



June 2022

MURTOA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION



Our Community Plan

Murtoa Lakeside Town Moving Forward

Murtoa residents were surveyed through letter box and online surveys. A summary of the 59 responses received portray Murtoa’s strength, assets, challenges and vision in this Community Action Plan 2019-2023.

The Murtoa community has achieved many great things in the past five years when reflecting on the last community action plan, including successful completion of listed projects such as the Lake Marma redevelopment, the new Neighborhood House building, refurbished Murtoa Railway Station, and multiple upgrades to sporting facilities.

“Murtoa is a safe place to raise children with schools and a supportive community”

Murtoa is a proud lakeside town, located on the main rail line from Melbourne to Adelaide. Our vibrant community benefits from being located close to the Wimmera’s regional centre, Horsham. On the Silo Art Trail, our impressive tourist attractions include the Stick Shed (National Heritage listed Murtoa No.1 Grain Shed), the museum precinct (Water Tower Museum, Railway Station & Concordia College [first Lutheran college in Australia]), Dunmunkle Sumpoiler Engines, and the stunning Lake Marma managed by a local Committee of Management, complete with the Caravan Park [operated by Yarriambiack Shire Council] and community-owned Cabins on Lake Marma.

The town is a hub for the local agricultural industry, home to some major employers, two excellent schools and kindergarten, local based health services and pharmacy, a healthy retail sector and quality key trades available locally. The diverse community and sporting facilities and gardens are managed and maintained to a high standard by volunteers. Connectivity to NBN along with Telstra and Optus towers enhances business and social opportunities.

OUR COMMUNITY

Murtoa is a beautiful lakeside town in the heart of the Wimmera on the Silo Art Trail and home to The Stick Shed.



Population

865



Median Age

48
(State avg 47)



Private Dwellings

364
= 80% occupied



Median Household
Income

\$911
(State avg \$1,419)



Source: ABS Census 2016

OUR STRENGTHS

- **Our People & Community Spirit**
- **Forward thinking, driven, community that gets things done**
- **Rural Lifestyle and Location**
- **Local Businesses & Shopping has all the essentials you need**

OUR ASSETS

- **Local Businesses, Local Services & Local Employers**
- **Lake Marma**
- **The Stick Shed**
- **Tourism & Public facilities**
- **Community Events**
- **Strong farming culture & Agriculture Industry**

OUR CURRENT CHALLENGES

- **Small businesses able to continue & expand**
- **Accommodation for sale, rent, for elderly and for visitors**
- **Local access to healthcare, Doctors and Childcare**
- **Centre of town needs a boost. Revive the main street.**
- **Build population - Attract new people and keep people here**
- **Employment opportunities**
- **Infrastructure upgrades and maintenance**
- **Inclusion, cohesion, engaging young people & supporting ideas**
- **Access to community funding**
- **Volunteer fatigue**
- **Development opportunities**

OUR FUTURE CHALLENGES

Frequent future challenges the Murtoa community raised in 2019:

- Growing Our Community: Keep people in Murtoa & attract new people to Murtoa
- Support local businesses and attract new businesses
- Retain & build services (health & child care)
- Maintaining & improving current infrastructure
- Space for furthering development, industrial and tourism opportunities

OUR OPPORTUNITIES

Ideas raised in the community survey that we, with our Murtoa Progress Association, can explore:

- ✓ *Indicates completed or in process since raised in 2019 through the community survey*

Basic Services

- ✓ **Child Care Centre built** for community. There is a huge demand for local daycare. There is a huge demand and wait list for take a break. Sufficient resources locally.
- ✓ **Access to health services** locally, including access to Doctor supported
- ✓ **Invest in quality housing development** for all demographics (including rentals). Accommodation desperately needed (housing & rentals)
- **Minimise the drugs boom** and the effects it has on small communities.
- ✓ **Manage feral pigeons**

Community & Connectivity

- ✓ **More community Events Sponsored** to promote social inclusion – Like the Big Weekend Family Fun Night and Look over the Farm Gate events. Perhaps 3 per year.
- ✓ **Young people engagement** improved, including develop meaningful activities and spaces
- **Sustain community groups** and maintain and support volunteers, including more easily accessible **funding** for community groups
- **Town strategic plan** developed that is holistic
- Have **coordinated group** with representatives for all groups work together to support each other, share skills, resources and promote develop Murtoa.
- **Public gym** to encourage fitness
- **Promote Murtoa** - great place to live for young families, elderly and commuter base for Horsham

Infrastructure Opportunities

- ✓ **Footpaths improved.** Pedestrian, gopher and pram safe footpaths e.g. Lake, Degenhardt and Comyn Streets. With the recent dry conditions, it appears there has been more movement in surfaces (cracking, lifting and dropping) and further action is required for public safety.
- ✓ **Street Scape improvements.** Paint the shop facades of McDonald St (all private, public benefit)
- **Street trees** in areas where this is practicable and needed. Appropriate selections to avoid causing hazards. E.g. McClintock St. from the highway to Breen St. is one area for consideration.
- ✓ **Review town entrances** from North, South, East and West and consider ways to enhance further. Perhaps drought tolerant garden with a few striking specimens, may help create a lived-in feel.
- Murtoa **Industrial area expanded** and promoted to encourage investment and employment.
- **Maintaining current infrastructure** - a lot of buildings in town will need work in the future, where does this money come from?
- ✓ **Flooding at pool entry:** Water unable to drain away from Swimming Pool entry area.
- Maintaining clean and regular **lake supply**
- Get **free Wi-Fi**
- ✓ Install a **toddler playground**
- Improve **public transport** (including rail)
- **Maximise use of limited resources** by seeking creative ways of sharing resources rather than replicating facilities: costs of maintaining and developing local infrastructure can be a problem.
- **Bus shelter** in Marma St built as a second shelter

Economic Development Opportunities

- **Local business supported** through initiatives developed to support and boost local businesses. Promote shopping local ("look local first"). Business thrives, they employ more people, more people come and spend in town, community thrives. It's simple but hardly ever acknowledged
- **Business investment encouraged**, use recent case studies.
- Attract new **employment** to Murtoa
- ✓ **Become a tourist destination.** Murtoa as a lifestyle location promoted for commute and quality of lifestyle. Enhance tourism and do more to promote the town and maximise impact of tourism for benefit of local economy. Set up a tourist information centre
- **External perspectives.** Interesting to get perspectives from non-locals or former locals. They can often see things that we don't. E.g. great features that we take for granted. Comments left on social media, visitor books or in passing, may give useful insights.
- ✓ Specific locations for **truck parking in town centre** to encourage shop locally, economic benefit.
- **Promote an agribusiness** that value adds to local produce and would provide employment and boost economy via flow on effects. Farms getting bigger - losing families from district
- ✓ Make the **caravan park** bigger
- **Lake development** potential: café/bar

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- ✓ **Free camping options.** Travelers have several options for ‘free camping’ in this region and elsewhere. This would make Murtoa another option for some travelers who have self-sufficient rigs. Some have already found spots around Murtoa to stop overnight for free.
 - ✓ **Meal Access.** Coordination of business hours to ensure access on long weekends and holidays.

OUR MURTOA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Murtoa Progress Association has represented the Murtoa Community since 1888. The purpose of Progress is to promote and support Murtoa and district in the enhancement of:

- Community connectivity, consultation and local representation
- Local businesses, services, ag-culture and economic development opportunities
- Tourism and livability
- Shared leadership and enable community leaders

Specific tasks include to manage:

- Promotion of local business and community events
- Representation of community issues, concerns and interests
- Community Units and Cabins on Lake Marma
- The Murtoa website and social media
- The Murtoa Community Action Plan as a consultative process
- The fortnightly newspaper the “Murtoa and District Advertiser”

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Email: murtoaprogress@gmail.com

Website www.murtoa.net **Facebook** www.facebook.com/murtoa

OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS (2019-2023) – Annual Update 2022 – By Theme

****Grey Highlight of Project line Indicates Project Completed/Closed/Managed****

1. Community, Connectivity & Livability Opportunities

	Theme	Project	Summary	Need	Lead & Who Involved	Comments	Contact / Submitted	Email Address
A	Health, Recreation & Sport	Skateboard park upgrade	Skateboard park safe & user-friendly improvements – Rabl Park	Recreational spaces for young people	YSC, Murtoa College	Project underway for upgrade. Pending funding	Murtoa P-12 students	
A		Toddler playground	Develop a new, or add to existing playgrounds with playground equipment suitable to toddlers	No toddler playgrounds suitable to under 3 years of age	YSC	Project underway for Rabl Park. Pending funding	MPA	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
B		Bowls Club – Repair mal toilets.	The male toilet is in serious disrepair. It is fragile and is not suitable for the elderly or people with disabilities to use safely.	There is a risk to our members and visitors health and safety.	Murtoa Bowls Club, YSC	As safety concern & priority – separated from project below.	Tony Baker (Chair)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
C		Bowls Club – Project plan & building design	This project involves appointing a suitably qualified architect to develop detailed design for the project listed below (in relation to the building components)	To deliver on priority activities a detailed architects drawing is required and Council planning requirements met. This ensures a 'shovel ready' project suitable for greater range of grants.	Murtoa Bowls Club, YSC	Limited in opportunities for grants as project is not 'shovel ready'.	Tony Baker (Chair)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
D		Bowls Club - Demolish and rebuild men's toilets.	The male toilet is in serious disrepair. It is fragile and is not suitable for the elderly or people with disabilities to use safely. Need to demolish the current toilet that is detached from the main clubhouse. Extend the club house to include the toilet in the main building. This requires moving tanks, plumbing and walking paths.	There is a risk to our members and visitors health and safety. A small club with growing membership. Need to upgrade our facilities to continue to attract membership.	Murtoa Bowls Club, YSC	Priority	Tony Baker (Chair)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
E		Bowls Club – Outdoor Shaded Area	Need for improved outdoor spectator area	Nowhere suitable for spectators. Weather impacts on spectators – include heat risk from no shade options.	Murtoa Bowls Club, YSC	This can be linked to project above	Tony Baker (Chair)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
F		Oval - Raised seating for court/s and oval	Raised seating for court/s and oval	Opportunity for spectators to view sports	Showyard COM		Showyard Committee	
G		Public exercise equipment	Exercise stations to be placed around the Lake Marma walking track Encourage people outside for fitness. Add strength training to fitness program.	Public access to exercise equipment. Strength training is important. Meet and chat with like-minded community while getting fit.	Lake Marma COM		Local Resident	adgra3@gmail.com
H	Basketball ring installed for young people	Basketball ring installed within the Lake Marma or Rabl Park area.	Basketball is popular with young people in Murtoa. No public space to play.	Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com	

I	Young people activities & spaces	Young people activities	Free opportunities and experiences for young people available in-place locally	YSC, schools	YSC holding young activities	Local - 6yo	
J	Rabl Park Off- Lead Dog Park	Suggested location - Rabl Park other side of bridge to the toilet car park. It would be securely fenced, with dog-litter disposal units, and signage. Provide safe space for dog owners to exercise dogs.	Nowhere on public land for dogs to safely be off -lead. Provide social experience for both dog and owner.	YSC, Dog owners		Local Resident	pmclark60@bigpond.com
K	Golf Club – Water tank replacement	New rainwater tank to replace very old concrete tank.		Golf Club	Priority	Keith Elliot (Secretary)	murtoagolf@gmail.com
L	Golf Club – Water pump replacement for course greens	Pump repair or new pump to replace broken pump for course watering.	Maintain the essential golf course greens	Golf Club	Priority	Keith Elliot (Secretary)	murtoagolf@gmail.com
M	Golf Club – Climate control for club house	Air conditioning split system for the clubhouse to provide warmth for golf players and supporters during Winter when the golf course is open.	There is nothing for summer cooling and the wood heater used for winter is very old and inefficient. OHS for wood handling.	Golf Club	Priority	Keith Elliot (Secretary)	murtoagolf@gmail.com
N	Golf Club – Wetland area	Water hazard on the 14th hole to be made into a permanent wetland for the attraction of birds and wildlife.	The Murtoa Golf Course backs onto the Barrabool State Park. This would promote a healthy ecosystem with the utilising a hazard to form a healthy wetland.	Golf Club		Keith Elliot (Secretary)	murtoagolf@gmail.com
O	Golf Club – Participant weather protection	Covered outdoor area attached to the clubhouse	The Murtoa Golf Course is a Winter Course - participants are subject to cold weather outdoors on commencement and completion of the course. A shelter adjoined to the club room enables weather projection for patrons.	Golf Club		Keith Elliot (Secretary)	murtoagolf@gmail.com
P	Tennis - Finalisation of top surface of Court #3.	Further funding for top surface of Court #3 (low slip synpave acrylic court surface and final line marking) to finalise recently completed fill within this area (funds did not allow complete fill required to avoid pooling).	A Friday night competition considered to replace Saturday afternoon tennis due to increased Saturday commitments of players. The shift of the standard tennis format to attract new players of varying skill levels to enjoy tennis as a fun sport and enjoy the recreation reserve.	Murtoa Tennis Club	Tennis Victoria support importance of Court #3. Assistance from YSC Rebecca Botheras will be actioned for larger grant applications.	Natasha Pietsch (Secretary)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
Q	Tennis - Lighting of courts	Additional lighting update to install additional lighting towers to light up #3 and #4 for a possible (more efficient) night competition.	The need for quality lighting and surface of Court #3 will complete the tennis arena and set up for future generations.	Murtoa Tennis Club	Tennis Club will research required equipment for additional lights and source quotes.	Natasha Pietsch (Secretary)	tony-tash@bigpond.com
R	Tennis - High pressure court cleaner.	High pressure court cleaner will avoid mold buildup and further costs associated with this issue going forward.	Maintenance equipment will prevent future costly issues and assist	Murtoa Tennis Club		Natasha Pietsch (Secretary)	tony-tash@bigpond.com

				members in maintaining court preservation.				
S		Swimming Pool - Computerised water testing system	Reduce man hours and therefore cost of running pool, by installing a computerised water testing system. Water testing is required four hourly every day	reduce the running costs of our local swimming pool	Swimming Pool Comm.			
		Swimming Pool - Solar panels to reduce power expenses	the committee has applied for government funding for this project, and is waiting to see if we will be successful. If not, we still wish to plan for solar panels	Reduce running costs of our local swimming pool. A necessary facility in our hot summer climate.	Swimming Pool Comm.			
		Public places to tether dogs	A suitable place to tether a large dog outside the Commonwealth Bank	the only possibility is around a pole in Cromie Street, which is too large and far away	YSC	Completed with public seat installed by YSC	Local Resident	loeliger@bigpond.com
T	Access-ability	The Stick Shed – Ambulant vehicle	Purchase ambulant golf cart	Enable access for all visitors	The Stick Shed COM		David Grigg (Secretary)	stickshedcom@gmail.com
U	Heritage	Historical Society – Digitalisation Project	Digitisation of Microfiche & Microfilm Rate Records & Dunmunkle Standard.	Essential for research purposes	Historical Society	Dependent on Local History Grant	Sue Dollin (Secretary)	мурtoamuseum@outlook.com
V		Water Tower Repairs	Repairs of brick integrity, window frames, internal floors, internal pipes	Urgent repairs required based on completed assessment	Historical Architect	Grant application submitted	Sue Dollin Secretary	мурtoamuseum@outlook.com
		Water Tower Top Floor Lighting	Install lighting for displays and viewing the tank	As funds become available	Historical Society, volunteers	Completed.	Peter Adler President MDHS	мурtoamuseum@outlook.com
		Concordia Maintenance	Painting of interior window Frames and sills	Urgent	Historical Society	Completed with YSC Share Grant	Sue Dollin MDHS	мурtoamuseum@outlook.com
W		Street Plaques of Notable Businesses and Homes	Historical photo and information/history of the location. Mounted on the building or on a free-standing pole.	150 th Anniversary in 2022	MPA	Project funding submitted	Progress	мурtoaprogress@gmail.com
X	Community Safety	Museum Precinct – Security Cameras	Install security system for the Museum precinct.	Increase in activities that risk vandalism to vital community property and heritage items	Historical Society	New Priority Project 2022.	Sue Dollin (Secretary) MDHS	мурtoamuseum@outlook.com
Y		Golf Club – Security system	Security alarm/camera system for the club house.	Multiple break ins and vandalism. The security system will support prevention and follow up on incidents.	Golf Club	New Priority Project 2022.	Keith Elliot (Secretary)	мурtoagolf@gmail.com
Z		Lake Marma - Security system that covers area	A security system of lighting and cameras installed to prevent vandalism and crime in area.	Increased vandalism at the tennis club	YSC	New Priority Project 2022.	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	
AA		Rabl Park – Security lighting & CCTV	A security system of lighting and cameras installed to prevent vandalism and crime in area.		YSC	Project underway for upgrade. Pending funding	Progress	

2. Infrastructure Improvement Opportunities (Including Beautification Projects)

	Location	Project	Summary	Need	Who will be Involved	Comments	Contact	Email Address
A	Town Centre	Upgrade toilets in Marma St	Many people visit Murtoa since Stick Shed & Silo Art Trail have become popular. Also, locals on their walks around lake, etc.	Aged & not pleasant. No mirror & sanitary arrangements to be improved. Entrance too dark.	YSC		Local resident	
		Truck parking areas	Truck parking area required in various locations in town to support local businesses (apart from rest stop at Rabl Park which is far from shops)	Ag is huge part of our area & employment. There is nowhere for trucks to park & purchase items / rest.	YSC, VicRoads, Local businesses	Determined legal to park trucks up to one hour in any street.	Local resident	
B		Beautify McDonald St Shop Facades	Work with private shopfront owners to paint shop facades for town beautification.	McDonald St shop fronts deteriorated	Shop / building owners, YSC	Underway	MPA	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
C		Bus shelter	Bus shelter in Marma St built as 2 nd shelter	No weather protection for people waiting for buses on south side of Highway	YSC		Local Resident	
D		Environment - Create opportunities for involvement in Urban Landcare activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting for shade, habitat • Town beautification • Community gardening / composting / repairs • Plant propagation • Beekeeping • Litter control • Garden produce sharing 	Improve liveability of town by creating opportunities for participation in things that improve the local environment and beautifying the town streets, parks and entrances.	Neighbourhood House, YSC, Landcare, Schools, U3A, Men's Shed		Local Resident	pmclark60@bigpond.com
E		Town Entrances	Murtoa town entrances beautified to create a lasting impression for visitors.	Create an impression on visitors approaching Murtoa	YSC, Community	Signs updated. Sidings maintained by YSC.	Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
F	Walking Tracks / Footpaths	Walking track from Murtoa Cemetery to McDonald Street	A walking track from McDonald Street, along existing footpaths, down Marma St, the Highway and onto Murtoa Cemetery Rd.	Residents and visitors often walk to Cemetery, which lacks a track.	YSC for guidance		Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
G		Bike track brochure for Barrabool State Park	Bike track brochure for Barrabool State Park.	Tourism and local fitness to enjoy State Park	YSC for guidance	Project for mapped bike tracks underway – seeking approvals from DELWP.	Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
H		Town footpaths improved.	Pedestrian, gopher and pram safe footpaths e.g. Lake, Degenhardt and Comyn Streets.	Cracking, lifting and dropping) and further action is required for public safety.	YSC		Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com

I	Lake Marma	Lake landscaping at north-west	Develop the North West corner area of the Lake reserve. Looking to incorporate grassed area, tables, BBQ area/shelter, play zone, etc.	Increased community public space at Lake recreation area.	Lake Marma COM	Project underway.	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
J		Landscaping swimming pool parking area	The planting of trees in the swimming pool / tennis court area. Something like Weeping Myall	More asphalted road to link in to the sealed road to the rotunda.	Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
K		Sound Shell	A sound shell structure at the grassed area near the new BBQ area. Maybe along the swimming pool fence.	For community entertainment at the Lake	Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
L		Lake car parking area improvements	Improvements to large car park area near swimming pool. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing maintenance of surface Asphalt road to link entry 	User friendly	Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
M		Lake tree replanting plan	Tree replanting plan around Lake. More regular arborist reports to assess tree health.		Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
N		Sprott Fountain beautified	Beatify Sprott Fountain	Beautify the area	Lake Marma COM		Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
O		Security cameras & lighting	Install security cameras and lighting in collaboration with user groups.	Liaise with users and authorities to improve community safety	Lake Marma COM	Stakeholder meeting planned for June 2022.	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
P		Recreate 'lovers lane'	Plant shade trees on track at SE corner from channel to near cricket nets	In response to input from community	Lake Marma COM	New project	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
Q		Restore old well on foreshore near cabins	Create another point of historic interest at the lake – part of early water infrastructure		Lake Marma COM	New project	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
R		Boardwalk	Create a boardwalk at the South end of the lake from caravan park to wetlands	Provides access for fishing and bird observation	Lake Marma COM	New project	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com
S	Lake track edging	Extension of track edging to provide a more accessible track		Lake Marma COM	New peoject	Graeme Adams (Secretary)	adgra3@gmail.com	
	The Stick Shed	Stick Shed Emergency Access	Installation of entrance for emergency vehicles in Shed	Facilitate entry/exit to for emergency vehicles.	The Stick Shed COM	Communtiy paid events unable to proceed without this access.	David Grigg (Secretary)	stickshedcom@gmail.com

	Identify and replace damaged poles	Develop comprehensive maintenance plans which concur with Heritage guidelines		The Stick Shed COM	Completed	David Grigg (Secretary)	stickshedcom@gmail.com
	Landscaping information centre area	Landscaping of area surrounding info centre following redevelopment.		The Stick Shed COM	Completed	David Grigg (Secretary)	stickshedcom@gmail.com
	The Stick Shed entrance widened	Widening of Stick Shed driveway to provide for two-way traffic	Dual carriage way for visitor vehicles as dense traffic during open hours.	The Stick Shed COM	Completed	David Grigg (Secretary)	stickshedcom@gmail.com
Sports Recreation Reserve	Masterplan for entire Recreation Reserve	Masterplan with stakeholders developed for incorporated approach to required facilities, new community centre with suitable amenities	Multiple user requirements to upgrade deteriorating or unsuitable facilities	YSC, Rec Reserve COM, Cricket Club, Football&Netball, A&P Society	Project community consultation underway.	Showyards Committee (Chair)	

3. Economic Development Opportunities (Including Tourism)

	Project	Summary	Need	Who will be Involved	Comments	Contact	Email Address
A	Silo Art in Murtoa	Silo art painted on south side of Solomit Strawboard Wheat Silo facing town. Ideas presented by student from Murtoa.	Attract visitors to Murtoa with positive impact on local businesses	Murtoa Progress Association (MPA)	Artist SMUG selected. Digital animation art artist Transcience selected. Pending grant Jul 2022.	Local Resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
B	Animated Film on Stick Shed Operations	Production of an animated film depicting how the Stick Shed operated when receiving and out loading grain.	Tourist attraction at the Shed to support information enquiries on how the Stick Shed operated.	The Stick Shed	New project	The Stick Shed COM	stickshedcom@gmail.com
C	Mural / Wall Painting Art on Buildings	Art at every turn on sides of buildings and businesses, fences, etc.	A point of interest for local residents. Mural artists with local connections.	Artists Local businesses Community		Local Resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
	Free-camping options in Murtoa	Investigate incorporating a free camping area.	Tourism to boost local economy	YSC Lake Marma COM	Possible on Rabl Park, as Shire land. Requires community consultation.	Local Resident	
	Industrial Area Expanded	Expand the industrial area in Murtoa to have physical space for new industry to be established.	Lack of physical space for industrial area to expand for new business & employment.	YSC, Businesses	Need interest from industry to explore this option.	Local Resident	
D	Murtoa Website	Update Murtoa Website interface www.murtoa.net	Murtoa website useful for tourism, community services, etc. Interface is outdated.	MPA, community, businesses	Fixed provider, unable to change interface. New website loses top position on search engines.	MPA	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
E	Electric Vehicle Charing Station	Electric Vehicle charging station at Rabl Park	EV charging station for visitors and residents in recreation area – stop & recharge.	YSC, MPA,		Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com

4. Support Basic Services

	Project / Issue	Summary	Need	Who will be Involved	Comments	Contact	Email Address
A	Early Learning Centre in Murtoa	Establish an Early Learning Centre in Murtoa for childcare, maternal health, kindergarten.	Many families need childcare locally. Impacts on family income as unable to work. Families seek childcare in Horsham, which takes time & investment away from Murtoa. Qualified educators available locally. Murtoa Kindergarten substantial structural issues & requires financial investment.	Community, parents, YSC, Federal MP	In progress: Grant application for Federal funding - \$850,000, +Shire funding for Childcare Centre build. Early Learning Centre discussion with State Government underway in 2022.	YSC	info@yarriambiack.vic.gov.au
B	Local businesses supported / Attract new employment / Promote Agri-business	Support local businesses through promotion. Encourage new businesses to town. Promote an agribusiness that value adds to local produce	Local businesses sustained and attract new businesses to town. Build on agricultural business interest. Promoting education with relevance to primary production.	MPA, New businesses, Schools	Ongoing social media promotion of local businesses	MPA	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
	Address Murtoa pigeon problem	Work with partner organisations to manage feral pigeons that are a pest for town	Pidgeon feral population soaring	YSC, land owners	Completed. Businesses contact Shire for eradication costs. Public land Shire cover. Progress paying quarterly management costs.	MPA	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
C	Housing / Community housing	Invest in quality housing development for all demographics.	Accommodation desperately needed (housing & rentals). Social and affordable housing needed to support aging or disadvantaged population.	YSC, Murtoa Community Assets Committee	Underway. Murtoa Community Assets Committee identified land / purchased. Grant for 2 units confirmed. Pending 5 units before build for 2022	Community Assets Committee (MPA)	murtoaprogress@gmail.com
D		Land development through additional sub-divisions.	Land for new housing builds restricted for Murtoa. Identify opportunity for land to be sub-divided for new housing.	YSC	New project 2022	Local resident	murtoaprogress@gmail.com