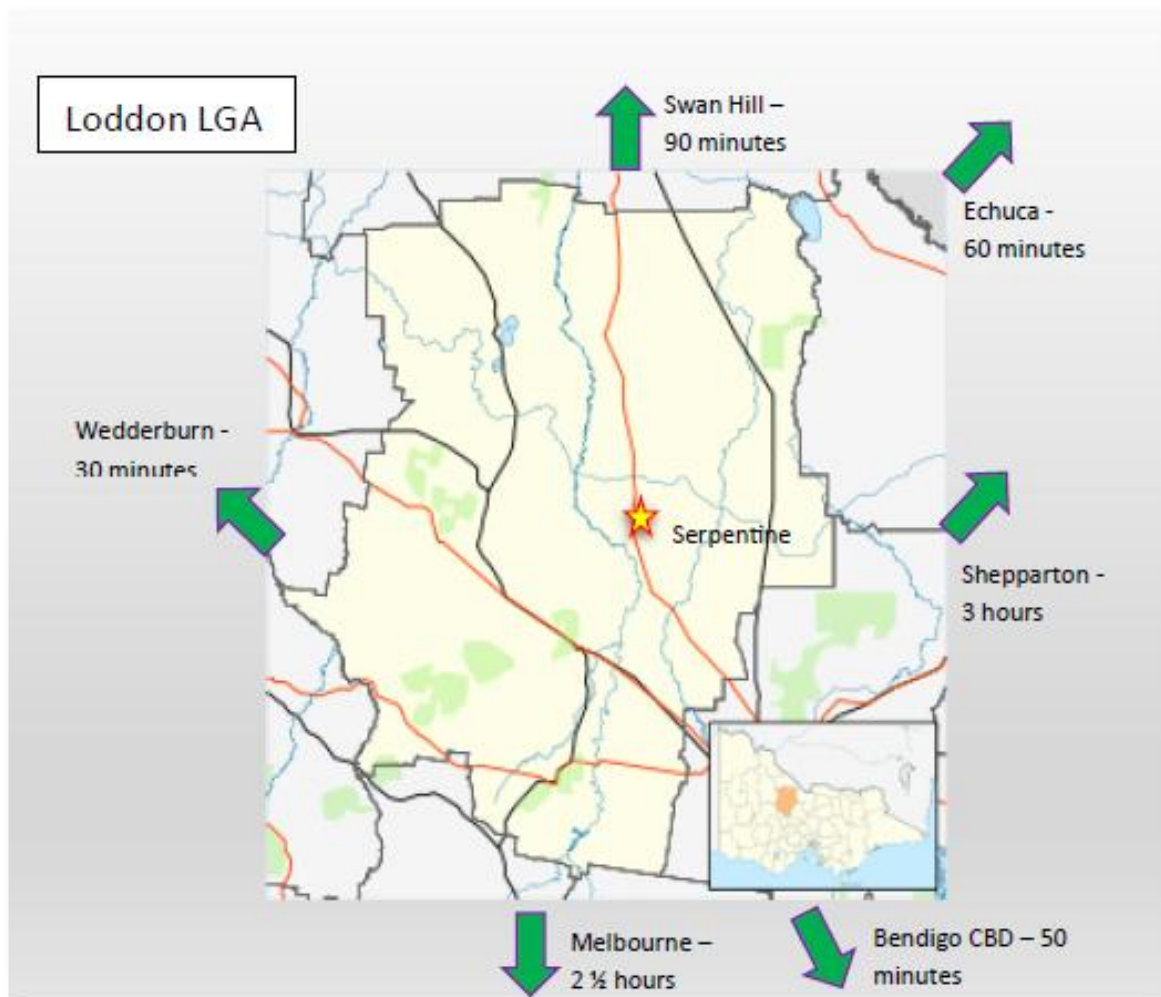
A critical component of a community plan is the demonstration that a broad community consultation and engagement process was undertaken to help identify key direction areas and priority actions. The Serpentine and District Community Planning Group developed a consultation and engagement plan to ensure that this process undertaken was inclusive of the whole community.

Part way through the implementation of the new plan, the Committee engaged Communityvibe and Iaimiga design studio to further review community priorities, edit the community plan and prepare designs for some of our priority projects.

The Serpentine and District Community Plan will be reviewed by the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group on a regular basis to ensure relevancy and status of identified actions and priority areas.

Our town and district

Serpentine is the geographical centre of the Loddon Shire and has a township and surrounding district consisting of 222 people (ABS census 2021). The surrounding farming population is amongst the most innovative, successful farmers in the state. Farming enterprises include dry land and irrigated cropping such as cereal growing and lucerne pastures, beef production, prime lambs and wool production. There is also a vineyard, an olive grove, Farm Pride Egg farm and a large piggery enterprise nearby at Bears Lagoon, all providing employment in the district. There has been increased productivity in the farming sector as a result of large investment in modern water efficient irrigation systems. Also, the addition of livestock farmers value adding with expansion of on farm beef and lamb grain finishing systems. The town is slowly growing and is expected to continue with the growth of Marong and Bridgewater flowing into Serpentine.



The township has strong and active sporting groups including tennis, football, netball and lawn bowls. Located only 50 kilometres from Bendigo, the area has access to superior educational facilities, job opportunities, sports and the arts. Serpentine has a playgroup, which is one of the oldest playgroups in Victoria and a Toy and Book Library, which also supports surrounding townships such as Calivil and Dingee. As Serpentine is located at the junction of the Loddon Valley Highway, Bridgewater Road and the Serpentine-Echuca Road, we live with a high volume of through-traffic, both day and night.

Our assets

















Our biggest assets are our people. They volunteer for our many groups and organisations; run and work in local businesses, farms and organisations; support events and activities; care for one another; are involved in learning; and proudly represent our community in many ways.

Our built assets, services / programs and natural assets include:



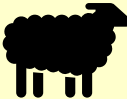









Built assets	Services / programs	Natural assets
Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) – including community facility, sports oval, netball courts and playground	Maternal and Child Health Service	Serpentine Creek, boat ramp, Serpentine Weir and Serpentine Weir Streamside Reserve
Serpentine Bowls and Tennis Complex	Playgroup	Loddon River
T J Rudkins Reserve (with public toilet and interpretive information)	Toy and Book Library	Serpentine Pon Bon Trail
Serpentine Shire Office and Depot	Sport – football, netball, tennis, bowls	Yarrayne tourist and camping reserve
5 Elderly Person’s units		Levee bank track
Post office		
Fuel station		
Police station		
Hotel (not currently operational)		
CFA		
Churches		
Yarrayne Cemetery		

Our people

The following table provides an overview of the Serpentine and district community (State Suburb) based on the last available Australian Bureau of Statistics Census¹ from 2021:

<p>Current population</p>  <p>222</p>	<p>Females</p>  <p>51.6%</p>	<p>Males</p>  <p>48.4%</p>	<p>Median age</p>  <p>40 years of age (compared with 38 years of age for Victoria)</p>
<p>Number of families</p>  <p>60</p>	<p>Average number of children per family</p>  <p>2.2</p>	<p>Number of dwellings</p>  <p>97</p>	<p>Average number of people per household</p>  <p>2.5</p>
<p>0-19 year olds (as a % of population)</p>  <p>29.8% (compared with 23.6% for Victoria)</p>	<p>20-39 year olds (as a % of population)</p>  <p>23.2% (compared with 28.8% for Victoria)</p>	<p>40-64 year olds (as a % of population)</p>  <p>31.9% (compared with 30.8% for Victoria)</p>	<p>People over 65 (as a % of population)</p>  <p>15.1% (compared with 16.8% for Victoria)</p>
<p>People born in Australia</p>  <p>82.0% (compared with 65.0% for Victoria)</p>	<p>Top countries of birth (other than Australia)</p>  <p>England, Mauritius, India</p>	<p>Languages spoken at home other than English</p>  <p>French</p>	<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (as a % of population)</p>  <p>0.0% (compared with 1.0% for Victoria)</p>

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021 Census QuickStats (Serpentine Suburbs and Localities): <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL22261>

<p>Those with a Bachelor degree or above</p>  <p>14.4% (compared with 29.2% of Victorians)</p>	<p>Top 5 occupations</p>  <p>Managers; Professionals; Labourers; Community and Personal Service Workers; and Clerical and Administrative Workers</p>	<p>Top 5 industries of employment</p>  <p>Grain-Sheep or Grain-Beef Cattle Farming; Fuel Retailing; Sheep Farming (Specialised); Secondary Education; Beef Cattle Farming (Specialised)</p>	<p>Median household weekly income</p>  <p>\$1,275 (compared with \$1,759 for Victoria)</p>
<p>Full time workers</p>  <p>45.9% (compared with 56.2% for Victorians)</p>	<p>Part time workers</p>  <p>38.5% (compared with 32.3% for Victorians)</p>	<p>Away from work</p>  <p>11.0% (compared with 6.5% for Victorians)</p>	<p>Unemployed</p>  <p>5.5% (compared with 5.0% for Victorians)</p>
<p>Voluntary work through an organisation or group in last 12 months</p>  <p>34.1% (compared with 13.3% for Victoria)</p>	<p>Long term health conditions</p>  <p>47.3% (compared with 31.4% of Victorians)</p>	<p>Average number of motor vehicles per dwelling</p>  <p>2.8 (compared with 1.8% for Victoria)</p>	<p>SEIFA Rating² for Serpentine in 2016</p>  <p>1006 (compared with 948 for Loddon Shire in 2021)</p>

² The Social Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) enables an assessment of the wellbeing of Australia census data to rank areas according to socio economic advantage and disadvantage. The census variables used cover a number of domains that reflect disadvantage, including income, education, employment, occupation and housing. A lower score on the index means a higher level of disadvantage. A ranking below 1000 can be considered as experiencing disadvantage. Source: Socio-economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) 2016, ABS 2018. <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/socio-economic-indexes-areas-seifa-australia/2021>

Strategic Context

Twenty-eight local strategies and plans have been reviewed to identify their potential impact on Serpentine in the future. These plans, and their relevant aspects are as follows:

1. Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) Master Plan 2009-2019

Key directions of this Master Plan include:

- Increase and expand use of Memorial Hall (new change and social rooms have since been developed)
- Encourage informal recreation, e.g. paths in and around the recreation reserve and linking to new and existing tracks about the town; as well as informal family-oriented recreation opportunities
- Update and maintain existing infrastructure, e.g. new multi-use surface on netball courts, resurface oval, install new sprinkler system, install drought resistant turf on the oval, maintain synthetic cricket pitch; junior playground; picnic seating; BBQ; storage for playgroup; improve oval lighting; access quality and sustainable water
- Improved landscaping, taking into consideration drought tolerant low maintenance plants; the eradication of Bindii; formalised entrance; traffic calming measures
- Improved governance of the recreation reserve.

2. Loddon Shire Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2022

This plan noted that the Serpentine public toilets have been upgraded to be universally accessible.

3. Loddon Shire Activating Open Spaces Strategy 2019-2024

This plan identified the need to upgrade the track condition and wayfinding on the Pon Bon Trail in Serpentine.

4. Loddon Shire Annual Plan 2021-2025

This plan noted the need to source funding to deliver flood mitigation works in Serpentine in 2022/23.

5. Loddon Shire Building Asset Management Plan 2022

This plan noted that both the Public Toilet at Rudkins Reserve and the Serpentine Shire Office are both Council controlled assets on Crown Land and that they require a review of the building control status.

6. Loddon Shire Council Plan / Community Vision 2021-2025

This plan noted the need to source funding to deliver flood mitigation works in Serpentine.

7. Loddon Shire Environmental Sustainability Strategy Action Plan 2013 – 2018

This plan identified as a high priority the need to seek external funding for the completion of a Township flood protection study in Serpentine, along with associated construction of levee banks or flood mitigation improvements.

8. Loddon Aboriginal Community Partnership Plan 2019-2022

This plan notes that Loddon Shire has been working with Dja Dja Wurrung to develop the canoe trail and promotional materials on the Loddon River and Serpentine Creek. It also recommends that the Aboriginal flag be flown at the Serpentine Council Office for the duration of National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.

9. Loddon Shire Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2020

This plan noted that Serpentine was inundated with flood water during the 2011 floods. It also notes that the Serpentine Council Office is listed as a secondary Municipal Operations Centre (after the Wedderburn office).

10. Loddon Shire Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan 2023

This plan notes that Serpentine Recreation Reserve (a portion of the oval – southeast corner) was designated as a Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) in 2012. It states that The Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has been granted consent for the area to be used and has agreed to maintain the area as per CFA maintenance requirements. Council maintains all signage relating to the NSP.

11. Loddon Shire Recreation Open Space and Aquatic Strategy 2024

This strategy recommends maintaining the Serpentine Recreation Reserve; maintaining TJ Rudkins Reserve; maintaining Serpentine canoe trail; considering opportunities to enhance shared facility use between bowls and tennis as a short-term priority; and reviewing the bowls playing surface and lighting options as an aspirational priority. It notes that the lighting at the football oval and netball courts has been beneficial for players at Serpentine Recreation Reserve.

12. Loddon Shire Recreational Leisure and Community Facilities Asset Management Plan 2022

This plan notes that the bowls and tennis facilities in Serpentine are on land owned by Council and managed through a management agreement with user groups.

13. Loddon Shire Road Asset Management Plan 2021-2025

This plan noted that the width of various sections of the Echuca Serpentine Rd (i.e. Logan Kingower Rd and Sebastian Rd) are narrower than that prescribed in the Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) for indicative maximum traffic volumes. It states that the roads above are anecdotally under capacity and that they need to be assessed against traffic volumes and referred to the rolling program for consideration and prioritisation as upgrade capital works (i.e. widening).

14. Loddon Shire Road Management Plan 2025

This plan lists the Bridgewater-Serpentine Road as a main road managed by the Department of Transport and Planning.

15. Loddon Shire Rural Zones Review 2012

This plan notes that “there is a high risk of agricultural land being lost to lifestyle development along the Loddon River between Serpentine and Eddington. This area is within half an hour of Bendigo and very attractive due to the river. It is also some of the best quality agricultural land in the area, with a number of very significant agricultural businesses including viticulture, horticulture and dairy. Non-agricultural land use in this area would pose a significant threat to these businesses, and significant commitment will be required to ensure housing is restricted to that essential to enhancing agricultural activity.”

16. Loddon Shire Settlement Strategy 2019-2034

This strategy notes that in 2019 there were 22 vacant land parcels in Serpentine covering an area of 150 hectares. This equates to 40 years of housing supply. Potential areas for growth include east of the highway in line with the recreation reserve and west of the intersection between Bridgewater-Serpentine Road and the highway. However, the strategy notes that the extent of the urban area in some towns (e.g. Serpentine) should be reviewed due to flood risk. It notes that reticulated treated water is available, but no sewer.

17. Loddon Shire Social Infrastructure Strategy 2024

This strategy identified the key social infrastructure assets of Serpentine and those that are within a 15- and 30-minute drive.

18. Loddon Shire Economic Development Strategy 2025-2029

This strategy lists several relevant Council priorities:

- Prepare a 'business support package' proposal to Council with modest financial support for businesses needing investment incentives (involving a possible mix of rate relief, infrastructure provision or support, and/or small capital works contributions).
- Contribute to development and delivery of Local Community Plans place making activities to support business development and viability.
- Identify priority services, infrastructure and development in southern areas of Loddon required to service the potential growth in the area due to Bendigo Regional Employment
- Support the implementation of township structure plans and/or relevant urban design frameworks through business case development that attracts funding support for high quality urban design and streetscape improvement works.
- Audit and improve township and way finding signage to showcase attractions and retail precincts in key settlements to boost visitor experience and place identity.
- Advocate for renewable energy projects and infrastructure that will enable Loddon to leverage opportunities associated with its natural resource endowment, particularly solar.

The following Council plans were also reviewed, but made no reference was made to Serpentine:

19. Loddon Shire Asset Management Plan 2022
20. Loddon Shire Bridges and Major Culverts Asset Management Plan 2022
21. Loddon Shire Footpath Asset Management Plan 2021
22. Loddon Shire Municipal Early Years Plan 2014-2017
23. Loddon Shire Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
24. Loddon Shire Parks Open Spaces and Streetscape Asset Management Plan 2022
25. Loddon Shire Roadside Management Plan 2018
26. Loddon Shire Stormwater Drainage Asset Management Plan 2022
27. Loddon Shire Visitor Economy Strategy 2025-2030
28. Loddon Shire Waste Management Strategy 2020-2030.

Issues and opportunities

A SWOT analysis was undertaken with the Serpentine Community Planning Committee to help formulate the direction of the community plan. This SWOT analysis identified the following issues and opportunities of relevance to Serpentine:

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active community. • Innovative community. • Lots of young families with children. • Strategically located with roads leading to Bendigo, Swan Hill, Echuca and Bridgewater. • Accessible to Bendigo, Melbourne and Melbourne airport. • Ground water is available, creating a level of water security. • Agriculture provides employment opportunities locally. • Creek and river provide both water and recreational opportunities such as fishing and boating. • Quality school (East Loddon P-12) accessible to local families but also access to Bendigo schools. • Quality recreation reserve with new pavilion. • Range of sport and recreation opportunities. • Community car available to transport community members to medical appointments. • Loddon Shire Council is proactive and receptive to ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of flooding in the town if the riverbank breaks. • Residential growth is limited due to potential for flooding in certain areas and septic system requirements. • Serpentine can go under Loddon Shire Council's radar due to the fact that it is not a retail centre like larger towns in the municipality. • The speed limit in town is considered to be too high, especially as many motorists do not slow down to the existing designated speed limit. • No childcare available in Serpentine (which can impact children's development / socialisation and carer's ability to work or study). • New residents to the town don't necessarily become involved in the community. • The boat ramp can get very busy, potentially causing damage to the environment. • There is no toilet at the tennis club so players need to cross the busy highway to use the toilets in the park. • The Serpentine Hotel has been closed for some time – this doesn't create an image of progress / activity. • Playgroup and Toy Library operate from a shed – ideally would be in a fit for purpose building. • Potential safety issue due to poor visibility as vehicles leave the service station. • Lack of connected paths in the town. • Town centre could be made more attractive.

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to develop farm gate sales to sell local produce to residents and visitors. • Potential to demolish Council building to expand the size of the existing park. • Explore opportunities to develop community septic system option as an alternative to a sewer. • Develop overnight parking for truck drivers. • Promote Serpentine as a viable alternative to housing in Marong and Bridgewater. • Develop walking trails and cycling trails at key location including Pon Bon. • Develop swimming area in the river with a staircase. • Install town signage. • Funding is available through environmental water sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought. • Floods. • Volunteer burn out. • Sheep theft (need police presence). • Some groups struggle to form a Committee of Management (e.g. playgroup).

Community engagement

The Serpentine community was actively involved in the development of this community plan. Community engagement activities undertaken by the Serpentine Community Planning Committee included:

Target group	Activity	Outcomes
General community	<p>A meet and greet session was held at the Serpentine Hall to seek ideas for the community plan on 11 February 2024. The session was advertised via a letterbox drop and through advertisements placed in Loddon Herald and East Loddon Community News.</p> <p>A survey was also delivered to every resident by mail drop and made available online.</p>	<p>A total of 16 people attended the meet and greet workshop session in 2024 (including young people, parents with young children and older adults). Key areas identified at this session (which are expanded upon in the Appendix) included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic • Parks and • Services • Social events • Sporting clubs • Tourism • Town beautification • Other. <p>21 surveys were completed by local residents in 2021. Key ideas identified through the surveys included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food – more local eateries / cafes (2), supermarket, community-run café / coffee stop / pub (2), • Childcare (2) • Social – a picnic area by the playground, social meeting spot / community hub – as the pub has closed (2), bingo night, more community activities, more entertainment, community BBQ twice per year • Recreation Reserve – fence around the playground, install a BBQ • Recreation – walking track – along the river and to picnic areas(4), outdoor exercise equipment (4), swimming pool (3), off leash dog park, a proper playground • Transport – more footpaths (3), community bus twice per week • Maintenance – better maintenance / improvement of footpaths (2), weed control – on road verges and walking areas (3) • Businesses – reopen pub (3), bakery

Target group	Activity	Outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism – RV friendly campsites, markets • Environment – regeneration of Pon Bon • Appearance – improve the townscape (2), finish the lawn near the roadhouse, finish installing irrigation • Built infrastructure – sell Council office • Signage – update some of the signage
Older people	Older people were visited by members of the Serpentine Community Planning Committee during January 2024.	<p>A total of 2 older people were visited in their homes. Key ideas suggested by older people included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free caravan / RV park • Identify historical locations • Improve signage • Improve Recreation Reserve • Worker accommodation • Promote fire brigade training • Drum muster • Utilise Shire Offices for historical society, information centre, coffee shop • Picnic Day – Serpentine races • Barefoot bowls
Community groups	15 community groups were sent emails and asked to suggest ideas for the community plan	<p>A total of 1 email response was received from a community groups. Key ideas suggested by Serpentine Playgroup included: Undertake a complete upgrade of the playground at the recreation reserve or the playground on the main road. Upgrade to include accessible rubber matting, 2 different sized slides, swings with toddler and adult seats, in-ground trampolines, accessible carousel, flying fox, toddler section, water play (hand pump and small concrete channel system), chat board with visuals for non-speaking children, accessible toilets with baby change / nursing area, better signage on main road.</p>
Key stakeholders	Discussions were held with Loddon Shire Council during the preparation of the community plan.	Loddon Shire supports the Community Plan.

Information obtained from the community engagement activities held during January 2024 was used to identify key projects for the Serpentine and District community. A community plan was subsequently produced.

The community plan was reviewed by external consultants in late 2025 to assess priorities and to undertake further planning of initiatives identified in the first iteration of the plan. Once a revised plan was produced, an additional engagement session was held with the Serpentine Community Planning Committee by external consultants to retest the priority projects identified. Following this workshop, the community plan was amended accordingly.

Vision, objectives and actions

The vision, objectives and actions selected have been identified by members of our community through consultation.

Vision

The vision describes our ideal community and what we are aiming to achieve.

Serpentine and District is a vibrant, active, inclusive and sustainable rural community that contributes to a prosperous and progressive Shire.

Objectives

Seven key objectives have been developed to help the community achieve our vision. These objectives are as follows:

Objective	Theme	Details
1	Township appearance	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all.
2	Public spaces and information	Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present.
3	Walking and cycling	Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.
4	Sport and recreation	Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections.
5	Safety	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
6	Environmental sustainability	Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability.
7	Social connections	Support opportunities for social connections to be developed and enhanced within the community.

Actions

A series of actions have been developed to enable us to achieve our objectives. These actions have been prioritised based on a realistic understanding of the amount of time and effort required to complete them. Actions have been included where they:

- Are likely to benefit the broader community from a social, physical, economic and / or environmental perspective, and involve the community in planning, operations or management
- Will rectify existing infrastructure that is currently in a very poor state or beyond repair
- Are likely to attract external funding
- Are within the resource capacity of the community to achieve
- Enhance the appearance and usability of the site, e.g. improved landscaping, marked car parking bays etc
- Involve a number of partners to assist with funding and / or operations, management and maintenance.

The actions and their timelines may be subject to change after consultation with other parties such as the Loddon Shire Council.

Objective 1: Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all

Action	Install new town signage on roads leading into Serpentine
Project description / rationale	New town signage to be developed for each of the incoming roads into Serpentine, i.e. from Bendigo and Swan Hill and Bridgewater to Echuca. Town signage may incorporate key features of Serpentine, e.g. sheep, kelpies, aeroplane (in recognition of the air race held in 1920), lucerne, or a serpentine. It could feature red gum, steel or handmade orange bricks
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to design and install signs.
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Develop a township vegetation plan in partnership with Loddon Shire that details what types of vegetation should be planted where, and how weeds will be managed.
Project description / rationale	Serpentine currently has an eclectic mix of plant species throughout public spaces and alongside roadways in the town, but there is no consistent theme. A plan which details suitable low maintenance vegetation for nature strips, parks, Pon Bon Reserve and alongside roadways would assist in creating a more uniform look and ensure that plantings are likely to thrive in local conditions. The plan needs to consider how weeds (e.g. Bindiis) will be managed in public open spaces such as the recreation reserve.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action ▪ Landcare ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to purchase, plant and maintain vegetation
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Support the redevelopment of the roadhouse precinct to incorporate landscaping with clear lines of vision, outdoor seating and a formalised parking area.
Project description / rationale	<p>The roadhouse precinct attracts a high volume of vehicles and trucks. Motorists stop to refuel and / or to purchase food and beverages. It is the only business consistently open in town (the post office has limited operating hours). The existing aesthetics of this site could be improved through some landscaping, formalised parking areas and more outdoor seating.</p> <p>The existing hedge planted between the roadhouse and the Loddon Valley Highway obscures traffic coming from the Swan Hill direction. This hedge needs to be modified or removed as it impacts safety of vehicle occupants.</p>
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roadhouse owners
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to improve landscaping, formalise parking and purchase outdoor seating
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Establish an official truck stopping bay south of roadhouse on the Loddon Valley Highway, incorporating signage and permanent bins.
Project description / rationale	Currently trucks park at the roadhouse, or unofficially in an area south of the roadhouse next to the Loddon Valley Highway for a break or an overnight stay. To improve safety and amenity, an official truck stop should be developed south of the roadhouse.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to develop an official truck stop.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Undertake discussions with the Serpentine community regarding the future use of the hotel and the post office to determine if these facilities could be reopened as a hotel, café or other type of community space.
Project description / rationale	<p>The existing hotel in Serpentine closed a number of years ago. It holds a prominent position in the town and members of the community frequently mention their desire to see it operation once more so that they can have a space to socialise and meet. Similarly, the post office used to contain a general store and post office function. Currently it only opens in the capacity of a post office for very limited hours each week. There are no other retail facilities in Serpentine, other than the roadhouse.</p> <p>Many small country Victorian towns such as Lockington, Colbinabbin, Sea Lake and Yackandandah have community owned facilities such as hotels, general stores and fuel stations. It would be good to test the appetite of the local community to determine if a community ownership model for the hotel and / or the post office (as a café or general store) is desirable.</p>
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members of other small towns with community ownership models to advise on processes
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Locally sourced funds to re-open the hotel and / or the post office as a cafe
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Liaise with Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA) to remove peppercorn trees on the north-west edge of Serpentine and to the north of the oval at the Recreation Reserve.
Project description / rationale	The peppercorn trees (Schinus molle) located on the north-west edge of Serpentine and north of the oval at the Recreation Reserve are considered to be an invasive environmental weed that competes with native plants. The community would like the peppercorn trees removed.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA)
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee member time to liaise with DEECA
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Objective 2: Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present.

Action	Undertake discussions with Loddon Shire Council to investigate the repurposing of the Council Office and the Council Depot next to Rudkins Reserve, with the view to potentially converting part or all of it to community space.
Project description / rationale	The existing Shire Council Office next to Rudkins Reserve receives only minimal use. The majority of community activities requiring function or meeting space occur at the Community Hub at the Recreation Reserve or in the bowls club pavilion. The community would like to explore the potential to repurpose the Council Office and the Council Depot with Loddon Shire Council. Options for repurposing may include retaining the main building for community use and a community café, whilst demolishing add-on components such as the veranda and the shed. Another option to explore is the demolition of all of the buildings and the conversion of this space to added parkland for Rudkins Reserve (which is already a popular toilet and rest stop for motorists travelling between Melbourne / Bendigo and Swan Hill). The expanded reserve could feature some play equipment themed to reflect the air race held in Serpentine in 1920 (as per the interpretive information already available in the reserve). There may also be opportunities for a local market or coffee / food vans to service this site.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to meet with Council initially. Then potentially funds to undertake agreed works.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Install a noticeboard at Rudkins Reserve alongside the current historical information. This noticeboard should incorporate walking maps and will also enable local groups and organisations to promote local businesses, events and activities to both residents and visitors.
Project description / rationale	A professionally displayed noticeboard will be able to promote local businesses, events and activities to residents and visitors. It will help to increase participation in events and activities and strengthen the economy.
Project partners	Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to purchase and install the noticeboard and committee time in managing the noticeboard.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Develop a walking / cycling trail map that highlights key points of interest throughout Serpentine.
Project description / rationale	The proposed walking / cycling trail map should feature information about the location of walking / cycling trails, historic points, playgrounds, public toilets, river access, EV charger location and local businesses. It should be available online and as a hard copy in key locations such as the roadhouse, Wedderburn Visitor Information Centre, Bendigo Visitor Information Centre and other relevant locations. It may be necessary to develop the map in stages, in alignment with the development of new walking / cycling trails.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ East Loddon Historical Society
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to design the map and to develop hard copies of the map
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Objective 3: Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.

Action	Audit the existing footpaths in Serpentine with the view to providing a linked network of footpaths connecting people from their homes to key infrastructure.
Project description / rationale	Footpaths enable local residents to use active transport (rather than cars) to access recreational facilities, retail facilities (e.g. roadhouse and post office), social infrastructure (e.g. halls) and the homes of family / friends. The current footpath network through Serpentine is disjointed and features a number of gaps (e.g. police station to post office). A clear network of paths enables safer access for older adults and those with wheelchairs, walkers and prams. Identify key locations for the installation of seating along the paths, e.g. roadhouse, post office and at regular intervals.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Department of Transport and Planning
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to develop and maintain new footpaths (expected to be included in the annual Council budget)
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Upgrade the walking trail along the edge of Serpentine Creek (levee bank) and link it to Serpentine Weir, Pon Bon, Rudkins Reserve and the township network of paths, incorporating historical and interpretive information.
Project description / rationale	Each of the proposed locations listed above should be linked and packaged into one long walk / cycle, with various loops included to provide shorter walks / rides. A trail of this nature provides opportunities for local residents and visitors to exercise and enjoy the natural environment, whilst learning about local history, geology, water formations, flora and fauna. A trail head sign should be developed at Rudkins Reserve, showing all of the trails in Serpentine.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ East Loddon Historical Society
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to design, construct, install signage and maintain the trail.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Explore the feasibility of developing a new 7km off-road trail from the town centre to Yarrayne Cemetery
Project description / rationale	An off-road trail from the centre of Serpentine to Yarrayne Cemetery would provide walkers and cyclists a longer trail for fitness, but also an interesting destination to travel to. Land adjacent to the Loddon Valley Highway (a VicRoads road) will need to be obtained in order for this trail to proceed. Alternatively, land may be able to be leased or purchased from landowners next to the Loddon Valley Highway for this purpose.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yarrayne Cemetery Committee of Management ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to determine the feasibility, and if considered feasible, funds for design, construct, install signage and maintain the trail.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety

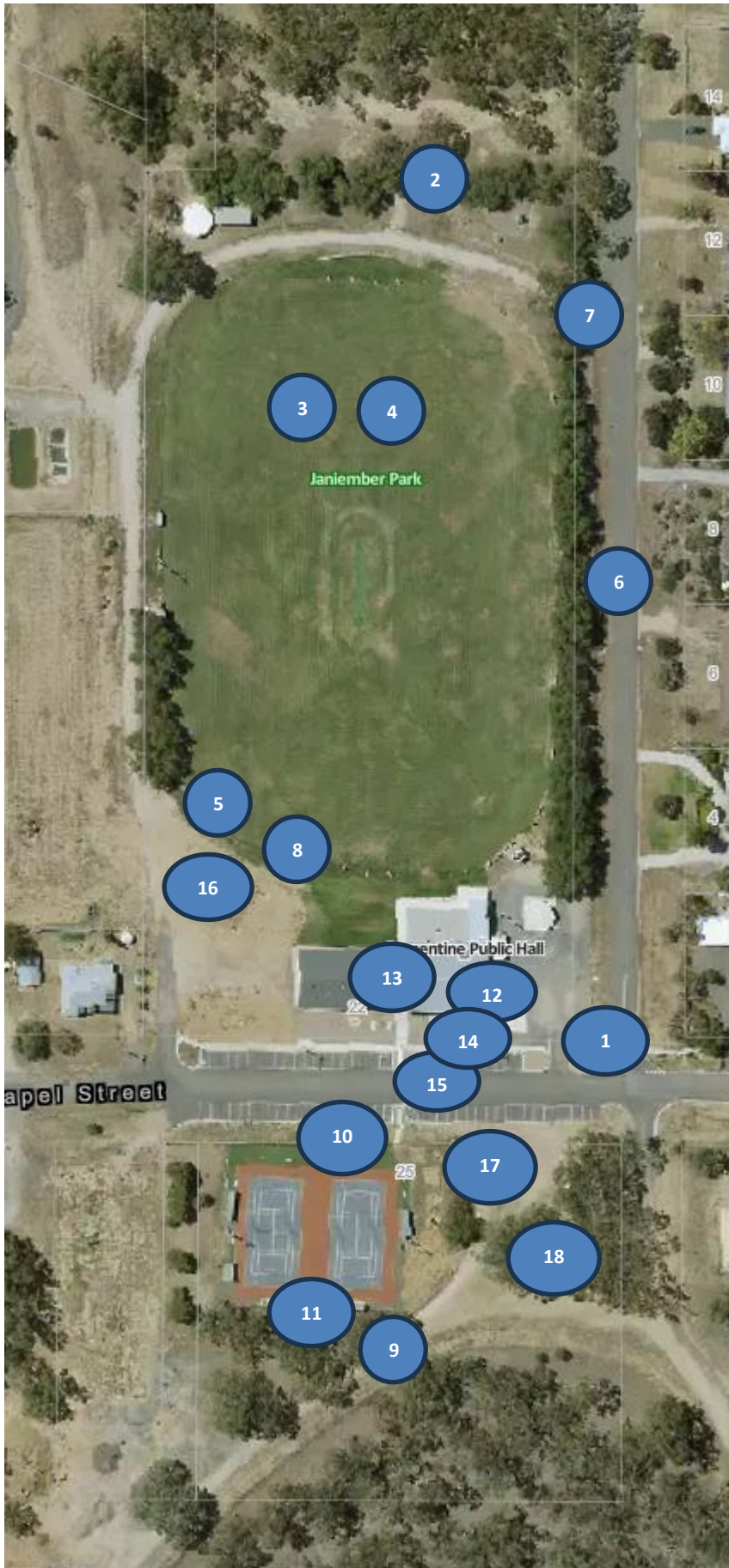


Objective 4: Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections

<p>Action</p>	<p>Upgrade Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) to better meet the needs of existing and future user groups</p>
<p>Project description</p>	<p>This project has multiple facets and has a 10-year time frame attached to works:</p> <p>Janiember Park Road Entrance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace and upgrade the park entrance shelter to be attractive, safe, large and comfortable enough for multiple people to sit in during bad weather when taking admission fees. <p>Sports oval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plant drought tolerant grasses over-sown with rye grass to provide a year-round green playing surface ▪ Upgrade the irrigation system on the oval to ensure even watering of the ground ▪ Install 2 new coach's boxes on the perimeter of the oval ▪ Construct a new fence around the perimeter of the oval ▪ Install a new electronic scoreboard next to the oval which is capable of screening movies for the broader community and visitors to the area as well as promote sponsors and various educational messages. ▪ Plant trees at the southern end of the oval to provide more shade for spectators. ▪ Consider removing some peppercorns from east side of the oval to improve visibility and parking opportunities. <p>Hard courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct 2 additional hard courts line marked for tennis and construct a fence around the perimeter ▪ Install seating around the netball courts ▪ Install two removal basketball poles with backboards / nets on one of the netball courts over the summer. <p>Community hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Install additional solar panels on the roof of the Community Hub to help reduce electricity bills ▪ Install shelving in the storage room to enable more efficient use of space by user groups ▪ Improve landscaping around the iron statue and the nature strip along the entrance to the Community Hub <p>Roadway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Install a zebra crossing across the road that separates the netball courts at Janiember Park from the club rooms to improve safety for all, including children <p>Play spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upgrade and expand the existing play space so that it caters for children of all ages and erect picnic tables nearby

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelop the existing play spaces near the netball courts and north of the oval as nature play spaces <p>North end toilets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade toilets north of the oval and include baby change and accessible toilet to cater for informal recreation, Serpentine Creek Trail users and overnight caravanners in this space. Clear trees to enable this development.
Project rationale	Janiember Park is the key sport and recreation precinct in Serpentine. Whilst there have been some major improvements undertaken at the Park in recent years, e.g. construction of the Community Hub (with social and change facilities) and new lights on the oval and netball courts, there are other aspects of the Park that still require upgrades to improve the quality of opportunities available; to limit operational costs and generate revenue; and to decrease the maintenance burden on volunteers.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) Committee of Management Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club Serpentine Playgroup Serpentine Tennis Club Loddon Shire
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds, including grants and local fundraising, will be required in order to realise the majority of these projects. Some volunteer labour may be provided by local residents for some projects where appropriate.
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety





Proposed projects:

Janiember Park Road Entrance

1. Replace and upgrade the park entrance shelter

Oval

2. Upgrade toilets, install nature play, remove peppercorns and develop RV camping
3. Upgrade oval surface
4. Upgrade irrigation system
5. Install 2 new coach's boxes
6. Construct new fence
7. Install new scoreboard
8. Plant trees

Hard courts

9. Construct 2 new courts line marked for tennis with fencing
10. Install seats
11. Install removable basketball rings

Community Hub

12. Install solar panels
13. Install shelving
14. Landscaping

Roadway

15. Install zebra crossing

Play spaces

16. Upgrade existing play space
17. Develop nature-based play near netball courts.

Lawn bowls

18. Potential site for lawn bowls with club house

Action	Relocate Serpentine Tennis Club to Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) supported by the construction of 2 hardcourts with fencing, lights and a basic clubhouse to be shared with netball.
Project description / rationale	This relocation would enable the tennis club to be part of the Serpentine sports precinct; to share clubhouse facilities with netball; and to reduce maintenance and watering requirements by replacing lawn courts with hard courts.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to develop the two hard courts, install lights, develop a basic clubroom, construct fencing and demolish the existing tennis club sheds.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Undertake minor upgrades to lawn bowls facilities to improve social and change rooms, fencing and lighting (with the potential long-term plan of relocating to Janiember Park).
Project description / rationale	<p>This project involves a number of components:</p> <p>Bowls pavilion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade the existing bowls club room to make it more functional <p>Bowls Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the existing lighting and replace with 2 new lights on 2 light poles that have been donated by Bendigo Bowls Club Install a new front fence. <p>Should the bowls club not choose to relocate to Janiember Park in the future, the existing lawn bowls green will need to be upgraded to a synthetic surface.</p>
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serpentine Bowls Club Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to upgrade the bowls pavilion, install lights and develop fencing.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Undertake discussions with the Serpentine Bowls Club regarding a potential future relocation to Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) supported by the construction of a synthetic bowls green with lights and sharing of a basic clubhouse with tennis and netball.
Project description / rationale	This relocation would enable the bowls club to be part of the Serpentine sports precinct; to share club house facilities with tennis and netball; and to reduce maintenance and watering requirements by replacing the lawn bowls surface with a synthetic surface. If the bowls club chooses not to relocate to the Recreation Reserve, its existing lawn bowls green should be replaced with a synthetic surface.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Bowls Club ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to develop the synthetic green, install lights, develop a basic clubroom, construct fencing and demolish the existing bowls pavilion.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Objective 5: Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.

Action	Advocate to the Department of Transport and Planning to reduce speed limits within the township
Project description / rationale	Residents are concerned that some motorists do not currently slow down much when travelling through the town. A reduction in the current speed limit supported by new signage (potentially green traffic warning signs to reduce speed or signs with flashing lights), need to be explored with Department of Transport and Planning.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council (assist with advocacy)
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to advocate, i.e. write letters, attend meetings.
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Advocate to the Department of Transport and Planning / VicRoads to undertake a safety assessment of the main intersection in town (in front of the Post Office and the Service Station) and to identify a suitable road management solution.
Project description / rationale	Over the next 10 years, the amount of traffic (road trains, vehicles towing caravans, vehicles towing boats and large machinery) traveling through Serpentine is anticipated to increase. There is concern from local residents that the main intersection in town (in front of the Post Office and Service Station) needs a suitable road management solution (e.g. a roundabout or a slip road) to improve safety for all road users.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning / VicRoads ▪ Loddon Shire Council (assist with advocacy)
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to advocate, i.e. write letters.
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Reinforce the flood levee bank to reduce the risk of flooding in Serpentine town centre.
Project description / rationale	A reinforced flood levy bank will help to protect the town from inundation during flood events.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Victorian Government ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to advocate, i.e. write letters, attend meetings.
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Advocate to the Victorian Government for the police station in Serpentine to be staffed at all times to improve safety for residents and visitors and to act as a deterrent to criminal behaviour
Project description / rationale	A greater police presence in town may provide more resources to monitor speeding in the town and to potentially address criminal behaviour such as sheep theft.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Victorian Government ▪ Victoria Police ▪ Loddon Shire Council (support advocacy)
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to advocate, i.e. write letters, attend meetings.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Advocate for regular maintenance of the Yarrayne Cemetery access road and undertake weed and pest control within the cemetery
Project description / rationale	<p>The Yarrayne Cemetery is situated 7km south of the township along a dirt road connected to the Loddon Valley Highway. The dirt road needs to be maintained regularly in order to provide access for funerals and people visiting the cemetery. It is currently in poor condition.</p> <p>Weeds and pests (e.g. rabbits) are an issue at the cemetery. A regular program of weed and pest control needs to be undertaken to ensure that the cemetery does not become overgrown with weeds and full of rabbit holes.</p>
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yarrayne Cemetery Committee of Management ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to undertake maintenance of the dirt road and to implement weed and pest control measures.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety

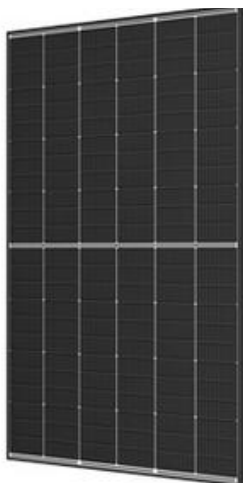


Objective 6: Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability

Action	Explore opportunities for refuelling of vehicles in Serpentine in the future using renewable sources
Project description / rationale	With a greater number of electric vehicles on the road and new technologies being developed, consideration should be given to providing refuelling opportunities in Serpentine using renewable sources. Serpentine is 2.5 hours from Melbourne and 1.5 hours from Swan Hill, so is in an ideal location for both a break and refuelling. Rudkins Reserve is one potential site to investigate as there are toilet facilities, a BBQ, picnic tables and interpretive information. The roadhouse may be another option.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ VicRoads ▪ RACV ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Funds to purchase, install and maintain renewable refuelling infrastructure
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Action	Seek opportunities as they arise for grass roots energy efficiency projects that would benefit the Serpentine community
Project description / rationale	With the rising cost of electricity there may be an opportunity for the Serpentine community to take part in projects that provide more cost-effective and sustainable energy efficiency initiatives for those living in or near the township, e.g. solar power and batteries for storage of electricity.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to identify and take part in suitable projects. Potentially costs to residents who purchase energy efficient products.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



1: Solar panel and battery - RACV website:

https://www.racv.com.au/home/solar/panels.html?gclid=aw.ds&&cmpid=solar:sem&gad_source=5&gad_campaignid=22727137165&gclid=EAlaIqobChMIwcnNmMyjkwMVBKImAh191TrfEAAYAiAAEgIQ4PD_BwE

Action	Explore current and emerging recycling opportunities that would benefit the environment and the people of Serpentine.
Project description / rationale	Many people in the community have a strong ethos for recycling. Consideration should be given to implementing recycling programs such as the Victorian Container Deposit Scheme and the bagMUSTER program for single use agricultural plastic bag recycling.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Committee time to explore recycling opportunities
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Relevant objective	Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability
Categories	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



2: Image sourced from Container Deposit Scheme website: <https://cdsvic.org.au/>

Objective 7: Support opportunities for social connections to be developed and enhanced within the community

Action	Liaise with local businesses and community groups to facilitate / support regular events to provide additional activities for local residents, promote social connections and reduce social isolation.
Project description	<p>Facilitate / support the following annual community events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Valley Stud Merinos Field Day at the Recreation Reserve in February – expand this to be more inclusive of families ▪ Serpentine Auction / Brick a Brack Sale in October – reinstate this event. This event will incorporate stalls on the oval e.g. car boot sales, clearing sales, cake stalls, plant stalls, music, kids foot races etc. Opportunity for local groups and clubs to raise funds for themselves e.g. % of each sale to be paid to the organising club/committee ▪ Christmas Tree celebration in December. <p>Consider new events, e.g. lamb and olive festival, long lunch.</p>
Project rationale	Events provide opportunities for local residents to get to know one another, enjoy activities and reduce their social isolation. Events also provide opportunities for local clubs / organisations to raise funds and can encourage visitation from other areas, thereby contributing to the local economy.
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Valley Stud Merino Committee ▪ Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Serpentine Bowls Club ▪ Serpentine Playgroup ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Serpentine CFA ▪ Loddon Shire Council
Responsibility of SCPG	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support
Resources required	Volunteer time to coordinate events and funding for various components.
Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
Relevant objective	Support opportunities for social connections to be developed and enhanced within the community.
Categories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Services <input type="checkbox"/> Safety



Summary of actions

Action	Role	Partners	Priority
Objective 1: Enhance the appearance of the town centre to create a more welcoming, accessible and functional environment for all			
Install new town signage on roads leading into Serpentine.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	High
Develop a township vegetation plan in partnership with Loddon Shire that details what types of vegetation should be planted where, and how weeds will be managed.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action ▪ Landcare ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority 	High
Support the redevelopment of the roadhouse precinct to incorporate landscaping with clear lines of vision, outdoor seating and a formalised parking area.	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roadhouse owners 	High
Establish an official truck stopping bay south of roadhouse on the Loddon Valley Highway, incorporating signage and permanent bins.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Undertake discussions with the Serpentine community regarding the future use of the hotel and the post office to determine if these facilities could be reopened as a hotel, café or other type of community space.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members of other small towns with community ownership models to advise on processes 	Medium
Liaise with Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA) to remove peppercorn trees on the north-west edge of Serpentine and to the north of the oval at the Recreation Reserve.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA) 	Medium

Action	Role	Partners	Priority
Objective 2: Expand Rudkins Reserve to become a community gathering space and a source of community information from the past to the present			
Undertake discussions with Loddon Shire Council to investigate the repurposing of the Council Office and the Council Depot next to Rudkins Reserve, with the view to potentially converting part or all of it to community space.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Install a noticeboard at Rudkins Reserve alongside the current historical information. This noticeboard should incorporate walking maps and will also enable local groups and organisations to promote local businesses, events and activities to both residents and visitors.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ 	Medium
Develop a walking / cycling trail map that highlights key points of interest throughout Serpentine.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ East Loddon Historical Society 	Medium
Objective 3: Develop additional walking and cycling opportunities within Serpentine to enable safe commuting and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors to the area.			
Audit the existing footpaths in Serpentine with the view to providing a linked network of footpaths connecting people from their homes to key infrastructure.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Department of Transport and Planning 	High
Upgrade the walking trail along the edge of Serpentine Creek (levee bank) and link it to Serpentine Weir, Pon Bon, Rudkins Reserve and the township network of paths, incorporating historical and interpretive information.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ East Loddon Historical Society ▪ 	Medium
Explore the feasibility of developing a new 7km off-road trail from the town centre to Yarrayne Cemetery.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yarrayne Cemetery Committee of Management ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Low

Action	Role	Partners	Priority
Objective 4: Further enhance sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local residents in terms of physical activity and social connections			
Upgrade Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) to better meet the needs of existing and future user groups (refer to list of projects in this plan).	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) Committee of Management ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Serpentine Playgroup ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	High Medium Low
Relocate Serpentine Tennis Club to Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) supported by the construction of 2 hardcourts with fencing, lights and a basic clubhouse to be shared with netball.	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Undertake minor upgrades to lawn bowls facilities to improve social and change rooms, fencing and lighting (with the potential long-term plan of relocating to Janiember Park).	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Bowls Club ▪ Bendigo Bowls Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Undertake discussions with the Serpentine Bowls Club regarding a potential future relocation to Janiember Park (Serpentine Recreation Reserve) supported by the construction of a synthetic bowls green with lights and sharing of a basic clubhouse with tennis and netball.	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Bowls Club ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Low
Objective 5: Improve safety for people living in or visiting the township and outlying rural areas.			
Advocate to the Department of Transport and Planning to reduce speed limits within the township.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning ▪ Loddon Shire Council (assist with advocacy) 	High

Action	Role	Partners	Priority
Advocate to the Department of Transport and Planning / VicRoads to undertake a safety assessment of the main intersection in town (in front of the Post Office and the Service Station) and to identify a suitable road management solution.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Transport and Planning / VicRoads ▪ Loddon Shire Council (assist with advocacy) 	High
Reinforce the flood levee bank to reduce the risk of flooding in Serpentine town centre.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Shire Council ▪ Victorian Government ▪ North Central Catchment Management Authority 	High
Advocate to the Victorian Government for the police station in Serpentine to be staffed at all times to improve safety for residents and visitors and to act as a deterrent to criminal behaviour.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Victorian Government ▪ Victoria Police ▪ Loddon Shire Council (support advocacy) 	Medium
Advocate for regular maintenance of the Yarrayne Cemetery access road and undertake weed and pest control within the cemetery.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yarrayne Cemetery Committee of Management ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Objective 6: Implement initiatives that encourage and enhance environmental sustainability			
Explore opportunities for refuelling of vehicles in Serpentine in the future using renewable sources.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ VicRoads ▪ RACV ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Seek opportunities as they arise for grass roots energy efficiency projects that would benefit the Serpentine community.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Explore current and emerging recycling opportunities that would benefit the environment and the people of Serpentine.	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	Medium
Objective 7: Support opportunities for social connections to be developed and enhanced within the community			
Liaise with local businesses and community groups to facilitate /	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loddon Valley Stud Merino Committee 	Ongoing

Action	Role	Partners	Priority
support regular events to provide additional activities for local residents, promote social connections and reduce social isolation.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee ▪ Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Netball Club ▪ Serpentine Bowls Club ▪ Serpentine Playgroup ▪ Serpentine Tennis Club ▪ Serpentine CFA ▪ Loddon Shire Council 	

Monitoring and reviewing our plan

Our plan will be monitored and reviewed regularly.

Monthly monitoring

Our community plan will feature on the agenda of the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group each month. Committee members responsible for certain actions will be asked to provide updates on projects.

Annual review

A desk top review will be undertaken with the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group annually. This process will include:

- Confirmation that priorities are still valid and that identification of any emerging issues exist that may change current priorities.
- Documentation of achievements of the past year.
- Update of plan to reflect any changes, e.g. Census/ABS data changes.

Mid- term review (4-5 years)

At the mid-point of the plan, a desk top review will be undertaken to assess existing priorities and to identify any new and emerging issues. This will be undertaken by:

- A detailed discussion with the Serpentine and District Community Planning Group
- Community consultation to test the priorities and content in the plan. This can be as comprehensive as deemed appropriate by the committee and may include a general community survey and a review of any emerging issues.
- A review of community demographics based on latest Census/ABS data.

Full term: (10 years)

A full review of the Community Plan will be undertaken when it reaches its full term (10 years). This full review will assess which actions were completed and which ones were not (and why); and the rationale for new projects being added and / or some projects being dropped off the action list. It is anticipated that funding will be provided by Loddon Shire Council at this point to enable the community to undertake a new community plan.

Appendix

Community feedback from workshop

Ideas from Community Consultation – February 2024

Tourism

- Large events e.g. music, farm stays
- Silo Art (first air race theme) applied to Serpentine water tower
- Points of interest board/town map redone
- Identifying historical points with plaques (on seats) around town
- Historical walk map, showing historical points
- East Loddon shearing shed support
- Accommodation – who has opportunities?
- Promote what we do now more interesting to younger visitors
- *Stock river with fish and redevelop picnic/camping areas along the river and Serpentine creek (2003)*
- *Re-enactment of the air race every 3-5 years plus have many different attractions (2003)*

Social Events

- Biennial Country Dance/Cabaret at East Loddon Woolshed
- Restart annual Auction/Brick a Brack sale/Market on oval
- Overcome the dysfunction/disconnect of East Loddon district, encourage whole of area visitation and events
- Promote Ag programs at schools
- Investigate large annual events
- Community day out for families annually, like George the Farmer
- More events targeted at younger children, like George the Farmer with local food vans etc
- More events targeted at women in farming/living rurally, like Chicks in the Sticks, with keynote speakers
- Picnic day for community complete with old school activities, e.g. egg and spoon race, sack races – perhaps on Melbourne Cup day holiday?
- Fundraising opportunity, community sporting challenge e.g. Serpentine townspeople vs Farmers, cricket under lights?
- Barefoot bowls
- *Establish and coordinate regular dinners at the hall with the various clubs in town. (2022)*
- *Reinstate the Serpentine Annual Auction/brick-a-brack sale. Set up stalls on the oval. (2022)*

Economic Opportunities

- Energy hub, green energy
- Recycle centre, zero waste, adopt lean training methods, circular economy
- Impact of mining, solar farms, wind towers on traditional farming
- Changing farming activities
- Accommodation for workers
- Turning or utilising Shire Offices into Historical Society Hub – Museum - Information Centre - Cafe, open to public at limited times
- On community board identifying small industries within district, same for seasonal e.g. flower sellers, tomato growers, egg producers, lucerne hay sales
- Loddon Woolshed – is planning to add accommodation to site

- How can we better support all local businesses
- Community pub? - Do we want to help or investigate more community involvement
- Site for stalls pop up
- *Redevelop the current LSC Meeting Chamber for use as a family day care location (2022)*
- *Tourism and historical centre/show room at Shire Offices (2003)*

Sporting Clubs

- Remember to pass on records photos memorabilia to archive with the local historical society
- Upgrade the lights and surface at bowls club
- Mow fenced paddock next to netball court
- Open toilet access in clubrooms to playground – high importance
- Are there other clubs/associations to join other than sport?
- *Serpentine tennis courts, have one hard court with lights (2003)*
- *Rename recreation reserve to 'Janiember Park' (2003)*

Parks and Playgrounds

- Upgrade children's playground to be more inclusive e.g. all accessibilities playground, water feature, updated the ground cover to be wheelchair accessible, 2 sizes for slides for children of all ages to slide safely, in-ground trampoline, swings for small children, accessible carousel, flying fox, toddler section with sensory play, chat board with visuals for non-speaking children
- Wheelchair accessible toilets with baby/nursing area for public – signage on highway to encourage tourists to use space
- Exercise equipment like Inglewood
- Walkway or bike track to cemetery
- Seating at Recreation Reserve
- Seating around footpaths in town, rest areas
- More walking paths
- What about a botanic garden for this region (Europeans removing vegetation since 1848)
- Camp ground North end of Footy oval
- Clean out swimming hole in the creek
- Connect the Rudkin's Park up with the Pon Pom
- Fix playground North end e.g. nature play
- Mow or gravel a formed walking path along fence line from Serpentine to Loddon River bridge
- Install all abilities playground next to clubrooms
- Install nature play/small play area at Rudkin's
- Install outdoor lights for safe use of toilets at Rudkin's (they were on initial plan when toilets installed)
- Ensure toilet accessible playground 24/7
- Install garden/landscaping playground
- Opportunity to work with NCCMA and Federal environment water holder to replenish and revegetate remnant wetlands
- *Install exercise equipment at the oval to encourage exercise (2022)*

Town Beautification – High Importance

- Water nature strips
- New signs into town or welcome to Serpentine board, constructed with high visibility beside/alongside sculpture at roadhouse that indicates toilets and Rec Reserve
- Logo for town entrance signs and letter heads e.g. bi-plane from first Aus aerial derby in 1920?
- Long grass on side of roads at entrances into town unsafe

- More security along footpaths in town, rest areas
- New trees planted along nature strips, a bit of colour
- Shade trees, table + seats adjoining playground and Rec Reserve, include an information board outlining Indigenous history + Chinese history for this district (think the creek Pon Bon +Nardoo)
- Finish landscaping and remove old pile of gravel from entrance/front of hall,
- Maintain around hall and Rec Reserve weeds/prickles/mowing
- Upgrade cemetery access
- Working bee to tidy up dead tress at cemetery
- Maintain septic lines area West of netball courts
- *Improve the overall condition and appearance of road verges and Pon Bon (2022)*
- *Improve the footpaths that are currently installed. Extend the existing network of footpaths to all of the town (2022)*
- *Investigate options for installing a walking trail along the river's edge. This should link into Rudkins Reserve and Pon Bon as well (2022)*
- *Logo for signs into township (2003)*
- *Maintenance of 'The Flow' Statue near roadhouse (2003)*
- *Environment – beautification of nature strips, trim pepper trees regularly, high quality water for town, maintain local roads, white posts, bridges and weeds (2003)*
- *Pondage Redevelopment (2003)*

Services

- Investigate why we don't have a police officer
- Loddon Councils' procedures and processes for building approvals is continuously reported from trades and industry to be the worst in the region with a major concern being septic systems and the over engineering requirements. The slow process and possibly lack of resources is limiting development and often hampering community members ability to get trades people.
- Child care in Serpentine
- Weeds on farms and roadsides
- Lower speed limit through town, Shire/VicRoads
- Removal of hedge out front of roadhouse due to safety issue – Shire
- Ongoing maintenance of Defibrillator machines currently provided at a few spots in town
- For rural people – hard rubbish drop-off in Serpentine in depot spot
- Recycle rural rubbish e.g. grain bags
- Drum Muster
- Dump point for caravan travellers
- Cleaner public toilets
- Limited venues to operate a shop front in Serpentine
- A big ice cream store/café
- Other places for coffee/food than roadhouse
- Fill in dam south of roadhouse and create roadside stop
- Make unofficial truck parking bay/council gravel tipping bay near roadhouse, an official maintained parking bay with bins
- Fix potholes and widen bitumen to double lane on Echuca-Serpentine Road – for safety as school bus route
- Bitumen street in town (in front of Di's house, who works at roadhouse?)
- *Instigate regular periodic reviews of the services that come to each community, such as the Infant Health Nurse (2022)*
- *Update existing information booklet (2003)*
- *Change school bus pick up and drop off to access road at Rudkins Reserve (2003)*

- Improved phone coverage, park benches around town, trim trees which blind view on highway from side view, signs saying 'please no exhaust breaks' (2003)

Other

- Think future: why should our town exist? Why live here?
- Please keep your dog within your yard – for safety – high importance
- Pioneer's wall/bollards in a location where RV parking is possible, maybe South side of roadhouse?
- Perhaps district pioneering families may be approached for donations towards building or furnishings of such?
- Avenue of Honour for past service people
- Free Camping/RV Parking site at Rec Reserve complete with accessible dump site and toilets, this to be signed on highway into town
- Join the Fire Brigade promotion – training timing

For Future Considerations (2003)

- *Police station*
- *Daily bus service to Bendigo*
- *Community Health Rooms*
- *Town Lighting and Footpaths*
- *A small one-lane road between the tennis courts and resident's road.*
- *An undercover area at "Tom Rudkins Reserve", to be concreted and tables put in.*
- *Roll in area to get buses off the road.*
- *Relocate the gravel dump behind the netball courts to a more suitable site.*
- *Develop a truck-parking bay at either the gravel dump at south end of town, or on the Serpentine Bridgewater road.*
- *Seal George Street.*