

## OUR PRIORITY IDEAS

### SHORT TERM

**Improved tennis courts:** reinstating and developing for community use, including site clean-up and drainage repair.

### LONG TERM

- **Development of local mountain biking trails and jumps**
- **Development of skate parks and other parks for young people**
- **Supporting activation and community use of the Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre –** including liaising with the TFDC Committee and exploring all options
- **Advocating to improve local phone and internet services**
- **Advocating for a hard rubbish service –** including investigation of alternative and viable options with business or community providers
- **Celebrating local history –** Create a local Toolangi-Castella history collection and acknowledge and connect with indigenous groups about indigenous cultural heritage, both past and present
- **Increase the number of walking and horse-riding trails –** including improvements to the Tall Trees Trail and signage for all key sites and tracks.

## THE COMMUNITY PLANNING JOURNEY

Ideas, values and preliminary votes were collected through dinners, meetings, door knocks, surveys of Toolangi primary school students and junior fire brigade volunteers, community house display, and discussions with various community groups. A community planning group met from mid-2019 into 2020 to progress the planning process.

Over 60 ideas were collected and in February 2020 a final community dinner was held to decide on the top plan priorities. Through a formal voting process at the dinner, and taking into account the preliminary voting, a total of 8 priorities were chosen. Action teams were formed to ensure these priorities would be owned and implemented by the community.

## IMPLEMENTING THE COMMUNITY PLAN

Action teams for the 8 priorities will work together to implement those priorities. Each of the 8 priorities were only included in the plan because they had an active Action Team – this ensured the Community Plan would be a living, active plan.

The remaining ideas may be revisited as needed in the future. All of the ideas collated throughout the community planning process can be viewed on the web page - see below.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**Toolangi-Castella and District Community House**  
Phone: 5962 9060, or: email: [tdchinc@bigpond.com](mailto:tdchinc@bigpond.com).  
For more about the Community Planning journey, go to: [www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/communityplanning](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/communityplanning)

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# TOOLANGI-CASTELLA COMMUNITY PLAN 2020-2023

**Connecting with  
our community  
Doing things better**

**OUR VISION:** Caring for our unique environment and infrastructure and connecting people within and beyond the local area, while nurturing inclusive community involvement and leadership - past, present and future.

This is a Community Plan for the Toolangi-Castella community. It identifies our local strengths and challenges, priorities for our future, and helps us collaborate on solutions for our community.

**We respectfully acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people, and their elders past, present, and emerging in Toolangi, Castella and beyond.**

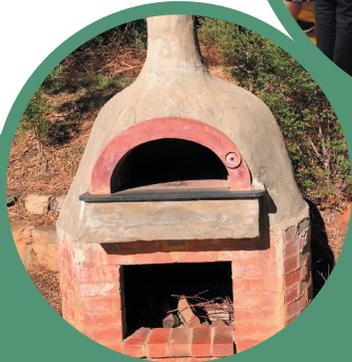
# THE TOOLANGI-CASTELLA COMMUNITY JOURNEY

## STORY OF THE PAST

We acknowledge all who have built the Toolangi and Castella community through volunteerism, dedication, hard work and their own other unique contributions.

### PREVIOUS COMMUNITY PLANNING SUCCESSES.

- Toolangi-Castella Community House
- CJ Dennis Hall renovation and upgrade
- Tall Trees Trail all-purpose track
- CJ Dennis Reserve Playground
- Community garden and wood-fired oven
- New CFA building
- Men's shed
- Opportunity shop
- Castella Central Park and Toolangi-Castella Bushfire Memorial



**WHAT WE  
LOVE ABOUT  
TOOLANGI-  
CASTELLA...**

## STORY OF NOW

**WHO WE ARE.** (2016 ABS data for Toolangi-Castella)



**612** people

**156** families

**22%** of households have a person living on their own



**16%** children (0-14 years)



**8%** young people (15-19 years)

**11%** senior (65+ years)

**4%** live with a disability that requires support



### Industries

Strawberry runners and other horticulture, forestry and tourism

♥ Small community that works together, many activities through the Community House, CJ Dennis Hall, and community garden

♥ Clean air, tall trees, ferns, water, native birds and animals, and gardens

♥ Beautiful country town that's both close and remote, feels safe

♥ Outdoor lifestyle for walking, horse riding, fishing, or just quietly enjoying.

## STORY OF OUR FUTURE

### PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

We want places and activities for us to come together. Where through the spirit of volunteerism and community, people can thrive. We acknowledge our history and want to build it in to our future.

### COMMUNITY ASSETS

We want to maximize our assets such as the Community House, forest discovery centre, recreation reserve, community garden, tennis courts, and walking and horse riding trails.

### NATURAL AND HERITAGE VALUES

We want to maintain our beautiful town, rural and forest environment to ensure we flourish. This includes our gardens, the forest and animals, critically endangered and other threatened flora and fauna, sustainable living, trails, indigenous culture and heritage, town history, artistry and poetry including celebration of CJ Dennis.

### SERVICES

We want to support & promote our businesses. This could be improved by building our access to and awareness of available services, as well as advocacy for things that can make our community better.