

***Charlton Community Plan***

***Adopted November 2013***

***Charlton Forum***

**Group 1: Major projects (limited participation by community):**

Number	Project	Description	Cost	Responsible Body
1.1	New Hospital	Hospital Construction underway.  <b>Expected completion date – October 2014</b>		East Wimmera Health Service
1.2	Levee Bank/ Flood Mitigation	Levee Bank and/or other flood mitigation works.		State Gov't/Buloke Shire
1.3	Drainage of the Charlton Township	Charlton has a drainage problem that will require a staged comprehensive approach over a period of time to rectify. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drainage Plans drawn up and adopted by Council;</li> <li>• Planned stages to be costed and listed on the Council Budget;</li> <li>• Funding sources to be determined and applications drafted.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire
1.4	New Residential Areas	There is a need to plan for and provide land for new residential areas to allow for the future development of the town. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary planning commenced;</li> <li>• Planning scheme Amendments to be drafted and exhibited.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire
1.5	New Rural Living Opportunities	Plan for improvement to the liveability of the community and to promote growth in Charlton that will enhance the living experience of existing residents and attract new residents to Charlton. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary planning commenced;</li> <li>• Planning scheme Amendments to be drafted and exhibited.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire
1.6	Industrial Estate	Existing areas for Industrial development are limited; there is a need to plan for future development and to encourage new businesses into town. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Source further land for an Industrial Estate to attract new businesses to Charlton;</li> <li>• Develop plans for subdivision and development of the area;</li> <li>• Source funding and draft applications.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire

**Group 2: Community Infrastructure:**

2.1	Upgrade of the Shire Hall Kitchen	<p>The Shire Hall kitchen is small, most of its facilities are old and it is not an efficient kitchen for organizations to work in. A kitchen upgrade will also make the Hall a more usable community facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans to be developed;</li> <li>• Application for Council approval to be developed and submitted;</li> <li>• Funding sources to be identified and applications prepared.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Shire Hall Committee
2.2	Charlton Hall Supper Room Air-conditioning	<p>The Air Conditioning of the Charlton Shire Hall Supper Room is aimed at making the Hall more usable in our climate of extremes; this will make it a more acceptable venue for community functions and follows the Air Conditioning of the main auditorium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application for funding to be included in Council Capital Works Budget;</li> <li>• Preliminary work being undertaken and cost estimate established;</li> <li>• Other funding sources being researched and applications submitted.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Shire Hall Committee/Hall users.
2.3	Upgrade of the Shire Hall Chairs & Tables	<p>The chairs and tables at the Shire Hall are passed their use-by date, repairing is a stop gap approach at best; an upgrade is an urgent requirement for this facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment source to be identified and prices obtained;</li> <li>• Application for Council approval to be developed and submitted;</li> <li>• Funding sources to be identified and applications prepared.</li> </ul> <p><b>Some new chairs (second hand) donated, further chairs and tables needed - ongoing</b></p>		Buloke Shire/Shire Hall Committee
2.4	Rex Theatre – Stage One – New toilets & back-of-stage development.	<p>The Rex needs to upgrade the theatre toilet facilities which are sub-standard and in urgent need of upgrade including improving the disabled access. There is also a need for back-of-stage development which will include a change room for performers.</p> <p><b>Concept drawings have been developed &amp; costed.</b></p>	\$0.5M	Rex Theatre Committee

2.5	Rex Theatre – Stage Two – Museum	<p>The planned museum complex at the rear of the building will house the collection of films, movie memorabilia, projection equipment and other associated paraphernalia.</p> <p><b>Concept drawings have been developed &amp; costed.</b></p>	\$0.5M	Rex Theatre Committee
2.6	Repair flood damage to the walls of the Court House	<p>Refurbishment work completed but there is still some work to be done to repair wall damage as a result of the January 2011 floods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding to undertake the work.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Charlton Courthouse Committee.
2.7	Charlton Cemetery	<p>Looking to undertake thermal imaging of the oldest section of the Cemetery to establish the location of old burials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding being sought.</li> </ul>		Charlton Cemetery Trust

**Group 3: Economic Development & Tourism Type Projects:**

3.1	Travellers Rest – Development of a Motorhome Camping Area	<p>The project aims to make Charlton more attractive to the self contained Mobile Home market attracting travellers to stop in Charlton for more than one night which will benefit the commercial section of the community. This will involve the development of a Free Camp area for self contained motorhomes and caravans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put down pads for campers; and</li> <li>• Construct drainage culverts at the entrance to the area to assist turning vehicles and undertake some road work in the park area.</li> <li>• Build a new gazebo for motorhome campers with wind protection blinds, a wood fired barbeque and general landscaping of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water to sites completed – investigating further options for development including the above.</b></p>		Travellers Rest Committee
3.2	Travellers Rest – Toilet Upgrade	<p>A facelift is required for the Travellers Rest toilets. Good toilets are essential to tourist stopping in Charlton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover the interior brick walls with tiles up to a particular height.</li> <li>• Replacement of vanities</li> </ul>		Travellers Rest Committee
3.3	Travellers Rest – Development of east side near Bourke’s Butchers.	<p>Develop this area to add another eating/seating area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept plans have been developed.</li> </ul>		Travellers Rest Committee
3.4	Charlton Tourist Action Plan	<p>Develop ‘Mud-Map’ tourist routes of at least four areas in the Charlton community. The aim is to give people who choose to stay in Charlton things to do and see with a long term aim to encourage tourists to stay longer in Charlton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form a group of people to develop further Mud Maps;</li> <li>• Develop a series of local tourist route ‘Mud Maps.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing, project will be enhanced by the appointment of the Business Development Officer</b></p>		Charlton Forum/Charlton Tourism
3.5	Town Promotion and the creation of a Town image/brand	<p>Since the January 2011 floods a need has developed to promote the town to attract people to stop in Charlton. Town presentation is seen as important to maximise the benefit from the promotion thus it is proposed that the program include the re-painting and smarting up of shop fronts, the development of a Charlton image to bring about a consistent message to people which included the development and locating of appropriate signs on the approached to the town</p>		

		<p>and throughout the town as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding to employ a suitable consultant to analysis the town, its current signage and develop plans for the future promotion/presentation of the town</li> <li>• Seek funding for the project.</li> <li>• Develop costs for the signs and the painting of shop front etc.</li> <li>• Seek the appropriate approvals from Council and where required VicRoads</li> <li>• Undertake consultation with the community</li> <li>• Community to work closely with the New Development Officer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding for a Development Officer has been received - ongoing</b></p>		
3.6	Charlton Streetscape Development	<p>The Charlton Streetscape (High Street) is now 20 years old and in need of review, the attractiveness of our streets is important in making a first impression on the travelling public and there are extensive areas that have not had any development as yet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans have been developed and are to be presented to Council for approval;</li> <li>• Plans to be presented to the community for comment;</li> </ul> <p>Funding sources to be identified and applications</p>		Buloke Shire/Charlton Tourism/Chamber of Commerce
3.7	Charlton Golden Grains Museum Expansion	<p>They still have a large amount of historical items not currently on display. Therefore expansion of the museum into additional buildings (Uniting Church small chapel &amp; Sunday School) will rectify this and also secure the future of Charlton's historical buildings. (Uniting Church).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal being prepared;</li> <li>• Buildings will require repairs;</li> <li>• Some funding already available &amp; additional funding being sourced.</li> </ul>		Charlton Golden Grains Museum/Uniting Church
3.8	Walking trail along the river to the weir and back	<p>Charlton has a wonderful natural asset in the form of the Avoca River and its native river reserve, this project seeks to capitalise on these assets, promote recreational activity and enhance tourist promotion in the community by developing a four kilometre path from the town to the weir and back including bench seats and wildlife signage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary plans completed</li> <li>• Design plans to be prepared</li> <li>• Funding sources being ascertained and applications prepared.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Charlton Forum/Charlton Tourism

3.9	Walking Track - Outside Gymnastic Equipment	<p>This project seeks to add value to the walking track along the river and further enhance recreational activity at the same time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equipment details on hand, plans to be developed in consultation with the community;</li><li>• Application for Council approval to be developed and submitted;</li><li>• Funding sources to be identified and applications prepared.</li></ul>		Buloke Shire/Charlton Forum/Charlton Tourism
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**Group 4: Education & Community Resources**

4.1	Community & District Information Centre at the CIRCLE	<p>The CIRCLE was formed after the January 2011 flood. It acts as central point for community groups, provides a meeting place and venue for Yoga &amp; art classes. It is also the Venue for the Centrelink Agency. They provide secretarial services, photocopying and other services for the community. It has recently become the VicRoads agency for Charlton. To remain viable the CIRCLE needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure funding to cover operational costs.</li> <li>• Recruit suitable volunteers to provide customer service.</li> <li>• Pursue opportunities to undertake adult education and other programs.</li> </ul>		CIRCLE
4.2	Charlton Forum Succession Plan	<p>The Executive and Forum Members are keen to develop a succession planning strategy that will ensure younger members of the community join the Forum committee and therefore prolong the life and viability of the Charlton Forum Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the activities of the Forum and ensure its continued relevance;</li> <li>• Develop a Succession Planning Strategy;</li> <li>• Promote the strategy and approach community people with a view of membership.</li> </ul>		Charlton Forum
4.3	Driver Education Facility	<p>The facility is in need of a student toilet block &amp; another class room.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop plans and specifications for a new toilet block;</li> <li>• Pursue possibility of relocating a portable classroom</li> <li>• Source funding opportunities available.</li> </ul>		Education Department, Buloke Shire, Charlton P-12 College.



**Group 5: Recreation Type Projects:**

5.1	<b>The Charlton Community Complex at Charlton Park</b>	<p>There is a perceived need in the Charlton community that the facilities at Charlton Park are fragmented and do not adequately meet the needs of the community, this project seeks to provide multi-purpose facilities that will meet these needs well into the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community support obtained;</li> <li>• Feasibility study to be reported to and adopted by Council;</li> <li>• Business plan to be confirmed;</li> <li>• Development concept to be confirmed;</li> <li>• Development plans to be prepared;</li> <li>• Possible staging of the project to be determined;</li> <li>• Funding sources to be identified and applications prepared;</li> <li>• Community fundraising Campaign to be implemented;</li> <li>• The Community Bank have committed 100k to the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing – Development Plans almost completed, seeking funds to develop the architectural plans to get the project to tender stage. Currently planning a local fund raising campaign.</b></p>		
5.2	<b>Heat the Charlton Swimming Pool</b>	<p>Heating of the Pool is required to enable the Pool to be better utilized for exercise to improve resident's health and well being.</p> <p>This project is supported by the Charlton Arthritis Support Group. The project aims to reduce the pool temperature to a more acceptable level rather than to fully heat the pool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access the forms of solar heating available;</li> <li>• Seek funding sources available;</li> <li>• Develop plans and specifications for the work.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Swimming Pool Committee
5.3	<b>Charlton Swimming Pool Surrounds</b>	<p>With the re-development of the Pool facilities there is now a need to develop landscaping to improve the surrounds and make the pool more attracting for users.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscaping plans have been developed and put on display;</li> <li>• Evaluate comments received;</li> <li>• Establish the funding sources available.</li> </ul>		Buloke Shire/Swimming Pool Committee

5.4	<b>Boar Ramp at Charlton Park</b>	<p>The need for a more accessible Boat Ramp has been assessed and plans developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for the project obtained;</li> <li>• Waiting on suitable weather to start the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding received – work held up because of Cultural Heritage issues - ongoing</b></p>		Buloke Shire/ Charlton Angling Club
5.5	<b>Charlton Community Forest</b>	<p>Redevelopment of the Charlton Community Forest first planted in 1948. Plans include replanting some areas; creating of a picnic area &amp; installation of interpretive panels about the flora &amp; fauna.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding obtained for flora &amp; fauna survey which has been completed.</li> <li>• Formation of a working group of interested individuals to help plan and undertake some work.</li> <li>• Site preparation &amp; replanting</li> <li>• Some funding has been obtained for further stages but additional funding may be required.</li> </ul>		Charlton Landcare & Community Forest Planning Group.