

# **ATTACHMENT TO AGENDA ITEM**

Ordinary Meeting

19 May 2015

<b>Agenda Item 6.1</b>	<b>Arcadia Recreation Reserve Draft Master Plan</b>	
<b>Attachment 1</b>	<b>Arcadia Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Background Paper February 2015 .....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>Attachment 2</b>	<b>Arcadia Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Action Plan February 2015 .....</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>Attachment 3</b>	<b>Arcadia Recreation Reserve car parking layout .....</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>Attachment 4</b>	<b>Arcadia Recreation Reserve v2 Aerial Master Plan .....</b>	<b>148</b>

## Arcadia Recreation Reserve draft Master Plan Background Paper

**February 2015**

### **1. Introduction to the town and local area**

#### Location

Arcadia is a small rural town based on Kennedys Road within the boundaries of the Greater Shepparton City Council.

#### Demographics

At the 2011 census, Arcadia had a population of 227.

#### Public Facilities

In regards to community infrastructure, the Arcadia Recreation Reserve is located in the town itself on Kennedys Road, inclusive of tennis court, community centre and CFA shed.

#### History

The town once thrived with dairy, cattle, sheep and timber industries. It was supported by services such as hotel, general store, butcher shop, bootstore, school, creamery and butter factory. A railway station and post office also supported the town.

Like many small towns, the closure of businesses and services, such as the railway station and the post office, was in response to a changing economy and community need. The economy of the area was based on large rural holdings producing cattle, sheep and timber. Smaller rural holdings in the Arcadia district were taken up in the late 1800's and with the impacts of drought and financial hardship in the early 1900's, many sold up due to properties being unviable. The railway station closed in 1977 and Post Office closed in 1993.

The town now paints a different picture where trends show many community members seek to work outside of the town and surrounds partially due to local work opportunities declining in agriculture and families having greater access to disposable income for items such as the number of vehicles per household.

The community now value opportunities for important social connections that were once part and parcel of everyday life. The Arcadia Recreation Reserve provides the only public space within the town and adjacent rural area for community sport, events and festivals.

## **2. Background to the master plan**

The Arcadia Recreation Reserve Committee of Management identified the need to develop a master plan for the Reserve. The Arcadia Locality Plan Group has supported this project as a high priority for the community due to the importance the Reserve plays within the local community.

The reserve is the only public facility currently available to support important social connections. Social tennis, Australia Day festivities, Christmas activities and farmers markets take place at the Reserve. Both the CFA and Landcare are active community groups within Arcadia and are based at the Reserve.

Like most small towns, a school, hotel, railway station and shops once existed to support the thriving local economy and community. These services and infrastructure no longer exist.

The impact of a changing economy and modernisation such as the modern car, many residents now travel away from Arcadia to support employment, recreation and social needs. Therefore, the reserve plays an important role in supporting social connections within the local community.

## **3. Current Facilities**

The Reserve provides the following facilities:

- Tennis Court
- Playground
- CFA Shed
- Community Centre
- Open Space with mature trees.
- A small area of the site is leased to a neighbour for stock.

## **4. Issues and Opportunities**

Community needs identified in relation to the Reserve include:

- Bollards - aged and in need of replacement, potential safety issue
- Car Parking –a safety issue exists currently where cars park anywhere throughout the reserve
- Landscaping – regular mulching, further plantings needed and watering options needed
- Toilet facilities - not accessible and aged
- Peppercorn trees – non-native trees
- History - history of the area is not captured in the town

- CFA shed – limited space for new vehicle
- Recreation facilities limited – limited facilities exist at the reserve to support the communities recreation needs
- Small town off the main road - no evidence of links with Greater Shepparton within the town
- Playground - has no shade
- Walking tracks – there are limited opportunities for walking tracks leading out and around the town and linking up to the Reserve.

## Arcadia Recreation Reserve Master Plan

### Action Plan – February 2015

Priority	Master Plan Recommendations	Action	Stakeholder Responsibility	Estimated Cost	Funding Opportunities	Status
1.	Install bollards between recreation and open space areas and car parking	Request to Council renewal budget to replace existing bollards.	Council	NIL	Existing Council renewal budget	Request made. Bollards to be replaced 2015 calendar year.
		Apply for a grant for additional bollards to separate vehicles from recreation areas.	Council	NIL	Council	Request made. Bollards to be installed 2015 calendar year.
2.	Develop new car parking, entrance and lighting	Request to Council to draft concept plan for carpark, entrance and lighting locations. Ensure new CFA shed is taken into consideration when drafting.	Committee	NIL	N/A	COMPLETE Draft concept plan developed.
		Seek funding to construct carpark, entrance and install safety lighting.	Committee	Quotes required	GSCC Community Grant. Investigate possible external funding opportunities.	
3.	Landscaping works including garden beds	Committee to develop a design for landscaping.	Committee	NIL	Landcare Community in-kind	
		Seek suitable plants. Investigate possible support from Landcare and/or	Committee		Landcare Community in-kind	

		sponsorship from a nursery.				
		Investigate suitable watering options, for example, bore.	Committee	Quotes required	GSCC Community Grant	
		Organise a roster for landscaping maintenance.				
4.	Upgrade toilet facility	Request the toilet facility be included in the Greater Shepparton Public Toilet Strategy.	Council			Capital bid for toilet renewal in 2015/16 budget.
5.	Remove Peppercorn trees	Remove peppercorn trees and replace with native species.	Council		Council	
6.	Install historical Information Boards at strategic locations	Research local historical information.	Committee		Committee	
		Develop and install historical information boards in strategic locations within the reserve and along existing and possible future walking tracks.	Committee		GSCC Community Grant	
7.	CFA shed extension to house new vehicle	Committee to agree on exact size and location.	CFA		CFA	
8.	Construct additional recreation facilities	Investigate opportunities for recreation facilities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking track around the town</li> <li>• Skate park</li> <li>• Basketball court</li> <li>• Fitness equipment</li> </ul>	Committee in partnership with Council			Councils Youth Recreation Strategy could investigate from a youth perspective.

9.	Investigate the opportunity for a Council cow to be located at the Reserve	Request Council cow	Committee	NIL	Council	COMPLETE
10.	Construct a shelter over the playground	Investigate shelter options	Committee in partnership with Council		GSCC Community Grant	





