



**Wedderburn Development
Association**

Building for tomorrow



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2017**

Released 25 October 2017

Contents

Introduction.....	5
Purpose.....	5
Background.....	5
Committee 2016/2017	2
Members 2016/2017.....	2
Community Plan	3
President’s Report	3
Recommendation	5
Treasurer’s Report.....	5
Recommendation	7
How Can You Help	7

Introduction

The Wedderburn Development Association (the Association) is incorporated under the ***Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012***.

Purpose

The purpose of the association is—

1. To:
 - foster a spirit of socio-economic wellbeing for the community of Wedderburn.
 - promote Wedderburn as a great place to live, work and visit.
 - lobby local, state and federal governments for funds to improve the economic sustainability of Wedderburn and Districts.
2. To develop, maintain, review and administer the Wedderburn Community Plan 2015 – 2025.

Background

The Association began in 2002 when it purchased a house in Wedderburn to help gain the services of a full-time nurse in Wedderburn. It soon after became interested in fostering Wedderburn’s economic wellbeing, promoting the town and advocating for infrastructure improvements and funding.

At about this time it also became the planning group charged with the development and administration of the Wedderburn Community Plan 2002 – 2014.

In 2015 the Association undertook the development and introduction of the new community plan “Wedderburn Community Plan 2015 – 2025”. The process included a great deal of community input to elicit community needs and the draft report was open to the community for further comment before it was finalised.

It is important to understand, in the development of the Community Plan, it was never the intent of the Association that it, the Association, would personally fulfil the seven goals but to also support other community groups undertaking projects that would deliver these goals.

The Association generally focuses on the Community Plan goals to deliver on its purpose.

The Community Plan is mentioned in later paragraphs of this report.



Committee 2016/2017



Greg Deimos
President



Julie Benaim
Vice President



Frank Peiffer
Treasurer/Secretary



Alison Hargreaves
Public Relations



Lynne Habner



Dale Jackson



Pat Lee



Leigh Randall



Tammy Martin



Thomas Jackson

The committee of management comprises five executive members (Frank is holding two positions) and six ordinary members. The number of ordinary members are decided at each Annual General Meeting. The Constitution allows for only ordinary committee members to be elected other than at an Annual General Meeting.

The committee meets monthly (except for December) and has regular working group meetings to progress matters between the scheduled meeting.

I thank all committee members for their time and commitment to the Association to better community assets in general.

Note: Lynne Habner stood down from the position of Secretary due to conflicting interests with her employment. Lynne stayed on as an ordinary committee member and minute taker, and Frank Peiffer stood in as Acting Secretary.

Members 2016/2017

The Association has 24 members comprising ten committee members and 14 other members as shown below below –

Vick Peiffer	Gavan Holt	Jude Holt	Leon Holt
Nathan Holt	Will Holt	Greg Hargreaves	Anne Reeves
Robyn Vella	Shirley Smith	Jenni Randall	Lance Stanfield
Sandra Stanfield	Keith Lewis		

Community Plan

The 2015 – 2025 Community plan can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/2vYBaJP>

The plan centres on the following seven goals:

1. Business and Innovation: To generate and support businesses in Wedderburn and encourage innovation.
2. Community Infrastructure: To ensure infrastructure is maintained and improved upon.
3. Education: To ensure the community has access to appropriate educational facilities.
4. Health: To provide the best health services possible to encourage community well-being.
5. Marketing: To promote Wedderburn's heritage, habitat, environment and assets.
6. Recreation: To create a multi-dimensional and active environment promoting health vigour and vitality.
7. Young persons: To engage young persons at their level and solicit their input and participation in community activities.

The plan also identifies 31 targets that if completed will deliver the goals. However, these targets are not exclusive and other actions that may also deliver the desired outcomes.

Of the 31 targets twelve have been completed or are in progress/under investigation due to hardworking community groups including the Wedderburn Community House, Wedderburn Lions Club, Inglewood and District Hospital Service, Loddon Shire, Wedderburn Tourism and the Association.

President's Report

Committee meetings were held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, having a total of eleven meetings for the year. There was no scheduled meeting in December 2016 and unfortunately the July meeting was cancelled as members had other commitments.

It was a busy year with the committee, in session, handling more than 60 pieces of inward and outward correspondence and touched on more than 50 items of other business. In addition, there were many working group meetings and other administrative/organisational meetings between Frank, Julie and myself to ensure matters were running smoothly.

I extend my most sincere appreciation to the committee Frank, Julie, Leigh, Lynne, Pat, Alison, Thomas, Tammy, Geoff and Dale for their tireless work throughout the year and offer further accolades to those who doubled up on the working group.

I also wish to publically acknowledge and thank Lynne for her work on the committee and also as our minute taker, which meant minutes were sent to committee members the day following the meeting. As you will have noticed

already in this Annual Report Lynne took on the role as Secretary at the 2016 Annual General Meeting but after a couple of ordinary meetings she had to stand down as meeting discussions regularly crossed paths with her employment; sad for us. Frank again put on the secretary's hat (acting) for the remainder of the year.



Council's community planning team has also taken over the town entrance sign project and are discussing locations with Vic Roads in an endeavour to gain their approvals. All seems a go at this time.

We came up with a proto type structure in the first days and sought comment on the Wedderburn Facebook page. Comments were reviewed and sent to a graphic designer who presented a version that suited our vision. One structure will be erected at the approaches at each end of town on the Calder Highway. There is still a good deal of work to be done but we are getting there. Dale Jackson is now acting as the conduit between Council and the committee. I thank Dale for taking on that role.

The Association also proposed to the Hard Hill Committee of Management and the Wedderburn Tourism Committee of Management that all weather shelters be erected over the stage and concrete slab at the Hard Hill Reserve. Both groups agreed and the Association has acquired a quote for the shelters and approvals from Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Victoria. Application for building permits will be lodged very soon. The total cost of this project is around \$22,000 of which \$10,000 was received from a community grant and the remainder coming from the Association's funds.

We have also been working with Council on the refurbishment of our caravan park and have allocated \$50,000 from community plan funding 2016 – 2017 budget. A group of three parks at Wedderburn, Boort and Pyramid Hill are being looked at by Council for reconditioning and Council is looking for funding assistance from government. We will be following this project into 2018.

Another initiative of the Association was the introduction of the Royal Flying Doctor Dental Service into Wedderburn. This year the service was booked out and we are informed that the service will be returning in 2018.

Other projects the Association is involved with is the establishment of Wedderburn bicycle trails and the mural streetscape projects. These three projects are ongoing and we have attended many meetings to ensure their progress. The Association is also working with Wedderburn Tourism, the Lions Club and the Community House to improve the Skinners Flat Reservoir Reserve to encourage locals and tourists alike to use the facility.

The Association should strive in 2017 – 2018 to ensure other community leaders are aware of the contents of the community plan and they should be encouraged

to investigate some of the targets within the plan or other projects that will deliver the seven goals of the plan.

The annual wine tasting event is scheduled for 9 March 2018 and again the Association needs community leaders to rally behind this initiative by encouraging community members to support the event. A great deal of work goes into organising this type of event with engaging wineries, breweries and foodies who provide free samples of their products. Without the support of the community the events may not continue.



Frank Peiffer and Pat Lee have taken over the organisation of the event for 2018 and we already have two new breweries on board. So I would like to thank Frank and Pat for their efforts thus far and I am looking forward to another enjoyable evening in March 2018.



The next meeting of the Loddon Progress/Development Association Network Group is scheduled for November 1 2017. It will be interested to see how other communities have developed recently.

Again I would like to thank the committee for their work throughout the year and the Wedderburn community for supporting the Association.

Finally, I thank the officers of the Loddon Shire for their support and assistance, this not to say we don't have some differences on issues, but the relationship is a good one and I hope the Association continues to foster this positive relationship.

Recommendation

That this report be accepted.

Greg Deimos
President WDA Inc.

Treasurer's Report

It is with pleasure that I present the Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 September 2017. The highlight, financially, for the year was our successful application to the Loddon Shire Council for a Community Grant in the sum of \$10,000.00 towards the erection of two shelters at the Hard Hill Reserve. This is a project of approximately \$23,000.00 in total with the balance to be made up of the WDA's own funds and in-kind labour to the tune of approximately \$5,800.00.

Were it not for this grant the WDA's income for the year would have been \$3,451.91 comprising, an administration grant, interest income, subs paid by members and the Weddr'winefest. Expenditure of \$3,967.27 outstripped our income. Expenditure items included Community Planning Projects, (\$2,387.70), subscriptions, and necessary running costs such as insurance, post office box rental, premises hire etc. I believe, as a matter of priority, the WDA must explore further income streams if we are to continue working towards our goals into the future.

Another feature of this year's financial transactions is that we have almost eliminated cheques in favour of EFT. A system which is cheaper to operate and more secure I believe.

I have attached two summary reports of our finances for your information. I shall have itemised and more detailed reports available at the AGM for members' perusal if desired.

Account Balances – As of 30/09/2017	
As of 30/09/2017 (in Australian Dollars)	
Bank Accounts	
Bendigo Cheque Acc.	19,760.55
Sandhurst Trustees	15,049.83
Term Deposit	32,100.07
TOTAL Bank Accounts	66,910.45
OVERALL TOTAL	66,910.45

WDA: Cash Flow	
1/10/2016 through 30/09/2017 (in Australian Dollars)	
Category Description	1/10/2016 – 30/09/2017
INFLOWS	
Grants	10,500.00
Interest Income	1,179.86
Subs	250.00
Wine Event	
Float – wedd'rwinefest	0.00
Other Wine Event	1522.05
TOTAL Wine Event	1522.05
TOTAL INFLOWS	13,451.91
OUTFLOWS	
Community Planning	2,387.70
DoJ CAV	111.60
Hall Hire	370.00
Insurance	415.00
Postage etc	134.00
Room Hire	165.00
Stationary	8.99
Subscriptions	375.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	3,967.29
OVERALL TOTAL	9,484.62

Recommendation

That the Treasurer's report is adopted.

Frank Peiffer

Treasurer WDA Inc.

How Can You Help

- become a member
- join the committee
- be part of the working group
- volunteer your time
- support events
