

WATCHEM

3-5 YEAR COMMUNITY PLAN



COMMUNITY

WATCHEM PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

- Develop a succession plan to ensure the future of the WPA
- Explore ways to promote the WPA to the broader community to encourage more members
- Celebrate the achievements of the WPA with the community

HUB PRECINCT (FORMER BOWLING CLUB/GREEN)

- Identify partners, activities and events to create greater usage of the Hub Precinct
- Explore promotional opportunities to showcase the facilities of the Hub Precinct

MEN'S SHED

- Explore the interest and support of the local community for the establishment of a Watchem Men's Shed
- Liaise with Council and the Australian Men's Shed Association for support and potential funding or grants

The Watchem 3-5 Year Community Plan has been developed by the Watchem Progress Association with the aim to strengthen community connections, protect community assets and celebrate community pride.

It has been developed with feedback from the community and has been designed to be a live document that will continue to reflect the progress of the priority projects as they develop over the next 3-5 years.



HISTORY

HISTORICAL MARKERS

- Develop a program to install two markers per year to signify local locations and/or places of significant
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

HISTORICAL CENTRE

- Identify ways to acknowledge and recognise the pioneers and sporting achievements of Watchemites
- Arrange reprint of the book: The pioneers and progress of Watchem by Lilian Kirk Watchem Book

UNMARKED GRAVES

- Obtain project details collected and collated so far and identify opportunities available to support the project
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants



PLACES

CHURCH PRECINCT/PADDOCK

- Partner with the Watchem Development Assoc. to develop a master plan to propose improvements such as: solar power, water connection, accessibility ramps and toilets, toilets and spouting to increase water harvesting
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

RECREATION RESERVE/CRICKET CLUB

- Develop an improvement plan to upgrade the toilet facilities (1x female toilet, 1x male toilet, new doors) and install new doors on the clubroom
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

CAMP STREET

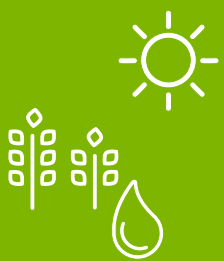
- Advocate to VicRoads for improved drainage of gravel areas
- Continue the installation of art as part of the Mali Heart Street Art initiative
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

ANZAC PRECINCT

- Develop a project plan to improve the precinct by:
 - replacing the flagpole foundation
 - erecting a fence to rear of area
 - replacing boundary trees
 - finish grass
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

WATCHEM HALL

- Develop an improvement plan to upgrade the Hall by upgrading the main backstage room, installing new floor coverings and curtains, painting the Hall and landscaping the area around hall including trees (for eventual shade)
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants



ENVIRONMENT

HOBAN STREET PLANTATION

- Develop a master plan to develop the centre area with features to include:
 - an information bay at the grain silo (featuring locals that have done good (i.e. Graeme Lang, Ian Mc Callum, etc)
 - paving
 - pergola, trees removed around the external boundary and replaced with more suitable types
 - installation of a drip system
 - enhancement of plantation drainage
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

TREE PLANTING PLAN

- Develop a plan for Watchem Park that includes the planting of: 1x Lemon Scented Gums, 2x Red Flowering, 1x Smooth-barked Apple Myrtle as well as new plantings for nature strips, parks, vacant areas, highway, etc
- Advocate to Council for the removal of dead trees along the Sunraysia Hwy (in town area) and Warrack Road to Lake
- Develop a weed removal plan that includes gazanias, bindi, cactus, Boxthorn and Gentle Annie with a timely campaign to promote the elimination of these weeds and other known species
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

RECYCLE & RE-USE PROGRAM

- Explore the potential for a Watchem tip/transfer station that includes:
 - Drum Muster
 - container deposit scheme
 - firewood/mulch
 - recycling of scrap steel
- Explore the development of a water harvesting program at key locations (i.e. bunker, church)

WALKING TRACKS

- Develop a plan to improve the walking tracks throughout the town that includes:
 - Additional seating to current tracks
 - Extension of Watchem South to Blair St (initially earth track only)
 - Additional track from Inkerman St to cemetery (initially earth track only)
 - Bushland Reserve
 - A firebreak
 - Nature walking trail with identification of native plants

WATCHEM LAKE PARK TOURISM PLAN

- Develop a tourism plan for the Lake that identifies economic and promotional opportunities to attract tourists and visitors to the town as well as potential environmental/eco-tourism options such as water harvesting
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants



TOURISM

COMMUNITY ART PROJECTS

- Continue to support the Mali Heart initiative by promoting the Mini Silo Art Trail in and around town
- Develop a plan that identifies opportunities for more public art such as: fence and/or building paintings, mosaic sculptures and street art as well as an annual program for implementation
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

SOLAR LIGHTING

- Develop a plan to schedule the installation of solar lights at the following locations: town entrances (Lake into town and Corack Rd into town), church façade and the Lake and Watchem South/Highway walking tracks with (solar bollards)
- Liaise with Council and other agencies for support and potential funding or grants

The Watchem Progress Association are the custodians of the Watchem 3-5 Year Community Plan and will monitor its implementation on an ongoing basis, with regular updates provided to Council and the community through an annual review process.

SCAN THE QR CODE to view an electronic version of the Plan on the Buloke Shire Council website

