

Daylesford Community Plan 2012



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Introduction

Hepburn Shire Council undertook to develop a community plan for the township of Daylesford in 2011. The Daylesford Community Plan is a list of actions that community members have agreed to foster.

During August and September 2011, community groups and individuals were invited to focus groups around the themes of Social, Environment, Economic and to two Open Days at the Daylesford Town Hall to provide input into the plan.

About 1,000 people were involved in the consultation in some way and more than 100 issues and actions were identified. Only those issues that were seen as a priority and/or had the name of a person willing to work on the action made it to the first draft of the plan which was then available online and in paper form for further consultation.

Not surprisingly, given the diversity of Daylesford, a broad range of issues were raised throughout the consultation process. Some issues were raised time and again across all focus groups and were often voted as a priority by the focus group participants.

However, only the actions that had names of individuals or groups willing to foster them survived to be included in the final Daylesford Community Plan.

Key Priorities for the Daylesford Community

- **A Community 'think tank'** - Community Groups working together
- **Improved recreation facilities** - Redevelopment of facilities at Vic Park, a private/community owned gym, a bike track from Glenlyon to Daylesford.
- **A Space for young People**
- **Emergency management for Vulnerable community members**
- **Advocate for improved public transport and connections, assist with local transport needs**
- **Developing an arts focus** - local public art, support for arts activities, events and festivals
- **Community-Council communication** - accountable and respectful philosophy and values, promoting community news
- **Environmental initiatives** - develop a natural environment/landscape strategy, develop a fire minimisation strategy, agronomy at Daylesford Secondary College, recycling education and initiatives (plastic bags, bottled water, recycle sorting and e-waste)
- **Business** - A prospectus and campaign to bring new business to Daylesford
- **Built** - Better street plantings and maintenance, beautify roundabouts and create a town square

This document includes the final actions in the plan, and it includes the many views that were promoted passionately at the focus groups, the open day and online. Many of those issues did not end up in the final plan because there was no-one to 'foster them', but they are included in the appendices to show the diversity of opinion and the passion, that the people of Daylesford have about their community and for its long-term sustainability. Appendix One contains the complete record of actions which were community priorities.

Next Steps

The following people have volunteered to be involved in the Community Planning Group to oversee implementation of the Plan.

Community Planning Group

Doralinda Giudki

Maureen Corbett

Dora Berenyi

Annshar Wolfs

Fiona Robson

Jason Shorter

Julie Ingleby

Jen Bray

You can get involved

People can still get involved in the plan by volunteering to work on actions or become involved in the Community Planning Group. For more information on this or any other part of the plan contact:

Kathleen Brannigan at Hepburn Shire Council on 5345 9213.

The Vision for Daylesford

The community vision for Daylesford in the next 20 years is a place where:

- Childcare is widely available, there are social places to meet, gardens to visit and grow food in and music that brings cohesion to the community;
- All people can travel on public transport, bike lanes and paths;
- Facilities and information are accessible to all; community services and social housing are available and the community is involved in planning and helping to reduce isolation;
- There is a productive social hub where partnerships between business and community thrive;
- Council actively listens, effectively advocates and works in partnership with the community.

The people of Daylesford most value:

- The natural beauty including lakes, gardens and the forest;
- Our fresh produce, markets, mineral water, excellent food and coffee; along with a plethora of events, exhibits and festivals;
- The friendliness and feeling of safety within a widely diverse and passionate community; a supportive community spirit and strong progressive voice;
- Young families and young people, community skills and intellect, volunteers, active community groups, famous and creative people, long-term and new residents;
- Our facilities including the community garden, library, the hospital, health facilities and support services, many sporting opportunities and walking and cycling paths.
- Our proximity to Melbourne while maintaining a rural lifestyle.

Common Themes in the plan

- **Community**
- Need for a youth space
- Communication from the Shire
- Need for a town square/public meeting space
- Better public seating
- Need for better access to public toilets
- Tension between focus on tourism and commerce and focus on community
- Transport management
- Limited recreational opportunities such as pool or gym
- Availability of public art

Action Plan: Key Priorities for the Daylesford Community

Social

Develop a 'community think tank' where community groups can share information and receive administration support, funding and other support, to make positive changes.

Jason Shorter, Fiona Robson, Annshar Wolfs, U3A, Fiona Robson, Anne E Stewart

Support redevelopment of outdated and poor facilities at Vic Park. **Steve Cowan**

Develop a private/community owned gym or health club with extended hours.

Kate Redwood; Lyndall Jenkins

Develop a bike track from Daylesford to Glenlyon linking Coomora and Wheatsheaf.

Alan Kaye

Find a suitable space in Daylesford for young people to undertake social activities that they are interested in.

Doralinda Giudki, Mark Dickenson

Advocate for a system where community services staff and individuals are trained in emergency management for vulnerable community members including an opt-in list.

Karen McAloon

Council to ensure their Access and Inclusion plan is implemented and reviewed on a regular basis.

Fiona Porter

Gain assistance with funding submissions for programs for children aged 0-6

Catherine Coventry (Maternal Child Health Service), Fiona Robson

Advocate VLine for improved timetable and improved bus connections to station(s), Castlemaine, Woodend, Bendigo, Melbourne, Musk, Hepburn, Trentham etc.

Mark Dickenson

Work with Transport Connections to facilitate a buddy system to assist with local transport needs such as vet visits and trips to the shops.

Doralinda Giudki, Transport connections; U3A

Develop an arts focus within Shire increasing local public art and using and acknowledging local expertise.

Anne E Stewart

Develop a 'community think tank' where community groups can share information and receive administration support, funding and other support, to make positive changes.
Jason Shorter; Jen Bray

Acknowledge significant architecture in CBD and provide examples of private residences that have been restored.

Pat Baird; Anne E Stewart

Work with Council to adopt philosophy and values that acknowledge the importance of community sustainability, values local expertise, supports diversity and is accountable and respectful.

Anne E Stewart, Jen Bray

Improve council communications with the community by:

- hosting community groups and a noticeboard on Council website
- liaising with The Advocate to make space for community news.

Anne E Stewart

Environment

Develop a natural environment/landscape strategy for the Shire

Develop an education program for the value of vegetation

Gayle Osborne

Engage with Shire Council, Parks Victoria, DSE, relevant Catchment Management Authorities, and CFA to develop a fire minimisation strategy in the public forest close to residential areas which includes high pruned straight trees and urban deciduous trees in this peri-urban belt.

Maureen Corbett, David Stephens

Work with Daylesford Secondary College to assist with Agronomy Course, particularly in regard to carbon farming, eco-regeneration, share farming and localisation.

David Stephens

Teach people to recycle, reuse and refuse plastic bags and bottled water and develop more efficient recycle sorting at tip and an e-waste strategy.

Anne E Stewart

Economic

Create a prospectus and campaign to bring new business to Daylesford.

Russ Jenkins

Built

Better approach to expansion; better street plantings and maintenance in all streets in shopping/business precincts; Beautify roundabouts and create a town square.

Denise Robinson; Pat Baird Su Dennett

Appendix one

Full list of Priority Issues

The following list of issues is included below because they:

- Were a focus group priority, (FGP)
- One or more people ‘fostered’ the action by putting their name to an action (Name) or
- They received star(s) at one of the two open days. (Star)

Many actions were not included in the Daylesford Community Plan because they did not have someone to foster them in the process.

Early Years

Need funded early years officer with a budget to provide better outcomes for children; (books, music programs, “best start” style; co-ordinated play groups and special needs	FGP Names
Research other models, (eg Ballarat) to see how to achieve flexible respite care and home help Community example include U3A’s rentagranny	FGP
Explore other venues for childcare upskill and encourage family daycare/school space	FGP
Assistance with funding/writing submissions to get funded resources for recreation facilities for children 0-6	Name
Grandparent; child/buddy system similar to Big sister Big Brother model	Name later withdrawn

Young People

Without things to do young people get bored and do drugs Open swimming pool and gym youth friendly leisure centre Planned morning activities such as gym, photography, jogging Run activities at the Arc like pool hall and youth activities ‘The space’ including pool tables, rooms to rent by social support staff Movies in town Young people should be able to have fun in their own town and not get told off by businesses (security guards at REX) Develop community standards between businesses and young people (Daylesford Youth Charter)	2 stars
The Rex not available for young people and businesses don’t last	1 star

Community Space

Need infrastructure such as public toilets for families and events; Create a town square eg Bourke Square; Fountain	FGP 5 stars Name
Fewer cars in Vincent Street, Create Town Square; All ages space; more trees	FGP 3 stars
Integration of ages/cultures/abilities in a community space that is accessible, safe and welcoming with toilet, kitchen and breast feeding space eg seniors hall Neighbourhood house; Senior Citizens	FGP 2 stars

Youth space (third space – community space)	6 stars
Community hub for groups that is central and accessible for older people	3 stars
No toilet at Skate Park	2 stars
Create community connecting activities and a warm space where young people can go that is safe, free and welcoming of young people and has space for toy library	2 stars
Develop community garden with veg/flowers that is welcoming of children	1 star
A community hub where locals can go so they can avoid the civic centre which is for tourists	1 star

Community Capacity Building

Council to employ Grants Officer to seek grants and provide support for community and arts projects	FGP 5 stars Names
Change the current focus from commerce to community by developing criteria around community	FGP 3 stars 1 name (later withdrawn)
Quarterly facilitated meeting with community groups to share information on what everyone does.	FGP Names
Support for community groups and individuals to make positive changes through funding and applying for grants, admin support, community communication. Linking with expertise, resources (eg Community Think Tank)	1 star Names
Employ better qualified people; Good governance brings corporate sponsorship and investment	1 star

Facilities

Accessible public toilets in the centre of town	FGP 3 stars
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Heritage

Funding to ensure Founding members of community are honoured through plaques/ recognition of history/Avenue of honour	FGP
Acknowledge significant architecture in CBD – examples of private residences that have been restored	Name

Older people

Think about needs for aged; availability of seats and toilets, steps that are too high	FGP 1 star
Practical help for older people in their homes such as a buddy system	FGP
Transport for Dr appt; Vet etc	1 star Name

Health Services

Reduce poverty through a food bank	3 star
Dentist for Daylesford	1 star

Recreation

Need to build on support for families with a family friendly community playground	FGP 3 stars Name
Council co-ordinate sporting club booking system for all community groups	FGP
No gym or heated pool and limited community recreation facilities Develop a private/community owned gym	7 stars Names
Activities for locals to participate in – eg pool, bowling, theatre. The ARC is too hard to access and not suited to everyone	Pool 2 stars Theatre – 4 stars
Support redevelopment of outdated and poor facilities at Vic Park	9 stars Name
Renovate/rethink/extend bathhouse to include indoor lap pool	3 stars
A bike tack from Daylesford to Glenlyon would also link Coomora and Wheatsheaf using old bridge at Coomora. Route could be via Midland Hwy or Knox Street and back roads to Coomora. It would encourage visitors to cycle to Glenlyon Store and also transport options for residents	1 star 1 name

Arts and Culture

Arts Festival link with Ballarat/Castlemaine Council support for events; Spontaneous events Easily accessible insurance for events that Council funds	FGP 5 stars Names
Use more local public art; develop an arts focus; acknowledge local expertise: Take up offers from local artists Daylesford philosophy – Lots of experts in town and Council should use them Employ community expertise & asking people what they want Big art pieces in main street More appropriate and creative plantings	FGP 6 stars

Communication

Address poor, defensive and offensive communication from Council by adopting of philosophy and values including: Sustainability Local Use of community and local expertise Support diversity of community – families, older, young, old and new residents Collective memory and continuity – Councillors and staff Accountability – hold to account	FGP 6 stars Name
Better communication between council and community improve web; increased respect in dealing with community members	FGP
Communication – Advocate; on-line, noticeboards – Council host community noticeboard on their website	FGP

Environment

<p>Better fire prevention techniques eg HRN Maturing vegetation protected Landscape planning – unique holistic Community conversations – education, facilitation, advocacy Ecological thinning trial Better fire protection techniques Protect maturing vegetation Bio- Diversity Officer public food tree plantings Respect for basic eco backdrop of indigenous forest</p>	<p>FGP 4 stars Names</p>
<p>Advocate for significant conservation areas</p>	<p>FGP Names FGP 3 stars</p>
<p>Education program re value of native vegetation Promote hot spots and support Wildlife Centre more Need council bio-diversity officer</p>	<p>FGP Name</p>
<p>Education, BBQ, new residents day, Advocate at Council Waste strategy review Green organic waste collection – curb pick up; restaurants and businesses Chemical use – weed control Promotion of alternative technology</p>	<p>FGP 3 stars</p>
<p>B-double traffic in Central Springs Road Excess traffic in main street; volume and speed Reduce speed limits Reduce car use –priority for people walking and cycling Promote active transport – walking and cycling Horse and cart rides</p>	<p>FGP 2 stars</p>
<p>Mineral springs protection utilisation and maintenance by stopping any further issuing of bores in town area except for fire fighting. Recognise that the mineral springs recharge is threatened</p>	<p>FGP</p>
<p>Get rid of plastic bags and bottled water</p>	<p>2 star Name</p>
<p>Emergency management for vulnerable community members and communication A safe place indoors away from radiant heat</p>	<p>Name</p>
<p>Community encouraged/supported to form 30+ fire guard groups around their very close local area to hold working bees cleaning up their area (and local bush – improving the nutrient level – NOT burning. Assistance to stay and defend Education for tourists and B&B owners to take responsibility for their B&B's in fire events 2-5k belt around town – thinned and managed for fire prevention</p>	<p>1 star</p>
<p>Council advocate for community; negotiate with Central Highlands Water and State Government</p>	<p>2 stars</p>
<p>Weed/water management – bringing agencies and community together to get common ground align actions and responsibilities Bio diversity officer – tap into local expertise/trials eg Ecological thinning trial</p>	<p>1 name</p>
<p>Eco regeneration homesteads across landscape – continuing to plant/manage indigenous streamside re-vegetation plantations towards old growth Carbon farming – prime model homestead at High School – Living in a carbon negative way – model of sustainability; producing food for local and neighbouring areas Ongoing share farming relationships with previous broad-acre farmers – planting and providing on-going labour to a very diverse and perennial based agriculture Bringing carbon, water, localised food production, young people back to the landscape</p>	

Composting toilets, grey water catching and tanks in public spaces and domestic	2 stars
Tip management sad Community enterprise opportunities – recycling facilities at recreation/community places More efficient reuse, recycle sorting at tip e-waste strategy Teaching people to recycle – eg young people in funny suits Community Mulcher available	1 star

Transport

Reinstate train from Daylesford to Melbourne/More frequent bus connections to train station	6 stars
Train station/better transport to other centres – Castlemaine, Woodend, Bendigo, Melbourne Transport to TAFE, other educational opportunities – at the moment we fail if we miss the bus More convenient transport times eg 4,6,8pm To surrounding towns Hepburn, Musk, Trentham	4 stars 1 name
Limited opportunities for youth Community transport – bring back train to Daylesford – Better advertising of public transport availability Enhanced training for young people; entertainment for young people	2 stars
Opportunities for youth Community transport – bring back train to Daylesford – Better advertising of public transport availability	2 stars

Economic

Tourists not active – utilise natural environment Smart phone maps, tours, finger signs to spots	FGP 1 star Names (later withdrawn)
Investment in shops – create a prospectus similar to in Glenhuntly Road	6 stars 1 name
Lack of parking /traffic management Improved laneway access/signage	1 star 1 name
Wasted money -Utilise local talent and abilities Respect & value local uniqueness	3 stars
Employ better qualified people; Good governance brings corporate sponsorship and investment	1 star

Streetscapes

Better approach to expansion and better street plantings and maintenance in streets other than Vincent; Beautify roundabouts	3 stars Names
Revitalise main street which looks tired and abandoned. Seats, trees, art/sculpture	1 star
Allocate short term parking in Vincent Street	1 star
Sheltered seating area	1 star

Employment

Lack of employment opportunities and poor quality of jobs Develop a small business incubator	2 stars
Employment services eg Tracey come in a bus; no privacy; no community relationships; no community interest Social enterprise – hospitality based employ locals and give back to Daylesford community	1 star Name

Disability

Review of Council's access and inclusion plan Representation will provide group with answers and action to key issues	FGP 1 star Name
Include availability of accessible toilets on Council's access and inclusion plan	FGP 1 star Names
Transport within Daylesford Provide some certainty around accessible buses and stops	FGP 2 star
Affordable and supportive housing Council to promote the availability of hardship payments for rates Look at Hepburn House for availability of rooms	1 star Name

Economic/ Tourism

Tourism consumption (utility) spa water, fire, heating, electricity Promote eco-tourism and assist business owners to retrofit, education; get council rebates	FGP
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Appendix two

Developing the Daylesford Community Plan

Council's Commitment to Community Planning

In its 2009 – 2013 Council Plan, Hepburn Shire Council has made a commitment to the development of community plans across the shire. This process allows communities to create plans that establish goals, build community capacity and develop achievable plans that are valued by residents and ratepayers.

Council's commitment to community plans includes:

- Providing support to all Hepburn communities prepared to undertake a community plan;
- Using Community Plans as the basis for fixing priorities for Council's Capital Works Program and providing a Community Plans Funding Program which will provide communities with assistance to implement their Community Plans.

Council Expectation

- Council expects that the community will drive the implementation of the community plan, monitor and communicate progress, with the support of Council Officer(s).

Consultation

Hepburn Shire Council defined the areas for the Daylesford Community Plan to cover which include Social, Environment, Economic and Built. The geographic area is Daylesford (not Hepburn Springs which will have its own planning process in the future).

During August and September 2011, community groups and individuals were invited to focus groups and to two Open Days at the Daylesford Town Hall to provide input into the plan.

About 1,000 people were involved in the consultation in some way and more than 100 issues and actions were identified. Only those issues that were seen as a priority and/or had the name of a person willing to work on the action made it to the first draft of the plan which was then available online and in paper form for further consultation.

The Daylesford Community Plan consultation coincided with "*Revitalisation of Vincent Street*", a separate consultation led by Village Well. It was decided not to hold a separate focus group on the built environment as it would overlap with Village Well's work.

Community Planning Group

Actions in the Plan include the name(s) of those who have volunteered to 'foster' that action. How each action progresses will depend on those volunteers who will be supported by council officer(s).

In addition, eleven people put their names down to be involved in the Community Planning Group which will oversee the on-going implementation of the plan. Three of those people have since withdrawn due to time pressures. The Community Planning

Group itself will work out the best way to implement the plan with the support of Council Officers.

Discussion on Issues and Actions

Not surprisingly, given the diversity of Daylesford, a broad range of issues were raised throughout the consultation process. Some issues were raised time and again across all focus groups and were often voted as a priority by the focus group participants. However, only the actions that had names of individuals or groups willing to foster them survived to be included in the final Daylesford Community Plan.

It is important to note that the actions in appendix one were of concern to the community, and many of them were seen as priorities in the various focus groups. The fact that they were not all included in the Plan reflects that there was no-one available to foster them.

Common themes coming in the focus groups

There were some themes that were common to each focus group and were further validated at the two open days. These included:

Lack of opportunities for young people and Need for a youth space

Participants of all ages felt that there was a scarcity of job opportunities for young people in Daylesford, and that those available were in poorly paid hospitality positions. Young people also said that the limited public transport options meant that travelling to work or to study was also not a viable option.

Another common concern was that there were very few social and recreational opportunities for young people and that there was no young person's space.

Poor communication from the Shire

Most participants indicated that the Shire did not adequately inform residents about opportunities in town or about shire decisions, (both what the decision is and how it was made). There were reports that Council officers did not return calls, the website was hard to navigate, not kept up to date and that the page in the Advocate was not sufficient for keeping the community informed. Across all issues, this one resulted in the most heated discussions.

Need for a town square or some other form of public meeting space

Better public seating

The call for a town square, (or something similar) to be developed in Daylesford was significant. Suggestions included developing Burke Square or the Fountain area near Raglan Street. Similarly, there was a call for more public seating in the township so that people could sit and chat comfortably. In addition, there was a strong call for more public art to be incorporated into Daylesford and for Daylesford to become known for its art and culture.

Need for better access to public toilets

Access to public toilets was a big issue and included physical access for people with a disability, after-hours access and increased number of public toilets. The locking of the toilets behind Coles supermarket was discussed at most of the focus groups with a call for either Council or Coles to address the situation.

Tension between focus on tourism and commerce and focus on community and local issues

A perception amongst many that was raised in all focus groups was that the Council's focus was on tourists and tourism businesses. In some cases this complaint extended to non-resident landowners (that they were more important to the shire and, unlike those people living in the area, more likely to be listened to).

Transport management

Issues around transport included numbers of cars in town, availability of parking, (for some too much, for others too little), environmental issues created by transport, big trucks driving through town, (especially up Central Springs Road), community transport including assistance required to travel to a local appointment and the need for better access to surrounding towns and railway stations.

Themes that were common across most areas included:

- Lack of a public or private gym or heated pool
- Availability of public art
- High use of consultants, particularly consultants who are not local to the area
- Poor state of Vincent Street

Focus Groups

The following are common issues specific to the focus groups in which they were raised.

Social Focus Groups

Social focus groups were facilitated under the headings: Health and Wellbeing, Arts and Culture, Young People, and People with a Disability. Common issues in addition to those raised above included:

- The need for support for families and for young children including availability of flexible respite opportunities, increased childcare and increased resources and play areas for young children.
- Community groups called for a place to network, bounce ideas around and gain administration support from council; assistance to identify grant opportunities and to write funding submissions for a variety of issues
- Accessibility in a very hilly town with heritage buildings was identified as an issue for people with a disability, older people and young mums with pushers and small children. It was an issue raised at a number of groups along with accessible toilets in town.
- The lack of progress (including toilets and play ground) at the skate park was raised a number of times. The playground and toilets have now been installed.

Environment

In addition to traffic management issues mentioned above, one of the hot issues in the environment focus group and again at the two open days was the call for a bio-diversity officer. Other widely discussed issues were around weed management, streetscape, education of residents about waste and recycling and the impact of tourism on the local environment.

Many of the strategies that came out of this focus group were fostered by two people who have since removed their names; one because she has moved away from the area and the other because she has a new job and is no longer available.

However, since the consultation was completed a bio-diversity officer has been appointed by the Shire.

Economic

The Economic Focus Group consultation was shared with the Vincent Street Revitalisation consultation and was attended by a large group of business owners and residents. This diverse group included many common and opposing views. Common themes included:

- Parking issues
- The need for a greater diversity of businesses in town
- Unplanned, inconsistent expansion

Built

Because of the Vincent Street Revitalisation and a fear of 'consultation fatigue', there was no specific focus group for Built. However, concerns raised during the consultation included:

- Lack of accessible toilets
- Lack of acknowledgement of heritage buildings and homes
- Lack of consistency around signage

Appendix three

Issues identified during the consultation period

Need for flexible respite care and home help
Need for more childcare
Need for community connecting activities and places where young people can go (esp when cold) that is safe, free and welcomes young people
Location for breastfeeding with cultural change around the issue
Accessible Public toilets
Promotion of recreation facilities for 0-6 FUNDED
Very young children Playground near library
Playgrounds and public gardens need to be audited and maintained for safety
Resources necessary to provide better outcomes for children; (books, music programs, “best start” style; co-ordinated play groups and special needs
Support those who wish to deliver programs/services
Integration of ages/cultures/abilities in accessible safe and welcoming area with toilet, kitchen and breast feeding space eg seniors hall
Social cohesion through existing networks
Community garden with veg/flowers and welcoming of children
Seating in Vincent and Howe Street
Care for aged
Accessibilities within community
Facilities are tourist friendly not age friendly
Toilets near Coles dirty/closed
Litter
Graffiti
Water bubble outside Royal Hotel - slimy
Part of town for locals – eg where you can buy everyday products such as clothing
Somewhere for kids to gather; no toilet at Skate Park
Too busy and difficult for locals to come into the civic centre – it is for tourists
Many groups operating in isolation /not working together
No activity for locals to participate in – eg pool, bowling, theatre. ARC too hard to access and not suited to everyone
Current focus on commerce; not community;
Transport to Dr appt; Vet.
Access to storage for community groups
Poverty within community
Missed opportunities such as indoor heated pool
Festivals – missing and volunteer effort needed to support them
Poor communication – defensive, offensive, dumbing down, disrespectful of residents
Museum – Not a community resource; too old fashioned – needs to be brought into 21C
Daylesford not going forward (main street)
Need actions from consultation
Lack of local public art
Lack of arts focus
Lack of acknowledgment of local expertise
No resources for artists to network
Community philosophy – shift from family tourism to indulgence
Not enough stuff for families – infrastructure, events, public toilets
Need to build on support for families
Commitment to using local talent and paying them
Easy access to grants
Things for young people to do
Businesses employing security guards – alienating young people
Disunity related to diversity
Tribes

Opportunities for youth
Tourism vs locals
Bushfire risk and complacency/apathy
Lack of affordable housing
Signage – not unified and lack directional signage
Hodgepodge of shops – no cohesion
Cohesive agreement
Lack of parking /traffic management
Civil infrastructure – road, gutters
Lack of toilets
Encourage ALL businesses – local, retail trades
Leaf litter
Seating- narrow footpaths
Signage
Allowable opportunities - Vicroads
Timelines of projects
Us and them mentality (old and new residents)
Lack of good governance
Main street looking tired and abandoned
Wasted money
Apathy (council and community)
Little gathering place needed
No direction – better branding and PR required
Catering for all groups – teens, adults, aged
communication – Advocate; on-line, noticeboards
Consistent street furniture
Acknowledgment of Heritage study (too many shelf studies)
Broaden dispersal of visitors away from Vincent St
Adhoc approach to expansion
Mismatch of signage
Expensive real estate
Need short term parking
High commercial rents – Vincent Street
Lack of choice in shops
Youth space (third space – community space)
Too suburban
No support for youth arts and artists
kerb and channel
No central/public art space
Need better access to public toilets
Lack of employment opportunities and poor quality of jobs
Nothing for young people
Availability of accessible toilets
Review of Council's access and inclusion plan
Council representation for Hepburn access and inclusion
Accessible parking
Transport within Daylesford
Taxis not taking mobility aids
Public transport – buses not accessible
Employment services eg Tracey come in a bus; no privacy; no community relationships;
no community interest
Affordable housing/
Supportive housing
Services Ballarat based – outreach to Daylesford
Emergency support services eg bushfires isolated/vulnerable people
Community needs to be informed of process
Community social space – places to meet and hang out work and learn

Education – need to travel to access
Support person to be available at neighbourhood house
Daylesford Secondary not accessible
Respite services for adults/parents with young children under 6 yrs
Steps to access buildings/shops eg police station
Lack of accessible pool and gym
Lack of marked bike lanes
Scooter and pram access big step ups/vision/access areas via road
Accessible playgrounds/parks
Too many tourists
Not enough car parking
Everything too expensive
The Rex not available for young people and businesses don't last
No arcade with pool tables, affordable food and dance parties on Friday night
Animals (snakes etc) dangerous
Native trees are a fire hazard if too close to houses
Pot holes in road
Not enough public transport
Without things to do young people get bored and do drugs
Employers sometimes discriminate against youth in jobs and as customers
Not enough diversity – Cafe or Coles we want some outdoor jobs stone mason childcare
Too many tourists
You get in trouble a lot
Nothing for kids to do
Not enough public transport
Nowhere to hang out
The Rex sucks
Very little low-cost supportive housing for growing ageing population such as a one-bedroom unit with support as necessary.
Many long-term residents visit downtown Daylesford as little as possible because it is perceived to be for tourists and strangers. Need to visit/interview those without internet.
Make more use of the less than successful Rex Theatre Building. Perhaps Council could buy for meeting space for community or put library and gym there

Appendix 4

Daylesford's history and demographics

Daylesford is a well known tourist destination named after a village in Gloucestershire, England. It was initially known as Wombat Flat, bounded by the localities of Basalt, Hepburn, Hepburn Springs and Dry Diggings and the Midland Highway in the north, the localities of Porcupine Ridge and Coomoora, Giacommettis Lane, Leitches Creek Road, Ilsley Lane and the locality of Musk in the east, the localities of Musk Vale and Sailors Hill in the south, and the locality of Eganstown and Basalt Road in the west.¹

Settlement of the area dates from the late 1840s, although population was minimal until the early 1850s when gold was discovered. The township was established in the late 1850s. Growth took place from the 1850s into the 1870s, spurred by gold mining. Although mining waned, the township grew from the 1880s into the 1920s, largely from tourism, and the construction of the railway line. The mineral springs became a major tourist attraction, with the area developing as a spa resort. Timber milling, farming and grazing were also important industries. The population declined during the mid 1900s. The population increased slightly during the 1970s and 1980s, due largely to a resurgence of tourism and people seeking an alternative lifestyle. The population declined slightly from the 1990s, particularly between 2001 and 2006, a result of few new dwellings being added to the area and a decline in the average number of persons living in each dwelling. Rural land is used largely for agriculture, particularly potato growing.

Current demographic snapshot

- The 2006 census shows Daylesford with a population of 2,341 with 59.5% of the population aged between 18 and 54 and 15.2% of the population aged between 5 and 17.
- 66% of residents are purchasing or own their home and 26.5% are renting
- 19.4% of Daylesford residents earn between \$250 and \$300 a week
- 19.1% of residents are defined as professionals and 16.4% are managers
- 44.5% are couples without children and compared to 38.5% who are couples with children

This is taken from the Hepburn Shire Webpage where there is much more information available.²

¹ [Daylesford Shire Council](#)
² [Hepburn Shire Council](#)