

Waaia Community Plan

November 2019 -
November 2024



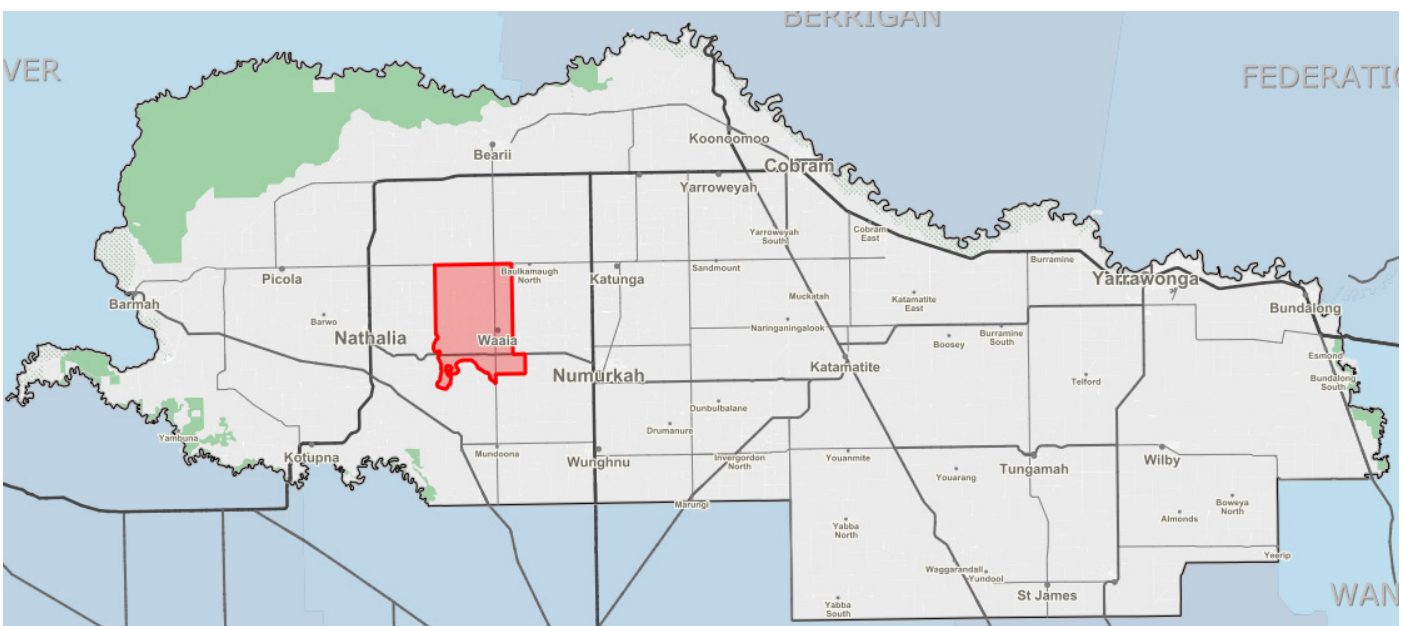
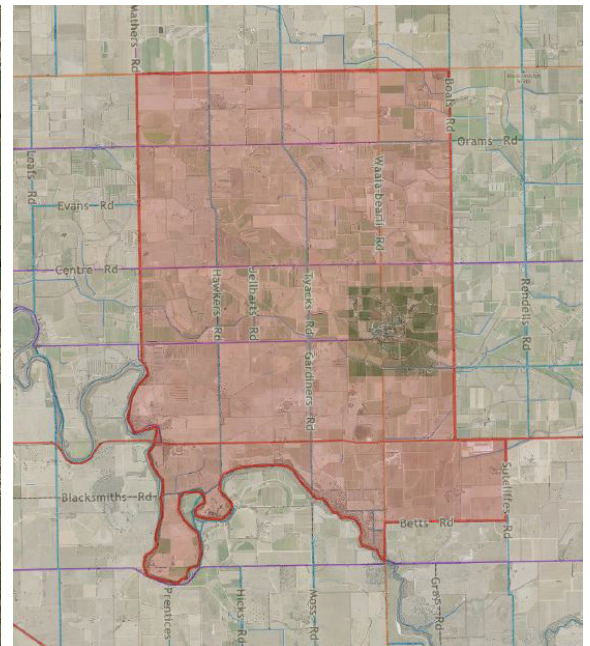
Introduction to Community Planning

Have you ever heard someone in your community say that they'd love to see something new in town? A walking track? A mum's group? More events? A market? Have you ever wondered how many other people feel the same way?

Community Planning is about creating a safe space for you and your neighbours to discuss the future of your town, to explore all of those questions and more, and come up with ideas that will make your local area an even stronger, more beautiful, and more inclusive community.

Community Planning isn't about giving Council a wish list, though Council will take on board all of the views and opinions expressed during the process. It's about local people making sustainable change collaboratively, and making good things happen for everyone in their community. After all, a goal without a plan is just a wish. Community Planning is about wrapping realistic strategies around everyone's hopes and dreams so that they can become a reality.

Our Town and District





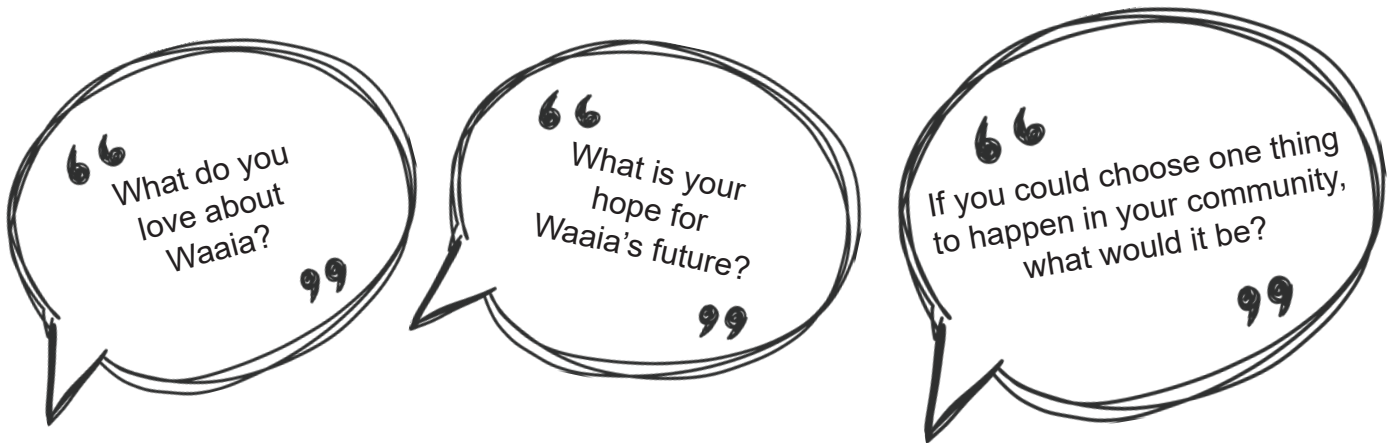
Our Vision

Waaia is a diverse, supportive and successful community where people are able to enjoy a safe and peaceful lifestyle.

Our Community Voice

On Friday 5 April 2019, over 50 people joined the Moira Shire Council Community Development Team at a BBQ to begin the conversation about creating a plan for the Waaia community. Surveys were also distributed via the Redgum Courier and a letterbox drop, with return boxes placed at the Waaia Hotel, the Waaia Recreation Reserve, and the post office. We had 12 completed surveys returned.

WHAT WE ASKED



Through the Community BBQ and returned surveys, we not only established what participants loved about Waaia, we also started to get a sense of what could make the town and district even better. From here, the WCP (Waaia Community Planning) Committee was formed from community members who submitted an expression of interest to take a leading role in the development of the Community Plan. The Committee began meeting monthly from Monday 29 April 2019.



Our Demographics

POPULATION: 390



Male - 208
Female - 177

Volunteers - 107



HOUSEHOLDS: 134



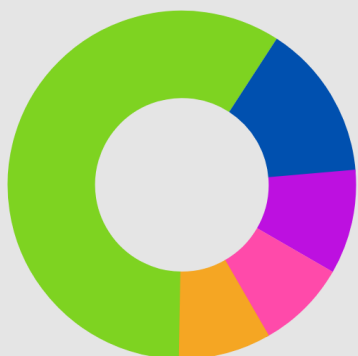
Family Households - 109
Single or Lone Person Households - 25
Group Households - 0

OCCUPATION



Managers - 66
Labourers - 29
Technicians and Trade Workers - 23
Sales Workers - 19
Clerical and Administrative Workers - 16
Machinery Operators and Drivers - 16
Community/Personal Service Workers - 15
Professionals - 14

INDUSTRY



Dairy Cattle Farming - 49
Hospitals (except Psychiatric) - 12
Other Social Assistance Services - 8
Bread Manufacturing (Factory Based) - 7
Supermarket and Grocery Stores - 7



Our History

The name Waaia was derived from a word used by local Aboriginal people meaning Crow. In the early days, the area where the town is now situated was known as Baulkamaugh West. This area was first settled by farmers in 1877. Prior to that, it was a portion of a sheep run held by squatters from Tallygaroopna and Kaarimba.

The original township of Waaia, as surveyed in 1877, was on a site immediately north of the Broken Creek at Walsh's Bridge, but this land was subject to flooding and was not suitable for development and ceased to be thought of as a town.

The building of the railway line, linking Numurkah and Nathalia, followed a more direct route and on higher ground, which was more suitable for development. A large deputation of farms had met railway commissioners touring the district and it was agreed that an intermediate station would be built at Waaia, and from here, the town began to develop on its present site.



The station was built on George Fitzgerald's section of land and farmers were able to cart the 1877-1878 harvest to it. As the railway line was not complete, loads of wheat were carted away by contractor's engines used in the construction of the railway line.



In 1877, Messrs James, Moncrieff and Thomas McTighe subdivided part of their properties into building allotments and they were sold, bringing in extraordinary prices at the time, with the highest price being £80 for a half acre block. Several private homes were erected and businesses opened. It was considered that Waaia would become a town of some importance.



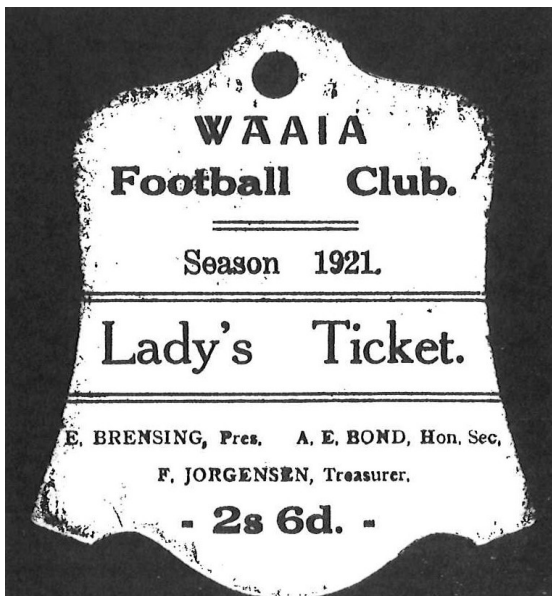
A wooden building along the railway line was erected by George McLelland as the Waaia Hotel. Mr Edward Sutcliffe opened a blacksmith shop, and J.M. McClure opened a general store. Another general store was opened by Brown & Corke, as well as a bootmaker (Mills), saddler (Snow), another blacksmith (Toone), and a wheelwright and coachbuilding business (Mr D. Hepworth). A creamery was established on the south side of the railway by Mr Jack Scott. Also, a bakers shop, dressmakers rooms, and a butchers shop opened. Another landmark was a wineshop and vineyard on Brensing's property.

On 14 June 1888, a petition by Thomas Canning and seven others was forwarded to the Education Department through the Board of Advice for the establishment of a school. On 17 July 1888, the Numurkah District School Board of Advice held a meeting to discuss a letter from the Education Department in reference to a petition signed by eight residents in Baulkamaugh West (Waaia) requesting that a school be established in that place.



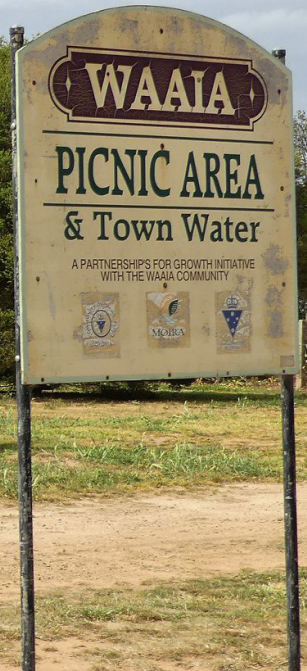
On 28 January 1890, the school (N°2968) was opened by Mr Arthur Jamieson, who was the first teacher.

Sport has always been a big part of country living, and in 1893 the Waaia Cricket Club was established. This was followed by the Waaia Football Club in 1894, and later tennis as well as netball. The sporting clubs at Waaia have been very successful over the years, winning many premierships along the way.



Farming in the early days was dry land, which consisted mainly of sheep and wheat production. After World War II, the building of the irrigation channels and the introduction of the sodier settlement system caused the farming landscape to change to mainly dairy farming on irrigated farm land.

Our Assets



PARKS & RESERVES

- Waaia Recreation Reserve
- Picnic Area

CLUBS & GROUPS

- Waaia Indoor Bowls Club
- Waaia Football & Netball Club
- Waaia Cricket Club
- Waaia Tennis Club
- Waaia Darts Teams
- Waaia Fire Brigade
- Waaia Playgroup
- Waaia Town Water
- GV Junior Motorcycle Club
- Waaia-Yalca South Primary School



EVENTS

- Australia Day Community Breakfast
- Waaia Tractor Pull





Responding to Emergencies Big and Small

In the event of an emergency, information can be found from the following sources:

ABC Radio 97.7 FM
 ABC Digital Radio 107.7 FM

In the first instance, please call 000 and state which service is required - Ambulance, Fire or Police. In cases of flooding or storms, contact the State Emergency Services (SES) on 132 500.

Other contact details:

Police	Nathalia Police Station	000 / 5866 3005 66 Blake Street, Nathalia	www.police.vic.gov.au
	Numurkah Police Station	000 / 5862 3311 19 Saxon Street, Numurkah	www.police.vic.gov.au
Hospital	Nathalia District Hospital	5866 9444 McDonell Street, Nathalia	www.nathaliahospital.org.au
	Numurkah District Health Services	5862 0555 2 Nathalia-Katamatite Road, Numurkah	www.ndhs.org.au
Power/Electricity	PowerCor (24 Hour Service)	132 778	www.powercor.com.au
Gas	Elgas	131 161	www.elgas.com.au
	Origin	133 574	www.originenergy.com.au
	David Walsh	5874 2246	www.davidwalshgas.com.au
	AGL	135 245	www.agl.com.au

	BOC	131 262	www.boc.com.au
Water	GV Water	1800 454 500 (Emergencies) 5831 1467 (General Enquiries)	www.gvwater.vic.gov.au
	GM Water	1800 064 184 (Emergencies) 1800 013 357 (General Enquiries)	www.g-mwater.com.au
Roads	Regional Roads Victoria	133 778	www.regionalroads.vic.gov.au
Moira Shire Council	After Hours Emergency	5871 9222	www.moira.vic.gov.au

There are a number of services based in Waaia and surrounding areas that can assist with emergency related issues, should they arise.

Trades and Services	Waaia Electrics Ash Holland	0488 520 073
	Brett Keeble Plumbing	0402 217 938
	Doug Larkin Refrigeration & Air Conditioning	0419 329 579
	Jorgensen Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Drew Jorgensen	0438 641 113
	Botterill Engineering Stephen	0417 774 057
	Numurkah Electric Motors & Pump Services Dave Gilmore	5862 3504
	Baker Renewable Energy Gary Baker	5864 1274 0418 558 763
	Mick Hogan Excavations Poly Irrigation	5862 3222
	Tyndall Earth Moving	5864 1006
Medical Services	Quinn Street Clinic, Numurkah	5862 2044
	Numurkah Medical Centre	5862 2111
	Guardian Pharmacy, Numurkah	5862 1633
	Amcal Pharmacy, Numurkah	5862 1762
Animal Services	B'nB for Barkers Boarding Kennels Janis Keogh & Bill Coggins	0407 786 243 0417 509 429
	4 Paws Mobile Vet Dr Jodie Ciavarella	0400 503 548
General	Waaia Hotel	5864 1216
	Waaia-Yalca South Primary School	5864 1283
	Waaia Post Office	0417 195 506

Our Goals

1. BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

- 1.1 - Place a community noticeboard in town to share information and events
- 1.2 - Have a bus run between Waaia and larger towns to connect our community with necessary services
- 1.3 - Establish a community garden in the township
- 1.4 - Continue to foster a strong sense of community



2. GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- 2.1 - Continue to support our local sporting clubs
- 2.2 - Undertake silo art in Waaia



3. DEVELOPING OUR TOWN

- 3.1 - Seal the remaining roads in the township
- 3.2 - Improve safety around the Recreation Reserve
- 3.3 - Build female-friendly facilities at the Recreation Reserve to encourage increased usage of the sports amenities
- 3.4 - Develop the school oval into a specific cricket pitch
- 3.5 - Increase the number of street lights throughout the township
- 3.6 - Build a community asset for our younger residents (eg. adventure playground, BMX track, skate park)
- 3.7 - Continue to advocate for better phone and internet service



4. PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- 4.1 - Encourage the installation and use of solar panels



What Our Community Said

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT WAAIA?



WHAT IS YOUR HOPE FOR WAAIA'S FUTURE?



IF YOU COULD CHOOSE ONE THING TO HAPPEN IN OUR COMMUNITY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Central Place to Find Out Information

More Street Lights

Social / Round Robin Netball Competition

Adventure Playground

Social Tennis Competition

Market

First Aid Course

Treated Water Infrastructure

Town Newsletter

Facebook Page

Splash Park

Fence Around Playground

General Store

Improve Drainage

Bus Service for Public

Solar Panels

Safety Talk - Keeping Property and Assets Safe

Safety Around Recreation Reserve

Beautify Streetscape

Foster Connections

Grant Writing Workshop

Netting Behind Goals at Recreation Reserve

Improve Telecommunications Network

More Attention to the History of the Town

Kindergarten / After School Care

Youth / Scouts / Guide Group

Community Get Together for Newcomers

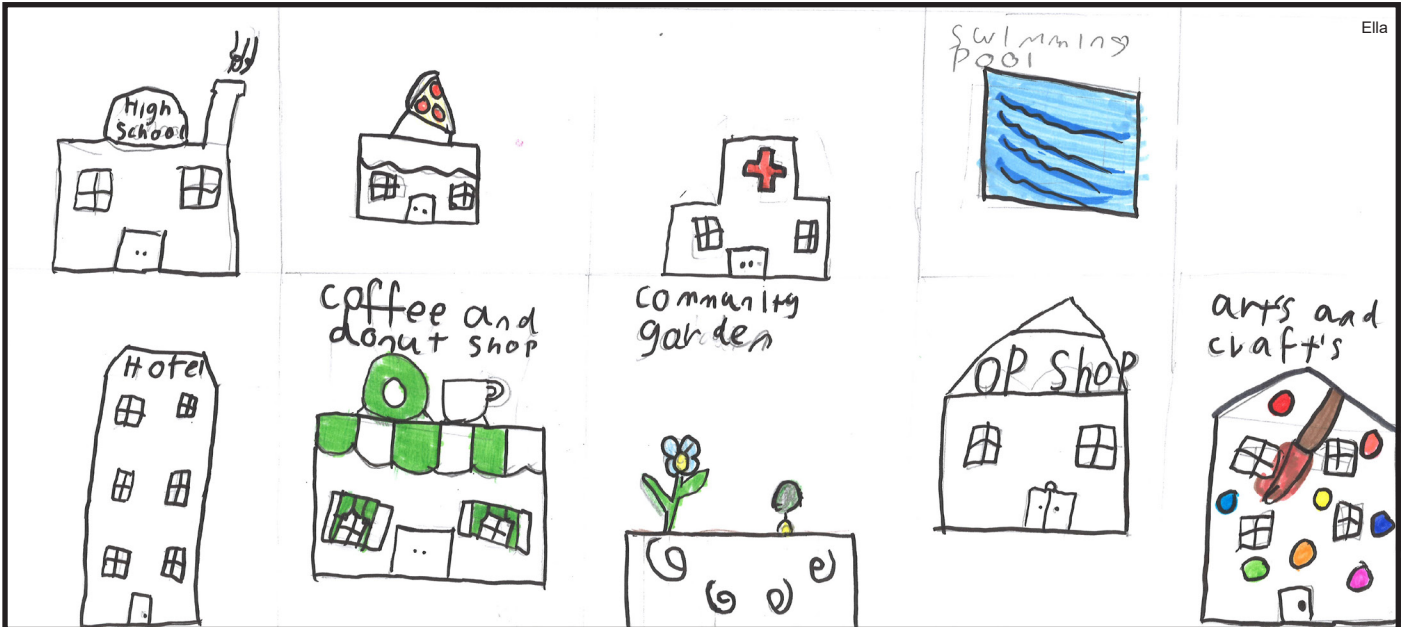
Seal the Remaining Roads in Town

KEY

- Gold Main priority
- Blue Mid-range priority
- Green Low priority

The Future of Waaia Seen Through the Eyes of Our Children

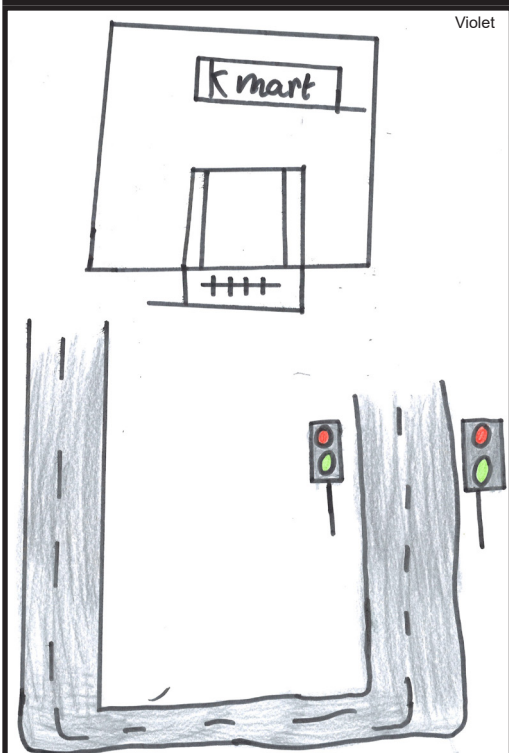




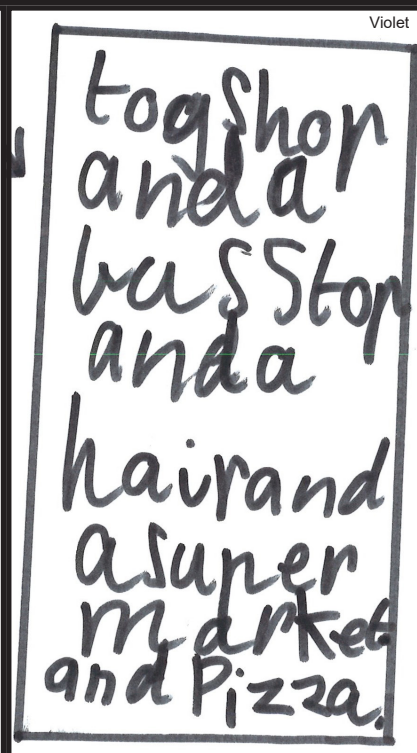
Michael



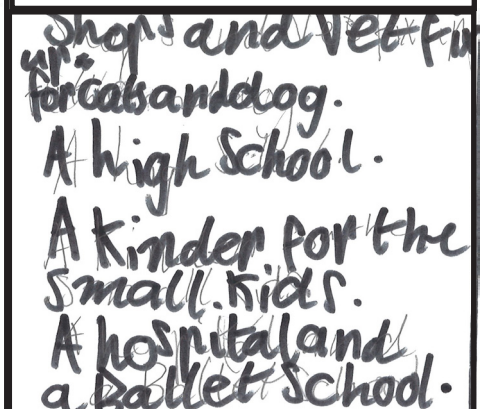
Alayah



Violet

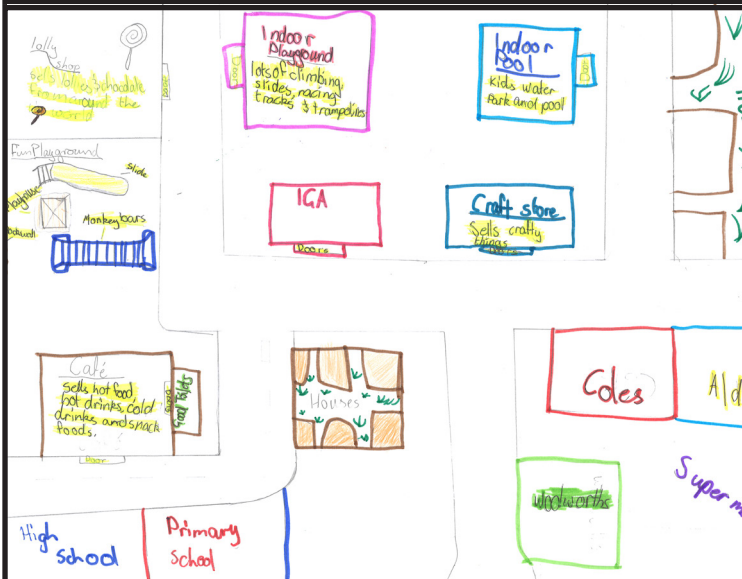


Violet





Austin

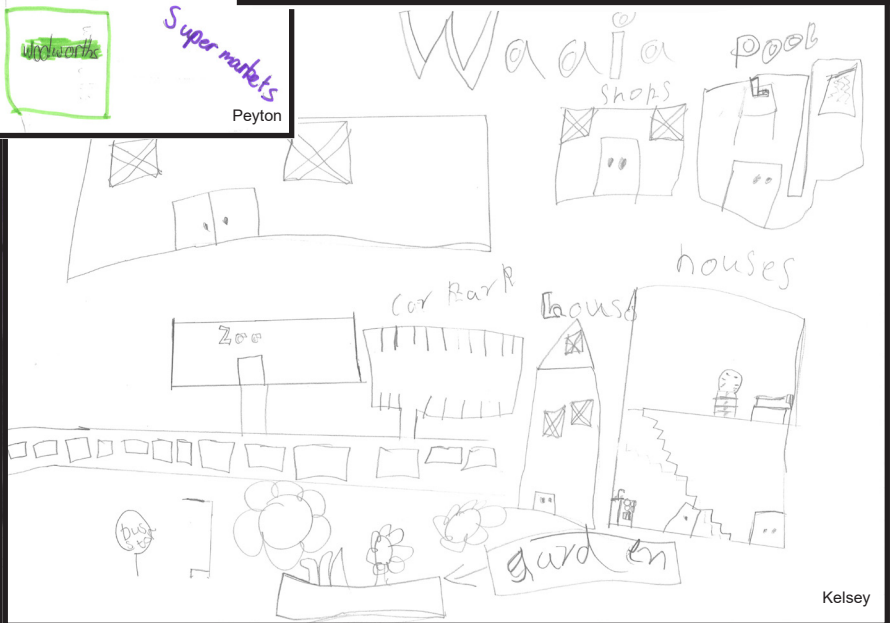


Logan



Alayah

Helicopter
 A school and a helicopter.
 Some more House stor
 some cars as well. And some
 do art.
 hospital. Rid. D. T



Kelsey

Implementing Our Plan

The Waaia Community acknowledges the importance of working together with all community, government, business and industry group stakeholders who have an interest in the content of our Community Plan to effectively achieve the goals identified.

Our Review Process

The WCP Committee will be monitoring the Community Plan through the following schedule:

AFTER FIRST 6 MONTHS

- Monitor progress of projects
- Support and assist implementation of projects
- Call for committee members

EVERY 12 MONTHS

- Evaluation and review of priority projects
- Completion of priority projects
- Reconsider existing projects and make new priorities
- Include newly identified projects or changing priorities
- Annual General Meeting and review of committee positions

AFTER 5 YEARS

- Full review of Community Plan
- Community consultation



Who to Contact for More Information

Get in touch with a Committee Member, email us on waaiacomplan@gmail.com, or like us on Facebook: Waaia Community Planning - WCP. If you are interested in joining the WCP Committee, please get in contact.



Acknowledgements

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The WCP Committee was established to facilitate consultation with the community, development of the Community Plan, and creation and oversight of the Action Plan. Community support has come from:

Sue Cleeland (President)
Darlene Steuart (Vice President)
Amy Carey (Secretary)
Amy Meyland
Cheryl Walsh

Chris Jorgensen
Dawn Carey
Denis Brooks
Janet Brooks

Janis Keogh
Lisa Trimby
Megan Elliot
Trevor Steuart

COUNCIL SUPPORT

Dana Sharp (Community Development Officer)
Lyn Cooper (Team Leader Community & Recreational Development)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Special thanks to everyone who submitted photos to include in the Waaia Community Plan.

DRAWINGS

A big thank you to the students at Waaia-Yalca South Primary School for drawing pictures of what they think Waaia will look like in 5 years time.

POST

