

Metung Nungurner District Community Plan 2012 – 2017

Incorporating Metung, Nungurner, Kings Cove,
Tambo Bluff and Tambo Bay



Table of Contents

Introduction1

Our Place1

Our Plan.....2

 What is a Community Plan?.....3

 Why does this plan matter?.....3

 What benefits will you see?.....4

 Strategic themes.....4

 Progress so far.....4

 Consulting with the community.....4

Strategies and Actions.....5

 Livability.....5

 Sustainability.....7

 Productivity.....8

 Governance.....8

Acknowledgements.....9

Community Planning Context.....9

What happens next?.....9

Introduction

In 2010, East Gippsland Shire Council embarked on a project to develop community plans for several towns and villages in East Gippsland. This Community Plan is supported through OurPlace, OurPlan, OurFuture, a shire-wide project being progressively rolled out to all East Gippsland communities. The project, funded by the Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development, is seen by Council as a means of achieving a planned and more equitable distribution of resources to communities in our region.

The Metung Nungurner District was one of the first areas to develop a Community Plan. Since October 2010, the people of the District have been working with Council to discuss issues within their community and generate ideas that they are passionate about.

This document describes the values, aspirations, projects and priorities the Metung Nungurner communities will work through in the next five years.

More information on OurPlace OurPlan OurFuture can be found on Council's website.

Our Place

Metung Nungurner District encompasses Metung Village, Kings Cove, Tambo Bluff, Tambo Bay and Nungurner.

These five communities are all different in many ways, but collectively reflect similar values and aspirations. The values and aspirations expressed are mainly to do with the preservation of a way of life where the environment is an essential part. This is not to say that the people do not want amenities and services, they do. The challenge is to have the things a modern community wants and needs without compromising the natural beauty and peace of these towns and villages.

The Metung Nungurner District, like many other rural and coastal communities, will face many changes and challenges in the years ahead, including:

- An ageing population; how services will be provided will be a major concern.
- Climate change and its impact on communities that live close to the sea.
- Population increase; retirees moving from crowded cities to the peace and beauty of coastal areas will put pressures on a fragile environment.
- Development and provision of infrastructure; what adds value to our preferred way of life and what does not.
- Budgetary pressures; how will we pay for the things we want and need.

These values, aspirations and issues have informed much of what is in this Plan.

Our Plan

The ideas that inform this Plan have come from residents of Metung Nungurner District, through ongoing community engagement.

Two community forums were held inviting people to talk about commonly held values; what they like about their area, what could be done better; and what concerns they have for the future of the District.

These forums were:

- **Metung Nungurner Community Forum – 24 November 2010.**
Attended by about 50 people.
- **Metung Nungurner Scenario Planning Workshop – 15 April 2011.**
The focus of this workshop was on the future. The facilitator asked attendees to look twenty years ahead and imagine what Metung Nungurner District would look like.

Feedback gathered at the forums has been collated into reports. These reports and community responses are available on East Gippsland Shire Council's website.

The views of school children were also sought.

Metung Primary School and Nungurner Primary School children were brought together, to discuss with Council staff the things they liked about living in the area and what their future might look like.



The Metung Nungurner Planning Partnership also met regularly over the past twelve months and has provided valuable insights into individual towns and villages in the Metung Nungurner District.

Throughout this consultation, common themes have been expressed:

- We value the natural environment and our lifestyle and we have a strong sense of community.
- Community sees opportunities for improvement in infrastructure, planning and the provision of services.
- Our main concern is being able to care for our ageing population and young people.
- We want to find a balance between urban growth and the preservation of our natural assets.



Therefore our goals are to:

- Build a community with a strong sense of place.
- Work together to achieve a healthy, safe and fulfilling lifestyle.
- Encourage strategic partnerships between government, community groups and agencies to jointly manage the unique Metung Nungurner coastal environment.
- Create an economic environment that provides jobs, encourages investment and caters to the needs of tourists and local residents.
- Build a community that is able to respond to challenges, capitalise on opportunities and benefit from working with all levels of government.

To ensure our goals are achieved, we will:

- Form a group that will advocate on behalf of Metung Nungurner District to achieve, implement, influence and preserve those things we express as our values.
- Work closely with all levels of government to attract funding and expertise with which to build on what we have, as well as to create the services and facilities that we will need to live well in the future.
- Uphold the interests of older and younger citizens with respect to our involvement in any planning, designing and improvements to infrastructure in our community.
- Get involved with private-sector agencies and decision-makers and participate in discussions on issues that affect our community. We will also look for innovative ways to create a balanced environment in the Metung Nungurner District.

What is a Community Plan?

A Community Plan (the Plan) is a collaborative effort between Council and our community to work out the objectives, strategies and actions that will ensure the community develops in a way that is liveable, sustainable, productive and manageable.

The Plan becomes a source document for Council, community groups and other organisations to coordinate the use of time, effort, funds and other resources in delivering outcomes to the communities concerned.

This Community Plan is based on a long-term vision but will also contain short and medium term strategies and actions. It is a living document, which will be regularly reviewed and updated as actions are completed, new opportunities or challenges arise and priorities change.

Why does this Plan matter? Change will impact on you and your community. We know that global issues such as peak oil, climate change and food security will have an impact on all communities. We also know that the localised issues referred to above will have a more immediate effect on our quality of life. The best way to mitigate the bad things and capitalise on the good things that change will bring is to plan.

This Community Plan is a demonstration of the willingness of the people of Metung Nungurner District and East Gippsland Shire Council to manage change and jointly develop the community.

What Benefits will you see?

A Community Plan is a single document that attempts to capture a range of initiatives and ideas that have come directly from residents of Metung Nungurner District. This plan will inform Council's work plans and budgets in the future.

Residents and other community stakeholders will have a clearly defined plan to develop ideas and work with Council to turn these ideas into projects which will benefit the whole community.

Regular reviews of the plan will inform prioritisation of your community's projects, Council's budget and grant-sourcing programs.

Strategic Themes

The strategies and actions outlined in this plan have been aligned with East Gippsland Shire Council's broader strategic objectives, which identify four main themes:

- [Liveability](#)
- [Sustainability](#)
- [Productivity](#)
- [Governance](#)

The plan also aligns with other Council strategies and plans which affect our community.

Progress so Far

The Metung Nungurner community has been working in partnership with Council for some time and some projects have already been completed with others in development.

- [A new walking path for Stirling Road](#): an all-weather walking path is being constructed on Stirling Road, extending from Metung Primary School through to the village. Seats will also be placed along the path.
- [Master Plan for Metung Marina](#): options are being considered.
- [New jetty and extension of boardwalk for Chinaman's Creek](#): a concept proposal is being developed.
- [Metung Village improvements](#): the Urban Design Framework (UDF) is being reviewed to improve the pedestrian experience in and around the village.
- [Pattersons Park Upgrade](#): incorporated in the UDF review (see above).
- [Beach Road foreshore and Shaving Point upgrade](#): concept development is underway.
- [Nungurner Foreshore Reserve upgrade](#): project scoping is underway.
- [A Shire-wide review of waste management services is underway.](#)

Consulting with the Community

A draft Community Plan was sent out to all residents in the District in October for a four-week period of consultation. Over 130 submissions were received. The content of these informed this final version. Thanks to all the people who contributed their ideas and views.

Strategies and Actions

Strategies and Actions

The following table contains the project ideas listed for action by the community.

Liveability: Build a community with a strong sense of place and work together to achieve a healthy, safe and fulfilling lifestyle.

Objectives	Strategies and Actions
To make Metung Nungurner a good place to raise a family	● Investigate the possibility of connecting Metung, Kings Cove and Tambo Bluff with a safe all-weather walking track. ● Investigate the possibility of a walking track between Metung and Nungurner. ● Review the condition of all walking tracks in Nungurner and assess the potential for expansion/revitalisation. ● Investigate an extension of the Stirling Road walking path from the school to near Metung Road. ● Review pedestrian traffic signage along Metung Road in partnership with VicRoads. ● Monitor progress of the National Broadband Network and lobby on behalf of the Metung Nungurner District for high-quality internet provision. ● Investigate the potential for providing a sports oval and/or other sporting facilities in the Metung Nungurner District. ● Identify a suitable location and develop a concept proposal for a skate park in Metung. ● Investigate future childcare needs as part of the Early Years Reference Process. ● Foster closer links between Council and young children through Civic Studies programs in Metung and Nungurner Primary schools, e.g. Environmental/Sustainability, Pet Care, Waste Management. ● Work with Council, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and State Emergency Services (SES) to develop a Local Incident Management Plan.

Strategies and Actions

Objectives	Strategies and Actions
To provide a safe and secure environment for our ageing population	● Include the interests of an ageing population in the East Gippsland Access and Mobility Strategy. ● Monitor the Caring for Older Australians Policy development and advocate for the interests of aged residents in the Metung Nungurner District. ● Investigate the need for, and possibility of providing an ambulance station in the Metung Nungurner District ● Work with VicRoads to review speed limits and pedestrian use of roads in the Metung Nungurner District. ● Work with VicRoads to review speed limits and anticipated traffic increases at the Metung Medical Centre, Metung Road and Hardys Road ● Implement the Let’s Get Connected program in the Metung Nungurner District to ensure that residents enjoy the transport and connectivity benefits on offer.
To plan for infrastructure that will ensure connected and cohesive communities in the Metung Nungurner District	● Explore options for the development of community facilities such as a men’s shed, craft centre or community centre for Nungurner. ● Work with Council to prioritise upgrades to facilities, including toilets, barbecue areas and play areas at Shaving Point, Nungurner Foreshore Park and Beach Road. ● Provide community noticeboards in Metung CBD and at the Jetty Foreshore, Nungurner and Tambo Bluff. ● Explore options for an internet-based community hub or online community newsletter with spaces for kids, special interest groups and volunteer organisations. ● Investigate potential/need for a boat ramp at Kings Cove Marina. ● Determine the future of the Hot Pools site; including water quality and suitability for commercial development. ● Explore options for the provision of a dinghy rack at the Nungurner Foreshore. ● Work with the Metung Health Centre to secure funding for Stage 2 development of a Community Centre.
To expand the arts and culture presence in the Metung Nungurner District	● Promote Metung Nungurner District as a venue for travelling exhibitions or events. ● Investigate opportunities for arts and cultural events that will attract visitors to the district. ● Produce an annual Arts and Culture calendar. ● Explore ways of bringing local artists and the business community together for mutual benefit.

Sustainability

Develop strategic partnerships between government agencies and community groups to jointly manage the unique Metung Nungurner coastal environment

Objectives	Strategies and Actions
To position the community to be able to make sound decisions about the natural and built environment	● Hold a community information night with a panel of relevant agencies such as Parks Victoria; CFA; Landcare; the Department of Sustainability and Environment; Gippsland Ports; and other relevant bodies, to inform and educate the community on regulatory frameworks, statutory compliance and areas of each agency's influence. ● Review and evaluate the community information night to determine its value or otherwise to the Metung Nungurner District. ● Explore ways to integrate sustainability and tourism into our environment. ● Arrange grant-writing workshops for local organisations and interest groups. ● Improve community understanding of the value of preserving native vegetation in our District through education and awareness programs for residents and businesses.
To protect and preserve the existing character of Metung Nungurner District with regard to the built and natural environment	● Ensure any addition to the built environment is sensitive to the natural attributes of the area. ● Work with Council to manage roadside vegetation, including weeds; pests and feral animals.
To ensure full benefit from Federal, State and Local Government initiatives	● Appoint local representatives to work with Council to develop a policy framework for a sustainable future for coastal environments and communities. ● Monitor the climate change debate at Federal and State Government levels and in partnership with Council.

Productivity: Create an economic environment that provides jobs, encourages investment and caters to the needs of tourists and local residents

Objectives	Strategies and Actions
To position Metung Village as a must-see destination for tourists and as a desirable lifestyle location for present and future residents	● Participate in the development of concept proposals for a revamp of Metung Village. ● Investigate increased parking provision in Metung Village and explore options for improving walkability in the village. ● Investigate the need for more bike racks and street seating suitable for children and older people in the village. ● Explore options for improving the Shaving Point area and making it more attractive. ● Package tourism products and services to attract off-peak visitors. ● Make use of Metung's listing as one of the "Villages of Victoria" to attract tourists.
To attract a wider range of market segments to build year-round trade for retailers	● Consult with relevant groups in the community to identify possible locations to accommodate Recreational Vehicles (RV's). ● Explore the potential for business events to showcase the Metung Nungurner District. ● Work to attract a wider range of water-based sporting events and activities to the District, such as sailing. ● Work to attract a wider range of arts and cultural events to the District.
To build capability and capacity in the Metung Nungurner business community and make it a good place to do business	● Work with relevant agencies to provide training courses on topics such as Marketing, Profitability, Customer Service and New Product Development. ● Support local incorporated organisations to apply for and manage State and Federal Government business-assistance grants. ● Investigate the scope for innovative small business ideas and eco-tourism ventures. ● Promote Metung as a good place to run an internet-based business. ● Review signage in the village to make it more visitor friendly.

Governance

Build a community that is able to respond to challenges, capitalise on opportunities and benefit from working with all levels of government

Objectives	Strategies and Actions
To improve relations between East Gippsland Shire Council and the community	● Develop a group that will represent the interests of Metung Nungurner District people and community organisations in the execution of this plan. ● Explore opportunities for community partnerships and with Council on decisions that affect the future development of the District.

Acknowledgements

The work and wisdom of the members of the Metung Nungurner Planning Group is hereby acknowledged.

A special thank you to Jade, Issy, Dylan, Alister, and Keegan from Nungurner and Metung Primary Schools who created the beautiful pictures that appear in this Plan.

Thank you!

The Planning Context

This Community Plan does not stand alone. It has been developed in partnership with East Gippsland Shire Council to work with several key Council Strategies and Plans, including:

Council Plan 2009-13
East Gippsland Community Wellbeing Plan 2009-2013
Municipal Early Years Plan 2009-2013
East Gippsland Regional Youth Strategy 2010-2013
Positive Ageing Strategy 2010-2013
Disability Action Plan 2007-2009
Draft East Gippsland Access and Mobility Plan
Bicycle Strategy
East Gippsland Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Roadside Management Plan
Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategic Plan 2011-2015
East Gippsland Economic Development Strategic Plan, Fourth Revision 2010
Strategic Plan for Sporting Infrastructure 2008
Strategic Tourism Plan 2006-2011
Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2008-2013
East Gippsland Shire Council Sustainable Water Use Plan 2007
Accessible Information and Lifelong Learning Plan

The Metung Nungurner District features in all of these plans. For more information, visit East Gippsland Shire Council's website.



What Happens Next:

In the coming months the Metung Nungurner Planning Partnership will meet to decide on a set of priorities from the Plan to put into action.

If you would like to get involved in this work, please contact the Metung Nungurner Planning Partnership via Heather Irvine, Community Planning Facilitator, East Gippsland Shire Council. Phone (03) 5153 9500 or email feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au