

KATUNGA RECREATION RESERVE AND COMMUNITY CENTRE STRATEGIC AND MASTER PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

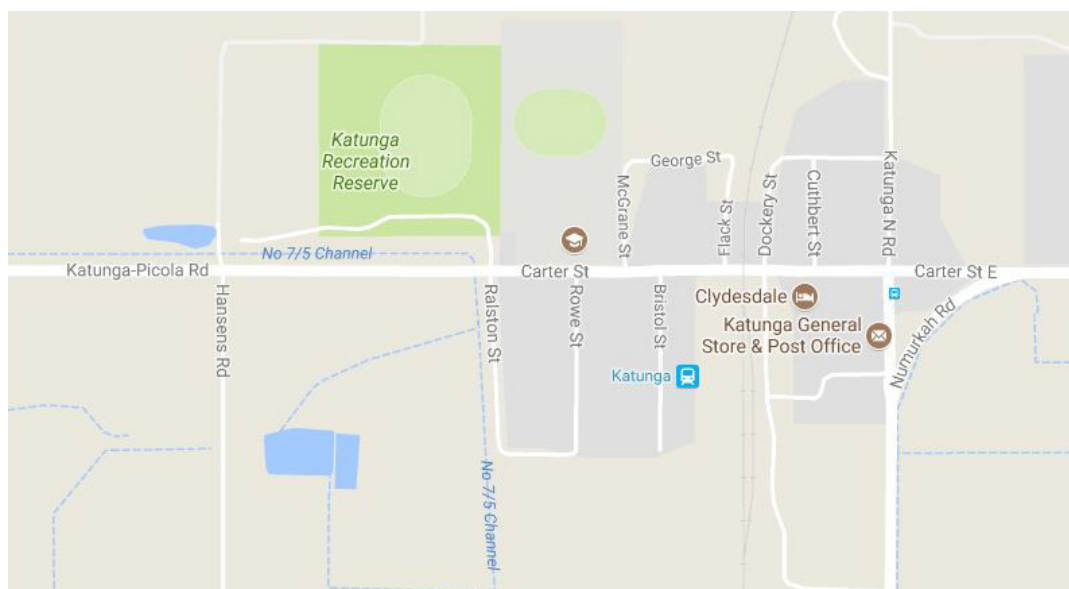
Katunga

Katunga is located approximately 235kms North East of Melbourne in the Moira Shire. It is 10km from Numurkah and 25km from Cobram and 44km from its nearest Regional City, Shepparton.

The town has a population of approximately 996 including 266 families, around 23% (232) are aged 14 years and under, 12% (122) between 15 and 24, 40% (393) between 25 and 54 years and 25% (247) 55 years and over (Australian Bureau Statistics, 2016).

The township has had significant investment into major projects with \$19m invested in propagation warehouses, which is expected to double in the next 10 years and a \$150m Biofuel development expected to take place over the next 5 years.

The Recreation Reserve is located on Carter Street. It is situated on Crown Land, that was donated by the Hansen family and managed by Moira Shire Council, who in turn have appointed a committee of management to oversee the day to day management and maintenance of the Reserve as well as provide direction and support for any future development.



Project Objectives

The Recreation Reserve Strategic and Master Plan aims to:

- Provide strategic direction for the Recreation Reserve Committee of Management; and
- Identify and prioritise infrastructure related development needs in order to ensure the reserve and community centre remains a relevant, appropriate and sustainable community asset.

Key principles considered in developing the plan include clear preference for multi-use facilities and consideration of service provision available in surrounding towns.

It includes:

- Current and projected population data for Katunga and the surrounding region;
- An analysis of the current and future types and levels of usage at the recreation reserve; and
- A detailed site plan showing short, medium and long-term outcomes

VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Through the review of current operations, issues, opportunities and trends the reserve committee has developed the following Vision and Objectives for the next 10 years.

Vision

As our district sports ground the Katunga Recreation Reserve will continue to be the heart of the community by bringing people together and keeping them connected through the provision of sporting, recreational and social facilities.

Objectives

Financial

1. Raise enough funds to ensure the facilities are safe and functional until appropriate development occurs.
2. Work with partners to raise funds to support future developments.

Compliance

1. To ensure S86 Committee obligations are being met.

Programming and Use

1. Sport - Provide 'District Sports Ground' standard spaces for football, netball and cricket as well as having provision to support additional activity as needed in the future.
2. Sport - Encourage diversity and growth in usage through provision of appropriate facilities.
3. Community - Provide an appropriate community meeting space that can accommodate 150-200 dining and 300-400 for performance (including school concerts) to be used for major community events that are currently held in other towns.
4. Community - Provide a space or develop a gym to support broader community participation in physical activity.
5. Community - Continue to provide appropriate facilities for casual use (shade, BBQ's, playground, toilets).
6. School - Provide a meeting space for indoor and after hours programming and meetings.
7. School - Be a regional hub for school sports activities.
8. Provide a space for CFA use.

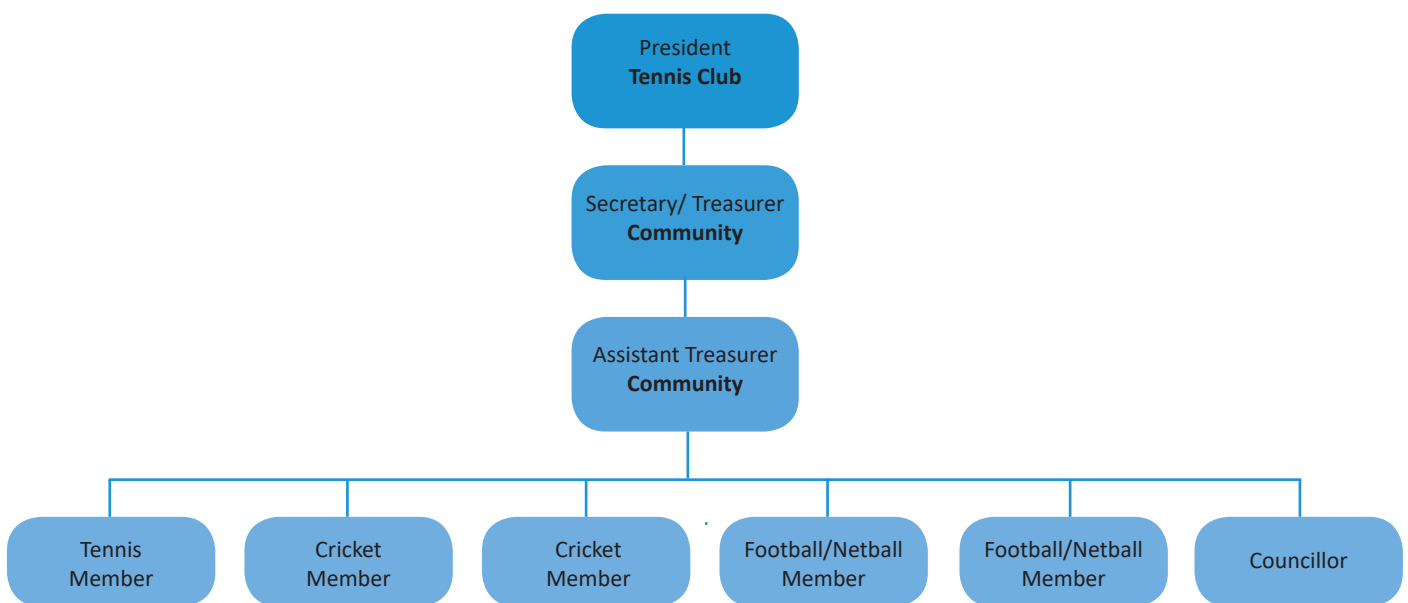
CURRENT SITUATION

Committee of Management

The Katunga Park Recreation Reserve is located on crown land and managed by Moira Shire Council, who in turn under the provisions of Section 86 of the Local Government Act have appointed a volunteer committee of management to oversee its day to day operations as well as support any future developments.

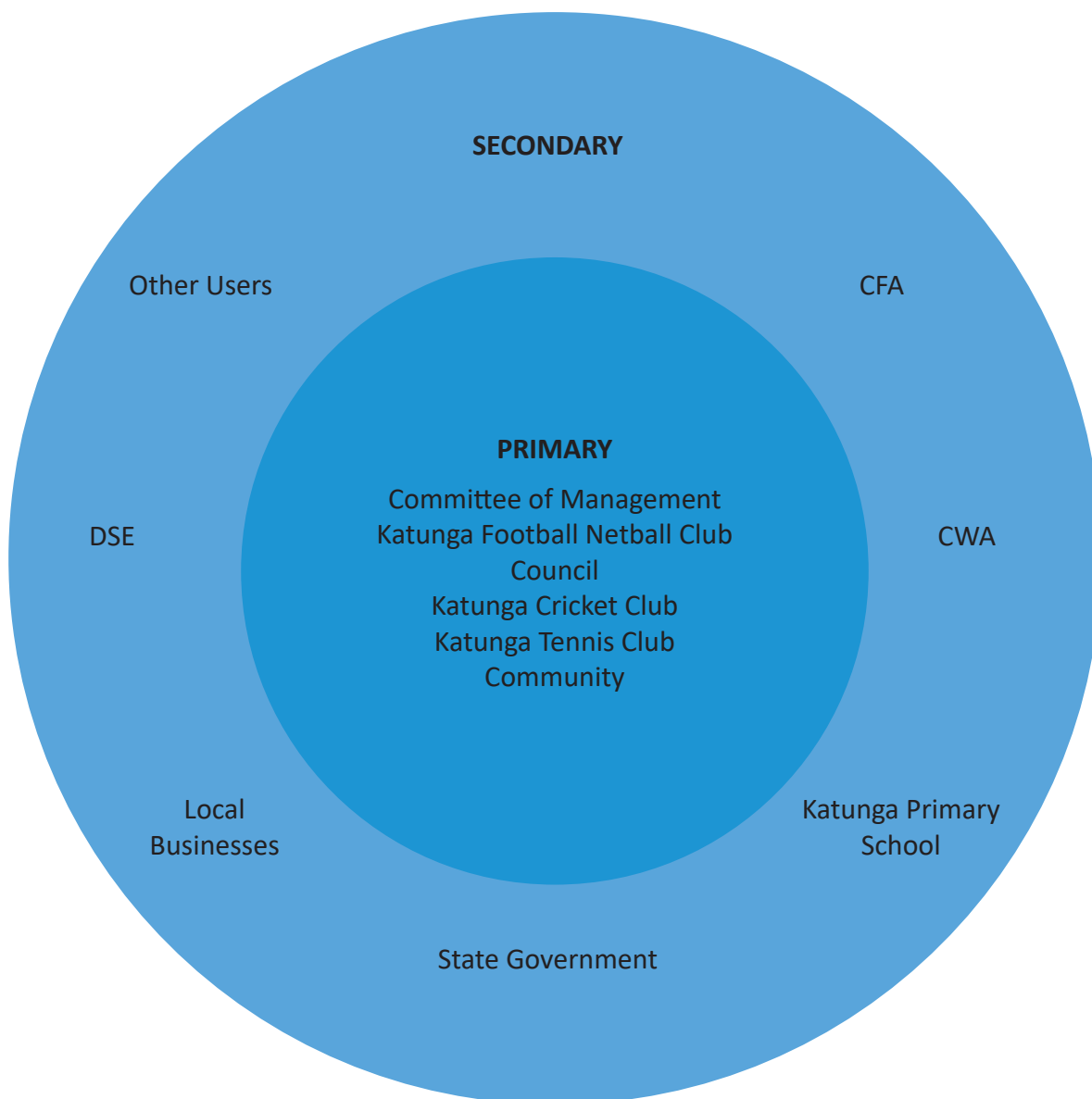
Governance Structure

Moira Shire Section 86 Committees have some flexibility relating to their composition, however the Moira Shire Council Committee of Management Operations and Risk Management Manual 2012 recommends committees include one Councillor, the chief executive officer or their delegate and a mix of user group and/or community representatives, limiting any single user group to two representatives. The committee's current governance structure includes a president, vice president, secretary treasurer and five general committee members.



Stakeholder Identification

The chart below highlights the stakeholders that have been identified as the primary stakeholders in relation to the on-going management and future development of the recreation reserve i.e. those that are critical and the secondary stakeholders i.e. those who are influential in the direction but not necessarily critical.



Finance

As an operational component the committee primarily generates funds through the hire fees provided by the tenant clubs, additional fundraising and grants, while outgoings are generally related to insurances, improvements, maintenance and repairs. The reserve received more than \$5,500 in funding annually from Moira Shire Council to support maintenance primarily as well as some additional operational support and investment in infrastructure and no concurrent operating or maintenance funding through the DSE. The Committee relies heavily on the community volunteering and providing in-kind support to remain operational.

Tenant Sports Clubs

Table 1 provides an indication of the numbers of people that are participants in the organised sports conducted at the reserve. The numbers are estimates based on team numbers and do not include the significant number of other critical people involved in the facilitating of these clubs such as committee members etc. nor the people who attend events as supporters.

Table 1. Sporting Clubs at Katunga Recreation Reserve

Club	Total
Football Netball Club	200
Cricket Club	65
Tennis Club	30
Total	295

Katunga Football Netball Club

The Football Netball Club has approximately 700 people involved directly each season, this includes around 200 football and netball players, 40 Auskick and NetSetGo children, 150 parents, 27 life members, 220 sponsors and many grandparents, family and friends who attend training and matches each week.

Junior participation in particular is growing, with strong numbers in excess of 20 in both the NetSetGo and Auskick programs.

In addition to providing for the sports, the Club also caters for community events such as clearing sales, funerals and meetings and runs or facilitates community programming such as the 'Outside the Locker Room' program which aims at community and in particular the development of younger people through empowerment, education and leadership both on and off the field. The Program focusses on and gives members access to information and tools to assist with welfare and education, mentoring and support, suicide prevention, mental health, drugs and alcohol and domestic violence.

The club supports the local community at every opportunity and sources as many things locally as it can.

The ageing facilities are a key issue for the Club, the community centre is heavily utilized but lacking in size and functionality. Throughout the season, the Club has Thursday night meals for the club and broader community and averages around 150 meals each week. Seating is an issue and meals have to be undertaken in waves. Full club functions such as the vote count are not able to fit and are often held at other venues, even in other towns, such as the Town Hall in Numurkah.

The Club has also identified issues with power and had a number of outages.

The lighting of the oval is very dim at both ends of the ground, in particular the north end, making training difficult and potentially dangerous at times. During the middle of the season there can be up to 100 players all trying to use different areas of the field.

Katunga Cricket Club

The Cricket Club fields sides in the Murray Valley Cricket Association and has strong representation in the senior and junior competitions with Division 1, 2, Under 16, 14 and 12 teams. Each week around 75 to 90 people are involved in playing or supporting the Club.

The junior cricket club enjoys high levels of female participation with 12 girls playing in the two under

12 teams and 3 in the under 14's.

The cricket club have stated they would like to upgrade and re-locate the cricket nets.

Katunga Tennis Club

The Tennis Club has about 25 financial members with Saturday afternoon seniors and juniors in the morning. Social tennis is on Wednesday nights and attracts between 12-20 participants each week.

Lighting and power are the biggest costs of the club, but these are generally able to be met through social activities.

The club views the state of the 3 southern most courts as their biggest issue saying that while they are able to be used, they are in need of re-surfacing.

Long term, the tennis club would like to upgrade the 3 older courts.

Other Uses

Katunga Primary School

The Katunga Primary School is located adjacent the Recreation Reserve, it currently has 89 students and regularly maintains between 85-100, with 5 full-time teachers, 4 part-time teachers and 3 aides. The school is able to use the fields if needed and has stated that they have a very strong relationship with the Recreation Reserve and would strongly support the development of a larger indoor space that they could utilize for programming with classes as well hold performances and other whole of school functions.

Regional Primary Schools

With the unique location between a number of towns as well as having 2 ovals (the recreation reserve and school oval), netball and tennis the recreation reserve is regularly used for regional and inter-school sports competitions.

CFA Training Area

The CFA use the Recreation Reserve for training and upgrades to areas to support this would be supported.

Community Use

As the township is divided by a railway line and has no formal footpaths, the Recreation Reserve is considered by many locals as the only safe place for children and families to play.

Community Events

The community centre hosts a number of meetings, events and social functions each year such as wedding receptions, wakes, 21sts, Country



Women's Association meetings and DPI meetings and field days. The committee has identified additional space, upgraded social rooms and kitchen facilities as important in continuing to provide appropriate facilities that meet the needs of these events and the expectations of the community.

Existing Infrastructure

Below are the key infrastructure components of the reserve:

Sports Oval

The main oval is used for Australian Rules Football and cricket and has been identified as a key strength of the recreation reserve by the committee and users. It is boundary fenced with a very good condition turf cricket pitch, scoreboard, training standard lighting and 2 interchange boxes.

The coaches and interchange boxes are rated as being in good overall condition, while the committee have stated upgrading the scoreboard/timekeepers box is desirable.

The lights were purchased and installed by the community and were second hand having been acquired from the Melbourne Showgrounds who had removed them to upgrade their facilities. While the lighting is adequate for training, the NE corner is poorly lit and upgrading this area has been identified as a priority while a general upgrade allowing for night competition would be desirable.

Community Centre

The Community Centre includes a multi-purpose room, bar and kitchen. The primary purpose of the building is to provide a social venue for the tenant sports clubs and a meeting space for the local community.

The committee understand that the buildings were re-located from schools where they were removed as they were no longer fit for purpose and were only meant to be a temporary installation.

Council's Asset Audit of the building has rated the building overall as Good, but with some obvious deterioration evident.

The committee has identified a number of issues with the building including maintenance and accessibility issues, the space being too small for many events and the kitchen is not functional.

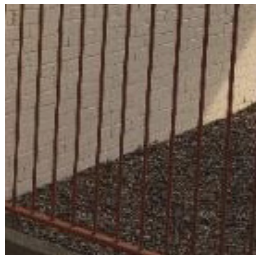
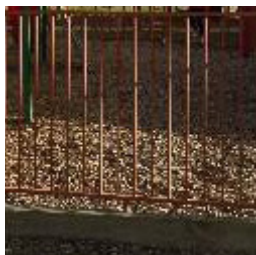
Football Change Rooms

The football change rooms incorporate home, away and umpires change rooms.

Council's Asset Audit has rated them as overall as fair to poor condition.

The Recreation Reserve committee have identified the upgrade of





these as a priority due to increasing and in their view unsustainable maintenance costs, and to meet current recommended standards in relation to change, shower and toilet spaces.

Multi-Purpose Hard Surface Courts

Two new netball courts and lighting were constructed in 2015 and are in excellent condition. A number of shelters have been provided and are generally rated as being in excellent or very good condition. The netball club have identified the opportunity for additional seats and shade for the future as well as fencing on the east side to stop balls going too far away.

There are 6 hard surface courts, all marked for both tennis and netball.

3 of the courts have recently been upgraded and are rated as being in very good condition with the other 3 courts (to the south) being rated as poor overall condition.

The lighting on the courts was sourced and installed by the committee in the early 1980's and is described as being of relatively poor quality.

Netball/Tennis Clubrooms

A small brick club room used by netball and tennis is located adjacent to, and services the multi-purpose courts. The building is rated by Council's asset team as being in very good condition overall but with some early stages of deterioration evident.

Cricket Nets

Three practice nets are located at the reserve. The pitches are carpet surface on concrete and appear in fair to poor condition, the netting also appears to be in fair to poor condition. The nets are non-compliant with Cricket Australia's 'Community Cricket Facility Guidelines – Guidance Note 2 – Outdoor Training Facilities' guidelines as they hit out on to the oval.

Spectator Amenities

A verandah is located on the eastern side of the pavilion which provides a space for viewing of the main oval as well as a number of seats in this area and around the oval.

There are a number of tiered seats located around the multi-purpose courts.

The committee have identified the provision of additional shelter and seating at the main oval and making the tiered seating permanent as desirable.

Roadways and Car Parking

The Reserve has an unsealed ring road around the main oval with oval facing parking as well as a number of informal parking spaces located around the site. During finals, the committee utilize adjacent areas for parking. The committee identified an opportunity to improve lighting around roadways for safety as well as asphaltting of the entrance and possibly all roadways in the long term.

Playground

A shaded playground is located between the oval, courts and community centre. It is rated as being in excellent condition with only some minor deterioration.

Power

There are significant issues with the provision of power to the site with the Committee saying there are often periods of overloading and power dropping out.

Storage Shed

A storage shed is located on the eastern side of the reserve. It is rated as being in very good overall condition with some early stages of deterioration evident.

Toilet Block

A stand-alone brick toilet block is located between the oval, community centre and courts. The toilet block is rated in very good overall condition but with some early stages of deterioration evident.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Demographics

Katunga Community

Katunga is located approximately 235kms North East of Melbourne in the Moira Shire. It is 10km from Numurkah and 25km from Cobram and 44km from its nearest Regional City, Shepparton.

Australian Bureau Statistics (ABS) 2016 and 2011 Census data highlights the following:

The town has a population of approximately 996 including 266 families, around 23% (232) are aged 14 years and under, 12% (122) between 15 and 24, 40% (393) between 25 and 54 years and 25% (247) 55 years and over. There are 266 families and the gender split is 49% male and 51% female and the median age is 38.

The median weekly income per family is \$1,481, about 85% of the Australian median of around \$1,735 and per household is \$1,234, which is about 85% of the Australian median of around \$1,438.

18% of the community have done voluntary work through an organization or group in the last 12 months, which is very similar to the Australian rates of around 19%.

24.3% of the Katunga population live alone.

The ABS also publishes Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) data that ranks areas according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. In 2011 Katunga had a SEIFA index of 1,002 ranking it in the 6th Decile which is in the mid-range.

While an estimate only, based on Katunga's comparably young median age and number of families as well as the Moira Small Towns and Settlements Strategy Plan 2013 prediction it is expected that Katunga will have growth over the next 20 years. However, even if the population doubled over the next 20 years, it would be unlikely to have a significant impact on the type of activity

undertaken at the Recreation Reserve, other than perhaps increasing numbers.

The Katunga Community has no public hall as such and many of the communities bigger events are held in other towns or meetings held in the CFA Sheds at times.

The township has had significant investment into major projects with \$19m invested in propagation warehouses, which is expected to double in the next 10 years and a \$150m Biofuel development expected to take place over the next 5 years.

Plans and Strategies

Committee of Management Operations and Risk Management Manual 2012

The direction and powers of the Committee are provided for via Council's delegation (through a Section 86 Committee), as well as the Committee of Management Operations and Risk Management Manual 2012 (the manual).

In addition to providing guidance relating to governance and process, the manual also states that Council will support the Committee in the development of a Facility Improvement Plan, to outline the Committees aspirations for the use and development of the facility over its term in office. It states that Committees should constantly seek to identify and review potential improvements to the facility.

Moira Shire Council Plan 2017-2021

The Moira Shire Council Plan is the document that will guide the Council's direction and activities during this Council's term of office.

The Plan aims to ensure that recreation, sport, art and cultural facilities and programs will respond to cultural diversity and community needs. It will achieve this objective by implementing the Recreation Strategy to support active lifestyles through passive and organized sport and recreational services and infrastructure.

It notes that a key measure of success will be that recreational and sports facilities and clubs are accessible and welcome female participation.

As part of its strategy relating to being 'A well run Council', the Plan also states a strategic action will be 'reviewing and rationalizing assets and services to identify gaps, overlap and surplus', and that it will have 'a pipeline of shovel ready projects for grant applications'.

Moira Small Towns and Settlements Strategy Plan 2013

The Small Towns and Settlements Strategy Plan aims to set the overall direction for managing the sustainable development of the municipalities small towns and settlements.

It defines a sustainable community as one which "...meets the diverse needs of existing and future residents, their children and other users, contribute to a high quality of life and provide opportunity and choice. They achieve this in ways that make effective use of natural resources, enhances the environment, promote social cohesion and inclusion and strengthen economic prosperity".

Katunga is defined as a Village with accelerated growth expected due to the expansion of Katunga Fresh.

Moira Shire – Wellbeing for All Ages Strategy 2017-2021

The Moira Shire Wellbeing for All Ages Strategy aims to provide Council with a clear and strategic planning approach that integrates planning for health and wellbeing across all stages of life.

Amongst a range of observations, the Plan states that:

- Much of our community are not as physically active as they should be.
- Our residents are concerned with the mental health of young people in our community.
- Obesity is becoming a serious health issue in our community.
- Our community is ageing and the number of older people living in our community will increase rapidly in the next 15 years.

Included in the objectives and actions in the Plan, Council states that it will:



in providing sustainable facilities and states that “the provision of recreational program delivery and asset management can be resource intense and it is necessary to take a smart and efficient approach to the future....this will involve working in partnerships, shared use facilities, rationalization when needed and a strong working relationship with Section 86 Committees, user groups and the wider community”.

Moira Shire Asset Management

Moira Shire is responsible for \$524 million of assets, including land, buildings, drainage, waste and roads. These assets are managed through an Asset Management Policy, Plan and Strategy.

This framework aims to ensure that Council’s assets are sustainable and continue to function at a level of service determined by the Council and accepted by the broader community.

Included amongst key policy statements are that, as custodian of a variety of assets and large infrastructure network, Council will embrace the following principles:

- Sustainability, preserving Council’s assets (maintaining their overall condition) for future generations.
- Liability management, ensuring that existing assets are safe for use by the current generation.
- Give preference to funding renewal of existing utilized assets over the creation of new assets.

Liveability

Liveability is becoming a key framework used nationally and internationally in health policy development. The ‘Place, People and Liveability Research Program’ undertaken by the Victorian Government in partnership with Melbourne University in 2013’s definition of liveability includes it being a place that is safe, attractive, socially cohesive and inclusive with access to public open space, leisure and cultural activities and walking and cycling infrastructure. It also notes the determinants of a liveable community include parks and recreational opportunities and vibrant social interaction.

Hazardous Building Materials Audit at Katunga Recreation Reserve – September 2017

Hazcon Services were engaged by Moira Shire to undertake a hazardous building materials audit of the buildings at the Recreation Reserve.

The audit found the presence of a number of materials however generally they were deemed to be of a low or negligible risk and able to be managed with some painting and general maintenance with the recommendation that they be monitored, maintained and removed prior to any works.

An exception to this level of risk was the presence of asbestos found in the away team change rooms which was rated as a potential elevated risk with the recommendation that it be removed.

Environmental Sustainability

As per the Moira Shire Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2017-2021 any new facilities or upgrades must be designed to ensure impacts on the environment are minimised. Consideration of energy efficiency, renewable energy and water use efficiency principles in the design will also assist in the reduction of ongoing running costs.

Sport Strategies

Netball Victoria

Netball Victoria have undertaken significant works in auditing and reporting against the condition and compliance with established standards of court provision of facilities right across Victoria. They have developed in partnership with the State Government a Netball Court Planning guide providing a number of case studies highlighting different development options as well as indicative costings for various court types.

Tennis Australia

Tennis Australia has developed a comprehensive planning framework to support and assist tennis clubs throughout the country. Amongst the frameworks are recommended levels of facilities based on a national hierarchy and indicative costings of upgrades and re-development of courts based on a number of court and surface types. Under the Tennis Australia facility hierarchy Katunga would fall into the 'local' category.

Australian Football League – Preferred Facility Guidelines (incorporating Addendum Amenities Upgrade for Unisex Use) – July 2015

The Guidelines have been developed in order to provide direction for the development of new facilities and/or those being considered for major refurbishment or redevelopment. For local or regional type facilities the guidelines recommend:

- Avoiding open showers and provide 3 to 4 showers.
- Avoid troughs and individual urinals and provide a minimum of 1 ambulant accessible toilet cubicle.
- Social/Community spaces should be at least 100m² and around 150m².
- Appropriate umpires, meeting, administration and storage spaces should be provided.

Cricket Australia Community Facility Guidelines - Guidance Note 2 – Outdoor Training Facilities

Cricket Australia's Guidance Note 2 – Outdoor Training Facilities aim to help guide future cricket net development and/or redevelopment and recommends the following planning principles be considered when determining the most suitable location for cricket net development:

- Training nets and run ups should be positioned off the field of play.
- Nets should not be positioned in a location likely to interfere with the match (e.g. behind the bowler's arm causing potential distractions to the batsman).
- Nets should be orientated in a north-south direction.
- Nets should be positioned in a location where there is minimal chance of injury to passers by or damage to property and/or vehicles. This planning consideration is not applicable if training nets are enclosed.
- Nets should be positioned as close to the pavilion as possible to minimise distance to transport equipment.

Cricket Australia Community Facility Guidelines - Guidance Note 3 – Clubrooms and Change Facilities

This guideline acknowledges how well designed clubrooms and change facilities can contribute

significantly to a successful club, sporting precinct and local community. Specifically relating to change facilities the guidelines recommends that:

- A minimum of 3 showers should be provided and that these should be lockable cubicles to better accommodate all users.
- A minimum of 3 toilet pans is preferred and should be provided as lockable cubicles. Urinals should be avoided to better accommodate all gender use and at least one ambulant toilet should be provided in accordance with Disability Discrimination Act standards.
- A regional or club level social facility should have a commercial kitchen and storage of around 25m² and social, community or multi-purpose room of around 150m².

Sport Participation Trends

Moirra Participation

Based on the community survey conducted as part of the Moira Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2016- 2026, Netball, AFL and Tennis are the top 3 highest participation organized sports across the municipality. Gym/Group Fitness and walking and running were the highest informal active recreation activities.

National Participation

The Australian Sports Commission released the 'AusPlay' participation data for the sport sector report in December 2016. Amongst the key findings were:

1. Football, Australian football and netball are all amongst the top 5 activities undertaken by boys and girls outside of school hours.
2. Football, Australian football and netball are amongst the top 5 sports activities undertaken by adults.
3. Cricket is the 4th most participated team sport for boys and 8th for adult men, however is not in the top ten for either girls or adult women.
4. Tennis is in the top 10 sports activities undertaken by adults and children of both genders.
5. Sport is still the strongest form of physical activity undertaken by young people, with over 75% children between the ages of 5 and 14 participating.
6. Fun, enjoyment and social reasons and psychological/mental health benefits all followed physical health and fitness as the keys reasons why people participate in sport.
7. While sports related participation falls off as people get older, their participation in non-sport related physical activity increases and then remains stable.
8. Walking and fitness/gym continue to be the most popular forms of exercise for adults.



Netball Participation

Netball Australia reported in December 2016 that netball is still the most popular team sport for women and young girls (based on the AusPlay data). They reported that participation in the junior NetSetGo program is increasing and that more focus on social programs such as the 'Fast5' will support further growth in participation as well as encourage male participation.

AFL Female Participation

The AFL have reported a 56% increase in female community club teams in 2016 with female participation now representing 27% of the total. Girls participating in Auskick has increased by 21% and total female participation by 19%.

The AFL are making a conscious push to support and grow female participation through the introduction of a national elite competition and through funding promotional campaigns as well as both program and facility development.

Football Participation

The Football Federation Australia (FFA) have reported that football continues to grow and based on the AusPlay report is the team sport with the highest participation rates across Australia.

The FFA have an aggressive 20 year Plan to build on their strong participation and aim to have every community club having women's teams in every age group in every club and grow participation in schools.

Tennis Participation

Tennis remains in the top 10 participated sports for both genders and across both adult and children.

Tennis Australia has a Participation Strategy that aims to have 1 million registered players and 4 million people playing at least once a year and includes a framework of focus on schools, juniors, clubs, junior and competition support.

OPPORTUNITY AND ISSUE ANALYSIS

The identification of opportunities and issues has been undertaken through two workshops with the reserve committee of management and review of a number of community, sport and recreation plans, frameworks and trends.

SWOT Analysis

The following SWOT Analysis has been undertaken through a workshop with the recreation reserve committee of management.

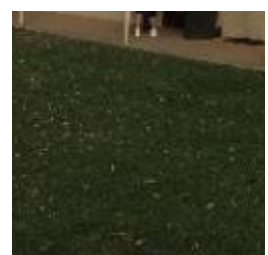
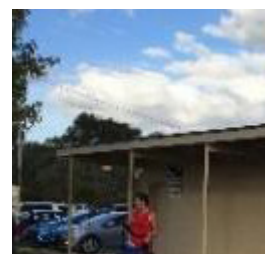
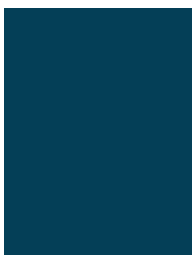
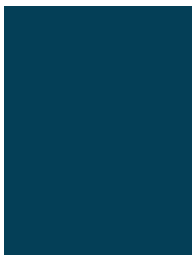
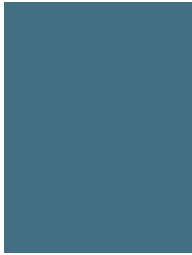
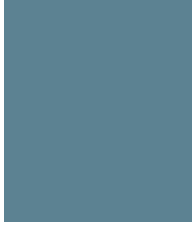
Internal Environment Analysis (Strengths and Weaknesses Analysis)

Strengths

- Good participation numbers
- Great volunteers
- Good community spirit
- Unique layout and proximity of facilities (including school)
- Access to water
- Oval
- 3 new courts
- Tree lined reserve - well protected - natural wind break
- Traffic - entries for events
- Safe area for kids and families (in context of the railway line and lack of formal paths)

Weaknesses

- Age of failing facilities:
 - Court lights
 - Gutter falling off
 - Asbestos
 - Roof leaking
 - Kitchen
- Limited space - not able to meet community needs
 - Bigger events such as football club ball and best and fairest and school concerts all currently held out of town
- Lack of clarity around ownership of assets
- Non compliant facilities - Disability Access, Women's participation
- Non compliant cricket nets
- Insufficient power into the site
- Insufficient oval lighting (NE Corner for training, also not able to be used to support night competition)
- No mobile/internet service



- Poor energy management
- Septic waste system
- No roadway lighting
- Playground could be in a safer spot

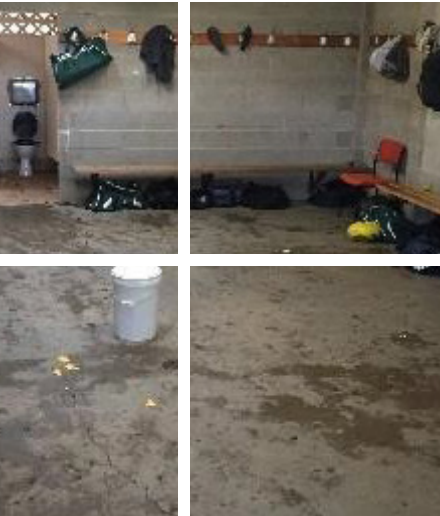
External Review (Opportunities and Threats Analysis)

Opportunities

- Plenty of space for future development
- LED Lights on courts
- Better oval lights for more social/night competition
- Better signage for way-finding to get to the reserve
- Community can hold events locally if appropriate spaces
- Already a regional hub for sports (especially schools) and this can grow
- Bring other activities to the recreation reserve (indoor bowls, CFA, Scouts, Dance, Gym)
- Female sports growth - AFL, Soccer and Cricket
- Physical activity for the whole community through gym or multi-use space

Threats

- Freeze on raising user fees because old facilities may result in inability to raise sufficient funds to keep the reserve safe
- Community/committee losing motivation to stay involved - all efforts and funds are constantly going to fix old or broken things and feel like not progressing
- Facilities becoming unsafe
- Not being able to hold events due to small and poor standard facilities - negative impact on the social fabric of the town



Key Issues and Opportunities

Katunga Community

The Katunga community is comparatively young, with a reasonably even spread across all age groups and a high number of families.

There is an expectation that the community will continue to grow over the next 20 years which would reasonably suggest at least the current levels of use of the Recreation Reserve may be able to be maintained.

With no community spaces in the town able to accommodate functions or events of several hundred people generally bigger community events including school concerts, football netball club balls and presentation nights are all held in surrounding towns. Many stakeholders have indicated this impacts negatively on the social fabric of the local community.

The location of the township as well as the school provides a unique opportunity for the town to hold regional sports and especially school sports events.

Supporting Council Strategy and Activity

The Council Plan highlights Council's commitment to supporting active lifestyles through passive and organized sport, while the Wellbeing for All Ages Strategy notes challenges facing communities in some areas relating to their health and identifies a number of objectives, strategies and actions to address these. Both plans affirm Council's commitment to supporting safe, welcoming and appropriate facilities and programs to encourage female participation.

The Recreation Strategy acknowledges the importance of Recreation Reserves to their communities, especially to small towns and refers to them as often being the 'heart' of those communities.

There is a strong and ongoing opportunity for the Recreation Reserve and its key users to continue to play a significant role in supporting Council in these areas, especially as a site for engaging and providing education and information about the many important health and wellbeing initiatives that are proposed as well as being a place that facilitates social cohesion and community building. Appropriate facilities will be important in supporting this activity.

Council Support

While Council has articulated in a number of strategies, plans and policies its commitment to encouraging participation in sport and recreation, it is however challenged by a unique set of circumstances linked to the municipalities make-up and population distribution and in this context the demand for infrastructure development and limited funds provide a significant and on-going challenge.

The Committee will need to be innovative, focus on shared and all of community access and on building partnerships to facilitate upgrades and developments at the Recreation Reserve.

Sports Role in Community Wellbeing

The 'AusPlay' report confirmed the important role of sport and physical activity not only in people's physical wellbeing but also to their mental health, noting that fun, enjoyment and social reasons and psychological/mental health benefits all followed physical health and fitness as the key reasons why people participate in sport. The Recreation Reserve and the activities that occur there are providing an important community role in facilitating this participation in Katunga.

Participation Trends

Providing walking paths and areas for flexible or shared use or provision of outdoor gym equipment may all support increased use of the Recreation Reserve.

Facility Use

It is estimated that around 300 people or around a quarter of the population are direct users of the sporting aspects of the recreational reserve. This does not include spectators nor the additional identified or casual uses. It could be reasonably assumed that almost all of the community of Katunga are users of the recreation reserve at various times in some capacity.

Volunteers

While the contribution of existing volunteers and the willingness of the Katunga community to contribute their time and resources to a number of causes and projects has been identified as a real strength, as is reflected across many areas, the age, capacity and availability of volunteers has been identified as a key issue. In addition to this, the committee have highlighted that with so much effort going towards raising funds for or directly undertaking repairs to ageing and failing infrastructure (fixing broken things), there is risk of the loss of motivation to stay involved.

Finance

The Committee currently primarily generates funds through the venue hire and via Council's funding support. To support future re-developments, the Committee will need to work with facility user's, the broader community and levels of government to build partnerships.

Tenant Sports Clubs

Participation data for netball, AFL and tennis suggests the tenant sports are either in a growth phase or supported by active growth strategies of the sports and there is opportunity through continued development and innovation, including partnering with the school, developing or participating in flexible and social competitions as a minimum to sustain the current levels of use. Women's teams in AFL, introduction of football and Fast5 netball, social tennis and evening activities are examples to ensure the clubs remain viable entities. Nets provided behind the goals would provide a number of benefits.

Country Fire Authority (CFA) Practice Area

Some minor upgrades to the Reserve to support vehicle access and movement during training as well as incorporating meeting spaces into any community room upgrades would be encouraged by the local CFA.

Recreation Reserve as a District Sports Ground

The Reserve is specifically identified in the Recreation Strategy as an example of a District Recreation Reserve which in the strategy is acknowledged as often being the heart of the community. The committee believe this view reflects the Katunga Recreation Reserve.

Community Centre

There are a number of issues with the current community space:

They are aging and this is presenting other issues such as the ongoing cost of maintenance is growing every year and meaning the committee are struggling to maintain them in suitable or safe standards.

They are too small to accommodate larger events such as sports club balls and best and fairest evenings and school concerts. There is no other suitable venue in the town and as a result these events are being held in other towns. This is impacting on the social fabric of the community.

Construction of a new Community Centre with flexible meeting spaces would allow for multi-purpose programming possibilities that better support our community and its groups. A centre that can seat approximately 150-200 individuals in a dining configuration and/or 300-400 seated guests in a standard theatre style configuration for events and large meetings would enable Katunga residents to socialise locally. When not in use for larger events, a flexible facility could be divided into smaller, 20 person-sized, energy efficient activity spaces that would give our local groups a sustainable base of operations.

Change Rooms

The change rooms are ageing and like the social rooms are becoming challenging for the committee to be able to continually raise the funds to be able to maintain them to an appropriate and safe standard. There is asbestos present in the buildings and while it is generally rated as a low or negligible risk, the away change rooms has some that is rated as a potential elevated risk and it is recommended it be removed. The change rooms are also largely non-compliant in several respects relating to accessibility and providing for diverse use.

Power to the Site

The Committee and users have noted issues with power to the site and that it has at times dropped out.

Lighting on the Oval

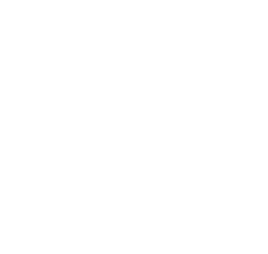
While the current lighting largely supports training, the area to the North East is poorly lit and requires upgrade. Further upgrade to a standard that allows competition or even evening social use may support additional programming.

Lights around Facilities

The Recreation Reserve is very dark in the evenings, especially during winter and some additional lighting around parking spaces would improve safety for users when leaving meetings, events or training.

Cricket Nets

The cricket nets are non-compliant and when any improvements or upgrades are undertaken, these should be re-located.



Communications

The lack of mobile and internet signal strength at the reserve has been identified as an issue both in terms of general operations such as the tenant sports clubs being able to log scores and results on line.

Scoreboard/Timekeeper Box

The scoreboard and timekeepers box ageing and replacement identified as a being required. When scoreboards are updated, introducing digital scoreboards which are becoming more common and provide opportunities to generate revenue for the committee through advertising will be investigated.

Spectator Seating

Making the netball tiered seating permanent will improve safety and amenity and while viewing to the main oval is adequate the provision of additional seating and shade areas will improve conditions for spectators at the Recreation Reserve.



DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

The following development priorities at the Reserve have been identified through the Recreation Reserve Committee workshops.

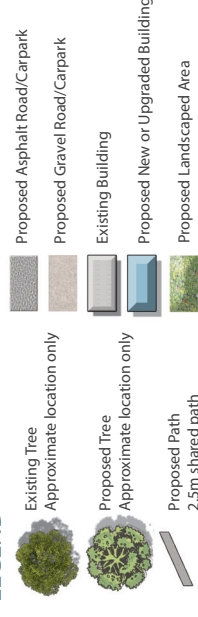
NO.	PROJECT	PRIORITY
1	Change Rooms To construct new change rooms that are fit for purpose, comply with all standards and guidelines of a District Sports Ground and allow for future growth in programming.	HIGH
2	Community Facilities Construction of new Community Facilities that provide for the towns major events, activities and celebrations as well as improving safety and reducing the current maintenance needs is a high priority for the committee.	HIGH
3	Power to the site Providing power to the site that is stable and reliable both for now and to meet future facility use.	HIGH
4	Mobile and Internet Access Poor current service to be addressed and facilitate tenant sports being able to submit scores and results online as well as provide better user and spectator experiences	HIGH
5	Upgrade Cricket Nets Re-locate to meet current recommended provision	HIGH
6	Lighting on the Oval Initially upgrading the NE section lighting and longer term upgrading to support more social and evening competition.	HIGH
7	Lights around Facilities Providing better lighting will make leaving the facility in the evenings safer.	MEDIUM
8	Upgrade Remaining Tennis Courts Provide additional multi-purpose courts to support growth in participation.	MEDIUM
9	Scoreboard/Timekeeper Box Replace existing ageing and failing infrastructure with new modern equipment and spaces.	MEDIUM
10	New Electronic Scoreboard Meet current standards and provide an opportunity for the committee to promote activities and generate additional revenue through advertising.	MEDIUM
11	Construct a Stand Alone Spectator Stand on Main Oval Additional shading and seating will improve spectator amenity and keep the Recreation Reserve competitive when tendering to host regional events and finals.	LOW
12	Make Netball Teared Seating Permanent Safer and better amenity	LOW
13	Purchase Goal Nets	LOW
14	Provide more formalised CFA Training Area To support CFA training use and even increase use.	LOW
15	Upgrade Road Surfaces Asphalt entry initially and perhaps all other roadways over time, improve overall amenity and reduce maintenance.	LOW

Katunga Recreation Reserve Recreation Reserve And Community Centre MASTER PLAN

Development Priorities

NO.	PROJECT	PRIORITY
①	Change Rooms To construct new change rooms that are fit for purpose, comply with all standards and guidelines of a District Sports Ground and allow for future growth in programming.	HIGH
②	Community Facilities Construction of new Community Facilities that provide for the towns major events, activities and celebrations as well as improving safety and reducing the current maintenance needs is a high priority for the committee.	HIGH
③	Power to the site Providing power to the site that is stable and reliable both for now and to meet future facility use.	HIGH
④	Mobile and Internet Access Poor current service to be addressed and facilitate tenant sports being able to submit scores and results online as well as provide better user and spectator experiences	HIGH
⑤	Upgrade Cricket Nets Re-locate to meet current recommended provision	HIGH
⑥	Lighting on the Oval Initially upgrading the NE section lighting and longer term upgrading to support more social and evening competition.	HIGH
⑦	Lights around Facilities Providing better lighting will make leaving the facility in the evenings safer.	MEDIUM
⑧	Upgrade Remaining Tennis Courts Provide additional multi-purpose courts to support growth in participation.	MEDIUM
⑨	Scoreboard/Timekeeper Box Replace existing ageing and failing infrastructure with new modern equipment and spaces.	MEDIUM
⑩	New Electronic Scoreboard Meet current standards and provide an opportunity for the committee to promote activities and generate additional revenue through advertising.	MEDIUM
⑪	Construct a Stand Alone Spectator Stand on Main Oval Additional shading and seating will improve spectator amenity and keep the Recreation Reserve competitive when tendering to host regional events and finals.	LOW
⑫	Make Netball Teared Seating Permanent Safer and better amenity	LOW
⑬	Purchase Goal Nets	LOW
⑭	Provide more formalised CFA Training Area To support CFA training use and even increase use.	LOW
⑮	Upgrade Road Surfaces Asphalt entry initially and perhaps all other roadways over time, improve overall amenity and reduce maintenance.	LOW

LEGEND





Katunga Recreation Reserve
Recreation Reserve And Community Centre
EXISTING CONDITIONS



September 2017
*Not To Scale



AS&R SOLUTIONS
AQUATIC SPORT + RECREATION SOLUTIONS

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