



HAWKSBURN VILLAGE

Hawksburn.The Village.The Future.

Malvern Road – Hawksburn Activity Centre Structure Plan

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement
Stage One: Information Gathering and Visioning**

**Feedback - Summarised
December 2014**



Your feedback summarized

Consultation Stage One December 2014

The City of Stonnington is preparing a Structure Plan (the Plan) for the future use and development of land in Hawksburn Village "Hawksburn. The Village. The Future." The Structure Plan, when completed, will articulate the vision for Hawksburn in 2040. The directions of the Plan will inform a future amendment to the Stonnington Planning Scheme to embed the Plan's recommendations.

In November 2014, Council commenced the first stage in the process of developing the plan. This included an initial community and stakeholder engagement process to gain the community's views of the Village and to gain an understanding of the key issues and opportunities that are viewed as potentially affecting the future planning of the area.

The Structure Plan is due for completion in December 2015. There will be further invitations for input into the Plan as it is being developed. The next stages will involve reviewing the information gathered in Stage One of the engagement and technical analysis undertaken during this phase. A background report summarising these findings will be drafted. Stage Two consultation scheduled to be undertaken in April/May 2015, will involve testing key elements and potential concepts that have emerged and these will likely shape the forming Structure Plan.

What You Told Us...

202 respondents comprising of residents, community members, traders and peak bodies, provided feedback during the Stage One engagement process in November/December 2014. The feedback received via surveys, a focus group discussion, interviews and meetings, has been collated into seven key themes which were identified by the engagement process.

Vision for the Area

In 2040 the Hawksburn Village is envisioned to be a friendly, vibrant, diverse and local community hub; an environment where people will feel welcomed and connected and experience a unique 'villagey' feel.

The streetscape will be sustainable, tree-lined, greener, clean and tidy, with a quiet and peaceful atmosphere.

It will embrace the historical value of its area and protect and preserve the character of its buildings and streetscapes.

Shops & Services

The overall shopping, dining and service experience in the Hawksburn Village is well regarded. The uniqueness of the friendly village atmosphere and independent offering appeals to not only the local community, but draws visitors from outside the area.

Feedback suggested a desire for the continuation of a strip shopping environment without the pressure and influence of chain stores and large franchises. There was also a desire to encourage the expansion and the diversification of retail and food options, to maintain the existing quality and service.

Community

A neighbourly, local, village community which is family friendly and safe is very important. The small and intimate feel, is part of its uniqueness. It has a “classy buzz with traditional charm”.

Feedback suggests further exploration of connectivity and cohesion between the two sections either side of Williams Road would further improve the area.

Streetscape & Open Spaces

Feedback suggests the leafy streetscapes, generally clean and well kept streets are appreciated by the community.

There is a desire for an increase in open green space, more parks, more trees and vegetation. A central public space or public plaza with well designed seating where the public can gather, the establishment of a green break between the residential and commercial shopping strip and the provision of public toilets were issues that came through strongly in the feedback received.

Heritage & Built Form

The character and historical nature of the buildings and the surrounding area of the Hawksburn Village, rated the protection and preservation of these assets as extremely important. The old shop facades in Malvern Road were regularly referred to as contributing to the character and charm of the shopping precinct.

Traffic Movement & Safety

Feedback suggests the walkability and accessibility of the Hawksburn Village by foot is a positive feature but the traffic congestion on the roads and lack of adequate car parking options are significant issues.

Addressing the entry and exit points to the Woolworths supermarket, improving the pedestrian crossing (perhaps an overpass), a reduction in heavy vehicles in residential streets, improvements in lighting and signage around the railway station, extension of clearway times and enforcement of the 40 km limit for public safety were regular comments and suggestions in the feedback received.

Transport & Accessibility

Respondents consider overall that the area is generally well served by public transport (trams, trains and buses) but the promotion of other sustainable modes of transport i.e. cycling is desirable.

The widening and regular resurfacing of the footpaths, having sufficient disability parking and investigating the viability of tram super stops are key accessibility issues raised by respondents.

How to find out more/have your say

The involvement of residents, traders, peak bodies and other interested parties in this project is important to ensure that the Structure Plan reflects the community's aspirations for the Hawksburn Village. Your ongoing participation is encouraged.

For further details on this project or to register to be kept informed of future consultation opportunities please contact City Strategy on 8290 1395 or visit the City of Stonnington's website at **www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/hawksburn**

Disclaimer: The information contained in this report has been prepared with due care from reliable sources. However, neither this Company nor its employees guarantee this information, nor does it, or is it intended to form part of any contract. All interested parties should make their own enquiries to verify the information, as well as any additional or supporting information supplied. No part of this document shall be reproduced in any form or altered in any way without the written permission of Gerard Coutts Pty Ltd.