



‘Our Lyonville’ Community Plan 2021 – 2024

This document was prepared in May 2021 by the Lyonville Community Planning Group in consultation with Lyonville residents.

Our Lyonville Plan 2021 - 2024

1 About Lyonville

Lyonville is a small rural village located in the Hepburn Shire between Daylesford and Trentham. The traditional owners are the Dja Dja Wurrung people. From the time of colonial settlement, the predominant industries were timber milling and farming. The village now comprises a mix of full time families and residents, both working and retired, weekenders, and holiday rental houses. Based on the 2016 census data, we have 178 residents and comprise 1.2% of the Hepburn Shire Council population. The most common age cohort for Lyonville is 60 – 69 years.

The village has several businesses, including a pub, distillery, flower grower, plant nursery and farmers. There is strong community engagement based mostly on activities at the Lyonville Hall, including regular events and a weekly café. The village publishes an occasional newsletter (The Source) and has a Facebook group page (Lyonville Snippets).

2 Development and implementation of our plan

The last community action plan for Lyonville was developed in 2011 and most of the objectives set in that plan have since been achieved. In August 2020, a community planning group, drawn from volunteer local residents, was endorsed by Council. This group developed and implemented a community consultation plan that included interviewing 20 residents, hosting two facilitated open workshops attended by over 30 residents in March 2021, and inviting suggestions via email or directly with group members. The community planning group then developed a draft plan for submission to Council and for comment by residents at a workshop held in May 2021. The final plan will be submitted to Council in September 2021 for acknowledgement.

Once acknowledged by Council, the community planning group, with assistance from a number of working groups, will begin implementation of the action plan to address each of the strategic goals (see **Appendix 1** Lyonville Community Action Plan).



3 Our Vision

A diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community working together for a sustainable and prosperous future for Lyonville.

Our Values

- ✓ Rurality, peaceful living, balanced development
- ✓ Participation, engagement and inclusion of everyone
- ✓ Heritage, culture and history
- ✓ Community working together
- ✓ Respect for each other
- ✓ A sustainable environment

Our Focus Areas

- ❖ The environment and sustainability
- ❖ Tourism
- ❖ History, art, and culture
- ❖ Community connection and events
- ❖ Town planning and regulation
- ❖ Infrastructure, roads and rubbish, signage, and painting

4 Our Goals

Goal 1: To develop and implement a strategy to ensure a sustainable and protected environment, preparing us for the future.

Goal 2: To embrace tourism, sharing the assets of Lyonville whilst maintaining our village feel and protecting our environment.

Goal 3: To develop a heritage strategy that understands and emphasises our history, our future and our culture and art, with deep respect for our Indigenous history.

Goal 4: To grow and build our network of community members engaged in leading and delivering the actions in Our Lyonville Plan.

Goal 5: To develop a mechanism to work together and with service providers to understand and ensure a transparent and collaborative approach to town planning and regulation to maintain our village feel and look.

Goal 6: To develop a strategic approach to infrastructure, roads, rubbish, signage, painting which maintains the look and feel of Lyonville.

5 Bringing our vision to life: from goals to strategy and action

Goal 1: To develop and implement a strategy to ensure a sustainable and protected environment, preparing us for the future.

Strategy: To establish an 'Environment and Sustainability Strategy Group' to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee

What the community said: Many residents value the beautiful natural environment we live in and seek to maintain and enhance it. Sustainability, including preserving water resources and energy management, was a priority and a local Landcare group was suggested.

Goal 2: To embrace tourism, sharing the assets of Lyonville whilst maintaining our village feel and protecting our environment.

Strategy: To establish a ‘Tourism and Our Village Feel Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee

What the community said: There were a range of views on tourism amongst the residents. For some, it contributes to their prosperity, for others it can be an intrusion. However, many ways were identified to embrace aspects of tourism whilst maintaining our local focus, such as enhancing the Lyonville Springs area, exploring use of sites such as the old school property and the old Lyonville Train Station to expand our community infrastructure, and holding more events that showcase our area.

Goal 3: To develop a heritage strategy that understands and emphasises our history, our future and our culture and art, with deep respect for our Indigenous history.

Strategy: To establish a ‘History, Art, and Culture Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee.

What the community said: Many residents are keen to engage with the local indigenous people to acknowledge their traditional ownership of the land and to find out more about the area before colonisation and in early colonial times. Oral histories of some of our long term residents was suggested. The village is also home to a number of artists and there is scope to find ways to showcase their works locally.

Goal 4: To grow and build our network of community members engaged in leading and delivering the actions in Our Lyonville Plan.

Strategy: To establish a ‘Community Connection and Events Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning and Hall Committees.

Noting: significant synergy and collaboration here with the Hall Committee

What the community said: Until now, the Lyonville Hall, managed by the Hall Committee, has been the main focus for community engagement, connection and events. The community is keen to broaden opportunities for others to show leadership in different areas, e.g. some residents expressed interest in strengthening links with CFA and fireguard initiatives, others would like to see more local events. A register of local skills and trades was suggested so we can tap into and support local expertise when necessary.

Goal 5: To work together and with service providers to understand and ensure a transparent and collaborative approach to town planning and regulation to maintain our village feel and look.

Strategy: To establish a ‘Planning, Infrastructure, Signage and Services Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Group.

What the community said: Many residents were keen to understand the Council and Water Authority planning constraints. Opportunities to provide input into planning and water usage policies would be welcomed. Where public land or buildings become available, the community would like to be consulted on future usage e.g. The old school site.

Goal 6: To develop a strategic approach to infrastructure, roads, rubbish, signage, painting which maintains the look and feel of Lyonville.

Strategy: To merge with Goal 5 ‘Planning, Infrastructure, Signage and Services Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning.

What the community said: Many people had ideas to share about improvements to our village infrastructure and services, including improved signage; lobbying for improved and new services such as green waste collection, NBN and mobile coverage; road maintenance and speed limits; parking provisions; enhanced playground facilities and painting bus shelters.

6 Key contacts and information sites

Lyonville Community Planning Group members:

- Greg Jones
- Jackie Airey
- Jordan Koster
- Shelley Bowen
- Vicki Jackson

Main contacts for community planning:

- Jordan Koster (ph: 0432 592 285, email: jordanjkoster@gmail.com)
- Vicki Jackson (ph: 0438 178 150, email: vickicj102@gmail.com)

Lyonville Hall Committee members:

- Anne Bremner (Chair)
- Vicki Jackson (Treasurer)
- Dorothy Fuller (Secretary)
- Matthew Goldenberg
- George Bremner
- Chris Bowden

Lyonville Snippets group facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1187024134798318/>

Appendix 1

Lyonville Community Action Plan for 2021 to 2024

These actions relate to the goals set in the Lyonville Community Plan 2021 – 2024. The actions may evolve and more may be added as issues and opportunities arise to support and enable achievement of our goals. This action plan will be managed through the respective strategy groups and will be reviewed at least annually and updated as required.

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
Goal 1: To develop and implement a strategy to ensure a sustainable and protected environment, preparing us for the future.				
Strategy: To establish an ‘Environment and Sustainability Strategy Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee.				
Develop a Sustainability Strategy/Plan for Lyonville.				
Explore and promote the wise use of water in the Community.				
Promote and build membership in the Community Fire Guard Program				
Explore the feasibility of establishing a Landcare Group for Lyonville				
Initiate a tree-planting plan, budget, and actions				
Provide updates on and promote important information on S&E matters to the community				
Support communication on fire safety and prevention and provide information on any back burning activities in the area.				
In conjunction with the infrastructure & planning group, maintain and monitor the Lyonville Avenue of Honour.				

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
Goal 2: To embrace tourism, sharing the assets of Lyonville whilst maintaining our village feel and protecting our environment.				
Strategy: To establish a ‘Tourism and Our Village Feel Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee.				
Audit the opportunities to promote our community ‘assets’, e.g., how might we better promote Lyonville Springs				
Work closely with all groups, especially E&S to ensure a balanced approach to tourism				
Work with the Shire and Macedon Ranges tourism peaks/operators to promote Lyonville’s assets				
Explore use of public assets e.g., old school site, devise a possible plan for a community co-operative model and ownership in partnership with Council				
Work with council on a possible community co-designed vision and plan for the old school site				
Explore a Lyonville App				
Map, develop, and maintain local walking and cycling tracks, including repairs on bridge etc				
Explore the possibility of extending the rail trail / train line to operate between Trentham and Daylesford, including options for use of the Lyonville Station.				
Engaging ‘Welcome to Lyonville’ signage				
Hold an annual Lyonville Open Gardens event				

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
<p>Goal 3: To develop a heritage strategy which understands and emphasises our history, our future and our culture and art, with deep respect for our Indigenous history</p> <p>Strategy: To establish a ‘History, Art, and Culture Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Committee.</p>				
Research and make visible the important Indigenous history of our area				
Create a “what did it look like” project to portray pre-colonial Lyonville and develop a reconciliation plan with our local Indigenous people				
Prepare an oral histories project, capturing the stories of residents of Lyonville				
Hold an art show for our local and regional artists				
Create a sculpture or mural to commemorate and recognise the pioneers of Lyonville				
Research and commemorate significant events and contributions of Lyonville e.g., investigate if the Hall was the first gay and lesbian event in 1972				
Create a directory of local artists and businesses (linked to Lyonville App)				
Incorporate cultural events with the Wood Chop e.g., a bush dance afterwards				
Hold an annual smoking ceremony of the Hall, perhaps combined with other events like the Wood Chop				
Create a library of old photos and important artifacts for Lyonville.				

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
<p>Goal 4: To grow and build our network of community members engaged in leading and delivering the actions in Our Lyonville Plan.</p> <p>Strategy: To establish a ‘Community Connection and Events Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning and Hall Committees.</p>				
Develop a list of community skills, experiences, and interests				
Support the planning and promotion of events at the Hall				
Increase CFA and Community fireguard membership				
Set up Pop Up working groups as required on issues, e.g. Telecommunications, internet				
Establish a notice board				
Continue to strengthen and use Lyonville Snippets and other community news mechanisms like the newsletter				

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
<p>Goal 5: To work together and with service providers to understand and ensure a transparent, and collaborative approach to town planning and regulation to maintain our village feel and look.</p> <p>Strategy: To establish a ‘Planning, Infrastructure, Signage and Services Group’ to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Group.</p>				
Work closely with local Council and Water Authorities to clarify clear and consistent building and planning policy and guidance, then communicate this to the community				
Establish quotas for water removal and monitor contractor and private water sourcing contracts				
Organise community information events on planning and regulations				
Ensure group is engaged on changes in planning regulations				
Work with VicRoads and Council to improve road safety in the village, especially along the main Trentham-Daylesford road				
Work with Council to ensure that access roads throughout the village are appropriately maintained				

Action	Details	Group Lead & Participants	Timeframes	Resources
Goal 6: To develop a strategic approach to infrastructure, roads, rubbish, signage, painting which maintains the look and feel of Lyonville.				
Strategy: To merge with Goal 5 'Planning, Infrastructure, Signage and Services Group' to plan, implement, act, and connect back into the Community Planning Group.				
To set up Working Groups on specific tasks like signage, roads, working with the 'Planning, Infrastructure, Signage Group'.				
Develop a new map near the Radio Springs Hotel with correct street names				
Undertake a signs audit, recommend to council through the Community Planning Group on future signage needs				
Work with the Community Planning Group to ensure a united community voice to Council and other statutory authorities such a Water, Electricity, Telecommunications and Internet				
Work with telecommunications providers to ensure access to mobile and internet cover.				
Paint the bus shelters				
Identify parking sites				
Establish a green waste collection to minimise burn offs and smoke				
Have a significant trees register and a tree-lined streets of Lyonville plan				
Promote responsible dog ownership				
In conjunction with the Hall Committee, look into the need for any additional playground equipment at the hall grounds				
With the Hall Committee, explore the need for improvements to the Community Hall and its facilities.				