



POMONAL HALL AND RECREATION RESERVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Pomonal Progress Association
and Rural City of Ararat



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

@leisure wishes to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by the Pomonal Progress Association, Ararat Rural City Council staff, the Pomonal Hall Committee of Management and local residents in undertaking this project.

In particular, we recognise the assistance and cooperation of:

- Jenny Greenberger, Secretary, Pomonal Progress Association
- Representatives of the Pomonal Progress Association
- Mandy Noble, Community Building Coordinator, Ararat Rural City Council
- Henry Gunstone, Community Services Coordinator, Ararat Rural City Council
- Ian Mitchell, Manager Rural City Services, Ararat Rural City Council
- Members of the community and sporting clubs at the reserve who returned completed surveys, attended workshops and responded to telephone interviews.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Project Brief

The aim of this project was to create a 20-year Master Plan for the Pomonal Community Precinct and to undertake an assessment of all sporting and recreational facilities within Pomonal to determine future needs.

It is expected that this project will assist in the development and enhancement of facilities within the Pomonal Community Precinct to ensure that they remain a valuable asset to the community.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- investigate capital and strategic development opportunities
- develop a management plan for the facility for current and potential users
- review the condition of the sport and recreational facilities within Pomonal, identifying development needs and sustainability options
- provide recommendations for future development of these facilities.

1.2 Methods

The following tasks were undertaken as part of this project:

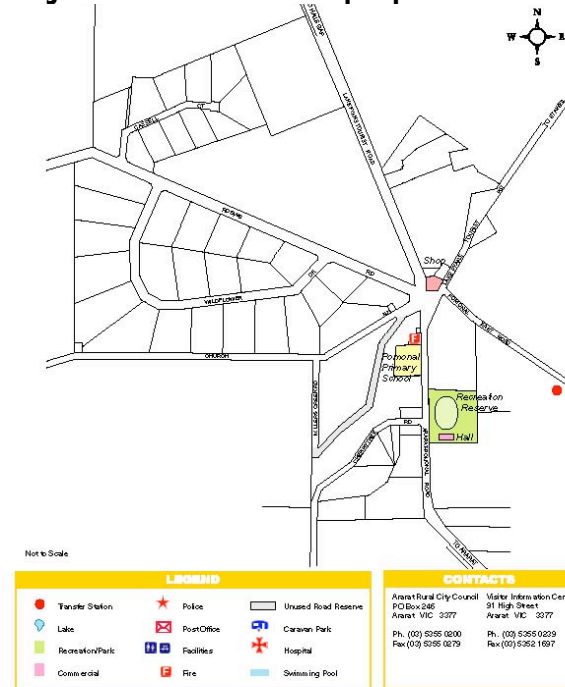
- a literature review, including a review of background reports and plans
- workshop with Council staff and key stakeholders
- community workshops - at the beginning of the project and at the report's draft stage
- telephone interviews with staff and key community contacts, clubs and stakeholders
- a mail survey of all households in Pomonal
- a review of 2001 ABS population data
- preparation and exhibition of the draft plan for comment.

2. CONTEXT

2.1 Location

Pomonal is located 34 km north west of Ararat on the main Ararat-Pomonal Tourist Road¹. A gateway town to the Grampians and Lake Fyans, Pomonal is an attractive village once famous for its apple orchards and tobacco crops. It now attracts visitors for its variety of spectacular wildflowers.

Figure 1: Pomonal Township Map



¹ Pomonal Community Action Plan 2001-2003

2.2 Population

The population of Pomonal is estimated at 300 people, with around 150 households. No accurate population projections are available. However anecdotal evidence cites Pomonal as one of the fastest developing areas in the municipality, with a number of younger families choosing to live in the area.

Information supplied by the Ararat Rural City Council indicates that since 2003 there have been six subdivisions, 18 new building permits granted for new dwellings, and there have been two permits granted for holiday style accommodation.

This points to the possibility of continuing growth within the town of Pomonal which is located in the municipalities strongest growth corridor; along the Ararat-Halls Gap Tourist Road.

2.3 The Reserve

The Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve Precinct (also known as Naram Naram Reserve) is the key recreation facility in Pomonal. As shown in Figure 1 (above), it is located on the Ararat-Pomonal Road, around 100 metres south of Pomonal Primary School. The reserve has clear sight lines from the main tourist road leading through the township. The precinct consists of:

- one hall with stage, kitchen and toilet facilities
- one cricket oval with synthetic cricket wicket
- two practice cricket pitches and nets
- one small cricket pavilion
- one brick tennis club shelter/ storage facility
- two asphalt tennis courts
- one small playground
- one public toilet block with two accessible public toilet cubicles, wash basins and a communal washbasin
- one wood-fired BBQ
- one steel clad storage shed

2.4 Stakeholders

The Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve is utilised – and valued - by all age groups across the Pomonal community. It is currently used for private, community and public functions. Current stakeholders affiliated with the reserve are listed below.

Pomonal Progress Association

The Pomonal Progress Association is the key group advocating for development of the township. The Association is also a primary user group of the hall.

On the last Sunday of each month the Association runs the Pomonal Village Market at the hall, generating the key source of revenue for the reserve.

Pomonal Hall Committee of Management

The Pomonal Hall Committee of Management controls the use and maintenance of the hall. Major events at the hall include Pomonal Primary School's Art Show (Queens Birthday weekend), the Pomonal Native Garden Show (annually on the first weekend in October) and the Village Market (last Sunday of each month). The hall is also hired out to private groups for parties and other functions.

Pomonal Country Fire Authority

The Pomonal Country Fire Authority recently built a new double shed and have two fire trucks. They are located approximately 200 metres down the road from the reserve and they use the hall for their committee meetings.

Pomonal Primary School

The Pomonal Primary School, situated approximately 100 metres from the reserve, currently has 22 students. Among other minor activities, the school depends on the hall for its major fundraiser, a three day art show over the June long weekend which attracts up to 800 visitors.

Pomonal Cricket Club

The Pomonal Cricket Club was founded in 1892 and it is now the largest club in the competition, with three senior teams, an under 13 and under 16 team. The club has a reputation for providing a family atmosphere.

The cricket club uses a small pavilion (separate from the hall), adjacent to the oval.

Pomonal Tourism Association (PTA)

The PTA has approximately 26 members and principally supports local attractions and accommodation providers. The association produces an ‘attractions and accommodation’ brochure for the township.

Australian Plant Society (SGAP Victoria) - Grampians District Group

The Grampians District Group of the Australian Plant Society, which meets once a month at the hall, conducts the Pomonal Native Garden Show in the hall. It is held in the last week of the September/ October school holidays.

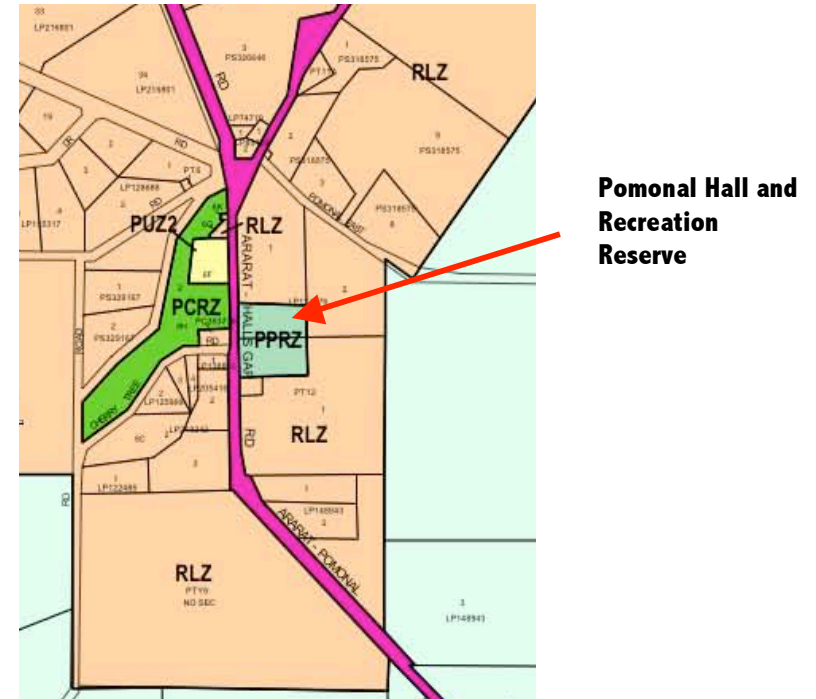
This event, an exhibition of mainly Australian native wildflowers, is considered Pomonal’s major event each year attracting up to 1000 visitors.

2.5 Ownership and Zoning

The site, known as Naram Naram Reserve, consists of two parcels of Council-owned land on the Ararat-Halls Gap Road at Pomonal. One parcel, comprising the main reserve, is zoned *Public Park and Recreation*. The other parcel, a small block abutting the road, is zoned as *Rural Living*. It is understood that this block was bequeathed to Council or the community for the purpose of providing a bowling green in future years.

The reserve abuts Millers Creek and an associated reserve zoned *Public Conservation and Recreation* managed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment as a flora and fauna reserve. This reserve provides a possible pedestrian access to the reserve and a path circuit to complement the reserve’s use.

Figure 2: Ararat Planning Scheme Zones: Pomonal



Source: Dept of Sustainability and Environment Website- Planning Schemes Online

2.6 Planning and Policy Context

Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve has been cited in two major plans and strategies since 2000.

Pomonal Community Action Plan (currently under review)

Residents identified the following vision for the town's future:

- provide a better range of services and activities
- stay similar to now - retain unique qualities
- involve young people in plans
- retain the school – encourage new young families to move to the area
- create a focus for community (eg, hall, community centre, school, park)
- provide facilities to enable older people to be able to stay in their community
- community to encompass a wide range of ages and interests
- retain natural heritage of the area.

Identified community goals, in order of priority are to:

- develop garden nature strip in front of the Grampians Store (completed)
- develop a walk/ bike/ fitness track between Robin's Road and Tunnel Road (completed)
- develop a master plan for the Pomonal Recreation Reserve Precinct
- develop a bush cemetery for Pomonal
- improve the streetscape of Pomonal
- develop a way to further connect local youth with the community.

Ararat Recreation and Open Space Strategy

Key relevant goals and strategies from the recreation plan centre include **participation**, ie, 'more people participating in social and physical activities of their choice and more often', and the following strategies:

- balance the focus on facilities with more support for programs and matching needs with opportunities

- provide more accessible and inclusive opportunities, and encourage participation from older adults
- improve access to activities enjoyed but not undertaken and assist residents to make leisure time more fulfilling
- promote the benefits of recreations and active lifestyles to residents.

The goal in terms of **infrastructure**, 'more equitable, accessible, inclusive recreation facilities, responsive to locals needs and managed cost effectively', includes the following strategies:

- implement a clear plan for sports facilities across the municipality and their development
- consolidate facilities and enhance use and the quality of infrastructure
- monitor the use and development of community halls and meeting places
- design a network of trails to enhance exercise, social benefits and stress management
- enhance play value, safety and accessibility of playgrounds
- encourage the adoption of environmentally sustainable practices.

The goal in terms of **information, communication and marketing**, ie, 'more leisure choices through better communication about opportunities' includes the following strategies:

- develop key products for residents
- introduce appropriate signage for reserves and facilities
- encourage greater dialogue between Council, committees of management, sports and schools.

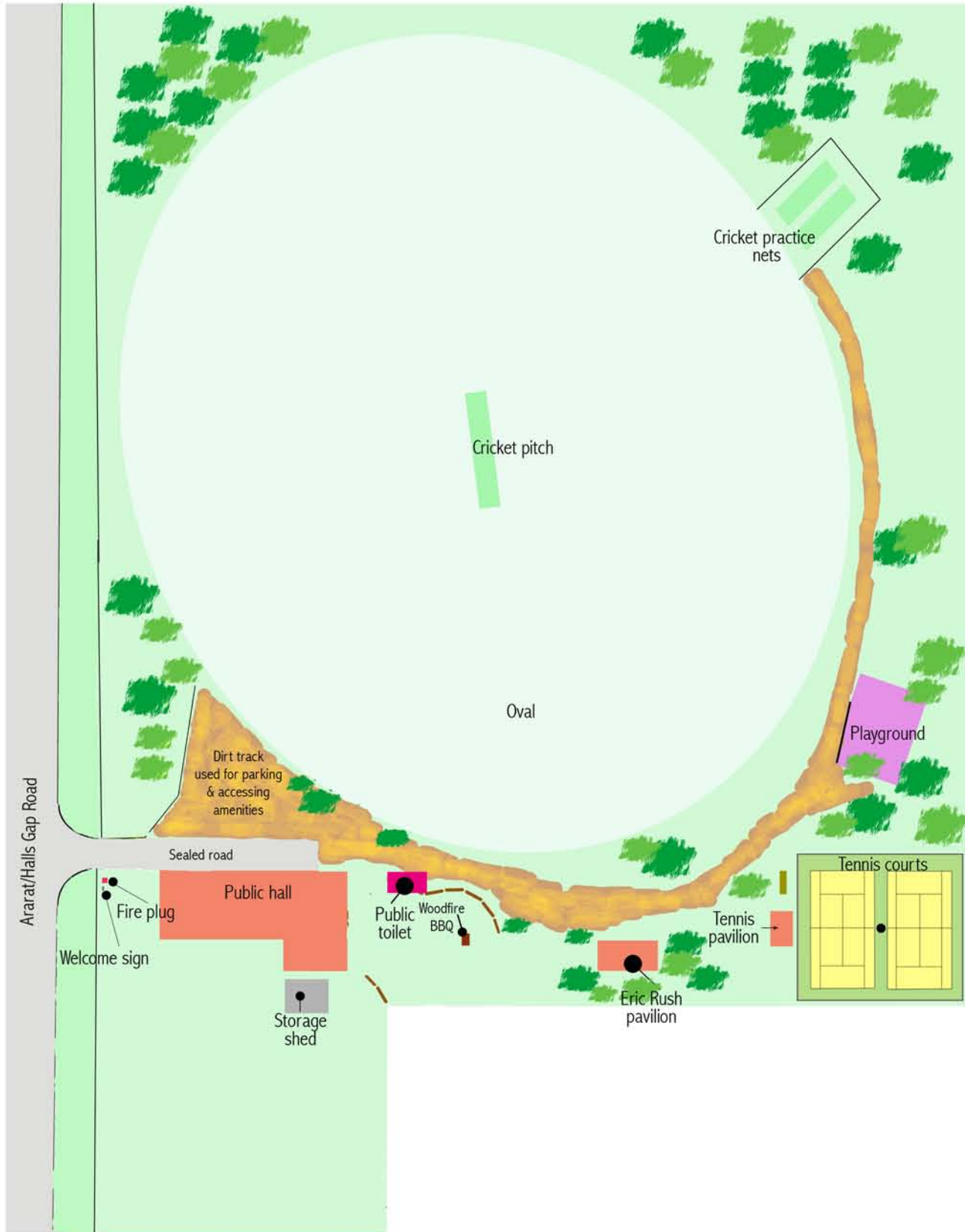
Recommended actions

The main identified action in relation to the Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve was the need to remove a number of unsafe play equipment items.

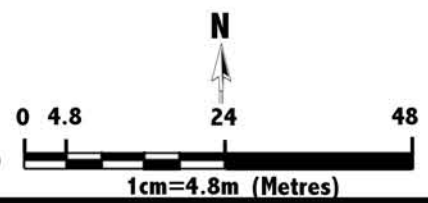
Volume Two of the Open Space Strategy indicated that Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve should have a local level playground.

Classification

The Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve function is defined as **social family recreation** with the landscape setting type of **open parkland**.



Pomonal Recreation Reserve



(Approx Scale)

Existing Site Plan



3. EXISTING FACILITIES

3.1 Pomonal Hall

The Pomonal Hall was built following the Black Friday bushfires of 1939. It is visible from the road and is the first structure visitors see when entering the reserve.

Characteristics

The pale green weatherboard hall has:

- central entry facing the oval
- timber floor
- internal toilets (in poor condition)
- stage, kitchen, meeting/ dressing room (with access to the rear of the stage).

Events

Events held at the hall include:

- Primary School Art Show (Queens Birthday weekend)
- Pomonal Native Garden Show (annually on the first weekend of October)
- The Village Market (last Sunday of each month)
- Pomonal Community New Year's Eve party
- Carols by Candlelight
- School concerts.

User groups

The **Progress Association** and **CFA** use the hall for meetings. The **Cricket Club** and **Tennis Club** hold their awards dinner at the hall and the cricket club also have their Christmas party in the hall. The **Primary School** uses the hall for theatrical activities and the **Australian Plant Society** also use the hall.

The hall is available to be hired out for birthdays, weddings, wakes, elections and other public functions.

Community views about the hall

Householder survey

Q: "What activities do you do at Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve"?

- activities/ events at the hall (86.2%)

Q: "What things about the reserve, its existing facilities or park features are most important to you"?

- the hall for meetings/ social occasions (31.0%)

Q: "What changes/ improvements would you make to facilities in the precinct"?

- improve the kitchen in the hall (13.8% of respondents)
- overall hall upgrade (13.8%)
- expand the size of the hall (10.8%)
- improve acoustics in the hall (10.8%)

Telephone survey

- nice old building, a valuable community asset and worth keeping
- has excellent heating
- is far too small, is getting old, and has terrible acoustics (noise is too high)
- kitchen is a bit grotty.

Stakeholder comments

- great for smaller events (is a good size now but not for the future)
- is hot in summer (no airflow through hall)
- layout is not functional
- kitchen is OK but can only cater for smaller events, and is not user friendly, and has a stove which is inadequate.

Community comments

- install a false ceiling to absorb the sound
- install a low-power-usage spotlight system
- provide an additional meeting space
- develop a supper room along the western wall from the kitchen (this could double as a meeting room too).

Provide a new joint use facility that:

- is a third bigger (big enough to cater for 150 people)
- can cater for more groups
- combines with the cricket pavilion.

Ensure a new hall facility has:

- decking/ viewing area overlooking oval
- change rooms
- additional meeting rooms
- good dining facilities
- an-up-to date kitchen.

3.2 Cricket Pavilion

The Pomonal Cricket Pavilion (Eric Rush Pavilion) are located within the reserve along the main access way.

Characteristics

The pavilion is approximately 8x 5m in area. It is a concrete block structure with a tin roof and small veranda. Although it offers a small viewing window to the oval, a tree impinges on the line of sight. Furniture includes a table, chairs, and rough bar area, but it lacks toilet or shower facilities.

Two synthetic cricket practice nets, installed in 2004, are located at the northern end of the reserve.

Cars drive some distance from the main entry (past the playground and oval) to access the nets.

Events/ user groups

Pomonal Cricket Club, the main user, occupies the facility through summer from Wednesday through to Sunday with training, matches and family functions.

The Cricket Club has used the pavilion in the past for presentation nights. However due to the numbers of people now attending this event has moved to the hall.

The facility also can be hired out for private parties.

Community views about the cricket pavilion

Householder survey

Q "What activities do you do at Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve"?

- Cricket (31.0% - 4th highest response)

Q: "What things about the reserve are most important"?

- Cricket Club/ playing cricket (17.2% - 3rd highest response)

Q: "Thinking about the future of cricket at the reserve, what changes are needed"?

- New clubrooms required (10.3.% of respondents)
- Change room facilities required (3.4%).

Q: "What role does the Pomonal Community Precinct need to play in meeting the needs of the local community over the next 20 years"?

- There needs to be a new large joint sports club (10.3% - 2nd highest response).

Telephone survey

- The cricket club has outgrown their pavilion.
- It's a basic block pavilion with no facilities.
- It is very dirty.
- The club mows the area around the nets.

Stakeholder comments

- The rooms are not adequate for the number of teams playing.
- It is poorly designed.
- There is no hot water.
- There is a bar but no room for people to sit.

Other community comments

- Provide a new joint sporting facility to share with the tennis club.
- A facility where cricket and tennis could be watched through glass is required.
- The Cricket Club would want a long-term tenancy on a new facility or they will stay in their current pavilion.

3.3 Tennis Facilities/ Netball Courts

The tennis facilities are on the eastern edge of the reserve past the cricket pavilion.

Characteristics

A small pavilion - more aptly described as a kiosk/ shelter, services two asphalt tennis courts. Power has been extended to it from the cricket pavilion. A small lattice structure at the northern end of the pavilion overlooks the courts.

Events/ user groups

Pomonal Tennis Club's two junior tennis teams use the facilities. The school also uses the courts for school competitions. Local children utilise the netball courts for practice.

Community views about the tennis facility

Household survey

Q: "What activities do you do at Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve"?

- Tennis (34.5% - 3rd highest response)

Q: "What things about the reserve are most important to you"?

- Tennis courts (6.9% - 6th highest response).

Telephone survey

- Tennis is very popular among the younger kids.
- The tennis club needs to be rejuvenated.

Stakeholder comments

- Basic facilities - inadequate for future needs.
- The tree is good for shade and as a wind block.

Other community comments

- There is no accessible water close to the facility.
- Combine the tennis and cricket pavilions into one sports facility.
- Ensure the tennis courts can be viewed from behind glass.

3.4 Oval

When entering the reserve from the main entrance, the oval is noticeably the focal point of the reserve.

Characteristics

The oval has a concrete cricket wicket base with a synthetic cover. This mat needs to be covered while not in use to prevent damage by corellas. A fence surrounds a portion of the oval, running from the western centre wing, past the hall to the main track in front of the cricket pavilion. A ring of in-ground sprinklers (mains water) is located approximately 20 metres from the centre wicket. The actual oval surface is uneven and inadequately grassed.

Events/ user groups

Pomonal Cricket Club, the oval's main user, auspices three senior grades (A, B and C grade) that play on a Saturday afternoon, plus an under 16 team that plays on a Friday night, and an under 13 team that plays on Sundays.

The Pomonal Primary School also uses the oval for sporting activities.

Community views about the oval

Householder survey

Q: "What activities do you do at Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve"?

- Watching sport (48.3% - 2nd highest response)
- Cricket (31.0% - 4th highest)
- Casual ball games (24.1% - 6th highest response).

Q: "What things about the reserve are most important to you"?

- Oval for sport and recreation (20.7% 2nd)
- Cricket Club/ playing cricket (17.2% 3rd)

Telephone survey

- The oval is in good condition from the start of the cricket season until the end of January, but then the hot summer and a plague of corellas who pick at the surface cause the condition to deteriorate.
- The oval has a very sandy base.
- The cricket club mows the oval.

Stakeholder comments

- The cost of watering the oval is high.
- The surface is currently maintained by the cricket club.

Other community comments

- The ground needs to be levelled and its surrounds improved.
- Fencing and seating around the oval is not adequate.
- The oval needs two more rings of in-ground sprinklers to complement the irrigation already installed.
- A bore with water in it (already had one unsuccessful attempt) and a pump would enable us to keep the ground green all year round.
- The cricket club is considering installing a boundary around the whole oval.

3.5 Other Site Elements

Characteristics

■ **Public toilets**

Two cubicles (one female, one male) clad in khaki Colorbond and accessible for people with a disability are located directly behind/ east of the hall. Both have a hand basin. The septic line runs east from the rear of the hall.

■ **Children's playground**

The playground, located adjacent to the tennis court, is made up of four elements: a double swing structure and two spring-loaded horses. The softfall is sand. Tree trunks lying on the ground horizontally are used for seating. Some well-established trees surround the playground and provide shade.

■ **Wood-fired BBQ**

The wood-fired BBQ (an ageing brick structure with hot-plate) is located between the cricket pavilion and the public toilets.

Community views about the other site elements

Householder survey

Q: "What activities do you do at Pomonal Hall and Recreation Reserve"?

- Supervising children's play (27.6% - 5th highest response)
- Playground (24.1- 7th highest response)

Q: "What things about the reserve are most important to you"?

- Playground (13.8%- 4th highest response)
- Public toilets (6.9%- 6th highest response).

Q: "What changes/ improvements would you make to facilities in the precinct"?

- Improve public toilets (13.8% - equal 2nd highest response).

Telephone survey

Public toilets

- Many people (tourists) use the public toilets.
- The public toilets are transportable (ie, they can be lifted away).

Wood-fired BBQ

- Tables/ chairs associated with the BBQ were vandalised and destroyed.
- The wood-fired BBQ has restricted use during summer.
- The tennis/ cricket club's own BBQ means less use of the existing BBQ.
- In the past people have camped in the BBQ area.

Stakeholder comments

Public toilets

- The public toilets are hard to maintain, they are dusty and poorly sited.

Wood-fired BBQ

- The BBQ is falling apart.
- There is no shelter, shade or tables.
- People do use it, so there is a need.

Children's playground

- The playground is in a bad location
- The playground needs seating, shade and softfall.
- The equipment is OK, some is being replaced

Other community comments

Public toilets

- The public toilets need to be improved and need to be more visible.
- The toilets need to be cleaned on more of a regular basis.

Wood-fired BBQ

- The reserve requires an electric BBQ.
- The hall committee has discussed new tables and chairs in the BBQ area.
- The BBQ area needs some formal seating and an undercover area.
- Make the BBQ area an attractive place for tourists to stop.

Children's playground

- The playground (with fencing and softfall) would be better located closer to the hall, away from the road.

4 SITE INSPECTION NOTES

Overall the reserve is relatively small. Cars are able to drive past the hall around to various facilities. This space used by vehicles is the same key space used by pedestrians. There is potential for conflict between vehicles and pedestrians. Specific notes and images of the site follow:

4.1 Entrance

Entrance/ exit



Area north of entrance



Area south of entrance



There are some large mature eucalypts along the road boundary. (They are in the road reserve).

There is a small fenced area adjacent to the road where the previous playground was located.

The entry to the reserve is an asphalt roadway that is in a relatively poor condition. Brick columns identify the entry from the road and seems too narrow.

The sign and location of the fire-plug do not befit a grand sense of arrival.

The reserve would benefit from an improved entrance area, removal of the former playground fence, additional planting in the reserve along the road way and providing a visually interesting entry way that reinforces local character, and that would make the reserve more identifiable for people passing by.

4.2 Vegetation

Eucalypts around the oval compete with cars



Area to the south of entrance



There is a number of significant mature eucalypts on the site around the oval. These are not protected from cars.

Some may suffer in the long term from compaction around their roots as a result of cars parking.

Existing trees along the road frontage appear to be in the road reservation. It would be beneficial to plant indigenous trees that have clean trunks or limbed up (to enable clear sightlines into the reserve) inside the boundary of the reserve.

Additional shade trees and trees would be desirable to separate functional spaces on the reserve and provide shade.

4.3 Vehicle Movement/ Pedestrian Circulation

Un-defined car parking close to the oval fence line



Access road to tennis court, playground and practice cricket nets



The space at the rear of cricket pavilion and around septic tank line is insufficient for car access



The vehicle access to the reserve and car parking is not defined. Vehicles park close to the hall and around the oval's boundary fence.

A rationalisation of vehicle movement would improve the safety of pedestrians, landscape amenity and increase the efficiency of car parking. Car parking under the trees may cause inadvertent damage and compaction to tree roots.

Vehicles currently drive in front of the hall and cricket pavilion to the tennis courts, playground and cricket practice nets. There would be benefits of restricting vehicle movement past the hall and cricket pavilion (except for emergency and maintenance vehicles).

There is a possibility of introducing a second entry on the northern boundary of the reserve to provide maintenance and occasional access to the practice cricket wickets. If football ever returned to the reserve, access around the reserve may be desirable and could be provided from this entry.

At present there is insufficient space to take vehicles behind the hall and cricket pavilion. This route is also not appropriate due to the septic tank line from the public toilet running through the area.

4.4 Sports Facilities

Sports oval



Tennis courts



Practice cricket nets



The turf on the oval is only in fair condition and is unlikely to improve unless a better irrigation and drainage system can be installed. Poor quality turf is a concern from a risk management point of view.

The cricket pitch seems to be subject to attack from birds.

There are two practice cricket nets that are in good condition.

The tennis courts are in fair condition. A future upgrade to a better surface may be warranted should there be an increase in demand for tennis.

There is a block to south west of the site that has been added to the reserve. The area is relatively flat although worn from being used as additional parking. This area is sufficiently large to enable the development of additional sports such as bowling, petanque, (or other court/ rink sports) should the demand arise. Any tree planting at the reserve should provide additional trees on the boundary to this site but retain a relatively open area.

There is a small site in the east adjacent to the playground and cricket nets where some other activities (such as BMX jumps) could be housed should there be demand.

4.5 Buildings/ Structures

Pomonal Hall



Cricket pavilion and tennis facility



Accessible public toilet



Children's playground



Whilst the buildings on the reserve are in a serviceable condition, there would be some benefits of improving the quality of facilities, enhancing their character to reinforce local themes, and to consolidate the number of structures where possible to reduce maintenance costs and increase aesthetics.

The Pomonal Hall is in reasonable condition for its age and is well maintained. There are however some design issues that would inhibit its current and future function; the building as a hall could better meet the demand of a growing community in holding community functions, markets and meeting spaces. The floorboards are at the end of their useful life, the internal toilets are usable but could be improved and the hall is also not adequately heated or ventilated. There is an opportunity for one building to incorporate community meetings, functions and sports club uses on the reserve instead of having separate buildings.

The cricket pavilion appears too small for the club and its siting behind a large tree is unfortunate.

There is a basic accessible public toilet, its location is not prominent given that it appears that it is one major reason why visitors would stop at the reserve. The structure could be relocated, should there be insufficient funds to redesign a new one.

The playground's equipment includes relatively recent climbing structure and a new slide. Additional softfall material is required. The existing trees provide shade and should be protected. Additional activities would enhance play value.

4.6 Risk Management

From the site inspections the key sources of risks identified are the following:

- The mixture of vehicles and pedestrians
- The condition of the playground- whether adequately inspected and if equipment conforms to Australian Standards
- The quality of playing surface
- The wood fire BBQ as a source of fire that may be uncontrolled
- The surface of the tennis courts should be monitored to ensure that trip hazards don't eventuate through movement and/ or cracking

5. OBJECTIVES FOR CHANGE

Some objectives for change can be identified to guide the future develop of the reserve. These are listed under the key types of visitor activity groups.

Hall User Groups

- Provide a better building to maximise use, expand the range of activities offered and make it more cost effective to maintain.
- Provide better quality facilities to enhance revenue earning potential.
- Improve kitchen facilities to better service catering needs for functions/ events and emergency services.
- Improve functionality and access of public toilets for range of users (people with a disability, visitors/ travelers, sport spectators etc).
- Promote principles of facility sharing.
- Design a new facility that reflects local character and that uses materials that enable the local community to assist with its construction.
- Provide access to a stage for school and theatre productions.

Visitor Groups/ Tourists

- Improve market facilities under shelter and in view of the road to assist in increasing visitor numbers and township revenue.
- Have facilities and events attractive to visitors that the Tourism Association could promote.
- Upgrade the amenity of the reserve and increase use by visitors (by providing accessible spectator seating, picnic tables and benches, shelter and additional planting for shade and aesthetics).
- Improve the location and functionality of public toilets for a range of users (people with a disability, visitors/ travelers, sport spectators etc).
- Upgrade playground to enhance play value, improve safety and to cater for greater range of age groups.
- Consolidate buildings into one high quality facility to increase attractiveness and functionality of reserve.

- Upgrade the reserve's entry to improve visual amenity, provide a sense of arrival and make the reserve entry more prominent to passers by.
- Improve signage 'to' and 'at' the reserve to increase awareness.

Emergency services

- Ensure ingress/ egress to fire services is maintained and safe.
- Upgrade wood BBQ to electric to minimize fire risk or accident.
- Consider the needs of emergency service events in the design of a new kitchen.

Sport uses

- Increase the amenity of the oval surrounds and spectator infrastructure at the reserve (ie, trees, seats and shade).
- Improve quality of playing surfaces eg, including irrigation and drainage.
- Resurface the balls courts and line mark for an expanded range of sports.
- Promote local participation in sport (eg, junior cricket) by providing higher quality facilities.
- Encourage the use and development of the reserve for additional sports where demand arises (ie, petanquê, bocce, BMX etc).
- Ensure ongoing access to facilities and open grassed area for school sport.
- Provide clubroom, meeting and toilet change facilities that can be shared and overlook the oval.

Management

- Further develop the Pomonal Recreation Reserve Committee of Management with representatives from all reserve/ hall user groups, a community and Council representative.

6. MASTER PLAN

6.1 Key Elements of the Master Plan

Entrance

- Design a new wider gateway and reserve boundary to provide a strong sense of arrival at the reserve.
- Remove old playground fence adjacent to the reserve's entrance
- Design an area close to the entrance as a wayside stop for tourists that include an accessible public toilet, shade structure, electric BBQ, picnic tables and chairs.
- Plant additional existing trees and protect existing trees.
- Install signage at the entrance of the reserve with the reserve name and advertising picnic, play and toilet facilities and the regular market.
- Relocate fire-plug to a central but less prominent position.

Vegetation

- Prepare a planting plan for the reserve that uses appropriate indigenous species (eg, Red Gum, Yellow Box) where possible.
- Provide additional planting along the road edge and around the oval boundary using clear trunk trees to enable clear sightlines into the reserve and onto the oval.
- Protect existing mature trees on the reserve from compaction and vehicle damage by providing a grass strip from the new integrated Hall/ Clubrooms to the visitor/ entrance area.

Vehicle movement/ pedestrian circulation

- To improve safety of pedestrians by restricting car movement between the oval and: the new Hall/ Clubrooms, playground and tennis courts.
- Use the current hall site and the area south of the existing entrance for car parking to serve new integrated Hall/ Clubrooms.
- Only allow emergency/ maintenance vehicles access south of the new integrated Hall/ Clubrooms.

Sports facilities

- Improve the surface of the oval through irrigation and drainage upgrades.
- Install oval boundary markers with seating at the southern end (from the new wayside stop around to the playground).
- Investigate the provision of a secondary entrance to the reserve at the northern border to enable cars to park around the oval and provide car access to the cricket nets in their current location.
- Resurface the tennis courts (if demand for tennis increases) and consider alternate sports markings should the demand arises.
- Consider installing a basketball/ netball ring structure for casual use in between tennis courts.
- Retain the tennis shelter and incorporate any future tennis clubroom into the main Hall/ Clubrooms.
- Should the demand arise for lawn bowls, petanque or other such sports, develop the south block for this purpose

Building/ structures

- Demolish the Pomonal Hall, cricket pavilion and wood-fire BBQ.
- Relocate/ develop public toilets to the way side stop adjacent to the entrance.
- Develop a new integrated Hall/ Clubroom at the southern end of the oval, east of the current site, adjacent to the tennis courts with views of the oval to provide a place for community meetings/ functions, events, the community market and a home for sports clubs on the reserve.
- Provide a market site as an adjunct to the new integrated hall/ clubrooms, from the western wall to the entry (so stalls can be viewed from the road).
- Continue to upgrade the accessibility and play value of playground and provide additional softfall.

● Possible second entry to the reserve

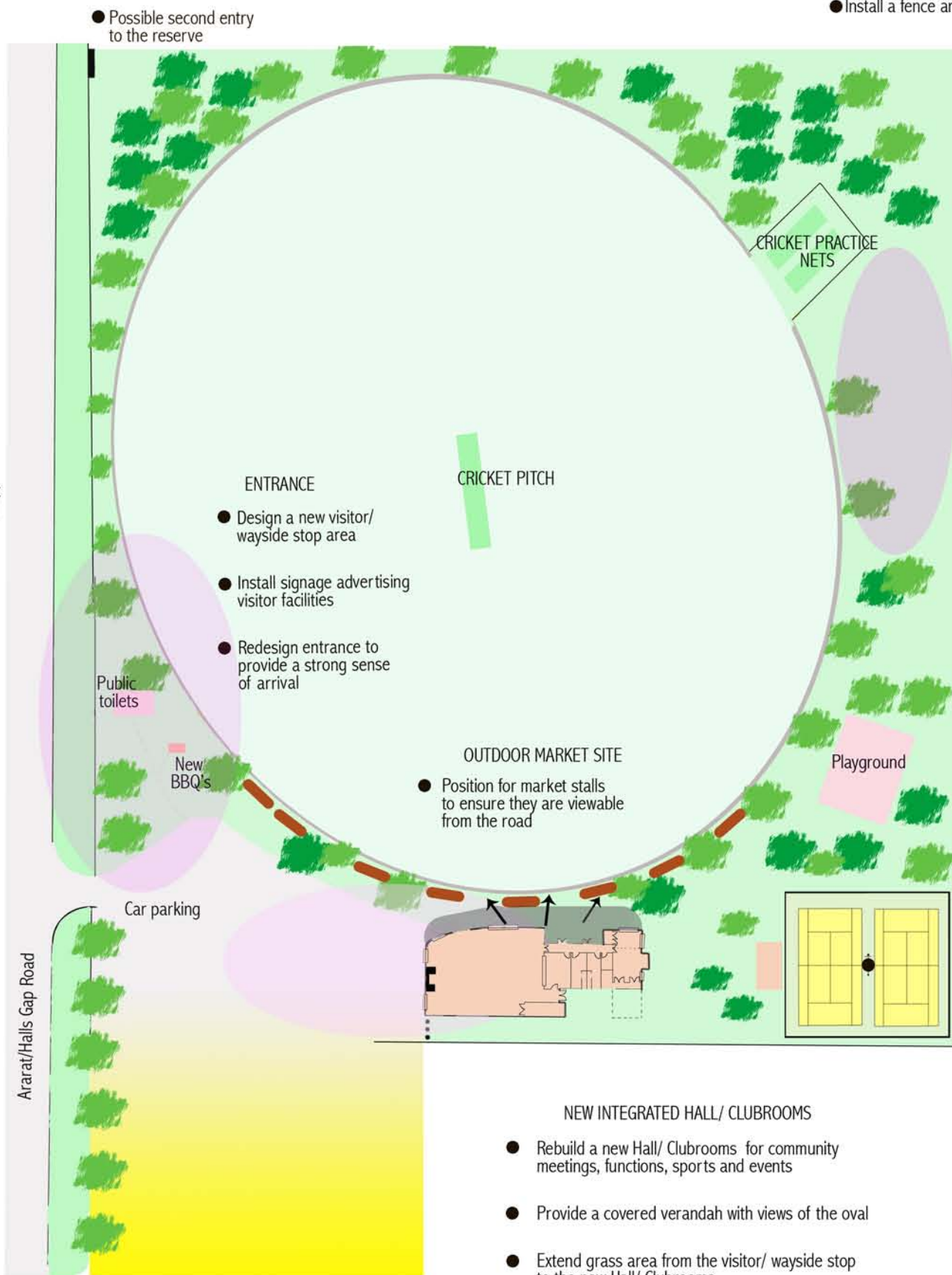
● Improve the surface condition through irrigation and drainage upgrades

● Install a fence around the ovals perimeter

VEGETATION

- Prepare a planting plan using appropriate indigenous species
- The plan should include:
 - Increased road boundary planting
 - Additional shade trees around the perimeter of the oval
 - Additional planting in the Visitor/ Wayside stop area
- Ensure bare trunk trees are used to maintain sight lines into the reserve and onto the ground
- Ensure existing mature trees are retained and protected from vehicle damage

- CAR PARKING/ ACCESS
- Restrict car parking to the west of the Hall/ Clubrooms
 - Use as overflow car parking space
 - Access past this point (bollards) only by emergency/maintenance vehicles



- Area for future recreational uses, eg, small skate/ BMX facility

- PLAYGROUND
- Upgrade playground and remove non-conforming equipment

- TENNIS COURTS
- Resurface tennis courts and consider alternative sports markings where demand arises
 - Consider installing a basketball/ netball hoop structure for social/ casual use
 - Retain building only as a shelter

Legend

- Proposed seating
- Existing trees/ shrubs
- Proposed trees

- NEW INTEGRATED HALL/ CLUBROOMS
- Rebuild a new Hall/ Clubrooms for community meetings, functions, sports and events
 - Provide a covered verandah with views of the oval
 - Extend grass area from the visitor/ wayside stop to the new Hall/ Clubrooms



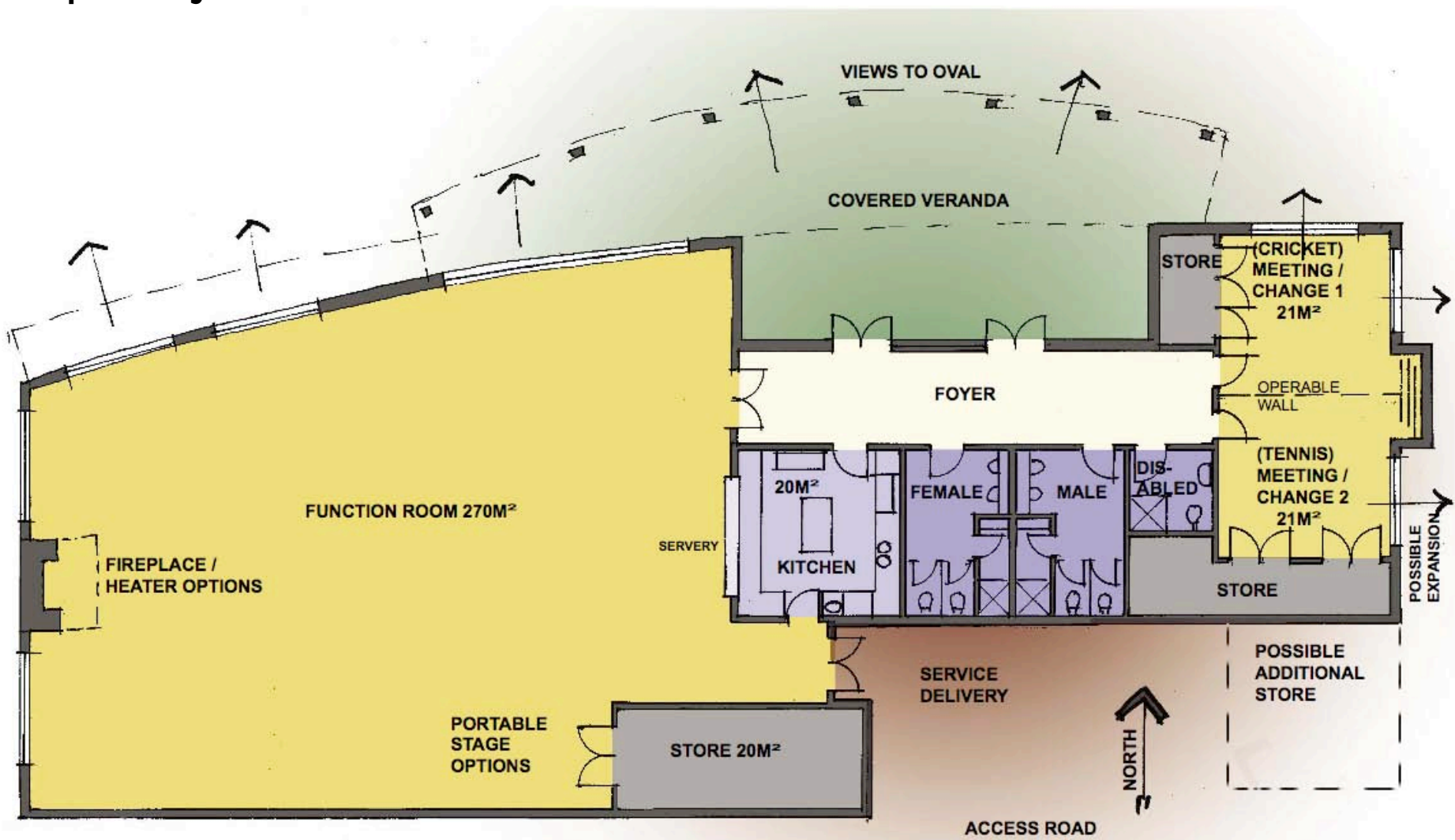
Pomonal Recreation Reserve

(Approx Scale)

Master Plan



6.3 Proposed Integrated Hall/ Clubrooms



POMONAL RECREATION RESERVE
PAVILION PLAN



7. IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Probable Development Costs

The estimated probable costs of implementing the Master Plan are shown below:

Component	Description	Estimated probable cost in 2006
New Hall/ Clubrooms	Based on 450m ² at \$2,200 per metre and removal of existing Extension of existing services	\$1,000,000
Oval upgrade including Irrigation and drainage	One addition ring of sprinklers Drainage Top-dress and re-sow	\$40,000
Boundary posts/ fencing	Suggest to install boundary posts, the indicative cost is for a 900cm high cyclone fence.	\$25,000
Spectator seating	Robust timber park benches (x20)	\$12,000
Upgrade playground	Remove non-conforming equipment Provide additional structure to compliment existing structure	\$20,000
Design develop new way side stop and picnic areas	Robust timber accessible table and chair sets (x4) Electric BBQ (x2 within one structure) Relocate toilet Provide power to toilet and BBQ	Allow: \$50,000
Redesign gateway	Demolish existing gateposts Design and construct new gates Plant along fence line	\$8,000
Undertake major tree planting	Plant row of trees along the fence line and around the oval	\$5,000
Total		\$1,160,000

7.2 Likely Funding Sources

The key sources of funds are likely to be:

State Government Grants:

- Sport and Recreation Victoria (Major Facilities Grant: projects greater than \$150,000- new Hall/ Clubrooms)
- Community Actions Grants (Building Community Infrastructure- new Hall/ Clubrooms)
- Community Support Fund (Building Community Infrastructure- new Hall/ Clubrooms)
- Regional Solutions Grant (Building Community Infrastructure- new Hall/ Clubrooms)
- Sport and Recreation Victoria (Minor Facilities Grant: project with a total cost of up to \$150,000- relocation of public toilet, playground, oval upgrade and picnic area development)
- Vic Health (Community Art- new entrance way)

Other fundraising sources can include local fundraising, Council contributions and the possible sale of the existing Pomonal Hall. Also cost saving could be made through the use of local labour.

7.3 Development Staging

The community and stakeholder consultation identified that the upgrade of the existing building would not meet community objectives and a staged development of the new Hall/ Clubrooms would be impractical.

The staging of any works would largely depend on the amount of money secured for development. It is likely that there will be pockets of money available to do specific things such as upgrading sport facilities, provision of shade or planting or play equipment areas. These may be able to be target separate sources and this will determine often the priority order in which works will be done.

However should there be opportunities to develop the reserve in line with community priorities these are:

- ① Develop a new integrated Hall/ Clubrooms to provide for sport, the market, community meetings, functions and events.
- ② Prepare a planting plan using appropriate indigenous, clean trunk species. Plant additional specimen trees within the reserve along the road frontage, and around the oval's perimeter.
- ③ Upgrade the quality of surfaces and amenities on the reserve: in particular irrigation and drainage on the oval and seating and picnic facilities.

7.4 Management Structure

It is desirable that one committee look after all facilities on the reserve. The Pomonal Recreation Reserve Committee of Management needs to be further developed to ensure it has a representative from the:

- Cricket Club
- Community
- Council
- Plant Society
- Pomonal Hall
- Progress Association
- School
- Tennis Club
- Tourist Association

A collaborative committee of management will enable all user groups a forum to achieve a consensus of opinion on various issues and future direction. It is the understanding that all of the above listed groups have their own committee of management.

APPENDIX 1: CONSULTATION FINDINGS

A1.1 Telephone Survey

Six stakeholders were interviewed by telephone as a part of this process.

- PHCOM- Pomonal Hall Committee of Management
- CFA- Pomonal Country Fire Authority
- PPS- Pomonal Primary School
- PCC- Pomonal Cricket Club
- PTA- Pomonal Tourism Association
- APS-Australian Plant Society (Grampians Chapter)

Tell me a little about your group?

- We're are restructuring, will have around nine on the Committee soon with some additional members being co-opted (Comment by PHCOM)
- Based close to the reserve on the left hand side, just got a double shed, with two trucks (Comment by CFA)
- The school uses the hall when they need a large indoor space, only 22 kids at the school. They held an old time ball earlier in the year (Comment by PPS)
- The club went into recess for 20 years from the mid 60s to. Now the biggest club in the comp with a b and c, u13 and u16 teams. Wed is junior and Thurs senior training, Friday night junior matches, Sat senior cricket, and Sun is U 13 (Comment by PCC)
- We have 20+ members, its for people that run attractions and accommodation, we are the only tourism association in the City of Ararat, we print an attractions brochure and have an accommodation brochure now as well (Comment by PTA)
- We meet once a month, usually at the hall although we do at times meet in Ararat or have field trips. Over the last weekend of Sep/ Oct school holidays, we have an annual wild flower show at the hall, we use the hall for four days although the show goes for two days (Comment by APS)

What facilities do you use?

- The hall is in its original state with a couple of modifications, it has had a kitchen put on it (around forty years ago), the stage was moved to the road end of the hall from the middle of the hall where the door is now. They have put a meeting/ dressing room (which has access to back of stage) and a new entry, which now faces the oval (Comment by PHCOM)
- We have an old grey building with a rough bar, we run BBQ's Thu, Sat, and Sun morning. We used to have presentation nights in our cricket pavilion; due to numbers we have it in the hall. We need a new sporting facility, we would be quite happy to share facilities with tennis. We want a long-term tenancy or we will stay where we are, at Halls Gap they built a big facility but the CC can barely use it. We do not want to be at the mercy of a committee of management. We are expecting more young families to come into the area. The oval is in good nick from the start of cricket season to end of Jan, then the hot summer and a plague of corellas that continually pick at the grass ruin the oval. We have 2cricket nets (1 year old) and a new pitch in the centre. We installed 20 m (around pitch) ring of sprinklers on the oval, that works on mains water, we got a grant for a bore but there was no water in it, we were hoping to get a bore and pump so we could keep it green all year. Cannot get the pressure through the mains to do it, would want two more rings to finish off the whole oval (Comment by PCC)
- We have monthly meetings at local houses (Comment by PTA)

Are these facilities adequate for your ongoing operation? If yes what works well, if no what needs to be improved?

- It is far too small. With a new facility you could have a decked viewing area or even an area behind glass, some change rooms are also required. It needs a couple of meeting rooms. The hall is not adequate, it needs to be a third bigger, needs a supper room, a decent kitchen and a couple of decent sized meeting rooms for use as a table tennis room. (Comment by PHCOM)

- Our facility is on a main rd an at times it can be a bit dangerous with school and tourism traffic (Comment by CFA)
- No we have outgrown our facilities. (Comment by PCC)
- Fix hall up so it can be better utilized. (Comment by PTA)

Do you have an overall vision for the precinct and how it will serve the community in the next 20 years?

- It needs to cater for more sporting groups (netball courts, petanque area). We need a supper room because we cannot cater for the big events properly. (Comment by PHCOM)
- The hall is getting old, it is very noisy, would be good to consolidate the cricket club and hall into one building. There are toilets but they are outside, a lot of people stop to use them. (Comment by CFA)
- The reserve looks run down. In a small community it would be better if all facilities were combined. People would look after the facility a lot more if everyone were involved in it. The playground (with fencing and soft fall) would be better located closer to the hall away from the road. The hall is a valuable community asset. If the kitchen was fixed and the whole hall opened up it would be more useful. (Comment by PPS)
- The reserve is Pomonal's major meeting place. If there were facilities where you could watch cricket and tennis behind glass, prepare meals and have a bar then people would use it more, (Comment by PCC)
- A swimming pool would be good. The cricket club is active, tennis needs to be rejuvenated, netball courts (all local kids travel into Stawell for netball) and a skate park would be good. Public toilets need improving and need to be more visible. Buy private land beside the reserve to extend, don't think footy will start again (Comment by PTA)

What is the role of the existing community facilities in Pomonal?

School

- They have an oval (not that great condition) with footy posts, no cricket pitch, a run down netball/ basketball court and playground equipment (pine cubby house and are putting in a sandpit).

Hall

- Is a nice old building but it needs to be opened up a bit and the kitchen needs to be redesigned. The hall does not have much natural light. (Comment by PPS)
- Acoustics are dreadful, you can't hear yourself think, it needs soundproofing, and I would like to see a supper room leading up the whole west side of the hall from the kitchen, this could also be used as an additional meeting room. A general fix up is what it needs, a paint job, etc. It has excellent heating. It would be a shame to demolish it but if that is the best option then so be it. (it's just turned 100 years) (Comment by PTA)
- The acoustics are atrocious, we struggle to hear guest speakers, and a smaller meeting room attached to hall would be good. (Comment by APS)
- The kitchen is a bit grotty, would not meet health standards. Install a false ceiling to absorb sound, lighting in the hall is an issue, a low power usage spotlight system that can be flexible to cover different areas in the hall. (Comment by APS)

Oval

- Cricket, 5 cricket teams, 3 seniors, under 16 and u 13. (Comment by PHCOM)

Playground

- It's OK, Council are currently replacing the slide with one up to Aust. Standards. (Comment by PHCOM)
- It is well used and in good condition, all the families from the tennis and cricket use it. (Comment by CFA)
- It is in a safer area now, used to be up the front near the road. (Comment by PTA)

Tennis courts

- There are two bitumen tennis courts that have two junior tennis teams. (Comment by PHCOM)
- The courts are pretty good, the shire resurfaced them around 10 years ago. (Comment by CFA)

Cricket clubrooms

- It's a basic concrete block pavilion with no facilities whatsoever, there are tables and chairs, people have parties there, but it's not very large, those using the cricket rooms are usually groups that can't afford to hire the hall. There is no change rooms or showers. (Comment by PHCOM)
- It is only just adequate, cement brick building with a tin roof. (Comment by CFA)
- Look straight out the window of the rooms and look straight into a big gum tree. (Comment by PCC)
- It is pretty small, they want it enlarged, it is very dirty, a communal clubrooms for every sport at the reserve is required. (Comment by PTA)

Tennis clubrooms-

- A little kiosk/ shelter, no wall on north east side, power from the cricket rooms has been extended to this, they just boil a kettle in there. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Just a little room, it is adequate at the moment there is no tennis team in the town however we are hoping to get one next year. (Comment by CFA)
- If any money was going to be spent, develop a decent shared facility. (Comment by PTA)

Public toilets

- There are toilets in the hall and public toilets behind the hall (with disabled access), they were put there around 15 years ago. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Many people stop to use them, they are portable and can be lifted away. (Comment by CFA)
- They need to be more visible and cleaned on a more regular basis. (Comment by PTS)

Wood-fired BBQ

- Council built one between the cricket pavilion and the public toilet. Used to be tables and chairs but they were vandalised and are no longer there. Probably should be electric. The hall committee were discussing something about getting some new tables and chairs to put in the area. (Comment by PHCOM)
- It is a wood-fired BBQ which limits its use during summer, the tennis and cricket club have their own BBQ so it now does not get that much use. I have noticed people camping there from time to time, not often though and they use the BBQ. (Comment by CFA)
- The BBQ area needs some formal seating and an undercover area. (Comment by APS)

Bocce pits

- Bocce is attracting interest in the area and should be provided at the reserve. (Comment by PHCOM)

What should be the priority for development at the reserve?

- We should keep what we have and add to it, we would have a look at getting Government money if looking to build from scratch again. All options should be looked at and see what is feasible. Look at what is needed, how to achieve it, steps to achieve it and costs involved in it. This may take more than 20 years. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Older people want to keep the hall although it is cracking and moving in places. A complete new complex would be great if we had the money. (Comment by CFA)
- Consolidate facilities, the hall is worth keeping but then you would have to join something onto it. The reserve is currently a bit it'sy bitsy. Add some picnic tables, make it an attractive place for tourists to stop. At the moment you would not drive in and have a picnic there. (Comment by PPS)
- There are many kids that play cricket and tennis, but there is little for the elderly to do. We need to market something to get the older people out, something like indoor bowls, just something to get them out and about. (Comment by PTA)

If a new consolidated hall/ sports club was to be developed where should it be located?

- The south east open area, currently used as a rough car park, in this position part of the facility would overlook the oval. (Comment by PHCOM)
- The best spot to put it would be 30 or so meters in a south-east direction from its current position thus catering for the cricket and tennis. (Comment by CFA)
- Leave where is, it's away from the room and visible from the road however it is not worth making one from scratch at the moment. (Comment by PPS)
- Position it where the CC is now, or around 50 or so meters to get out of the afternoon sun, or maybe where the existing playground is. (Comment by PCC)
- Where the current cricket clubrooms are would be good, there is extra room there now. There is a septic tank there somewhere from back of the hall to the CC rooms, that is something that would have to be sorted out and maybe moved. (Comment by PTA)

What specific users should be included in any new community building?

- The cricket club, tennis club, private parties, leave indoor bowls in the hall, that is where they used to play and that is where they should be, CFA could use it as they have no meeting place. (Comment by PTA)

Do you have any ideas about how the buildings could be funded?

- Grant money would need to be accessed. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Involve local business, or have clubs contribute if they want it all joined together. (Comment by PPS)

Should this premises be licensed to sell liquor on the premises?

- No, what goes on at the moment is correct, if you are using the hall and want to serve liquor then you get the license yourself. (Comment by PHCOM)

- I don't think it would hurt, with the cricket club and tennis club using it and they do have a lot of functions at the room now. (Comment by CFA)
- Yes I don't see why not. (Comment by PPS)
- Would not hurt, everybody drinks so no need to hide it. (Comment by PTA)

What management structure do you think should be put in place to manage the use and development of the centre?

- What goes on now is good, it is a part of the municipality structure, and you have an elected body elected by hall users at a public meeting. Now we are looking at having co-opted members and it also gives people who use the hall the opportunity to have their say. It works well, never been any bickering, if the cricket or tennis club want to do something they have to write to the COM and it is normally granted. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Still have one over-riding precinct committee and then have a sub committee that would look after each other area of interest or each of the sub committee working on the main committee. (Comment by PCC)

What improvements or changes would you suggest in terms of landscaping in the precinct?

- It is hard to keep the area along the fence clean. The cricket club mow the oval but not the areas outside the boundary apart from around the cricket nets. They probably should as they get the use of the ground for nothing. (Comment by PHCOM)
- Plant trees at the north end, the cricket club are toying with putting a boundary fence right around the oval to neaten it up a bit. (Comment by CFA)
- Plant native vegetation from one of Pomonal's native nurseries. There are a few big trees but no landscaping or garden beds. Maybe look at doing this close to the hall. (Comment by PPS)
- There needs to be some garden areas around the BBQ, some place that is nice to be, some natives, bushes and hedges. (Comment by PCC)

- Beautify the front entrance with planting. We have native plant people who want to plant it out in Pomonal-specific indigenous plants. I think they are awful, if they were to put in some nice roses then I would be happy to get down there and help them prune it, but if they go with the indigenous I would say stuff you look after it yourself. We have splinter groups containing people with select ideas. Moyston have good gardens, should have something like that. (Comment by PTA)
- Plantings are required around the shed and shade trees near the parking area for the hall and on the southern side of the hall. On the western side of the main entrance road, beautify the entrance. Some work is required along the front fence, hide the front fence with some hedge planting, and establish a garden at the old kids' playground. There is a risk of fire in having too much vegetation around the hall, we don't want to be directly around the hall, but just the whole precinct area. Trees around the perimeter of the oval would be good, we would be pushing natives, not necessarily local natives, we want to do something that would catch people's eye. (Comment by APS)

Lighting, is there a need for it, will it conflict with neighbouring residents?

- It is a fair expense for not much benefit, would be OK if we had a footy team but don't think that is going to happen, it would be last on the list of priorities. (Comment by CFA)
- Don't really need it, tennis maybe. (Comment by PCC)

Drainage issues, are there certain areas that are a concern?

- The actual oval is very sandy, we have had a truck bogged in there. A lot of water comes from the Grampians so it is wet a lot of the time, a bit of water does come across the oval from over the road, that may be able to be diverted, although we have not seen this for a while. (Comment by CFA)
- No areas that I am aware of, it's a sandy base so nothing hangs around for any length of time. (Comment by PCC)
- At the north end (school end) of the oval it can get wet in a wet year. (Comment by PTA)

- Water can pool around the southern side of the hall near the kitchen area

Anything else required on the reserve?

- A set of goal posts on the oval or soccer nets would encourage kids to try the sport. Have a meeting room for the fire brigade, a pre school group could be part of the facility too. (Comment by PCC)
- Storage is an issue at the reserve. (Comment by APS)
- Outside undercover areas would be good, that way the market and the plant show could run in the one place (when our show is on the market goes down to the school as there is no other undercover area). It would be good to have it in the same precinct to consolidate on both groups of people. (Comment by APS)

A1.2 Household Survey

Early in December 2004, a household survey was conducted to determine preferences and perceptions about the Pomonal Public Hall and Recreation Reserve. 120 surveys were distributed to all households within Pomonal and people were asked to return completed surveys in the box provided at the Grampians Store on Hall Gap Road. A total of 30 usable responses were received and below is an overview of the results:

What activities do you do (if any) at the Pomonal Public Hall and Recreation Reserve?

TABLE 01: Activities respondents participate in

Activity	%
Events/ activities at the hall	86.2
Watching sport	48.3
Tennis	34.5
Cricket	31.0
Supervision children's play	27.6
Casual ball games	24.1
Playground	24.1
Walking	13.8
Picnicking/ BBQ	10.3
Walking the dog	10.3
Attending the market	6.9
Riding a bike	6.9
Attending flower show	3.4
Attending meetings	3.4
Football	3.4
Jogging/ running	3.4
Netball	3.4

TABLE 02: 24 and under age group

Activity	%
Events/ activities at the hall	13.8
Cricket	10.3
Casual ball games	6.9
Riding a bike	6.9
Tennis	6.9
Watching sport	6.9
Jogging/ running	3.4
Picnicking/ BBQ	3.4
Playground	3.4
Walking	3.4
Walking the dog	3.4

What do you think are the main benefits of the Pomonal Public Hall and Recreation Reserve and its surrounding facilities?

TABLE 03: Main benefits among respondents include:

Main benefits	%
Place for community to meet	48.3
Central accessible location	34.5
Hall for meetings/ social occasions	34.5
Oval for sport and recreation	31.0
Safe place to take children	13.8
Multipurpose	6.9
Playground	3.4
Pleasant area	3.4
Fire refuge	3.4
Stopping place for travellers	3.4

TABLE 04: 24 and under age group only - results were:

Main benefits	%
Hall for meetings/ social occasions	3.4
Oval for sport and recreation	3.4
Safe place to take children	3.4

What things about the reserve, its existing facilities or park features are most important to you?

TABLE 05: Things most important to respondents:

Most important	%
Hall for meetings/ social occasions	31.0
Oval for sport and recreation	20.7
Cricket club/ playing cricket	17.2
Playground	13.8
Place for community to meet	10.3
Central accessible location	6.9
Fire Refuge	6.9
Public toilets	6.9
Tennis courts	6.9
Multipurpose	3.4
Open space	3.4
For local flower show	3.4
Local plant group meetings	3.4
Off road parking	3.4
Disabled toilets	3.4

TABLE 06: 24 and under age group only - results were:

Most important	%
Cricket club/ playing cricket	6.9
Playground	6.9

What changes or improvements would you make to facilities in the precinct?

TABLE 07: Facility changes or improvements important to respondents:

Changes/ improvements	%
Combined cricket/ tennis facility	24.1
Improve kitchen in hall	13.8
Improve toilets (both in and out of hall)	13.8
Overall hall upgrade	13.8
Fence around the oval	10.8
Expand the size of the hall	10.8
Improve acoustics in the hall	10.8
Provide undercover seating	10.8
Provide outdoor seating to view sport	6.9
Provide undercover area with electric BBQ	6.9

Single responses included:

- AFL goal posts
- area to skate/ roller blade/ skateboard
- re-orient hall to use space better
- club facilities
- display boards
- external door maintenance
- Hall is hot in summer, cold in winter
- improve heating
- improve ventilation
- lawn bowls rink
- leave as is
- more medium sized meeting rooms
- more picnic/ BBQ facilities
- more play equipment
- more seating
- need shower/ change facilities
- new chairs in hall
- outside drinking taps
- turf cricket pitch
- soccer goals with nets
- wheelchair access to front of hall.

TABLE 08: 24 and under age group only- results were:

Changes/ improvements	%	Changes/ improvements	%
AFL goal posts	3.4	More play equipment	3.4
Club facilities	3.4	Soccer goals with nets	3.4
Fence around the oval	3.4	Turf cricket pitch	3.4

What changes or improvements would you make to facilities in the precinct if funds become available?

TABLE 09: Landscape changes or improvements important to respondents:

Changes/ improvements	%
Generally provide more gardens	27.6
Have a garden along road and entrance	24.1
Increase general tidiness of reserve	10.3
Provide more trees and shrubs	10.3
Provide more grass areas	6.9
Provide more signage for clubs	6.9
Beautify roads throughout reserve	3.4
Expand watering system on the oval	3.4
Improve parking around oval	3.4
Landscape front of hall	3.4
More council maintenance of reserve required	3.4
Native plantings around the hall	3.4
Provide a garden around playground	3.4
Provide more native plantings around reserve	3.4

TABLE 10: 24 and under age group only - results were:

Changes/ improvements	%
Generally provide more gardens	3.4
Provide more grass areas	3.4

Thinking about the future of each sport or facility at the reserve, what changes are needed (if any) to allow the precinct to reach its full potential?

TABLE 11: Changes needed according to respondents:

Football	%
Install goal posts	6.9
Change room facilities required	3.4
The oval would need to be larger	3.4
Football (24 and under responses)	%
No response	
Cricket	%
New clubrooms required	10.3
More irrigation on oval required	6.9
More spectator seating required	6.9
Change room facilities required	3.4
Ok as it is	3.4
Cricket (24 and under responses)	%
New clubrooms required	3.4
Netball	%
Provide netball courts	17.2
Change room facilities required	10.3
Netball (24 and under responses)	%
Provide netball courts	3.4
Tennis	%
Provide a new club room	10.3
Upgrade courts	6.9
Provide lights	6.9
Provide a rebound wall	3.4
Tennis (24 and under responses)	%
Provide lights	3.4

TABLE 11 cont'd: Changes needed according to respondents

Public Hall Usage	%
Increase size of the hall	10.3
Restore/ upgrade the hall	10.3
Extend hall to provide a supper room	6.9
Improve seating/ table provision	3.4
Pull down hall and start again	3.4
Upgrade kitchen in hall	3.4
Public Hall Usage (24 and under responses)	%
No response	
Playground	%
Provide more equipment	10.3
Provide a shade sail	6.9
Make the playground safer	3.4
Playground needs a face lift	3.4
Provide an adventure playground	3.4
Provide more seating	3.4
Relocate closer to the hall	3.4
Playground (24 and under responses)	%
Playground needs a face lift	3.4
Provide more equipment	3.4
Other sports/ facilities/ activities	%
Provide level area for petanque	10.3
Provide an area to skate	3.4
Regularly clean public toilets	3.4
Other sports/ facilities/ activities (24 and under)	%
No response	

The village of Pomonal is one of the fastest growing communities in the area. Keeping this in mind, what role does the Pomonal Community Precinct need to play in meeting the needs of the local community over the next 20 years?

TABLE 12: Role the Community Precinct needs to play over next 20 years according to respondents:

Changes/ improvements to facilities	%
Increase size of the hall	13.8
New large joint sports club	10.3
Upgrade kitchen in hall	6.9
Improve acoustics in hall	3.4
Improve facilities for tourists	3.4
Incorporate pub/ bistro/ restaurant	3.4
Keep hall in good condition	3.4
Provide flat areas for skate and in liners	3.4
Provide integrated sports pavilion with hall	3.4
Provide more informal gathering spaces	3.4
Provide new seating for hall	3.4
Provide room for young adults in hall	3.4
Provide spaces/ activities for all age groups	3.4
Purchase more land for a swimming pool	3.4
Quality control	3.4
Continue to make facilities available for free	3.4

Only one person aged 24 years or younger responded to this question, they wanted to “provide spaces/ activities for all age groups.

What is your gender?

TABLE 13: Gender breakdown

Gender	(%)
Male	48.3
Female	51.7

What age group do you belong to?

TABLE 14: Age breakdown

Age cohort (yrs)	%	Age cohort (yrs)	%
5-9	3.4	40-44	20.7
10-14	3.4	45-49	10.3
15-19	3.4	50-54	10.3
20-24	3.4	55-59	17.2
25-29	0.0	60-64	10.3
30-34	3.4	65-69	3.4
35-39	0.0	70-74	10.3

Please write any further comments or suggestions you have about the proposed Pomonal Community Precinct?

- Provide an area for caravans and motor coaches to park and camp.
- Provide a community garden.
- There needs to be more attractions and things to do for tourists when they visit the town.
- Provide a place for people to dispose of their needles in the toilets.
- Extend the hall to include a meeting room that is smaller than the main hall but bigger than room behind the stage.

A1.3 Stakeholder Workshop

A Stakeholder Workshop was conducted in Pomonal in Dec 04 to assist in creating a vision for the site, review current sport and recreation facilities and determines some future options for the site. Users and stakeholder groups attended the workshop, following is a summary of comments in relation to the site:

Functions on the site: What works, what doesn't?

Hall

- kitchen is ok but can only cater to smaller crowds
- great for smaller events
- stove inadequate
- space in kitchen is not user friendly
- currently used for meetings, functions and arts/ cultural events
- acoustics not fantastic, heating ok, size ok for now but not future, layout not functional (egg, stage)
- hot in summer, no airflow through building.

Oval

- needs leveling, water/ sprinkling system installed
- cost of watering is high, need to consider water restrictions (bore would be helpful)
- maintenance requires volunteers
- fencing around oval not adequate, seating not adequate, needs better shade.

Playground

- bad location, needs seating and shade, no soft fall area
- equipment is ok (some being replaced).

Tennis courts

- trees good for winds/ shade
- no water accessible close to the area
- used for netball and school sports.

Cricket clubrooms

- rooms are not adequate for number of teams required to cater for
- has a bar but no room for people to sit
- poorly designed
- no hot water
- cricket seen as social event for community.

Tennis clubrooms

- basic facilities (storage and shelter]) inadequate for future needs.

Public toilets

- terrible to maintain, dusty, poorly sited
- fully accessible toilets.

BBQ area

- old BBQ falling apart, no shelter/ shade/ tables
- people do use it so there is a need.

Traffic vs. community space

- parking and access needs attention (potentially dangerous with cars and kids).

Community space

- space required for markets and other events (outdoor space suitable for all weather, doubles as spectator space).

The following comments were received in relation to the sites potential future land use:

What might change in the next 20 years?

- future development occurring north of town centre
- subdivision occurring along Stawell and Halls Gap roads.
- new development = new residents, sea change town (attract families, retirees).

Future possibilities for this site

- an integrated/ multipurpose facility to meet the needs of all user groups and events.
- different size rooms, indoor/ outdoor space, space for functions, area for tourists to stop and enjoy, tourist information stand manned by volunteers on busy weekends/ events
- keep with existing character (i.e. wildflowers, art, mountains), site sensitive: energy efficient ensuring long term cost minimised, environmentally sensitive and sustainable
- playground, courts, hall etc need to be better co-located, areas to cater for all sporting clubs
- key components - stage, supper room, large space that can be divided into smaller rooms
- need an appropriate management plan in place to ensure all groups can access spaces
- development needs to be accessible and affordable for community/ groups to continue to use
- a meeting space (for approx 30) for small groups that is easy to heat/cool – minimise running costs
- space for indoor sport (cricket, bowls, table tennis, dancing)
- need storage space for groups
- retain the fireplace.

A1.4 Community Meeting

Following the development of a draft plan for the precinct, a community workshop was held in Pomonal in April 2005 and attended by 22 residents. The following provides a summary of key issues arising from the meeting.

- General agreement that the new facility needs to be closer to the oval to enable traffic to travel behind the facility.
- The new hall could be moved closer to tennis courts and playground enabling traffic to stop at the facility. Cricket could then be viewed from in line with the cricket pitch facing north and tennis courts could be viewed from an easterly aspect.
- If demand required, a new tennis court could be built to the north of existing ones.
- A new hall incorporating change rooms could replace the cricket shed.
- The public toilets should be moved to the north west corner of site.
- Need to provide parking for coaches that visit the site.
- The public BBQ would need to be moved if the new hall facility was relocated - could be relocated to new landscaped area.
- A new facility should provide meeting/ viewing/ social area for both cricket/ tennis. Access needs to be provided directly from meeting/ social area.
- The need for 2 meeting rooms at 50 sq m each (possible option to provide 1 room of approx 80 sq m with dividing wall).
- Need for adequate storage space for the various groups. May need to consider a storage shed for external storage - plant society require storage of 36 sq m.
- Long term potential for the south west corner to be developed for lawn bowls.
- Function room needs to be big enough to seat at least 150 people.
- New hall would require a removable stage.
- General agreement for existing Hall to be demolished if new facility is built.