



# Lord Nelson Park St Arnaud Precinct Plan 2015 to 2024

Volume Two: Research and Consultation  
Summaries

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Prepared by SGL Consulting Group Australia Pty Ltd in conjunction with  
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The Lord Nelson Park St Arnaud Precinct Plan 2015 . 2024  
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# 1 Background and Project Area

## 1.1 Introduction

Lord Nelson Park, St Arnaud is regarded as the main sporting venue in the North Central Region of Victoria, providing community venues, sporting and recreational infrastructure. Lord Nelson Park is home to the key activities of football, netball, harness racing, hockey, cricket and the St Arnaud Agricultural Show.

Northern Grampians Shire has identified that the infrastructure at the park is aged and many facilities no longer meet all of the requirements of the users both in amenity and functionality. The usage of Lord Nelson Park has been increasing and this has also put pressure on existing facilities. With the rationalisation of recreational assets across the region there is need for a critical review of the precinct design, accessibility and shared use to ensure the venue is able to cater in the future for the wide and varied users.

SGL Consulting Group Australia Pty Ltd (SGL) was commissioned to complete the project in May 2014.

### 1.1.1 Precinct Plan Documents

The Lord Nelson Park St Arnaud Precinct Plan 2015 . 2024 comprises three volumes of information. Volume One: The Precinct Plan includes:

- Section One: Background Information
- Section Two: Key Project Findings
- Section Three: Future Precinct Plan
- Section Four: Management and Operations
- Section Five: Implementation and Staging Plan
- Appendices: Supporting Information

The studies detailed background information is provided in Volume Two: Research and Consultation Summaries, which includes:

- Section One: Background and Project Area
- Section Two: Review of Lord Nelson Park Precinct and Operations
- Section Three: Key Stakeholder Consultation
- Section Four: Site Assessment
- Section Five: Management Options Review
- Section Six: Future Facility Funding Development Options
- Appendices: Supporting Information.



The detailed precinct plans and the facility development component briefs are documented in Volume Three: Precinct Plans which includes:

- Facility Design Component Brief.
- Overall Precinct Plans.
- New Multi-use Pavilion and Change Room Plans (Option 1).
- Redevelopment and Extension of TOTE Building . Multi-use Pavilion and Change Rooms (Option 2).
- Quantity Surveyor Indicative Capital Cost Estimates.
- Lighting plans (sport and precinct).

## 1.2 Project Purpose

The Lord Nelson Park St Arnaud Precinct Plan project has been set up to deliver a long term (at least ten year) Precinct Plan for Lord Nelson Park (LNP) with a focus on the critical elements of:

- Engagement
- Infrastructure requirements
- Facility design
- Leadership
- Governance
- Investment required to deliver integrated and well co-ordinated community, sporting and recreational infrastructure.

The project will:

- Build on past community and recreational planning work that has been undertaken in St Arnaud.
- Undertake sound practice project development to inform integrated planning processes to develop community infrastructure.
- Empower the community and organisations with accessible facilities and well-designed infrastructure.
- Facilitate the co-ordination and collaboration between the wide range of partners required to deliver community infrastructure.

## 1.3 Project Objectives

The project key objectives as outlined in the project brief were to:

- Undertake a review of recent and past consultation, engagement and planning activities and documentation to form an understanding of current issues, gaps and opportunities relevant to the community, and in particular the users of Lord Nelson Park.
- Having regard to recent past consultation, consult with the St Arnaud community including existing and future user groups to inform the development of the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan.
- Develop documentation and evidence to support the consultation that has already taken place to enable Lord Nelson Park to be developed to reach its full potential for the current and future needs of the community.

- Deliver the required documentation to support infrastructure investment to transform existing aged infrastructure into an integrated and well-coordinated community precinct ensuring that Lord Nelson Park community infrastructure:
  - Is suitably and strategically located.
  - Meets existing and future community needs including increased access to participation and programming opportunities, innovative design, function, universal design, environmental sustainability, future proofing and relationship to nearby facilities.
  - Provides a plan for delivery in a well-coordinated and sequenced manner.
  - Provides the best value for money and community outcomes for potential funding partners.
  - Addresses the interface and connection between land uses.
  - Leverages required funding from appropriate public and private sources.

## 1.4 Project Methodology

The project methodology was developed to meet the project purpose and objectives as well as the specific requirements as detailed in the Project Brief. The proposed project methodology for Stage One including the associated tasks, are listed in the following table.

Table 1.1 Project Methodology

| Task  | Details   |
|---|---|
| <b>STAGE ONE</b>  |   |
| <b>Phase One: Background</b>                                      |   |
| 1. <b>Project Clarification Meeting and Site Inspection</b>       | SGL co-ordinated a project clarification meeting in St Arnaud to review the project methodology, considered the most appropriate options to consult with local stakeholders and discussed the local community engagement strategy. An inspection of the precinct and facilities (where available) was undertaken. |
| 2. <b>Review of Lord Nelson Park Precinct</b>                     | SGL and the design team completed a review of the precinct design, accessibility and usage.   |
| <b>Phase Two: Research and Consultation</b>                       |   |
| 3. <b>Demographic Review</b>                                      | SGL completed a current population (ABS 2011) and future population (to 2031) review of St Arnaud area (where available).   |
| 4. <b>Review of Relevant Documents, Reports and Consultations</b> | Reports provided by Northern Grampians Shire Council were reviewed and an audit of relevant information undertaken to ensure that all opportunities, gaps and issues provided by these existing policies, plans and strategies were documented and analysed.  |
| 5. <b>St Arnaud Community Consultation</b>                        | All identified key stakeholders for the development of the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan were invited to participate in the project. Consultations / interviews were conducted with both internal and external stakeholders.   |
| 6. <b>Review of Lord Nelson Park Operations</b>                   | Current facility usage, facility maintenance and upkeep responsibilities, revenue and fees and charges (where available) were reviewed and evaluated.<br><br>Opportunities for optimum usage of facilities on a shared/reciprocal basis were identified.  |
| 7. <b>Summary of Key Findings</b>                                 | Based on the findings from the Phase One and Two tasks SGL completed a summary key findings report to inform and guide the development of future facility options and needs.<br><br>This was provided to project representatives to review and provide feedback and comments.                                     |
| <b>Phase Three: Options and Opportunities</b>                     |   |
| 8. <b>Vision and Concept Development</b>                          | SGL conducted two <i>Lord Nelson Park St Arnaud Cafés</i> , one for youth and one for the St Arnaud community, existing and future Lord Nelson Park user groups to develop a shared vision for Lord Nelson Park, to identify future needs and explore facility development options and components.                |

| Task  | Details   |
|---|---|
| <b>9. Precinct Facility Options and Components</b>      | An analysis of the spacial capacity of the precinct, location and functionality of the facilities was completed. Facility development options were investigated including assessment of priority components, space requirements, relevant standards and the associated infrastructure was identified with the aim of ensuring optimal facility usage.<br>A priority list to test facility precinct development options and opportunities was developed. |
| <b>10. Precinct Schematic Concept</b>                   | The project design support company developed up two schematic site and facility concept plans highlighting alternative facility option layouts and developments.  |
| <b>11. Indicative Cost Plans</b>                        | The project quantity surveyor completed an indicative capital cost plan for each option to assist in determining likely costs.  |
| <b>12. Precinct Options Review Forum</b>                | SGL co-ordinated a review forum with project representatives to discuss options and confirm final option for detailed development and assessment.   |
| <b>Phase Four: Recommended Precinct Plan</b>            |   |
| <b>13. Precinct Management Plan and Schedule of Use</b> | A review of management models including assessment of industry best practice was completed and recommendations made regarding the future management for the Lord Nelson Park.   |
| <b>14. 10 Year Business Plan</b>                        | A 10 year Business Plan for the proposed development that includes operating budget, identification of the economic impact during construction and operation (including employment) and how participation will be increased (or maintained in some instances) was developed.<br><br>Opportunities and scoping of potential funding sources and project partnership opportunities was undertaken.  |
| <b>15. Draft Precinct Plan</b>                          | The draft precinct plan was completed, which includes recommendations inclusive of an implementation plan, timelines and the identification of low to high priorities and appropriate projected costs (where necessary).  |
| <b>16. Draft Precinct Plan Forum</b>                    | SGL completed a forum in St Arnaud with client representatives to review and seek feedback on the draft Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan.   |
| <b>17. Final Precinct Plan and Report</b>               | Based on a review of the feedback received any necessary changes were made to the Draft Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan and the report finalised for consideration and adoption by Council.  |

## 1.6 Demographic Profile and Population Trends

The following sections of the report review the demographic profile of the Shire area based on information listed on Councils website with a specific focus on St Arnaud<sup>1</sup>.

The population trends indicate that between 2006 and 2011 the population of the Northern Grampians Shire Council (NGSC) area decreased from 11,911 people to 11,843 people. This equates to a decline of 68 people (or 0.6% of the population). Between 2006 and 2011 the population of St Arnaud increased from 2,364 to 2,370, an increase of 0.3% (+6).

### 1.6.1 Age Group Population Trends

The age profile of St Arnaud residents in 2011 (ABS) compared to Northern Grampians Shire, Regional Victoria and 2006 Census data is listed in the table on the following page.

<sup>1</sup> Data for the area in proximity to and surrounding the St Arnaud area (facility catchment) has not been included. Data was only available for Rural North which includes significant towns, localities and areas outside the scope of this project.

Table 1.2 Population Age Profile of Northern Grampians Shire Council

| Five year age groups (years) | 2011         |              |                    |              | 2006         |              |                    |              | St Arnaud Change 2006 to 2011 |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                              | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC |                               |
|                              | Number       | %            | %                  | %            | Number       | %            | %                  | %            |                               |
| 0 to 4                       | 111          | 4.7          | 4.9                | 6.3          | 115          | 4.9          | 5.4                | 6.0          | -4                            |
| 5 to 9                       | 122          | 5.1          | 5.9                | 6.2          | 166          | 7.0          | 6.7                | 6.8          | -44                           |
| 10 to 14                     | 167          | 7.0          | 6.7                | 6.7          | 153          | 6.5          | 7.1                | 7.5          | +14                           |
| 15 to 19                     | 151          | 6.4          | 6.3                | 6.8          | 144          | 6.1          | 6.7                | 7.0          | +7                            |
| 20 to 24                     | 114          | 4.8          | 4.7                | 5.5          | 85           | 3.6          | 3.8                | 5.5          | +30                           |
| 25 to 29                     | 106          | 4.5          | 4.1                | 5.2          | 92           | 3.9          | 4.0                | 4.9          | +14                           |
| 30 to 34                     | 95           | 4.0          | 4.5                | 5.2          | 112          | 4.7          | 5.4                | 5.8          | -17                           |
| 35 to 39                     | 133          | 5.6          | 5.6                | 6.1          | 139          | 5.9          | 6.4                | 6.6          | -6                            |
| 40 to 44                     | 158          | 6.7          | 6.6                | 6.7          | 162          | 6.9          | 7.4                | 7.1          | -4                            |
| 45 to 49                     | 136          | 5.7          | 7.1                | 7.0          | 150          | 6.3          | 7.4                | 7.4          | -14                           |
| 50 to 54                     | 140          | 5.9          | 7.3                | 7.1          | 163          | 6.9          | 7.4                | 7.1          | -23                           |
| 55 to 59                     | 186          | 7.8          | 7.9                | 6.9          | 180          | 7.6          | 7.6                | 6.7          | +6                            |
| 60 to 64                     | 193          | 8.1          | 7.8                | 6.6          | 164          | 6.9          | 6.3                | 5.4          | +29                           |
| 65 to 69                     | 148          | 6.3          | 6.3                | 5.2          | 144          | 6.1          | 4.9                | 4.6          | +4                            |
| 70 to 74                     | 137          | 5.8          | 4.6                | 4.1          | 121          | 5.1          | 4.2                | 3.8          | +15                           |
| 75 to 79                     | 87           | 3.7          | 3.6                | 3.2          | 109          | 4.6          | 3.9                | 3.4          | -23                           |
| 80 to 84                     | 93           | 3.9          | 3.1                | 2.6          | 84           | 3.5          | 2.9                | 2.5          | +9                            |
| 85 and over                  | 93           | 3.9          | 2.9                | 2.3          | 81           | 3.4          | 2.5                | 2.0          | +13                           |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>2,370</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>2,364</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>+6</b>                     |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011

Analysis of the five year age groups of St Arnaud in 2011 compared to Northern Grampians Shire shows that there was a lower proportion of people in the younger age groups (under 15) and a higher proportion of people in the older age groups (65+).

Overall, 16.9% of the population was aged between 0 and 15, and 23.5% were aged 65 years and over, compared with 17.5% and 20.6% respectively for Northern Grampians Shire.

The major differences between the age structure of St Arnaud and Northern Grampians Shire were:

- A *larger* percentage of people aged 70 to 74 (5.8% compared to 4.6%)
- A *larger* percentage of people aged 85 and over (3.9% compared to 2.9%)
- A *smaller* percentage of people aged 45 to 49 (5.7% compared to 7.1%)
- A *smaller* percentage of people aged 50 to 54 (5.9% compared to 7.3%).

From 2006 to 2011, St Arnaud's population increased by 6 people (0.3%). This represents an average annual population change of 0.05% per year over the period. There were no major differences in St Arnaud between 2006 and 2011.

An analysis of the data listed in Table 1.2 shows that when comparing the Population Age Profile between the Northern Grampians and Regional Victoria, the Northern Grampians age group segmentation is fairly consistent with the figures found in Regional Victoria.

The age groups in the Northern Grampians Shire with the largest percentage of residents are the 55 to 59 years old (7.9%), followed closely by 60 to 64 years (7.8%) and 50 to 54 years (7.3%). The age groups with the lowest number of residents are the 85 years plus (2.9%) followed by 80 to 84 years (3.1%) and 75 to 59 years (3.6%).

Between 2006 and 2011 there was an increase in residents aged 60 to 69 increasing from 10.0% in 2006 to 14.1% in 2011. There was also a decrease in the number of residents aged 30 to 39 years, dropping from 12.4% to 10.1% (-2.3%).

The most significant difference between the St Arnaud area and Regional Victoria is the difference in the number of residents aged between 60 and 74 years. In the St Arnaud area 20.2% of the population are between 60 and 74 years whilst only 15.9% of Regional Victoria residents are in this age bracket.

This is a significant age profile trend for St Arnaud, as higher concentrations of older adults require core specialist local open space, sport and recreation areas related to these age groups interests.

## 1.6.2 Gender Population Trends

The following table details the gender comparison statistics of St Arnaud, Northern Grampians Shire Council residents and Regional Victoria in 2011 compared to 2006.

*Table 1.3 Resident Gender Comparisons 2011 and 2006*

| Category                            | 2011      |       |                    |              | 2006      |       |                    |              | St Arnaud Change 2006 to 2011 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|-------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                                     | St Arnaud |       | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC | St Arnaud |       | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC |                               |
|                                     | Number    | %     | %                  | %            | Number    | %     | %                  | %            |                               |
| Population (excluding O/S visitors) | 2,370     | 100.0 | 100.0              | 100.0        | 2,364     | 100.0 | 100.0              | 100.0        | +6                            |
| Males                               | 1,168     | 49.3  | 49.9               | 49.1         | 1,163     | 49.2  | 49.7               | 49.2         | +5                            |
| Females                             | 1,202     | 50.7  | 50.1               | 50.9         | 1,201     | 50.8  | 50.3               | 50.8         | +1                            |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011

The results indicate there are slightly more females than males within the St Arnaud population (50.7% compared to 49.3%) which is slightly above that of the Northern Grampians Shire population. Regional Victoria has 50.9% females in comparison to St Arnaud with 50.7% and Northern Grampians Shire with 50.1% females.

## 1.6.3 Country of Birth

The portion of the St Arnaud and Northern Grampians Shire population born overseas and the diversity in their country of origin can provide an indication of how diverse the population is within the community.

An analysis of the country of birth data for St Arnaud and the Northern Grampians areas shows that there is a low level of diversity with a relatively small percentage of the population born overseas. Of the residents of Northern Grampians that were born overseas the majority were born in the United Kingdom (288, 2.4%).

The table on the following page provides a summary of the countries of birth of residents in St Arnaud, Northern Grampians Shire and Regional Victoria and if they are from English or non-English speaking countries.

Table 1.4 Most Common Countries of Birth

| Category                         | 2011         |              |                    |              | 2006         |              |                    |              | St Arnaud Change 2006 to 2011 |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                                  | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC |                               |
|                                  | Number       | %            | %                  | %            | Number       | %            | %                  | %            |                               |
| United Kingdom                   | 39           | 1.6          | 2.4                | 3.5          | 44           | 1.9          | 2.6                | 3.5          | -5                            |
| Total Overseas born              | 115          | 4.9          | 6.3                | 10.6         | 107          | 4.5          | 5.7                | 10.1         | +8                            |
| Non-English speaking backgrounds | 49           | 2.1          | 2.7                | 5.5          | 47           | 2.0          | 2.1                | 5.2          | +2                            |
| Main English speaking countries  | 66           | 2.8          | 3.7                | 5.1          | 59           | 2.5          | 3.6                | 4.9          | +7                            |
| Australia                        | 2,153        | 90.7         | 88.1               | 84.3         | 2,145        | 90.6         | 88.7               | 84.3         | +8                            |
| Not Stated                       | 105          | 4.4          | 5.6                | 5.0          | 115          | 4.9          | 5.7                | 5.6          | -10                           |
| <b>Total Population</b>          | <b>2,373</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>2,366</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>+7</b>                     |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011

Analysis of the country of birth of the population in St Arnaud in 2011 compared to Northern Grampians Shire shows that there was a smaller proportion of people born overseas, as well as a smaller proportion of people from a non-English speaking background.

The share of the population born overseas in the St Arnaud and the Northern Grampians Shire were both lower than that found in Regional Victoria (4.9% and 6.3% compared to 10.6%).

The percentage from Non-English speaking backgrounds in St Arnaud was 2.1% and in Northern Grampians Shire area 2.7% compared to 5.5% in Regional Victoria. The percentage from English speaking countries was also lower in St Arnaud and Northern Grampians Shire than Regional Victoria (2.8% and 3.7% compared with 5.1%).

Overall, 4.9% of the population in St Arnaud was born overseas, and 2.1% were from a non-English speaking background, compared with 6.3% and 2.7% respectively for Northern Grampians Shire.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people born overseas in St Arnaud increased slightly (8 or 7.5%). There were no major differences in St Arnaud between 2006 and 2011.

#### 1.6.4 Languages Spoken at Home

The following table provides information on languages spoken at home . English versus Non-English.

Table 1.5 Most Common Languages Spoken at Home

| Category                | 2011         |              |                    |              | 2006         |              |                    |              | St Arnaud Change 2006 to 2011 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                         | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC |                               |
|                         | Number       | %            | %                  | %            | Number       | %            | %                  | %            |                               |
| Speaks English only     | 2,245        | 94.7         | 93.5               | 90.4         | 2,259        | 95.6         | 95.0               | 91.1         | -15                           |
| Non-English total       | 51           | 2.2          | 2.4                | 5.3          | 39           | 1.7          | 1.7                | 4.7          | +12                           |
| Not stated              | 75           | 3.2          | 4.0                | 4.3          | 64           | 2.7          | 3.3                | 4.2          | +11                           |
| <b>Total Population</b> | <b>2,371</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>2,363</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>+8</b>                     |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011

Overall, St Arnaud had 94.7% who only spoke English at home and 2.2% who spoke a non-English language in comparison to Northern Grampians Shire with 93.5% and 2.4%. Regional Victoria had 90.4% speaking only English at home and 5.3% who spoke a non-English language.

The number of residents within the Northern Grampians area speaking languages other than English in 2011 was very low with the highest percentages (and numbers) being Filipino/Tagalog (0.2%, 26) and German (0.2%, 20).

### 1.6.5 Residents Income Levels

The following table lists the personal weekly income levels in 2011 for St Arnaud, Northern Grampians Shire and Regional Victoria residents.

*Table 1.6 Weekly Individual Residents Gross Income Levels*

| Income Level                  | 2011         |              |                    |              |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                               | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians |              | Regional VIC |
|                               | Number       | %            | Number             | %            | %            |
| Negative Income/ Nil income   | 89           | 4.5          | 570                | 5.8          | 6.6          |
| \$1-\$199                     | 154          | 7.8          | 794                | 8.1          | 8.0          |
| \$200-\$299                   | 336          | 17.1         | 1,400              | 14.3         | 12.5         |
| \$300-\$399                   | 333          | 17.0         | 1,412              | 14.4         | 12.5         |
| \$400-\$599                   | 324          | 16.5         | 1,541              | 15.8         | 14.1         |
| \$600-\$799                   | 262          | 13.3         | 1,189              | 12.2         | 11.5         |
| \$800-\$999                   | 137          | 7.0          | 754                | 7.7          | 8.1          |
| \$1000-\$1249                 | 96           | 4.9          | 549                | 5.6          | 7.1          |
| \$1250-\$1499                 | 47           | 2.4          | 319                | 3.3          | 4.3          |
| \$1500-\$1999                 | 29           | 1.5          | 329                | 3.4          | 4.4          |
| \$2000 or more                | 22           | 1.1          | 218                | 2.2          | 3.1          |
| Not stated                    | 135          | 6.9          | 698                | 7.1          | 7.7          |
| <b>Total persons aged 15+</b> | <b>1,962</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>9,773</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2011

A review of the individual income levels in St Arnaud compared to the Northern Grampians indicates that there is a lower percentage of residents earning a high income (those earning \$1,500 per week or more) and a higher proportion of low income earners (those residents earning less than \$400 per week).

In St Arnaud only 2.6% of the population earned a high income while 46.4% earned a low income, compared to 5.6% and 42.7% respectively for the rest of the Northern Grampians and 7.5% and 39.6% respectively for Regional Victoria.

The weekly individual income levels for St Arnaud compared to Regional Victoria are provided in the following figure.

## Weekly individual income, 2011

Total persons

■ St Arnaud ■ Regional VIC



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.



Figure 1.1 Weekly Individual Income Levels

The major differences between St Arnaud's individual incomes and Regional Victoria's individual incomes were:

- A larger percentage of persons who earned \$200-\$299 (17.1% compared to 12.5%)
- A larger percentage of persons who earned \$300-\$399 (17.0% compared to 12.5%)
- A larger percentage of persons who earned \$400-\$599 (16.5% compared to 14.1%)
- A smaller percentage of persons who earned \$1500-\$1999 (1.5% compared to 4.4%).<sup>2</sup>

### 1.6.6 Vehicle Ownership

The number of vehicles owned per household is listed in the table below.

Table 1.7 Resident Vehicle Ownership

| Category                 | 2011         |              |                    |              | 2006         |              |                    |              | St Arnaud Change 2006 to 2011 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                          | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC | St Arnaud    |              | Northern Grampians | Regional VIC |                               |
|                          | Number       | %            | %                  | %            | Number       | %            | %                  | %            |                               |
| No motor vehicles        | 111          | 11.0         | 7.7                | 6.4          | 102          | 10.2         | 8.3                | 7.1          | +9                            |
| 1 motor vehicle          | 329          | 32.6         | 32.1               | 33.0         | 350          | 34.9         | 31.7               | 33.0         | -21                           |
| 2 motor vehicles         | 357          | 35.3         | 35.2               | 36.1         | 352          | 35.1         | 35.9               | 36.3         | +5                            |
| 3 or more motor vehicles | 162          | 16.0         | 18.6               | 18.4         | 137          | 13.6         | 17.3               | 17.4         | +25                           |
| Not stated               | 51           | 5.1          | 6.5                | 6.1          | 62           | 6.2          | 6.8                | 6.2          | -11                           |
| <b>Total households</b>  | <b>1,011</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>1,004</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>       | <b>100.0</b> | <b>+7</b>                     |

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011

<sup>2</sup> Source: id consulting Community Profile Northern Grampians Shire Council <http://profile.id.com.au/northern-grampians/individual-income?BMID=20&WebID=120&es=1>, Last accessed 7 August 2014.



Analysis of the car ownership of the households in St Arnaud in 2011 compared to Northern Grampians Shire and Regional Victoria shows that 83.9% of the households owned at least one car, while 11.0% did not, compared with 85.9% and 7.7% respectively in Northern Grampians Shire and 87.5% and 6.4% in Regional Victoria.

A review of the vehicle ownership indicates that the majority of residents own one or more vehicles indicating most people have the ability to independently access sport and leisure activities though this is slightly lower than the average for Regional Victoria.

### 1.6.7 SEIFA Index of Disadvantage

The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (SEIFA) is derived from attributes such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment, jobs in relatively unskilled occupations and variables that reflect disadvantage rather than measure specific aspects of disadvantage (e.g. Indigenous and Separated/Divorced).<sup>3</sup>

High scores on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage occur when the area has few families of low income and few people with little training and in unskilled occupations. Low scores on the index occur when the area has many low income families and people with little training and in unskilled occupations. A higher score on the index means a lower level of disadvantage whilst a lower score on the index means a higher level of disadvantage.<sup>4</sup>

The table below provides the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage for St Arnaud and Northern Grampians Shire small areas including in comparison to selected benchmark areas.

*Table 1.8 SEIFA Index of Disadvantage Northern Grampians Shire Small Areas and Selected Benchmarks*

| Northern Grampians Shire's small areas and benchmark areas<br>(Ranked from least to greatest disadvantaged) | 2011 SEIFA Index of Disadvantage |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Rural South   | 1,010.1                          |
| Victoria  | 1,009.6                          |
| Australia   | 1,002.0                          |
| Rural North   | 999.5                            |
| Southern Grampians (S)  | 994.5                            |
| Horsham (RC)  | 987.4                            |
| Regional VIC  | 977.7                            |
| Buloke (S)  | 967.7                            |
| Yarriambiack (S)  | 952.4                            |
| Ararat (RC)   | 950.5                            |
| Pyrenees (S)  | 939.9                            |
| Stawell (West)  | 938.4                            |
| Northern Grampians Shire  | 937.6                            |
| Loddon (S)  | 934.1                            |
| <b>St Arnaud</b>  | <b>910.2</b>                     |
| Central Goldfields (S)  | 904.6                            |
| Stawell (East)  | 889.6                            |

Source: id consulting Community Profile Northern Grampians Shire Council <http://profile.id.com.au/northern-grampians/seifa-disadvantage?BMID=20&WebID=120&es=1> Last accessed 8 August 2014.

In comparison with neighbouring municipalities Central Goldfields and Loddon Shires are considered more disadvantaged than Northern Grampians Shire. Northern Grampians is more disadvantaged compared to the other neighbouring municipalities as well as Regional Victoria.

<sup>3</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA 2006) cat. No. 2033.0.55.001.

<sup>4</sup> Source: id consulting Community Profile Northern Grampians Shire Council <http://profile.id.com.au/northern-grampians/seifa-disadvantage?BMID=20&WebID=120&es=1> Last accessed 8 August 2014.

St Arnaud in comparison to Northern Grampians Shires other small areas is less disadvantaged than Stawell (East) but more disadvantaged than Stawell (West), Rural North and Rural South and more disadvantaged than Northern Grampians Shire overall.

### 1.6.8 Future Population Predictions

The table below provides an overview of the predicted Northern Grampians future area population trends between 2011 and 2031.

Table 1.9 NGSC Area Future Population Trends 2011 to 2031

| Local Government Area              | 2011         | 2016         | 2021         | 2026         | 2031         |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Northern Grampians                 | 12,054       | 11,724       | 11,813       | 11,979       | 12,176       |
| Time Frame                         | 2011 to 2016 | 2016 to 2021 | 2021 to 2026 | 2026 to 2031 | 2011 to 2031 |
| Change in Population Between Years | -330         | 89           | 166          | 197          | 122          |
| Average Annual Population Change   | -0.5%        | 0.2%         | 0.3%         | 0.3%         | 0.05%        |

Source: Victoria in Future 2014 <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/census-2011/victoria-in-future-2014> Last accessed 7 August 2014.

While the Northern Grampians area is expected to experience a decrease in the total population between 2011 and 2016 (330 residents), in the longer term the area is expected to experience a slight increase in total population.

By the year 2031 the population is expected to be 12,176 (122 people more than in 2011).

### 1.6.9 Future Population Age Profiles

The likely change in population age profiles between 2011 and 2031 for Northern Grampians Shire are provided in the following table and figure below.

Table 1.10 Northern Grampians Shire Future Population Age Profiles

| Age Group    | 2011          |              | 2016          |              | 2021          |              | 2026          |              | 2031          |              |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|              | No            | %            | No            | %            | No            | %            | No            | %            | No            | %            |
| 0-4          | 561           | 4.7          | 590           | 5.0          | 560           | 4.7          | 577           | 4.8          | 607           | 5.0          |
| 5-9          | 721           | 6.0          | 623           | 5.3          | 619           | 5.2          | 596           | 5.0          | 617           | 5.1          |
| 10-14        | 788           | 6.5          | 712           | 6.1          | 627           | 5.3          | 625           | 5.2          | 603           | 5.0          |
| 15-19        | 754           | 6.3          | 688           | 5.9          | 681           | 5.8          | 603           | 5.0          | 607           | 5.0          |
| 20-24        | 635           | 5.3          | 436           | 3.7          | 589           | 5.0          | 608           | 5.1          | 543           | 4.5          |
| 25-29        | 533           | 4.4          | 651           | 5.6          | 479           | 4.1          | 636           | 5.3          | 662           | 5.4          |
| 30-34        | 548           | 4.5          | 536           | 4.6          | 678           | 5.7          | 509           | 4.2          | 667           | 5.5          |
| 35-39        | 685           | 5.7          | 574           | 4.9          | 598           | 5.1          | 747           | 6.2          | 575           | 4.7          |
| 40-44        | 788           | 6.5          | 680           | 5.8          | 590           | 5.0          | 620           | 5.2          | 769           | 6.3          |
| 45-49        | 861           | 7.1          | 763           | 6.5          | 675           | 5.7          | 588           | 4.9          | 619           | 5.1          |
| 50-54        | 876           | 7.3          | 841           | 7.2          | 746           | 6.3          | 664           | 5.5          | 578           | 4.7          |
| 55-59        | 946           | 7.8          | 877           | 7.5          | 870           | 7.4          | 782           | 6.5          | 711           | 5.8          |
| 60-64        | 919           | 7.6          | 957           | 8.2          | 908           | 7.7          | 914           | 7.6          | 836           | 6.9          |
| 65-69        | 751           | 6.2          | 902           | 7.7          | 930           | 7.9          | 886           | 7.4          | 895           | 7.4          |
| 70-74        | 542           | 4.5          | 693           | 5.9          | 846           | 7.2          | 891           | 7.4          | 855           | 7.0          |
| 75-79        | 432           | 3.6          | 470           | 4.0          | 613           | 5.2          | 756           | 6.3          | 805           | 6.6          |
| 80-84        | 380           | 3.2          | 345           | 2.9          | 384           | 3.3          | 509           | 4.2          | 634           | 5.2          |
| 85+          | 334           | 2.8          | 386           | 3.3          | 420           | 3.6          | 469           | 3.9          | 593           | 4.9          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>12,054</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>11,724</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>11,813</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>11,979</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>12,176</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Source: Victoria in Future 2014 <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/census-2011/victoria-in-future-2014> Last accessed 7 August 2014.

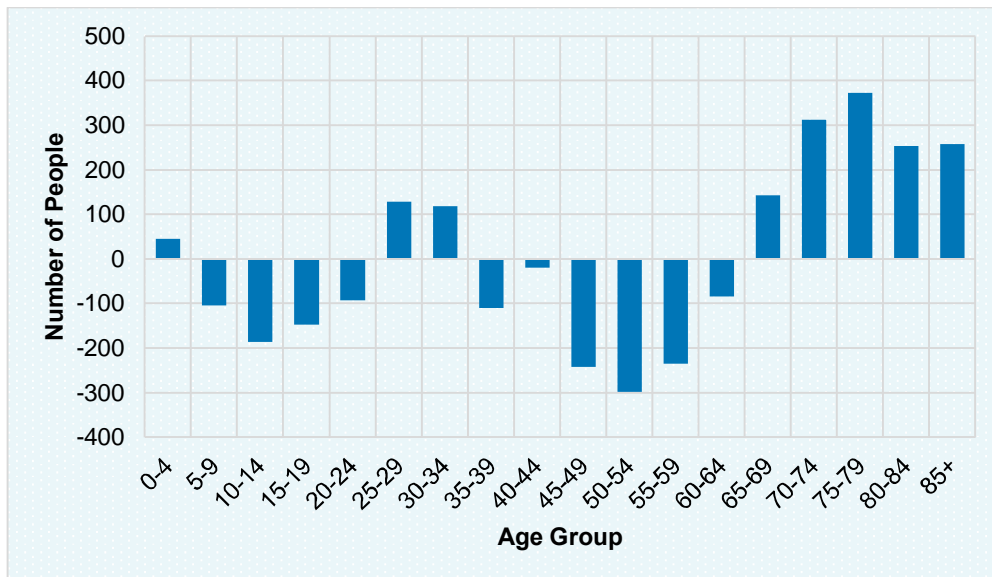


Figure 1.2 Northern Grampians Shire Overall Population Changes 2011 to 2031

There is expected to be a number of changes in the distribution of the population across the age groups between 2011 and 2031. The age group that is expected to experience the biggest decline in percentage is the 50 to 54 year age group which is expected to decrease from 7.3% of the total population to 4.7%.

The age group that is expected to increase the most is the 75 to 79 years which is expected to grow from 3.6% to 6.6% of the total population. The 70 to 74 year age group is expected to grow from 4.4% to 7.0%.

## 1.8 Review of Relevant Research and Documents

To establish the context for the development of the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan relevant documents, reports and policies have been reviewed. This is to ensure that all opportunities and any issues provided by NGSC existing policies and documents and other identified research are understood.

The Northern Grampians Shire Council documents that have been reviewed include:

- St Arnaud Civic Precinct Plan 2014
- St Arnaud Community Plan 2009-2013
- Lord Nelson Park Reserve Master Plan 2001
- 2013 review of the Implementation Strategy 2009 of Lord Nelson Park review Master Plan 2001
- St Arnaud Urban Design Framework
- Northern Grampians Shire Council Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy 2014 (Refer Section 1.9).
- Central Highlands Strategic Plan.
- Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Strategic Plan

The summary is provided in the table on the next page.

Table 1.11 Summary of Relevant Research

| Reviewed Document  | Summary of Key Points  |
|--|--|
| <p>St Arnaud Civic Precinct Plan, SGS Economics &amp; Planning, MVS Architects, Maudie Palmer AO, January 2014</p> | <p>The report identifies some projects and directions of relevance as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard Infrastructure Investment:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pioneer Park Lake Works . an underutilised asset to be upgraded to include:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Public access including paths, toilets, seating and shade.</li> <li>✓ Improved signage and walkways to swimming pool and other nearby community facilities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| <p>St Arnaud Community Plan 2009 - 2013</p>  | <p>The plan provides a vision for St Arnaud being:<br/> <i>Our Vision: A strong, progressive and safe regional centre.</i><br/> <i>Our Passion: Community, Business, Opportunity, Heritage.</i></p> <p>The priorities relevant to this project included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority Action #2 . create a safe environment for the community to live with activities for youth identified.</li> <li>• Priority Action #3 . <i>Continue to develop sport and recreation facilities.</i> This is important for health, economic benefits, improving self-confidence, having an engaged community, keeping young people in town and providing entertainment for the community. Actions include Lord Nelson Park Development . fencing, stables, Sheep Pavilion development, TOTE remodelling and entrance safety requirements. Expand pavilion, parking and traffic management.</li> <li>• Priority Action #8 - assisting Community organisations to remain sustainable including by offering volunteering workshops.</li> <li>• Other key actions included accessible facilities, water sustainability (Class A water, water harvesting and storage).</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Lord Nelson Park Reserve Master Plan 2001</p>   | <p>The 2001 Lord Nelson Park Reserve Master Plan made a number of recommendations regarding the future direction and development of Lord Nelson Park. A number of recommendations were included of which the following are noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage walk between town centre and Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• Site maps to clearly define boundaries of Lord Nelson Park with Pioneer Park and the inclusion of Wilson's Paddock into the existing title.</li> <li>• Facility recommendations included:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensions to St Arnaud Sporting Club (including function rooms, internal and external toilets, storage, change for sporting teams and harness racing, stewards room, broadcast box, judges box, stewards tower, show display space and kiosk). Included demolishing buildings to allow for extension.</li> <li>- Supplementary car parking.</li> <li>- Refurbish one toilet block.</li> <li>- Two new netball courts, two new hockey pitches.</li> <li>- Relocate and reduce size of poultry pavilion.</li> <li>- Changes to stables.</li> <li>- Dog pavilion to be converted to storage (upgrade).</li> <li>- Improved entrance, car parking and traffic management.</li> <li>- Adventure playground, heritage walking trail, picnic and BBQ facilities.</li> <li>- Perimeter fencing.</li> <li>- There were also a number of recommendations relating to relocating other sport and recreation facilities to Lord Nelson Park - croquet, lawn bowls and indoor stadium.</li> <li>- Feasibility of indoor swimming pool and gymnasium equipment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Reviewed Document   | Summary of Key Points   |
|---|---|
| <p>2013 Review of Implementation Strategy 2009 of Lord Nelson Park Reserve Master Plan (2001)</p> | <p>The St Arnaud Recreation Board of Management believes Lord Nelson Park is developing into a premier Regional Sporting and recreational precinct and is aiming to create an integrated and flexible facility.</p> <p>The Implementation Strategy for 2013 . 2020 main objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Multi-purpose facility servicing football/cricket, netball, hockey, harness racing and some elements of the Agricultural Society Show needs. A \$5million three level concept is proposed.</li> <li>• Should the above not be able to proceed re-assess football clubrooms with limited funding.</li> <li>• Re-position or upgrade arena lighting to 100 lux to allow lighting of entire field and suitable for night games.</li> <li>• Grassed arena resurfacing to address drainage issues and sprinkler coverage.</li> <li>• Netball courts surface issues addressed.</li> <li>• Traffic management improvements.</li> <li>• Amenities . public toilets and accessible toilets.</li> <li>• Shearing Shed, old swimming pool, Lions Club Lookout improvements; show jumping stalls long-term placement.</li> <li>• Other key points to note is the importance placed on volunteers and need to access grants for major capital items.</li> </ul> |
| <p>St Arnaud Urban Design Framework (13 December 2005 )</p>                                       | <p>Provides a strategy for the long term development of St Arnaud. Key points of note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection and promotion of heritage aspects of the town.</li> <li>• Protection and enhancement of local Natural Resources including bushland in and around town.</li> <li>• Establishment of trees in parks.</li> <li>• Development of shared trails for walking and riding in bushland areas (increased community exercise opportunities).</li> <li>• Connected parklands.</li> <li>• Improved linkages between town centre and Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• Restore Wilson Hill Lookout and upgrade access.</li> <li>• Improved access and linkages between Runge Reserve, Pioneer Park and Lord Nelson Park. Tree planting along western edge of Lord Nelson Park to lookout.</li> <li>• Promoted as caravan friendly town.</li> <li>• High standard public conveniences (tourism friendly high quality town).</li> <li>• Potential to use water from old pool to irrigate Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• Lookout access via Lord Nelson Park.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Central Highlands Strategic Plan 2012 Summary</p>  | <p>Key points to note of relevance to the project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional growth results from attractive rural landscapes, quality heritage, national parks and environmental features.</li> <li>• Identified challenges include managing growth, managing provision of services and facilities (more balanced population and ageing population).</li> <li>• Appropriate infrastructure in small towns to be able to accommodate their share of population growth.</li> <li>• Strong goldfields history.</li> <li>• Addressing the health disadvantage in the region.</li> </ul>   |

| Reviewed Document  | Summary of Key Points  |
|--|--|
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Strategic Plan 2012 Summary | <p>Key points to note of relevance from the report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature based tourism is developing. A regional goal is <i>Development of nature based and outback experience tourism</i>.+Currently includes bushwalking, rock climbing, mountain biking, four wheel driving, camping, etc.</li> <li>• Community well-being: strong feeling of community connectedness . higher than average participation in volunteering. Regional goals include valued and supported volunteers, engaged and connected young people, thriving sports and recreation clubs and facilities and innovative models of service delivery.</li> <li>• Strengthening local communities . importance of volunteering to community wellbeing particularly in smaller and geographically isolated areas. Need for greater support for volunteer (avoiding burn-out).</li> <li>• Health . outcomes are below Melbourne and Victoria as a whole . lower access to exercise programs likely contributor. Maintaining services and facilities for rural and remote communities with declining populations is a critical challenge.</li> </ul> |

## 1.9 NGSC Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy

The *Northern Grampians Shire Council Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy 2014 to 2023* provides a strategy that identifies priority projects for Council to support to respond to changing community needs and to increase participation in sport and recreation for all members of the community. The Lord Nelson Park Precinct Planning project was identified as a short term (0-2 years) priority.

The NGSC Open Space, Sport and Recreation 2014 . 2023 Vision is:

*Northern Grampians Shire Council is a healthy, active and connected community with access to a diverse range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, programs and services.*

The strategy identified key principles to guide future open space, sport and recreation provision within NGSC as follows:

- Increased opportunities and participation for all;
- A diverse range of open space, sport and recreation choices;
- Great places for people to recreate;
- Building the health and wellbeing of the Northern Grampians Shire community;
- Responsive to identified open space, sport and recreation needs of the community;
- Inspiring and empowering people to recreate; and
- Delivering economic outcomes for the NGSC community through sport and recreation.

A number of priority areas were established to achieve the key principles including:

- Maintaining the distribution and access to indoor and outdoor recreation facilities;
- Providing unstructured open space for all;
- Connecting communities;
- Responding to recreation and sporting demands and opportunities to increase participation;
- Addressing the growing demand for access to and significance of sport and recreation programs and services;
- The provision of quality open space, sport and recreation facilities and support infrastructure;
- Improving the sustainability and financial viability of clubs and organisations;
- Consistent and effective management of facilities; and
- Improving the local economy through sport, recreation and tourism.

The above vision, principles and priority areas provide a framework and context for the development of the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan. Specific strategies of relevance to this project are summarised in the following table.

*Table 1.12 NGSC Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy Relevant Strategies*

| Key Area                                   | Category  | Strategies  | Priority               |
|--|---|---|------------------------|
| <b>Facilities</b>                          |   |   |                        |
| Open Space and Recreation                  | Parks and Forests   | <b>1. Investigate feasibility of providing outdoor gym/fitness equipment</b> at locations as identified and if feasible apply for appropriate external grant funding (health and participation benefits).   | M                      |
|  |   | <b>3. In accordance with adopted Master Plans and assessment of need, provide visitor / user infrastructure</b> in parks and forests (e.g. tables, seats, shade, public toilets, accessible paths, BBQs, etc.).   | Ongoing                |
|  | Community Recreation  | <b>3. Determine the feasibility of developing facilities</b> to meet the need of new or growth activities.  | M                      |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Outdoor gym / exercise equipment (refer parks and forests recommendation 1).</li> <li>b. Provision of walking/cycling paths connecting, within and around towns.</li> <li>c. Other activities and facilities as identified.</li> </ul>  | Ongoing<br>Ongoing     |
| Playgrounds, Skate Parks, BMX and Scooters | <b>3. BMX . determine the feasibility</b> of the development of a BMX facility in NGSC, considering co-location opportunities with other facilities in proximity to Stawell and/or St Arnaud. | L   |                        |
| Sport                                      | Sports Facility Provision   | <b>1. Variety/diversity by activity</b>   | Ongoing                |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continue to provide a diverse range of sport facilities to enable residents to have choice in participation.</li> <li>b. Investigate, as resourced, the feasibility of developing facilities to meet the needs of new or growth sports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Soccer . at an existing underutilised facility e.g. Old Lake Oval, Stawell, King George Park or Lord Nelson Park, St Arnaud.</li> <li>ii. Adventure / Extreme Sports.</li> <li>iii. Skate . higher skill level and suitable competitions.</li> <li>iv. Others as identified.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | S<br>M<br>S<br>Ongoing |
|  |   | <b>5. Review and address as resourced existing facility issues</b> regarding:   | S                      |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Lord Nelson Park female amenities, netball court flooding, hockey and football amenities.</li> </ul>  |                        |
|  |   |   |                        |
| Capital Improvement and Development        | Asset Management and Maintenance  | <b>4. Asset Rationalisation .</b> assess potential to consolidate facility provision including reviewing:   | S                      |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. St Arnaud . King George Park.</li> <li>d. Equine . potential to amalgamate trots and gallops on one site.</li> </ul>  |                        |
|  |   | <b>5. Sustainability is to be a high priority</b> in the development (new and renewal) of facilities (e.g. warm season grasses, synthetic surfaces, water capture); proactive approach.   | S<br>Ongoing           |
|  | Planning  | <b>2. Develop and implement policy / guidelines that focus on</b> development and provision of facilities for more than one sport and or/multi-purpose (i.e. no single use facilities).   | S                      |
| <b>Programs</b>                            |   |   |                        |
| Active Participation                       | More People Active  | <b>2. Review current sport and recreation program provision and identify</b> opportunities and options to <b>increase the range and variety</b> available to meet demand.   | Ongoing                |
|  | Increasing Participation of Non-active Residents  | <b>3. Provide support for emerging / developing</b> sport and recreation activities.  | Ongoing                |
|  |   | <b>4. Develop and provide a range of programs</b> to meet the needs of disadvantaged groups. (Refer Access and Inclusion in Community Connections)  | Ongoing                |
|  | Increased Frequency of Participation  | <b>5. Increase program usage of existing facilities</b> by allocation (shared usage), activating (with programs initiatives) and through the promotion and provision of informal / unstructured participation opportunities.  | Ongoing                |
|  | New Programs and Activities   |   |                        |
| Health and Wellbeing                       | Activating Open Space   | <b>1. Activating Open Space by:</b>   | M                      |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. <b>Investigate opportunities for active programming of youth spaces</b> (e.g. skate parks, basketball half courts).</li> </ul>  |                        |

| Key Area                           | Category                   | Strategies   | Priority               |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Community Connections              | Access and Inclusion       | <b>2. To increase participation by people with a disability:</b><br>b. Investigate options and opportunities to improve the accessibility of open space, sport and recreation facilities (refer Facilities).<br>c. Support and promote access to inclusive sport and recreation programs (refer Active Participation). | Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing |
|                                    |                            | <b>3. To increase participation by women and girls:</b><br>d. Support access to and provide facilities for women and girls to participate in sport / recreation programs / activities.   | S<br>Ongoing           |
|                                    |                            | <b>5. To increase participation by young people:</b><br>b. Support and / or provide access to non-traditional and unstructured sport and recreation activities for young people.   | S                      |
| Services                           |                            |  |                        |
| Facility Management and Operations | Optimising Usage of Assets | <b>4. Identify opportunities for re-location of clubs and organisations</b> that will optimise use of existing assets, reduce operating costs, and provide club / organisations with access to suitable facilities. (Refer Facilities - Asset Management and Maintenance).   | S                      |
|                                    |                            | <b>5. Sustainability to be a high priority</b> in the provision of programs and services (capacity to continue operation once external funding ceases).  | Ongoing                |

## 1.10 State Sporting Association Requirements and Standards

This section of the report reviews the State Sporting Association requirements and standards (where available) for the relevant sports being:

- Australian rules football
- Cricket
- Football (Soccer)
- Harness Racing
- Hockey
- Little Athletics
- Netball
- Sport Lighting Standards

### 1.10.1 Australian Rules Football

The *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines for State, Regional and Local Facilities* (Australian Football League, August 2012) is a guide for the *provision and development of appropriate facilities for Australian football venues*. The focus for the guidelines is to provide direction in regards to development of new facilities or for existing facilities undergoing major re-development or refurbishment. It is important in the context of this project to note the following statement:

*It is acknowledged that many existing facilities may not meet these preferred standards, however it is not intended that they be used as a basis for assessing the suitability of existing facilities. Rather should existing facilities be considered for upgrade, then where possible, the guidelines should be used to inform facility development.*<sup>5</sup>

A three tier hierarchy is provided being State League, Regional and Local with key features summarised in the following table.

<sup>5</sup> *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines for State, Regional and Local Facilities*, August 2012, page 3.



Table 1.13 Australian Football League Facility Hierarchy

| Facility Standard | Key Features   |
|-------------------|--|
| State League      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second highest tier (VFL venues).</li> <li>• May also service highest standard of competition in a broad region.</li> <li>• Generally service entire municipal catchments (and potentially beyond).</li> <li>• Usually nominated venues for competition finals.</li> <li>• Should be provided and maintained to a high (show case) standard.</li> </ul> |
| Regional          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service a collection of suburbs or geographic areas within a municipality (or across municipal borders).</li> <li>• Tend to cater for more than one sporting club, code or activity.</li> <li>• Can host competition finals.</li> <li>• Maintained to a high standard.</li> </ul>   |
| Local             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed to cater for local level competition (including junior competitions) within individual suburbs/townships/municipalities.</li> <li>• Usually home of one seasonal club.</li> <li>• Facilities provided to home and away competition standard only.</li> </ul>   |

Source: AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines for State, Regional and Local Facilities, August 2012, page 5.

The component schedules include recommended minimum sizes, classification (core or optional) and comments and specifications. The sizes quoted refer to single oval facilities that provide for one home and one away team, with additional facilities required when two or more playing fields are provided. In this instance not all components may need to be duplicated, rather overall sizes may need to be increased. Additional core facilities such as change rooms, amenity areas and umpires rooms will be required.

The relevant core components for regional level facilities include:

- **Main Pavilion**
  - Amenities . player toilets, showers, seating and clothing hooks suitable for mixed gender use.
  - Change rooms . home and away to include bench seating and clothing hooks.
  - Massage / strapping room.
  - External covered viewing area . providing weather protection.
  - Kitchen and Kiosk . internal / external servery, with view of playing field if possible.
  - Office/Administration/Meeting room.
  - Public toilets . male, female and accessible.
  - Storage . internal and external to meet needs of seasonal facility users.
  - Social/Community Room . flexible space (eg operable walls), bar facilities and / or access to appropriate kitchen / kiosk servery.
  - Timekeeping/Scorers Box . ideally centre wing with clear view of playing field.
  - Umpires Rooms . toilets, showers, seating and clothing hooks suitable for mixed gender use.
  - Utility/Cleaners room.
- **Playing Field Facilities:**
  - Coaches Boxes (2) . western side adjacent to centre wing.
  - Interchange benches (2) . three fixed sides to provide shelter without impeding view of ground (eg Perspex bus shelters).
  - Scoreboard . need to display goals, behinds and points for both home and away teams.

If all the core and optional components are included in a Regional Level main pavilion the total area would be 670 . 725m<sup>2</sup> Local Level main pavilion the total area would be 525 . 555m<sup>2</sup>.

## 1.10.2 Cricket

Cricket Victoria does not have a set of minimum standards as such and generally use the *AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines for State, Regional and Local Level Facilities* where applicable.<sup>6</sup>

Some key elements that are recommended in the development of pavilions include provision of player amenities (toilets and showers) suitable to both male and female players. The average for a pavilion would usually be in the range of 500 . 600m<sup>2</sup>. At Premier Cricket level the facilities need to include a social room, home and away change rooms, player amenities, electronic scoreboard, kitchen/kiosk and storage which includes at least 20m<sup>2</sup> that is available off-season if facility has winter season user.



**Lower Plenty Cricket Nets**



**Diamond Creek Cricket Club Nets**<sup>7</sup>

In terms of practice cricket nets they should be off-ground so that they do not encroach on the playing surface or run-off zone (this includes bowler run-ups). More recent designs include retractable nets which can be opened up for field training/practice and these can also potentially be used for training in other sports such as soccer, hockey and lacrosse. One or more of the nets may need to be locked requiring the provision of lockable gates.

## 1.10.3 Soccer

Football Federation Victoria (FFV) provides minimum class of facility required for all Leagues and Minimum Requirements of Each Venue Category in the *Football Federation of Victoria 2014 Rules of Competition*. There are four classes of facility . A, B, C or D, with each level of competition allocated a minimum class of facility required. Junior Competitions and all other competitions minimum class of facility required is D.<sup>8</sup>

If a club is unable to provide facilities that meet the requirements then the rules allow for the games to be moved to an alternate venue by FFV, grant a temporary dispensation, fine the club or forfeit points if games are not able to be played.

Schedule 1 of the rules stipulate the *Minimum Requirements of Each Venue*. This includes field and play environs, player and officials amenities, spectator amenities and operations and media.

<sup>6</sup> Phone interview with Pat Meehan, Consultant, Cricket Victoria, 20 February 2013.

<sup>7</sup> Sourced from Cricket Victoria Website, <http://www.cricketvictoria.com.au/support/net-facilities> Last accessed 8 July 2014.

<sup>8</sup> The minimum class of facilities for Men's State League 1 . 4 and Women's Premier League is C. Other listed competitions are classed as D.

Some key requirements of a D Class facility include:

- *Field of Play and Environs*
  - Size 2 Pitch (Length 96m - 105m; width 60m . 68m) and Juniors Size 3 pitch (Length 90m . 105m; width 50m . 68m).
  - Runoffs . 3 metres.
  - Team benches . two covered team benches or seating for 5 people.
- *Players and Officials Amenities*
  - Two lockable change rooms (each minimum 20m<sup>2</sup>) for each pitch in use with access to showers and toilets.
  - Officials . exclusive access (without going through players change room) to a lockable dressing room with desk / bench and chair, toilet and shower.
  - First aid area.
- *Spectator Amenities*
  - Public toilets.

Football Federation Victoria also provide *Football Lighting – Policy and Requirements*, stipulating the mandatory requirements for competition lighting at venues used by clubs competing in FFV managed competitions. FFV has adopted for their managed competitions AS2560.2.3-2007 Sports Lighting . Lighting for All Football Codes (Australian Standard), which varies for different levels of play and training. (Refer Section 1.10.8 for further details).

Football Federation Victoria update the Rules of Competition annually so any soccer project will need to review current requirements at the time of development.

#### 1.10.4 Harness Racing

Harness Racing Victoria whilst not providing documented standards or requirements advised the following:

- 1,000m plus length track. Camber is very important.
- Photo finish equipment.
- TV location on finish and facilities for race caller and judge's box. Need to ensure cabling and maybe one head on television point.
- Stewards facilities and rooms.
- Spectator and hospitality facilities.

#### 1.10.5 Hockey

Hockey Victoria are in the process of developing a Strategic Facilities Master Plan to guide the future planning and development of hockey facilities across Victoria. The plan will include a facility hierarchy and will aim to ensure that any new facilities are developed to meet the future needs of increased hockey participation <sup>9</sup>

The field of play requirements for hockey are specified in the *International Hockey Federation Rules* and also provide a *Pitch Facilities Guide* (2008) and the *Handbook of Performance, Durability and Construction - Requirements for Synthetic Turf Hockey Pitches* (February 2014) also provides information to assist in the development of hockey pitches.

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<sup>9</sup> Hockey Victoria Strategic Facilities Master Plan Bulletin 01, Hockey Victoria.

There are two pitch surface options . natural grass or synthetic turf. Limited information is provided regarding natural grass pitches (focus of guides is on synthetic) with key point being that expert advice should be sought to help in the choice of grass that is most suitable for a particular climate and soil conditions.+ Information on whether or not to seed or lay sods which are more expensive but can be played on sooner than a seeded pitch is also provided.

In terms of a synthetic turf pitch Hockey Victoria provide the following on their website as a guide to cost to build a synthetic pitch from scratch:

*A lot will depend on the suitability of the existing sub base material. The more material that needs to be taken out and replaced with suitable base material, the more expensive the overall project will be. A basic sand filled surface with no lights will start at around \$750,000 and you can go up as high as \$1.3 million for the top of the line pitch with lighting and irrigation systems.<sup>10</sup>*

Information is also provided on the size of pitch, different types of synthetic surface and benefits of each, maintenance requirements and manufacturers. Multi-purpose opportunities are also identified including tennis, netball, volleyball, lacrosse and 5-a-side soccer (hybrid surfaces) and some wet fields being used for 5-a-side soccer, lacrosse and American football.

### 1.10.6 Little Athletics

The By Laws of Australian Little Athletics sets out the rules of competitions for little athletics including providing specifications relating to both track and field events. Given that the club is not currently operational detailed information has not been included. Within the current facilities a grass track has been marked out for both school athletics and little athletics activities. The Long Jump/Triple Jump landing pit is also available for use for school athletics competitions and training.

### 1.10.7 Netball

Netball Victoria's ~~Netball~~ Netball Court Planning Guide+(2009) was developed to help Council, clubs and associations successfully plan and build compliant netball courts to ensure safe participation.+The Guide includes a number of case studies as well as technical information regarding court standards, comparisons between playing surfaces and court specifications. Some key points to note regarding court specifications are:

- A north-south court orientation is preferred (minimise effects of sun glare).
- A 3.05m run off clear space, of the same surface as the court, outside each side line and end line and 3.65m in between courts.
- Layouts for one, two and four courts are provided.
- Approximately 2m on all sides between team benches and spectator seating.
- Officials and team benches . on one side of court only (1.5m depth), officials bench seating for five officials and team benches seating for 12 players and 5 support staff.

Netball Victoria is in the process of developing a ~~Netball~~ Netball Facilities Requirements Manual+which will provide guidance to clubs and organisations developing netball facilities including for football / netball clubs/competitions.

In terms of infrastructure some specific requirements provided by Netball Victoria are:

- Two outdoor lit courts.
- Lighting: training standard 100 lux, competition 200 lux (average maintained).
- Change rooms . two unisex (25m<sup>2</sup> each) with two showers and toilets.
- Umpires change (toilet and shower), first aid room, officials and control room, public toilets and function space.

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<sup>10</sup> Hockey Victoria Website <http://www.hockeyvictoria.org.au/FACILITIES/Pitch-Development/FAQs> Last accessed 7 August 2014.

- Storage for equipment (minimum 20m<sup>2</sup>).
- Spectator seating for 50 alongside courts, drinking fountain (suitable to fill water bottles) and bicycle racks.
- Adequate car parking and a drop-off zone (two minute).

### 1.10.8 Environmentally Sustainable Design and Universal Design Principles

In accordance with the project brief environmentally sustainable design and universal design principles are to be incorporated.

These are also requirements of some Government grants with Sport and Recreation Victoria Major Facilities requiring at least 20% of the grant amount to be allocated to components that will improve environmental sustainability. The Community Facility Funding Program Environmental Sustainable Design Fact Sheet states that:

*“Including ESD principles and initiatives in the design and development of infrastructure can reduce operation costs and environmental impacts while increasing building resilience. ò*

***The main objective of the sustainable design principle is to avoid resource depletion of energy, water and raw materials, prevent environmental degradation caused by infrastructure facilities throughout their lifecycle and create built environments that are liveable, comfortable, safe and productive”.***

The ESD principles are optimise size / existing structure potential, optimise energy use, protect and conserve water, use environmentally preferable products, enhance indoor environmental quality and optimise operational and maintenance practices. These need to be incorporated into the design and development of infrastructure for the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan.

Universal Design<sup>11</sup> is a concept that aims to %simplify life for everyone by making the programs, service and the built environment more usable by more people.+ The framework for creating solutions is:

1. Equitable use (Be Fair)
2. Flexibility in use (Be Included)
3. Simple and intuitive use (Be Smart)
4. Perceptible Information (Be Independent)
5. Tolerance for error (Be Safe)
6. Low Physical effort (Be Active)
7. Size and Space for Approach and use (Be Comfortable)

The concept targets all people of all ages, sizes and abilities, however there are no specific goals to reach.

### 1.10.9 Sports Lighting Standards

The sports lighting proposed within the sports lighting plan will need to comply with the relevant Australian Standards as well as any sport specific rules and policies.

The *Community Sporting Facility Lighting Guide for Australian Rules Football, Football (Soccer) and Netball* (Sport and Recreation Victorian 2012) provides information to assist clubs in installing effective and appropriate sports lighting. The Guide covers aspects including the planning process, maintenance and operation, environmentally sustainable design, types of lighting, pole height and location and design standards (training and competition). Example plans and indicative 10 year costings (June 2011) are also provided.

<sup>11</sup> Source: Michael Walker, Universal Design, PLA Conference, Geelong, May 2014.

The Australian Standards for sports lighting include:

- AS 2560.2.3-2007 Sports lighting . Specific applications . Lighting for football (all codes)
- AS 2560.1-2002 Sports lighting . General principles
- AS 2560.2.7-1994 Guide to sports lighting . Specific recommendations . Outdoor hockey
- AS 2560.2.4 . 1986 Specific recommendations . Lighting for outdoor netball and basketball
- AS 4282 . 1997 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.



## 2 Review of Lord Nelson Park Precinct and Operations

This section of the report reviews the Lord Nelson Park current facilities and operations.

### 2.1 History of Lord Nelson Park

Settlement in the St Arnaud area dates back to 1838 and grew with the discovery of gold in 1854. The present town was established at the foot of the Chrysolite mine on Wilson's Hill. The Chrysolite later became the Lord Nelson mine, *the largest producing mine in the area*.<sup>12</sup> The Lord Nelson mine ceased operation in 1915.

It is reported that the locals carted in soil to rehabilitate the Lord Nelson mine site in order to convert to a sport and recreation facility, Lord Nelson Park.<sup>13</sup> It appears that St Arnaud has a long sporting history with Museum Victoria Website<sup>14</sup> including a photo from 1899 of a cricket team from St Arnaud area.

Some of the mine areas in and around St Arnaud are identified as being of historical and/or social significance (Pioneer Park).



Cricket Team from St Arnaud Area 1899<sup>14</sup>

Lord Nelson Park is a Crown Land Reserve with Northern Grampians Shire the appointed land manager. The St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee, a Northern Grampians Shire Council Section 86 Committee, appointed by Council, has delegated responsibilities for the facilities in St Arnaud Recreation Reserves being Lord Nelson Park and King George's Park for the benefit of the community. The Committee's responsibilities include:

- Receive applications and allocate times for use of the facilities.
- Recommending fees and charges for use of the facilities to Council for approval.
- Develop and monitor user agreements and hiring policy.
- Advise Council of maintenance requirements including repairs and replacements to buildings and make recommendations for building alterations and Reserve improvements.

<sup>12</sup> Sources: Heritage Australia Website, <http://www.heritageaustralia.com.au/preview.php?state=VIC&region=73&view=177#> Last accessed 23 July 2014 and id Consulting Community Profile Northern Grampians Shire Council <http://profile.id.com.au/northern-grampians/about?WebID=120&es=1> Last accessed 8 August 2014

<sup>13</sup> The Travellers Guide to the Goldfields: History and Natural Heritage, Richard Everist, Best Shot Publications Victoria, 2006, page 187

<sup>14</sup> Museum Victoria, <http://museumvictoria.com.au/collections/items/771083/negative-cricket-team-st-arnaud-district-victoria-1899>, Last accessed 24 July 2014.

- Prioritise capital works and submit budget requests to Council and in conjunction with Council apply for grants and funding for capital projects. Negotiate with Council annually the maintenance and capital budget for the facilities allocated through the Council budget.

Council's responsibilities include:

- Maintain structural integrity of property.
- Insurance policies for property and Section 86 Committee.
- Conduct annual inspection of facilities including condition of buildings, playgrounds and playing surfaces.
- Provide regular financial reports to the Committee relating to capital and maintenance projects.

## 2.2 Facility Components

Lord Nelson Park comprises the following main facilities:

### Sporting Facilities

- Australian rules football / cricket oval with three wicket turf table, two coaches boxes / interchange and umpires.
- Hockey pitch / synthetic cricket oval.
- Two asphalt netball courts with coaches / player interchange and officials.
- Football Club Room.
- Netball Club Room.
- Cricket nets - two synthetic.
- Long jump / triple jump landing area.
- Hockey Shed.
- Sportsground Lighting . oval, hockey pitch and netball courts (training standard).

### Equine Facilities

- Harness Racing Track . 850m.
- TOTE Building (St Arnaud Harness Racing Club) including kiosk (used by sporting clubs also), showers and toilets, on Level 1 facilities for race caller, judges and media, football timekeeper and Level 2.
- Stables.
- Harness Racing Stewards Towers.

### Other

- Ticket Box
- Sheep Pavilion
- Poultry Pavilion
- St Arnaud Sporting Club
- Dump Point
- Car parking
- Public Toilet Blocks x 2
- Storage Shed
- Wilson's Hill Lookout Tower and shelter.
- Caravan and camping power points.

The key facilities are shown on the following site plan.





**LEGEND**

- 1. Road Reserve
- 2. Ticket box
- 3. Stables
- 4. Storage Shed
- 5. Poultry Pavilion
- 6. Netball Courts
- 7. Netball Club Room
- 8. Car Parking
- 9. Public Toilets
- 10. Football Club Rooms
- 11. St. Arnaud Sporting Club
- 12. St. Arnaud Harness Racing Club (TOTE)
- 13. Sheep Pavillion
- 14. Harness Racing Stewards Towers
- 15. Vehicle/horse access locations to track
- 16. Sportsground lighting
- 17. Wilson's Hill Lookout Tower
- 18. Football/Cricket Oval
- 19. Long Jump & Triple Jump Landing Area
- 20. Cricket Oval (synthetic wicket)
- 21. Hockey Pitch
- 22. Harness Racing Track
- 23. Hockey Shed
- 24. Cricket Nets
- 25. Former Swimming Pool (Angling Club)
- 26. Harness Racing Training Track
- 27. Dump Point
- 28. Car Parking
- 29. St.Arnaud Primary School
- 30. Caravan Park

 = Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan Project Boundary

**Site Description**

Lord Nelson Park, St Arnaud



July 2014

*Figure 2.1 Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan Site Plan*

## 2.3 Review of Lord Nelson Park User Groups (Home Facility)

Lord Nelson Park is the main home facility for the following groups and organisations:

- St Arnaud Agricultural Society
- St Arnaud Cricket Club
- St Arnaud Football Club
- St Arnaud Harness Racing Club
- St Arnaud Hockey Club
- St Arnaud Netball Club.

This section summarises the usage, operations and issues of the Lord Nelson Park user groups (home facility) to inform the study.

Information has been presented by key user group or organisation covering:

- Facilities utilised
- Membership
- Current facility issues
- Future plans/demands.

Information was obtained through interviews with club representatives, surveys and the 2001 Lord Nelson Park Master Plan (2001 Membership data).

### 2.3.1 St Arnaud Agricultural Society

A summary of key St Arnaud Agricultural Society information is provided in the following table

Table 2.1 St Arnaud Agricultural Society Summary Information

| Item  | St Arnaud Agricultural Society Details   |   |                                 |  |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Event Details</b>                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2014 Event will be held 4 and 5 October 8.00am to 6.00pm.</li> <li>Quick Shear anticipated to be on Friday 3 October 2014 commencing 5.00/6.00pm.</li> <li>Access site approximately one week prior to commence set-up; bump out takes about a week with some camping for longer (using as base to go to other shows in area).</li> </ul>   |   |                                 |  |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | The entire site is utilised for the Annual Show with key facilities being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oval</li> <li>Sheep Pavilion</li> <li>Poultry Pavilion</li> <li>TOTE Building</li> <li>Change and amenities</li> <li>Stables</li> <li>St Arnaud Sporting Club</li> <li>Spectator Seating</li> <li>Camping Facilities</li> <li>Car park for vendors and traders.</li> </ul> Refer Appendix One for event map. |   |                                 |  |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | In terms of membership numbers the Society has advised that it is able to cater for new members and that they really need some more members to keep operating.<br><br>In 2014 the Society had 180 members (purchased membership ticket on day at 2013 Show).<br><br>In 2014 there are 20 members of the Committee (volunteers).  |   |                                 |  |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The Society undertakes minor maintenance as required and major works from time to time.  |   |                                 |  |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Rating</b>                               | <b>Meets Event Requirements</b> | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b>   |
|   | Sheep Pavilion   | Needs some improvement                      | No                              | Shearing . issues are spectators are too far from stage to see event (shape of shed) and stage not elevated. |
|   | Poultry Pavilion   | Adequate                                    | Yes                             |  |
|   | TOTE Building  | Needs some improvement                      | Yes                             | Change & amenities . showers not great; Top Floor . needs upgrading.   |
|   | Stables  | Needs some improvement (old block to north) | New . Yes<br>Old . No           | Location is limitation; condition of old block to north. No power at old stables (was disconnected).         |
|   | St Arnaud Sporting Club  | Very Good                                   | Yes                             |  |
|   | Spectator Seating & Shelter  | Needs some improvement                      | No                              |  |
|   | Lighting   | Adequate                                    | Yes                             | Lighting upgrade for sporting events may enable Show to conduct night events.                                |
|   | Car Parking . off site   | Good  | Yes                             |  |
| Camping Facilities                                | Needs some improvement   | Yes   |                                 |  |

## 2.3.2 St Arnaud Cricket Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Cricket Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.2 St Arnaud Cricket Club Summary Information

| St Arnaud Cricket Club Details                    |  |                            |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|---|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|--|------|------|----------------|---------|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|-------|-----|----|----|
| <b>Competition</b>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wimmera Mallee Cricket League</li> <li>Two teams . A and B Grade</li> <li>Alternate each week . A grade home one week and B Grade home the next week.</li> </ul>  |                            |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oval One . three wicket turf, A grade (best wicket in league).</li> <li>Oval Two . synthetic, B Grade.</li> <li>Football clubrooms . were using the TOTE Building (Level 1) however advised not able to use.</li> <li>Cricket Nets</li> <li>St Arnaud Sporting Club . social.</li> </ul>  |                            |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| <b>Use of Facilities</b>                          | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Day/s</b>               | <b>Months Used</b>                    | <b>Times</b>  | <b>Activity</b> |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Oval & Cricket Nets  | Thursday                   | September to March                    | 5.00 . 7.30pm   | Training        |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   |  | Saturday                   | September to March                    | 11.00am . 6.30pm  | Home Games      |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Football Pavilion Change & Amenities   | Thursday                   | September to March                    | 5.00 . 7.30pm   | Training        |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   |  | Saturday                   | September to March                    | 11.00am . 6.30pm  | Home games      |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | <p>The figure summarises the club's membership numbers (where available).</p> <p>In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it is able to cater for new members and a few more members would assist the club. 100% of members are male.</p> <p>Since 2001 there has been a significant decrease in membership numbers (-66% excluding junior numbers in 2001).</p> <p>2017 membership is predicted by the club to grow by 24% from 38 to 50 members.</p> <p>Note: In 2014 there is a separate junior cricket club.</p> |                            |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2001</th> <th>2014</th> <th>2017 Predicted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Seniors</td> <td>63</td> <td>20</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Juniors</td> <td>86</td> <td>18</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>149</td> <td>38</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>  |                            |                                       |   |                 |  | 2001 | 2014 | 2017 Predicted | Seniors | 63 | 20 | 25 | Juniors | 86 | 18 | 25 | Total | 149 | 38 | 50 |
|   | 2001   | 2014                       | 2017 Predicted                        |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| Seniors   | 63   | 20                         | 25                                    |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| Juniors   | 86   | 18                         | 25                                    |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| Total   | 149  | 38                         | 50                                    |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The club is responsible for the preparation of the turf wicket table whilst Council mows the oval.   |                            |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Rating</b>              | <b>Meets Competition Requirements</b> | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b>                            |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Oval . turf  | Wicket . very good         | Yes                                   |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Oval - synthetic   | Turf side - good           | Hockey side . needs some improvement  | Different grasses so ball goes dead on hockey side; problem with creases.     |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Cricket Nets   | Needs some improvement     | N/A                                   | Fencing needs replacing . internal side and behind stumps; bowling footmarks. |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |
|   | Football change Rooms . home rooms only  | Needs a lot of improvement |                                       |   |                 |  |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |         |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |

### 2.3.3 St Arnaud Football Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Football Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.3 St Arnaud Football Club Summary Information

| Item  | St Arnaud Football Club Details   |                            |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|---|---|----------------------------|--|--|-----------------|-------|----------|----------|---------|---------|------------|-------|------|--|--|--|--|--|-----|------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| <b>Competition, Teams &amp; Players</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Central Football League</li> <li>Four teams . Seniors (45 registered), Reserves (40 registered), Under 16s (28 registered) and Under 13s (50 registered).</li> </ul>   |                            |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oval</li> <li>Football clubrooms</li> </ul>  |                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lighting, coaches boxes/player interchange</li> <li>TOTE Building including kiosk.</li> </ul> |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| <b>Use of Facilities</b>                          | <b>Facility</b>   | <b>Day/s</b>               | <b>Months Used</b>   | <b>Times</b>   | <b>Activity</b> |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Oval  | Tuesday & Thursday         | March to Sept  | 5.00 . 10.00pm   | Training        |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   |   | Sunday                     |  | Various  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Football Clubrooms Change & Amenities   | Tuesday & Thursday         | March to Sept  | 5.00 . 10.00pm   | Training        |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   |   | Saturday                   | March to Sept  | 8.30am . 6.00pm  | Home Games      |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | TOTE Building   | Tuesday & Thursday         | March to Sept  | 5.00 . 10.00pm   | Training        |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   |   | Saturday                   | March to Sept  | 8.30am . 6.00pm  | Home Games      |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | <p>The figure summarises the club's membership numbers (where available). In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it needs more members to continue operating.</p> <p>From 2001 to 2011 the number of members decreased, then increased by 6% by 2014. From 2011 to 2014 junior females increased 56%, junior males 42%, senior males 41% and senior females by 29%. The club has predicted that by 2017 total membership will increase by 3.6% to 440 members. Increases are predicted in all categories except volunteers.</p>   |                            |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Sen Male</th> <th>Jun Male</th> <th>Sen Fem</th> <th>Jun Fem</th> <th>Volunteers</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2001</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>50</td> <td>45</td> <td>50</td> <td>40</td> <td>100</td> <td>285</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>85</td> <td>78</td> <td>70</td> <td>91</td> <td>100</td> <td>424</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 Predicted</td> <td>100</td> <td>100</td> <td>100</td> <td>100</td> <td>40</td> <td>440</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |                            |  |  |                 |       | Sen Male | Jun Male | Sen Fem | Jun Fem | Volunteers | Total | 2001 |  |  |  |  |  | 400 | 2011 | 50 | 45 | 50 | 40 | 100 | 285 | 2014 | 85 | 78 | 70 | 91 | 100 | 424 | 2017 Predicted | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 40 | 440 |
|   | Sen Male  | Jun Male                   | Sen Fem  | Jun Fem  | Volunteers      | Total |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| 2001  |   |                            |  |  |                 | 400   |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| 2011  | 50  | 45                         | 50   | 40   | 100             | 285   |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| 2014  | 85  | 78                         | 70   | 91   | 100             | 424   |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| 2017 Predicted                                    | 100   | 100                        | 100  | 100  | 40              | 440   |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The club shares maintenance responsibilities with Council (facility upgrades).  |                            |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>   | <b>Rating</b>              | <b>Meets Competition Requirements</b>  | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b>                               |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Oval  | Needs some improvement     | Yes  | Drainage improvements.   |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Football Club Rooms   | Adequate                   | No   | Bulldoze and replace with new facility consistent with AFL local level facility. |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Coaches boxes / players   | Adequate                   |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Ticket Box  | Needs a lot of improvement |  | Unsafe . multi-lane traffic.   |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Spectator Seating   | Adequate                   |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Oval lighting   | Needs a lot of improvement | No (night games)   | Poor   |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |
|   | Car parking   | Adequate                   |  |  |                 |       |          |          |         |         |            |       |      |  |  |  |  |  |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |      |    |    |    |    |     |     |                |     |     |     |     |    |     |

## 2.3.4 St Arnaud Harness Racing Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Harness Racing Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.4 St Arnaud Harness Racing Club Summary Information

| Item  | St Arnaud Harness Racing Club Details  |                            |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------|------|--------|-------|------|----|----|-----|------|----|----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>Event Detail's</b>                             | The event details for Lord Nelson Park in 2014 / 2015 are detailed in the following table  |                            |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Type of Meeting</b>     | <b>Times</b>                   |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Sunday 20 July 2014  | Trials                     | 9.00am . 12.00 noon            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | 19 October 2014  | Trials                     | 9.00am . 12.00 noon            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | 9 November 2014  | Twilight . TAB             | To be confirmed                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | 19 December 2014   | Trials                     | 9.00am . 12.00 noon            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | In addition the Club conducts two meetings at Charlton and one at Melton as follows:   |                            |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Type of Meeting</b>     | <b>Times</b>                   |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | 24 July 2014   | Day . TAB                  | Charlton                       |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | 12 December 2014   | Night . TAB                | TABCORP Park Melton            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| 31 December 2014                                  | Day . TAB  | Charlton                   |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track</li> <li>Stables</li> <li>Football Change and Amenities</li> </ul>  |                            |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Arnaud Harness Racing Club (TOTE)</li> <li>St Arnaud Sporting Club</li> <li>Training Track</li> </ul>   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | <p>In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it has capacity for new members.</p> <p>Between 2001 and 2011 there was a significant decrease in membership numbers (-124%) correlating to the loss of events. Numbers increased 73% from 2011 to 2014. 2017 membership is predicted to decrease by 16 to 340.</p> <p>In 2014 58% were male and 42% were female compared with 61% male and 39% female in 2011. There are 26 volunteers in 2014 (73% male) compared with 21 in 2011, with 27 predicted for 2017.</p> |                            |                                | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2001</td> <td>66</td> <td>42</td> <td>242</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>66</td> <td>42</td> <td>108</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>227</td> <td>167</td> <td>394</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 Predicted</td> <td>200</td> <td>140</td> <td>340</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Year | Male | Female | Total | 2001 | 66 | 42 | 242 | 2011 | 66 | 42 | 108 | 2014 | 227 | 167 | 394 | 2017 Predicted | 200 | 140 | 340 |
| Year  | Male   | Female                     | Total                          |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| 2001  | 66   | 42                         | 242                            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| 2011  | 66   | 42                         | 108                            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| 2014  | 227  | 167                        | 394                            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| 2017 Predicted                                    | 200  | 140                        | 340                            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The club shares maintenance responsibilities with Council and sporting clubs.  |                            |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Rating</b>              | <b>Meets Race Requirements</b> | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b>  |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Track  | Needs some improvement     |                                | Length . ideal 1,000m.  |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Stables  | Needs some improvement     |                                | Guttering levelled at front.<br>Location . separate horses from people and vehicles.  |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Change & Amenities   | Needs a lot of improvement | No                             | Very poor . using football amenities.   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Stewards & Officials   | Needs a lot of improvement | No                             | Very poor - using football amenities.   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | TOTE Building  | Needs some improvement     | Yes                            | Condition of building and facilities;<br>Media facility is barrier.   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | St Arnaud Sporting Club  | Adequate                   |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
|   | Spectator seating & shelter  | Very good                  | Yes                            |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| Car parking                                       | Good   |                            |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |
| Training Track                                    | Adequate   | N/A                        |                                |   |      |      |        |       |      |    |    |     |      |    |    |     |      |     |     |     |                |     |     |     |

## 2.3.5 St Arnaud Hockey Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Hockey Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.5 St Arnaud Hockey Club Summary Information

| St Arnaud Hockey Club Details                     |  |                            |                                       |  |                 |
|---|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>Competition</b>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Central Hockey League</li> <li>Four teams/matches . Senior Mens, Senior Womens, 17 and under mixed, Under 13 Mixed.</li> <li>Minkey . three games on Saturday.</li> </ul> |                            |                                       |  |                 |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Pitch</li> <li>Hockey Shed</li> <li>Change and Amenities (St Arnaud Sporting Club)</li> <li>St Arnaud Sporting Club . social.</li> </ul>                                 |                            |                                       |  |                 |
| <b>Use of Facilities</b>                          | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Day/s</b>               | <b>Months Used</b>                    | <b>Times</b>                                       | <b>Activity</b> |
|   | Hockey Pitch   | Thursday                   | April to September                    | 4.00 . 8.00pm                                      | Training        |
|   |  | Saturday                   | April to September                    | 10.30am . 4.30pm                                   | Home Games      |
|   | Hockey Shed, Change & Amenities  | Thursday                   | April to September                    | 4.00 . 8.00pm                                      | Training        |
|   |  | Saturday                   | April to September                    | 10.30am . 4.30pm                                   | Home Games      |
|   | St Arnaud Sporting Club  |                            |                                       |  |                 |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it has capacity for new members. Do have some playing multiple sports.  |                            |                                       |  |                 |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The club has undertaken minor maintenance such as painting goals and marking lines. Council mows pitch.  |                            |                                       |  |                 |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Rating</b>              | <b>Meets Competition Requirements</b> | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b> |                 |
|   | Hockey Pitch   | Good                       | Yes                                   | Best in League                                     |                 |
|   | Hockey Shed  | Needs some improvement     |                                       | No power, toilets, change, etc.                    |                 |
|   | Change and Amenities   | Good                       |                                       | Location terrible . too far from pitch.            |                 |
|   | Lighting   | Needs a lot of improvement |                                       | Issue at southern end of field.                    |                 |

## 2.3.6 St Arnaud Netball Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Netball Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.6 St Arnaud Netball Club Summary Information

| Item  | St Arnaud Netball Club Details  |                            |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|--|---------|---------|------------|-------|------|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| <b>Competition, Teams &amp; Players</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Central Netball League</li> <li>Three teams . A Grade (9 registered), B Grade (9 registered), C Grade (9 registered); Juniors (40 registered).</li> </ul>  |                            |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Courts x two</li> <li>Netball Clubroom</li> </ul>  |                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change and Amenities (St Arnaud Sporting Club)</li> <li>TOTE Building . kiosk</li> </ul> |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Use of Facilities</b>                          | <b>Facility</b>   | <b>Day/s</b>               | <b>Months Used</b>  | <b>Times</b>  | <b>Activity</b>                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Courts, Clubroom Change and Amenities   | Tuesday                    | End February to Mid Sept  | 4.00 - 5.00pm<br>4.30 . 5.30pm  | Netta Netball Fitness Training |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   |   | Thursday                   | End February to Mid Sept  | 4.00 . 8.00pm   | Training                       |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   |   | Saturday                   | April to Mid Sept   | 9.00am . 3.30pm<br>Longer if only 1 court   | Home Games                     |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Membership</b>                                 | <p>The figure summarises the club's membership numbers (where available). In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it needs more members to continue operating.</p> <p>From 2001 to 2011 the number of members increased however this has decreased by 2014. Numbers decreased from 2001 to 2014 by 14%.</p> <p>The club has predicted that by 2017 the number of participants will remain the same with volunteers decreasing by two.</p>                |                            |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Seniors</th> <th>Juniors</th> <th>Volunteers</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2001</td> <td>26</td> <td>45</td> <td>15</td> <td>86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>20</td> <td>38</td> <td>12</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>20</td> <td>38</td> <td>10</td> <td>68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017 Predicted</td> <td>20</td> <td>38</td> <td>10</td> <td>68</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |                            |   |   |                                |  | Seniors | Juniors | Volunteers | Total | 2001 | 26 | 45 | 15 | 86 | 2011 | 20 | 38 | 12 | 70 | 2014 | 20 | 38 | 10 | 68 | 2017 Predicted | 20 | 38 | 10 | 68 |
|   | Seniors   | Juniors                    | Volunteers  | Total   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| 2001  | 26  | 45                         | 15  | 86  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| 2011  | 20  | 38                         | 12  | 70  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| 2014  | 20  | 38                         | 10  | 68  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| 2017 Predicted                                    | 20  | 38                         | 10  | 68  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b>               | The club shares maintenance responsibilities with Council and other sporting clubs/user groups.   |                            |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club</b> | <b>Facility</b>   | <b>Rating</b>              | <b>Meets Competition Requirements</b>   | <b>Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities</b>  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Netball courts x two  | Needs a lot of improvement | No  | Not level so pooling of water on both courts with court two often unplayable. Drain between courts. |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Clubrooms   | Needs some improvement     | Yes   | No water.   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Change & amenities  | Needs some improvement     | Yes   | Separated from courts; concern with safety given road traffic.                                      |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Coaches boxes / players   | Needs a lot of improvement | Yes   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | TOTE Building   | Needs a lot of improvement |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | St Arnaud Sporting Club   | Adequate                   |   |   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Spectator Seating & shelter   | Needs a lot of improvement |   | At front of clubroom.   |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Court lighting  | Needs a lot of improvement |   | In wrong position.  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |
|   | Car parking   | Needs some improvement     |   | At north end of courts . concern re safety . remove.  |                                |  |         |         |            |       |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |



## 2.4 Facility Usage by Other User Groups

Lord Nelson Park is also utilised by the following groups/organisations and events on a regular basis:

- North Central Football & Netball League (finals and training for various teams), North Central Hockey League (finals) and Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association.
- St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club.
- St Arnaud Primary School.
- St Arnaud Secondary College.
- Schools Cross Country.

The following sections summarise the usage and operational information (where available) of the regular users of Lord Nelson Park to inform the study. Information has been presented by key user group or organisation covering facilities utilised, membership and current facility issues (where applicable). Information was obtained through interviews with club/organisation representatives, surveys and the 2001 Lord Nelson Park Master Plan (2001 Membership data).

### 2.4.1 St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club

A summary of key St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club information is provided in the following table.

Table 2.7 St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club Summary Information

| Item                                | St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club Details  |                  |  |                  |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|------------------|--|------|------|------|----------------|---------|----|----|----|----|------------|--|---|---|---|-------|--|----|----|
| <b>Competition</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intra-club</li> <li>• Four teams . Kangas, Wombats, Koalas and Wallabies with 10 players each (all male).</li> </ul>  |                  |  |                  |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| <b>Current Facilities Used</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The club's home base is King George's Park.</li> <li>• Oval Two (Synthetic) is used for games.</li> </ul>   |                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football Clubrooms.</li> <li>• Cricket Nets.</li> </ul> |                  |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| <b>Use of Facilities</b>            | <b>Facility</b>  | <b>Day/s</b>     | <b>Months Used</b>   | <b>Times</b>     | <b>Activity</b>  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
|                                     | Oval   | Friday           | October to March   | Afternoon        | Game . two teams |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
|                                     |  | Saturday         | October to March   | Morning          | Game . two teams |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
|                                     | Football Pavilion Change & Amenities   | Friday           | October to March   | Afternoon        | Game . two teams |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| Saturday                            |  | October to March | Morning  | Game . two teams |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| <b>Membership</b>                   | <p>The figure summarises the club's membership numbers (where available).</p> <p>In terms of membership numbers the club advised that it has capacity for new members. 100% of junior participants are male.</p> <p>Since 2001 there has been a decrease in membership numbers of -115% by 2014.</p> <p>2017 membership is predicted by the club to remain the same.</p> <p>Note: In 2001 there was a combined junior and senior cricket club.</p> |                  |  |                  |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
|                                     | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2001</th> <th>2011</th> <th>2014</th> <th>2017 Predicted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Juniors</td> <td>86</td> <td>50</td> <td>40</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Volunteers</td> <td></td> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td>57</td> <td>46</td> <td>46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>   |                  |  |                  |                  |  | 2001 | 2011 | 2014 | 2017 Predicted | Juniors | 86 | 50 | 40 | 40 | Volunteers |  | 7 | 6 | 6 | Total |  | 57 | 46 |
|                                     | 2001   | 2011             | 2014   | 2017 Predicted   |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| Juniors                             | 86   | 50               | 40   | 40               |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| Volunteers                          |  | 7                | 6  | 6                |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| Total                               |  | 57               | 46   | 46               |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |
| <b>Maintenance Responsibilities</b> | The club is not responsible for maintenance at Lord Nelson Park.   |                  |  |                  |                  |  |      |      |      |                |         |    |    |    |    |            |  |   |   |   |       |  |    |    |

| St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club Details      |                   |                            |                                |   |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Standard Rating of Facilities Used by Club | Facility          | Rating                     | Meets Competition Requirements | Improvements Needed to Low Rated Facilities                     |
|  | Oval - synthetic  | Good                       | Yes                            |   |
|  | Pavilion          | Needs some improvement     | Yes                            |   |
|  | Wicket            | Needs some improvement     | Yes                            |   |
|  | Oval lighting     | Needs some improvement     | Yes                            |   |
|  | Cricket Nets      | Needs some improvement     | Yes                            |   |
|  | Car parking       | Adequate                   | No                             |   |
|  | Spectator seating | Needs a lot of improvement | No                             | Lack of seating and shade makes watching difficult for parents. |

## 2.4.2 School Usage

Lord Nelson Park is utilised by schools in St Arnaud and surrounding area for school sporting activities with details provided in the following sections.

### 1. St Arnaud Secondary College

The St Arnaud Secondary College utilise Lord Nelson Park for a range of sporting events and activities as detailed in the table below.

*Table 2.8 St Arnaud Secondary College Usage*

| Facility                | Events/Activity/s  | Terms Used  | Day/s  | Time/s  |
|-------------------------|--|-------------|--|---|
| Oval                    | Athletics, Cross Country, Football, Hockey, Super 8s Cricket | 1, 2, 3 & 4 | Varies according to when each event is held. Probably covers Monday to Friday. | Athletics: 7.00am . 3.30pm<br>Cross country: 7.00am - 3.00pm<br>Others: 9.30am . 2.30pm |
| Netball Court/s         | Netball  | 3           | Varies, as above.  | 9.30am . 2.30pm   |
| Hockey Field            | Hockey   | 3           | Varies, as above.  | 9.30am . 2.30pm   |
| Netball / Hockey Change | Open on all sport days.                                      | 1, 2, 3 & 4 | Varies, as above.  | 9.00am . 3.00pm   |

### 2. St Arnaud Primary School

The St Arnaud Primary School utilise Lord Nelson Park for sporting activities between six to eight times per year for sporting activities and competitions including annual cross country, athletics, sports days and interschool sport, with five sessions booked in 2013/2014. At times the school also utilises the canteen facilities and sometimes the school will take small groups of students for a walk/kick of the footy (time out).

The school currently operates an Active After Schools Program which is conducted predominantly at the school as well as Auskick (Friday after school).

### 3. School Cross Country Events

Lord Nelson Park is utilised annually for a number of school cross country events. A map of the course is provided in Appendix Two. The current school cross country competitions are:

- St Arnaud Secondary College - house cross country.
- St Arnaud Primary - school cross country.

- North Central Division Secondary Schools Cross Country - interschool event comprising 8 schools including St Arnaud Secondary College.
- Black Ranges Primary School Cross Country - a region primary school event that caters for schools around Horsham.
- Loddon Mallee Region Cross Country . primary and secondary schools regional finals comprising 16 races commencing from 10.00am with last race starting at 3.05pm with race distances ranging from 2km (9-10 Boys and Girls) to 5km (Boys 17-20 and 16 Years). The event has been conducted at Lord Nelson Park for approximately 5 years and at present will continue. Facilities utilised apart from those comprising the track are the Sheep Pavilion, the Netball/Hockey toilet/change room area at the end of St Arnaud Sporting Club, and the canteen.

In 2014 there were 1,300 entries, with an estimated 30 . 40 secondary colleges and a similar number of primary schools represented. Secondary students tend to come by bus, whilst primary students tend to come with parents or other family members (eg grandparents). Spectators are mainly parents and family of competitors as well as staff. The canteen is operated by the St Arnaud Secondary College Parent Club with any profit on the day retained by the club.

### 2.4.3 Casual Usage

The following information has been provided by Council officers on booked casual usage for 2014 (in addition to usage detailed above):

- St Arnaud Auskick: Friday, 3.30 - 5.00pm from 2 May to 22 August 2014.
- St Arnaud Football Club Practice Match: 23 March 2014
- North Central Football League Finals: 30 August to 20 September 2014.

## 2.5 Facility Financial Review

Financial information regarding Lord Nelson Park has been provided by Council officers and tenant user groups and is summarised in the sections below.

### 2.5.1 Fees and Charges

The St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee set the fees for 2013/2014 (unchanged from previous year) as outlined in the following table.

*Table 2.9 2013/2014 Fees and Charges*

| Club/Organisation              | 2013/2014 Annual Amount |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| St Arnaud Football Club        | \$1,230                 |
| St Arnaud Netball Club         | \$340                   |
| St Arnaud Cricket Club         | \$520                   |
| St Arnaud Hockey Club          | \$340                   |
| St Arnaud Harness Racing Club  | \$470                   |
| St Arnaud Agricultural Society | \$360                   |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$3,260</b>          |

Additional income is generated from lease of stables (refer below) and any regular/casual hire.

### 2.5.2 Income and Expenditure

Information relating to income and expenditure for Lord Nelson Park has been provide by Council officers and is summarised in the table below.

Table 2.10 Income and Expenditure 2011/2012 to 2013/2014

| Income                                     | 2011/2012<br>\$     | 2012/2013<br>\$   | 2013/2014<br>\$   |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Tenant User Groups                         | 6,520 <sup>15</sup> | 3,260             | 0                 |
| Stables Lease                              | 3,761               | 3,761             | 3,761             |
| Regular Hire                               | 2,600               | 650               | 0                 |
| Casual Hire                                | 182                 | 136               | 0                 |
| <b>Total Income</b>                        | <b>13,063</b>       | <b>7,807</b>      | <b>3,761</b>      |
| Expenditure                                | 2011/2012           | 2012/2013         | 2013/2014         |
| Staff                                      | 11,956              | 17,880            | 17,270            |
| Contract Employees                         | 132                 | 0                 | 2,526             |
| Materials & Services                       | 16,761              | 19,962            | 5,874             |
| Internal Plant Hire                        | 3,675               | 7,121             | 7,474             |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                   | <b>32,524</b>       | <b>44,963</b>     | <b>33,144</b>     |
| <b>Net Result</b>                          | <b>(\$19,461)</b>   | <b>(\$37,156)</b> | <b>(\$29,383)</b> |
| <b>Income as Percentage of Expenditure</b> | <b>40.2%</b>        | <b>17.4%</b>      | <b>11.3%</b>      |

A review of the income and expenditure above indicates the following trends:

- Income review indicates that:
  - Income has been decreasing each year for the past three years with only \$3,761 in 2013/2014, however no tenant user group fees were collected (an additional \$3,260).
  - Tenant user group and stables lease fees have not increased during the three year period.
  - Regular hire has decreased from \$2,500 in 2011/2012 to zero in 2013/2014.
  - Casual hire has been minimal during the three year period from a peak of \$182 in 2011/2012 to zero in 2013/2014.
- Expenditure review indicates that:
  - The highest item of expenditure in 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 was Materials and Services and in 2013/2014 Staff.
  - Materials and services decreased from \$19,962 in 2012/2013 to \$5,874 in 2013/2014.
  - Expenditure has also increased over the three year period for Contract Employees and Internal Plant Hire.
  - Building maintenance expenditure was not provided.
- In terms of net result<sup>16</sup>, the cost to Council increased from -\$19,461 in 2011/2012 to -\$37,156 in 2012/2013 and decreased to -\$29,383 in 2013/2014. This would have been lower (\$26,123 loss) had the 2013/2014 tenant user group fees of \$3,260 been collected.
- Income as a percentage of expenditure<sup>17</sup> has been decreasing over the three year period to 11.3% in 2013/2014. If tenant user group fees had been collected this would have been 21.2%.
- Overall fees and charges from tenant user groups in 2013/2014 is 9.8% of total expenditure (excluding any building maintenance). Most Councils set fees and charges from tenant user groups as a percentage between 10 . 20% of maintenance expenditure.

<sup>15</sup> Includes 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 fees.

<sup>16</sup> Does not include building maintenance.

<sup>17</sup> Does not include building maintenance.

The funds held by Council from St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee activity as at meeting of 11 June 2014 are provided in the following table.

*Table 2.11 St Arnaud Community Recreation Financial Statement June 2014*

| Category                 | Amount             |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Carry Forward            | \$9,620.00         |
| Income Raised            | \$6,707.62         |
| Income not yet paid      | (\$6,129.02)       |
| <b>Sub Total</b>         | <b>\$10,198.60</b> |
| YTD Expenses             | \$ 911.36          |
| <b>BALANCE REMAINING</b> | <b>\$9,287.24</b>  |

A review of the 11 June 2014 Financial Statement data above indicates that over \$6,000 of income is outstanding. Strategies are in place with the Council officers seeking payments of outstanding fees.

### 2.5.3 Facility Improvements

The following financial information in regards to facility improvements in the past three years was provided by Council officers and tenant user groups of Lord Nelson Park, including those that the club provided part or all funds with amounts where provided.

*Table 2.12 Lord Nelson Park Club and Council Facility Improvements*

| FACILITY AND PROJECT<br>(Detail)        | TOTAL<br>COST<br>\$ | CLUB<br>FUNDING<br>\$             | COUNCIL<br>FUNDING<br>\$ | OTHER<br>FUNDING<br>SOURCE/S<br>\$                              | YEAR<br>COMPLETED<br>/ OPENED |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>St Arnaud Agricultural Society</b>   |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Extension to TOTE<br>(enclosing stairs) | Not<br>provided     | Contributed<br>Approx<br>\$20,000 |                          |   |                               |
| Asbestos Removal                        | \$40,497            |                                   | \$40,497                 |   | 2012                          |
| Upgrade Works . toilet and<br>amenities | Not known           | \$9,805                           |                          | Regional Growth Fund<br>. amount not provided                   | 2012                          |
| <b>St Arnaud Football Club</b>          |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Canteen                                 | \$10,000            | \$10,000                          |                          |   |                               |
| Toilets and Showers                     | \$5,000             | \$5,000                           |                          |   |                               |
| <b>St Arnaud Harness Racing Club</b>    |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Float park fencing                      | \$19,268            |                                   |                          | Office of Racing  | 2013                          |
| Track upgrade                           | \$57,000            |                                   |                          | State Government  | 2011/2012                     |
| Track . flood damage                    | \$5,000             |                                   |                          | State Government  | 2011                          |
| <b>St Arnaud Hockey Club</b>            |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Hockey Shed                             | \$69,500            | \$13,636                          | \$17,895                 | St Arnaud BOM<br>\$2,000<br>State Government<br>(CFFP) \$35,968 | 2012                          |
| <b>St Arnaud Netball Club</b>           |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Cupboard in club rooms                  | \$2,100             | \$2,100                           |                          |   | 2011                          |
| <b>St Arnaud Sporting Club</b>          |                     |                                   |                          |   |                               |
| Automatic Doors                         | \$8,520             |                                   | \$8,520                  |   | 2012                          |

A review of the facility improvement projects above indicates that:

- Council and tenant user groups have been contributing to the facility improvements for a range of projects.
- In 2012 Council invested \$66,912 in three facility improvement projects at Lord Nelson Park.
- State Government Grants of \$117,236 were received for hockey, harness racing and Agricultural Show projects plus a Regional Growth Fund grant for TOTE Building Upgrade works (amount not provided).



## 3 Key Stakeholder Consultation

This section of the report covers the consultation components of the study as well as relevant information from the consultations for the NGSC Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy. It includes information from:

- Key stakeholder interviews
- Key informant interviews
- Neighbouring LGA interviews.

### 3.1 Summary of Information from Consultations for Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy

This section of the report summarises the relevant information from the market research and consultations conducted in 2013 for the Northern Grampians Shire Council Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy (2014). The key stakeholder relevant issues and future improvements are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.1 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy – Summary of Consultation Key Points*

| Organisation / Sector        | Comments   |
|------------------------------|--|
| Health and Disability Sector | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive out of St Arnaud for recreation due to lack of accessibility of facilities in town including at Lord Nelson Park (stairs). As a result do not use enough in St Arnaud which results in cost issue for transport.</li> <li>• Want to be able to use facilities in St Arnaud so need an increase in accessibility at community facilities eg Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• Walking tracks.</li> <li>• Outdoor gym/fitness equipment in open space to encourage physical activity; parks and gardens near playgrounds.</li> <li>• Programs - staffing is a big issue . prefer programs that are run by others (lack skills and expertise to plan/run programs). Lack of inclusive programs between 9.00am . 4.00pm. Need community inclusion with more programs available between 9.00am and 5.00pm.</li> </ul> |
| Youth Sector                 | <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lord Nelson Park . pavilions are outdated and in some cases not safe (pests and asbestos); poor umpire facilities.</li> <li>• Location of lights outside trotting track.</li> <li>• Hockey . no amenities . need to go to netball or football pavilion.</li> <li>• No shelter.</li> <li>• Netball courts . water pools on 2nd court and is often closed.</li> </ul> <p>Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved amenities for netball and hockey, public toilets.</li> <li>• Artificial Hockey pitch (grass gets very wet).</li> <li>• Move trotting track away from Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• Netball courts at Lord Nelson Park to be fixed.</li> </ul>  |

| Organisation / Sector   | Comments  |
|---|---|
| Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of sports at one location.</li> <li>• Return of Harness Racing to Lord Nelson Park (also seen as a negative by some).</li> <li>• Constraints of trotting track; hockey relocatable issues (no amenities).</li> <li>• Ageing infrastructure.</li> <li>• Volunteers . retaining and recruiting.</li> <li>• Maintaining participation given population base.</li> </ul>  |
| Regional Development Victoria<br><br>(Reviewed & updated August 2014) | <p>Issues included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more evidence than just the Master Plan approach.</li> <li>• Not picked up higher-level sport and recreation facility challenges.</li> <li>• Number of hats each person wears in regional communities.</li> </ul> <p>Future . what is needed / improvements in the future (facilities, programs and services) and future regional opportunities were as follows.</p> <p><i>Facilities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Arnaud including Lord Nelson Park would be suited to Community Precinct Plan approach.</li> <li>• Integrated funding . Council, community contribution, Regional Growth Fund, Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) and potentially Federal funding.</li> <li>• Need to ensure that have all documentation and evidence required in the format required. Must be able to say what funding has contributed to what facility components, so project needs to be broken up into components to enable this. Will work with Council to assist and develop process.</li> <li>• When considering facility developments challenge is articulating where facility fits and why regionally significant. Need to make these links to be successful in regional level funding.</li> <li>• Needs to be an identified priority by NGSC.</li> </ul> <p><i>Programs &amp; Services</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to include these in any funding application . more than buildings.</li> <li>• How will project strengthen the economy (e.g. jobs in construction and beyond, visitation, etc.), social and environmental benefits, what are the broader community benefits.</li> </ul> <p><i>Other</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New policy context that encourages Community Precinct Planning and Social Infrastructure Planning . integrated approach to progressing projects.</li> <li>• Need to consider and take into account regional plans - links to Regional Growth Plan (Draft) and Regional Strategic Plan. Need to make the connections.</li> <li>• Work with State Government more . ensure meeting SRV criteria from beginning by engaging with SRV throughout the process, having conversations and discussions prior to applications (early in projects development). Assistance and support available, capacity for partnerships and relationships - can be successful with funding 1<sup>st</sup> time if engage with State Government early.</li> </ul> <p>The key findings from this interview and review of documents included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport and Recreation Victoria new strategic framework includes increased participation and broader context around community facilities.</li> <li>• Funding for local projects tends to be from category of Improved Local Infrastructure.</li> <li>• Need to understand how and where NGSC fits into the regional approach.</li> </ul> |

| Organisation / Sector                       | Comments  |
|---|---|
| <p>Lord Nelson Park Board of Management</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good facility . very lucky to have in St Arnaud.</li> <li>• St Arnaud Sporting Club (not-for-profit) provides funding to sporting clubs in the area. Sponsor clubs and events.</li> </ul> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process for maintenance.</li> <li>• User agreements not up-to-date. Drafts were legalistic.</li> <li>• Asset Register not clear.</li> <li>• Issue with decisions not happening.</li> <li>• Old and ageing infrastructure which is difficult to maintain.</li> <li>• Quality an issue however not inhibiting participation.</li> <li>• Trotting club is a barrier to some things . eg lights too far from track. Only one meeting per year and a resident trainer.</li> <li>• Traffic management.</li> </ul> <p>Future Developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to maintain and plan for where spend money/funds.</li> <li>• Potential for sporting infrastructure . opportunity for grey water to make facility secure for drought.</li> <li>• Sprinkler upgrade needed.</li> <li>• Upgrade lights.</li> <li>• Improve traffic management.</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Key Informant and Forum Feedback</p>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lord Nelson Park is a valuable community asset for all ages.</li> <li>• Viewing area is one of best in area.</li> <li>• Water harvesting at reserves including Lord Nelson Park has been great giving water security, especially future droughts.</li> </ul> <p>Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pooling of water on netball courts resulting in frequent closures.</li> <li>• Distance between netball courts (not compliant).</li> <li>• Lack of amenities for both netball and hockey.</li> <li>• Age and condition of football pavilion.</li> <li>• Not accessible.</li> <li>• Trotting track . barrier to oval and hockey.</li> <li>• Issue with lights.</li> <li>• Quality an issue however not inhibiting participation.</li> <li>• Traffic management and car parking.</li> <li>• Age of many facilities is the biggest issue.</li> <li>• Groups want improvements but limited resources to do.</li> <li>• Open space does not have same focus as sport and recreation . may need to be more pro-active about these, eg exercise equipment, walking groups, etc.</li> <li>• Lack of opportunities for young people who do not play sport.</li> <li>• Lack of places/spaces for teenagers</li> <li>• Lack of places for dirt bikes and BMX.</li> </ul> <p>Future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Users to work co-operatively on facility development . need vision and Master Plan.</li> <li>• Improved amenities for all sports.</li> <li>• Artificial hockey pitch.</li> <li>• Move trotting track.</li> <li>• Netball courts - fix flooding issue on netball courts; option to roof over netball courts; provide change and amenities at courts. May be better to move courts to another location. Also width between courts and car parking. Playground at netball courts.</li> <li>• Water security (grey water opportunity).</li> <li>• Lighting upgrade.</li> <li>• New change rooms for football.</li> <li>• Lights and traffic management.</li> <li>• Agricultural Society . better facilities to stage event.</li> <li>• Develop so can view all three sports from one location.</li> <li>• Outdated facilities that need updating and looking after.</li> <li>• Asset rationalisation - potential for King George's Park activities to be transferred to Lord Nelson Park.</li> <li>• No single use facilities . multi-use where possible.</li> <li>• Disability access.</li> <li>• Facility for BMX and dirt bikes.</li> </ul> |



## 3.2 Key Informant Interview Feedback

Interviews were conducted or surveys complete with a range of key informants to discuss the project, current issues at Lord Nelson Park and potential future opportunities and directions for the Precinct Plan. The table below lists those key stakeholders who were consulted with details of representatives included in Appendix Three.

*Table 3.2 Organisations / Participants in Consultations*

| Category                          | Details  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sporting and Tenant User Groups   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Arnaud Agricultural Society</li> <li>• St Arnaud Cricket Club</li> <li>• St Arnaud Football Club</li> <li>• St Arnaud Harness Racing Club</li> <li>• St Arnaud Hockey Club</li> <li>• St Arnaud Netball Club</li> </ul>  |
| Other Regular User Groups         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Murdoch Disability Services</li> <li>• North Central Football &amp; Netball League (finals and training for various teams), North Central Hockey League (finals)</li> <li>• St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club</li> </ul>  |
| Regional and Peak Sporting Bodies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFL Central Victoria</li> <li>• North Central Football League</li> <li>• Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association</li> <li>• Netball Victoria . Northern Region</li> <li>• Hockey Victoria</li> <li>• North Central Hockey League</li> <li>• Harness Racing Victoria</li> </ul> |
| Community Groups                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee</li> </ul>   |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council  | Councillor Merilee Reid<br><br>Council Officers Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customer Service</li> <li>• Parks and Gardens</li> <li>• Recreation and Children's Services</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> </ul>   |
| Schools                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Arnaud Primary School</li> <li>• St Arnaud Secondary College</li> </ul>  |
| Neighbouring Councils             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buloke Shire Council</li> <li>• Pyrenees Shire Council</li> </ul>   |
| State Government                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Development Victoria</li> </ul>  |

As well as the information provided by tenant user groups (refer Sections 2.3 and 2.4) information was sought regarding:

- Membership and participation.
- Current facility provision and issues / constraints.
- Level of demand / need for facilities.
- Design standards, feasibility studies and strategic directions.
- Future facility requirements.
- Events and activities that could be conducted or re-located at Lord Nelson Park in the future should suitable facilities be provided.

Information collected during the interviews is summarised in the sections below. The membership and participation data for sports is provided in Section 2.

### 3.2.1 Consultations with Local, Regional and Peak Sporting Bodies

The following sections summarise the responses from regional and peak sporting bodies who were invited to participate in phone interviews to contribute information to the project. Tenant sporting club user groups also provided information with future needs included in these sections. (Refer Section 2 for other club information).

#### 1. Australian rules football

##### a) AFL Victoria Central Region

St Arnaud continue to be a strong area for the game because of size and population (declining in some smaller towns). Strategic review being undertaken of community football in North West Victoria comprising Commissions of AFL Central Victoria, AFL Central Murray and AFL Wimmera Mallee. Announced on 16 July 2014<sup>18</sup> the key points to note regarding the review are as follows:

- Strategic review into competition structures.
- Aimed at determining the best possible competition structures that will best serve the sustainability of clubs and their communities.
- Wimmera Mallee potential of club mergers and possibly seeking alternative leagues (North Central Football League) and would not leave a viable league (five clubs left).
- Timelines . completed by June 2015 for implementation in 2016. All clubs to remain affiliates of current leagues for 2015 season to ensure review undertaken in a stable environment.

St Arnaud Football Club needs change rooms and also seeking social facilities, however may be difficult to convince of need for social facilities. Importance of suitable facilities for both male and female umpires (flexible and gender equity). Lighting to night match standard would hold and schedule night games as would attract greater crowds. Lighting for night games would be great for the club and the league especially early and late in the season. Encourage other activities with night games (eg juniors) so an event, not just a night game.

AFL Central Victoria has a Regional Strategic Plan and anticipate undertaking an audit of facilities in the Region (4 . 5 leagues) later this year with view to producing Facilities Plan.

Events and activities that could be conducted at an improved facility include:

- Interleague . St Arnaud is a good location with games played at best venue in region; potentially suitable for Under 15, Carnivals and Development Squads. Interleague finals are conducted at venue where people are interested. If St Arnaud up to standard would be considered.
- North Central League Finals . rotational basis, currently under review with an option being best ground/s, ones that get best patronage, rather than rotating.

A key to future success is the ability of sports to work together for community interest.

AFL Victoria provided participation and ground forecasts for Northern Grampians Shire (Refer Appendix Four). The information indicates that if participation continues at the same penetration rate (28% for males 5 -39 years) then no additional grounds will be required within the municipality. However if there is an increase in both female and male participation (medium 30% penetration or high 32%) in the Shire then in 2020 to meet medium or high growth access to an additional ground would be required and if high growth to 2030 access to a further ground to meet growth.

##### b) North Central Football League

Potential that North Central Football League will increase in terms of number of teams (depending on outcome of Strategic Review . refer above). League is strong with significant participation, larger towns field teams in all grades, seniors and reserves reasonably comfortable. Junior football . issues at some clubs eg Wycheproof / Narraport withdrew from Under 16s due to lack of numbers. System

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<sup>18</sup> Media Release Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014, AFL Central Victoria, AFL Central Murray and AFL Wimmera Mallee

allows participants in larger clubs (eg St Arnaud) to play for other teams who are struggling for numbers when playing each other.

Clubs want facilities to be as good as can and clubs in League are continually undertaking improvements and upgrades. Lights at St Arnaud to night standard would be positive.

The future needs and opportunities identified by the North Central Football League for St Arnaud Football Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Improvements to umpires facilities - need both male and female.
- Social . off-field no entertaining area (limited funding from St Arnaud Sporting Club) was reasonable in past however do not seem to be providing the same opportunities.
- Change rooms need upgrading.
- Ground drainage.

Events and activities that could be conducted at an improved facility include:

- Lightning Premierships.
- Training venue for Interleague.
- V-Line Cup training.
- Junior Development programs.
- Reasonably central location to conduct regional activities.
- League finals . highly rated for finals as good spectator viewing for all three sports. Several other clubs with similar venues. New Board so looking at how Finals are allocated in future . want to try and centralise.
- Worksafe Game (game of the month from home and away round) . St Arnaud hosting in August (have hosted in past).
- Worksafe Country Championships.

St Arnaud is high on the agenda as venue for North Central Football League. Top venue for supporters, improved facilities would lift up scale further and would be fantastic for club, league and users.

### **c) St Arnaud Football Club**

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Football Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Need home base - new social and change rooms including umpires / officials facilities. Preferred location on wing (TOTE / Sheep Pavilion area) that is consistent with AFL guidelines for local level facilities. Combined with netball and hockey.
- Sportsground lighting.
- Canteen and kitchen improvements.
- Access for people with a disability (change and toilets).
- Condition / standard of current facilities improvements.
- Heating / cooling.
- Playground would be good for young children.
- More storage space.
- Potential for regional level facility (affordability?).

## **2. Cricket**

### **a) Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association**

The association identified the need for more juniors as currently a number of clubs in the association do not field teams with reason being travelling distance required. The association has been developing a number of junior programs, and reported having a number of good young cricketers. Some clubs play intra club matches rather than being part of the association (including St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club).

Five of the clubs in league have turf wicket grounds which are well maintained. Most clubs have access to good quality clubrooms. St Arnaud reasonably strong fielding both A and B Grade . not all clubs field both grades with some struggling for numbers. St Arnaud have good spectator facilities, including St Arnaud Sporting Club facilities. The turf ground facilities are excellent however the synthetic ground has no protection from the heat of summer for the teams and whilst there is the Hockey Shed beside the oval, this is not available for use by St Arnaud Cricket Club (not sure why).

Training opportunities for association representative teams (eg Country Week training) and development programs. Tend to move around grounds so same participants not always travelling. Matches - finals highest position team has home game or can elect to play at another clubs ground which has occurred in the past (better facilities for match and spectators). A grade Grand Final is 3 day game whilst B Grade play best of 3 x one day games.

The Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association have taken on the Division One and Two 20/20 Cricket Carnival for the 2014/2015 Season with. Lord Nelson Park being used for the 20/20 Carnival on 8 and 9 November 2014.

The Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association is keen to publicise the league and to make stronger in the future (some other leagues are struggling).

### **b) St Arnaud Cricket Club**

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Cricket Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Previously accessed the TOTE Building which is more appropriate location for cricket (wicket). Issues with shared use of Football Pavilion.
- Storage space in closer proximity to ovals for wicket maintenance equipment.
- Storage area in proximity to cricket nets.
- Access to Hockey Shed for B Grade playing on synthetic wicket - scorers, players and spectators. Shade for players and spectators.
- Address issue of different grasses on synthetic ground.
- Cricket Nets . maintenance of fencing and run-ups.
- Funding issue and sponsorship by St Arnaud Sporting Club.

### **c) St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club**

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Seating and shade for parents and spectators at the synthetic wicket.
- Condition / standard of current facilities improvements.
- Parking.

King George's Park is current home ground and preferred by parents.

### 3. Harness Racing

#### a) Harness Racing Victoria

The return of harness racing to smaller tracks and those who were deemed not to be suitable was part of a State Government election promise. Harness Racing Victoria Board supported the promise providing one race meet per club (with some funding provided to undertake minor improvement works).

St Arnaud Harness Racing Club are seeking more race meets at Lord Nelson Park (have approached Minister).

Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) funding for major track renovation tends to be provided to venues with 30 - 40 race meetings per year.

Most important facility upgrade is widening of the turns and increasing camber in order for the horses to run at speed without putting extra pressure on their legs. If track is lengthened it is preferred that the radius of turn needs to be increased as well. Radius of turns and track camber are very important for the fairness of racing and welfare of the horse.

Key facility components required:

- 1,000m plus length track. Of the 25 tracks 14-15 meet the 1,000m or longer track length. Camber is very important.
- Photo finish equipment.
- TV location on finish and facilities for race caller and judge's box. Need to ensure cabling and maybe one head on television point.
- Stewards facilities and rooms.
- Spectator and hospitality facilities.

HRV would be reluctant to fund an upgrade and increase in length of the track for only one to two race meetings per year (eg \$0.5 million to \$1million to upgrade for an extra 100m). Therefore only looking at maintenance and other minor improvement works.

Key facility issues at Lord Nelson Park for Harness Racing are:

- Track length (850m versus 1,000m required for more than one - two race meetings) with appropriate camber.
- Location of stables is poor (roller gates to enable horses to cross safely to track and prevent mixing of horses, people and traffic).
- Land locked and facility constraints in terms of upgrading track.

#### *Funding Opportunities*

Harness Racing Victoria have a Development Fund for capital works to maintain and develop the infrastructure of the Harness Racing Industry and relevant Occupational Health and Safety works<sup>19</sup> (approximately \$2million annually). St Arnaud Harness Racing Club could apply to Harness Racing Victoria for funding for components of a new pavilion/clubroom facility development to provide harness racing requirements. May also be funding available from Government on a 50/50 basis from the State Government (Victorian Racing Industry Fund).

In terms of events and activities that could be conducted at an improved facility:

- No guarantees that would fixture additional events if track / facilities improved. Other factors are also a consideration including attendance, wagering turnover both on and off-course and gate receipts. Need to be able to demonstrate and prove the popularity of the meetings. The 2015/2016 calendar will be drafted December 2014 and finalised March 2015.

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<sup>19</sup> Harness Racing Victoria 2013 Annual Report.

- May be a case for a 2<sup>nd</sup> race meeting.
- Club currently receives funding from Harness Racing Victoria to conduct the four meets per year (at approximately \$10,000 per meet), responsibility of club to negotiate race fee with host club for away+meetings.
- Harness Racing Victoria have mobile wagering outlet available to clubs for race meetings.

#### **b) St Arnaud Harness Racing Club**

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Harness Racing Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Access for people with a disability . change and amenities.
- Driver and steward amenities to be upgraded.
- Upgrade of Sheep Pavilion.
- Fencing of Lord Nelson Park boundaries.
- Playground.
- Cement seating . ensure OH&S compliant (no paint distinguishing levels).
- Upgrade toilet facilities and umpires/officials.
- Stables . address issue with guttering; re-locate in longer term so no conflict between horses, people and traffic.
- Ideal track would be 1,000m.
- Media facilities to meet television coverage requirements.
- Lighting suitable for night time racing.

#### **c) Harness Racing Trainers**

The future needs and opportunities identified by the participating harness racing trainers at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Stables . address issue with drains at front of the stables (remove and develop other option/s for dealing with drainage water).
- Prevent car access to Harness Racing Track (used for parking at football matches and access to hockey field) . texture and condition of track crucial to safety of horses and drivers.
- Supportive of cross-country events (provide advance notice so can plan accordingly).
- Water tanks off stable and shed for horses drinking water.
- Standpipe at track access gate beside Sheep Pavilion.
- Swimming pool for horses in low point at end of Sheep Pavilion.
- Access to change rooms and amenities in proximity to stables for drivers and stewards.
- Co-ordinated approach . capitalise when machinery on-site for other required work eg grading track, internal roads, etc.
- Lights for night racing would be beneficial (nearest is Ararat).
- Maintenance requests . one contact point.
- Improved communication between users.

## 4. Hockey

### a) Hockey Victoria

Hockey Victoria advised that the Strategic Plan 2013-2016 includes a very aggressive participation target, aiming for 25,000 participants by 2016. In 2012 had 20,000 which has increased to 21,000 currently. Growth has been in under 10 and under 12 participation, potentially through transitioning from Hookin2Hockey Program (transition program to competition hockey). Committed to school development program, and transitioning participants in development programs to playing weekly hockey. In 2013, there were 150 new hockey participants in the North Central Region.

Sustainability of North Central Hockey League is based on links with football and netball, so synthetic facilities would lose this and potentially be to the detriment of the competition (matches centralised to synthetic facility). Pathway opportunities are available for talented players to go to Dimboola, Bendigo or Ballarat to access higher standard training, development squads, etc.

Lighting would provide options for mid-week and social competitions so variety of hockey available within the community. Also encourage 5-a-side indoor hockey if suitable facility (eg indoor basketball court).

Hockey Victoria are in the process of developing a statewide facility strategy (anticipate completed September / October 2014). Important facility considerations/requirements include:

- Run-off to fences and behind goals.
- Umpires facilities (change and amenities) . share with other sports; facilities for scorers, timekeepers, etc.
- No turf preference (best for climate and conditions) and adequate drainage so no pooling of water.
- Change and amenities for players (use other hockey facility plans as guide).
- Spectator seating.

In terms of events/activities there have been discussions about conducting Grass Championships (going back to roots), maybe in off-season.

Hockey Victoria provided postcode data for registered hockey players for the St Arnaud and surrounding area with the following key results:

*Table 3.3 Hockey Player Numbers – St Arnaud Area*

| Postcode     | Key Towns and Localities   | Number of Hockey Players 2014 |
|--------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 3477         | Avon Plains, Beazleys Bridge, Coonoer Bridge, Goorek, Kooreh, Moyerisk, Slaty Creek, St Arnaud East, St Arnaud North, Stuart Mill, Swanwater, Tottington, Traynors Lagoon. | 20                            |
| 3478         | St Arnaud  | 91                            |
| <b>Total</b> |  | <b>111</b>                    |

### b) North Central Hockey League

St Arnaud are one of the strongest in the league . access to quality players and scope for development. League going reasonably well, few clubs struggling for numbers. Biggest issue is rumours about league changes - strategic review of football and netball impacts due to links between all three sports. North Central Hockey League needs to be at table for the review. Need for change for all sports. St Arnaud is a good location to align with other leagues.

If a synthetic in region, St Arnaud or Donald would be good to maximise usage. A synthetic cage cricket net facility depending on size may be of benefit early in season, and for Minkey and training drills.

Facility development needs include a suitable place for umpires at half-time, scorers and timekeepers area near Hockey Shed as well as technical bench player send-off area. Also without fencing behind goals, ball currently goes long way to retrieve, so fencing that stops ball would be beneficial . does not need to be very high.

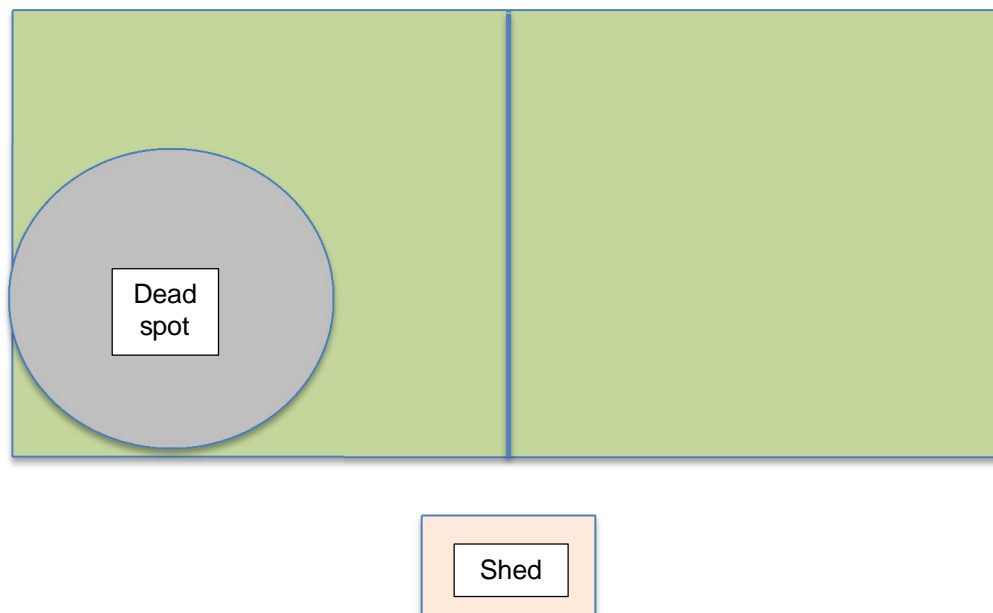
In terms of events and activities that could be conducted at an improved facility:

- Interleague games . mens played at St Arnaud in 2014.
- Finals . determined by football; not at home ground so usually team outside finals and negotiate others.
- Under 12 Lightning Premiership . involvement of children in all three sports; rotations in alphabetical order.
- Synthetic . could have summer competitions and tournaments.

### c) St Arnaud Hockey Club

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Hockey Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Canteen / kitchen improvements . need new one.
- Heating / cooling . none at present; be good.
- Parking . improve area for winter parking near shed and pitch. Been asked not to park on track.
- Change and amenities improvements . change and 1 . 2 toilets at hockey pitch.
- Hockey Shed improvements . power and water; option water tank to provide drinking water.
- Sports lighting . lighting not very good and needs upgrading including improvement to cover pitch as mens and womens train at same time.



- Playground . fenced.
- Storage . good; extra shelves.
- Umpires / officials . only external for finals.



## 5. Netball

### a) Netball Victoria – North Region

Participation is fairly static as tied to the competition grades offered. Focus to grow NetSetGo and school clinics. Clinic conducted in July 2014 in St Arnaud approximately 20 participants.

No regional opportunities at present - Netball Victoria want to grow Regional State Leagues (level below State League); currently in six areas including Bendigo (North Central Regional State League), Shepparton, Warrnambool and Ballarat with open and Under 17 divisions; need at least three compliant courts.

In terms of facility standards:

- Meet rules of netball in terms of run-off, distance between courts.
- Court surface is up to individual club . asphalt (approx \$60,000) or acrylic.
- North / south orientation is preferred.
- Umpire change and amenities for female and male (unisex design).
- Change rooms (unisex).
- Universal design principles.
- Sport lighting standards.

Country leagues are not required to play outdoor. If undertaking upgrade of courts, they need to be made Netball Victoria compliant (refer Netball Court Planning Guide).

In terms of events and activities that could be conducted at an improved facility:

- Outdoor clinics at start of year.
- Small local tournaments if compliant courts as revenue raising for club.
- Fast5 Competition eg as preseason includes five on court with 10 per team, rolling substitutions, power plays and one, two and three point shot and 4 x 6 minute quarters.

*Table 3.4 Netball Player Numbers – St Arnaud Area*

| Year | Postcode          | Senior | Junior | NetSetGo | Modified | Total | Annual Total |
|------|-------------------|--------|--------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|
| 2013 | 3477*             | 3      | 8      | 1        | 2        | 14    | 83           |
|      | 3478<br>St Arnaud | 25     | 35     | 7        | 2        | 69    |              |
| 2011 | 3477*             | 1      | 2      | 2        | 0        | 5     | 41           |
|      | 3478<br>St Arnaud | 13     | 15     | 7        | 1        | 36    |              |

\* Note: 3477 includes key towns and localities of Avon Plains, Beazleys Bridge, Coonoer Bridge, Goorek, Kooreh, Moyerisk, Slaty Creek, St Arnaud East, St Arnaud North, Stuart Mill, Swanwater, Tottington, and Traynors Lagoon.

Netball Victoria player registrations have increased significantly for the St Arnaud area (3478 and 3477) with an increase in total membership of 50.6%, with junior membership increasing from 17 to 43 (+60.5%) and seniors from 14 to 28 (+50%).

### b) St Arnaud Netball Club

The future needs and opportunities identified by the St Arnaud Netball Club at Lord Nelson Park were:

- Canteen and kitchen improvements . equipment is old and need to upgrade to continue to meet ongoing regulation changes.
- All facilities need upgrading (old).

- Netball courts - both need fixing ASAP (level, drain, run-off and distance between courts). New coaches boxes, scorers box, lighting and change facilities. Potential to re-align courts or move to new locations (eg Sheep Pavilion) so able to watch all three sports.
- Court lighting . current lights are not correctly located and are not adequate (lux level).
- Clubroom . hot running water and drainage.
- Playground . it would assist sport and club if there was a safe playground for young children in close proximity of courts.
- Risk management and safety issues . parking at side of courts on slope is dangerous. Also area between netball courts and change/amenities is used by pedestrian and vehicles and at times extremely dangerous.
- Combined football, netball and hockey pavilion near/next to court. Accessible facility.

### 3.2.2 Council Officer Forum and Councillor Interview

An interview was conducted with Cr Merilee Reid (Kara Kara Ward) and a forum was held with key Council officers to identify the future improvements and opportunities to guide development of the Precinct Plan for Lord Nelson Park with responses summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.5 Council Officer Forum and Councillor Interview - Summary of Information*

| General Requirements and Needs   | Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities   |
|--|---|
| Need accessible and inclusive facilities for people with disabilities - integrated in St Arnaud. Inclusive facilities are integral for people to use.                                  | Football . upgrading would be foolish. So much to be done . be realistic and forward thinking . needs to be replaced. |
| St Arnaud Sporting Club is great for town . will move forward with new management.   | Hockey facility . looking to get a platform and verandah; need building permit.                                       |
| Volunteers - Young need to be encouraged to volunteer . feel valued. Need young involved and engaged.  | Netball courts . address issues.  |
| Continue to improve . ensure user friendly; consider needs of ageing population.   | Harness Racing . minimise infrastructure in centre of track (spectator and TV viewing).                               |
| Community events . improved planning and scheduling (currently all in close proximity . three week period). Potential to combine (frustrating for community) or separate (scheduling). | Stables . if old stables not needed potentially not replace at end of life.   |
| User friendly places and spaces.   | Sheep pavilion important.   |
| Entrance improvements - eg avenue of trees and planting; scope for something different; formalised gardens at fence / gate.  | One combined pavilion on wing to service football, netball, harness racing, hockey, agricultural society and cricket. |
| Signage . directional to facility and within LNP.  | Public toilet upgraded.   |
| Plantings - mass planting of natives.  | Cricket Nets . in future not on oval (safety).  |
| Bookings - clarity about facilities available for hire and what activities allowed.  | Car parking . level and graded. Hockey parking in centre to be addressed.   |
| Traffic Management . separation of pedestrians and vehicles between netball and TOTE. Bus drop-off/pick-up and loading zones.  | Cross country . local and regional facility ensure course access maintained.  |
| Caravan Dump Point . potential to re-locate (township).  | Training track . ownership to be confirmed; consider fencing requirements.  |
|  | Playground  |
|  | Sportsground lighting improvements.   |
|  | Keep lawn areas (outside St Arnaud Sporting Club).  |
|  | Shelter and shade.  |
|  | Ticket box relocated (safety).  |

### 3.2.3 St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee

A discussion was conducted with St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee to identify the future improvements and opportunities to guide development of the Precinct Plan for Lord Nelson Park with responses summarised in the table on the following page.

Table 3.6 St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee Consultation Summary

| General Requirements and Needs  | Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities   |
|---|---|
| Geographically regionally significant.  | Football change rooms . demolish.   |
| Changing needs for Agricultural Show - not same demand for displays as previously.  | Netball court - level and flooding/pooling of water . need to be fixed. Can they be re-surfaced?<br>Car parking needs addressing (safety issues).   |
| New sport and event opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential to attract other sports eg soccer potential in summer.</li> <li>• Horse activity - maximum use and benefit of area and stables for horse events.</li> <li>• How to improve use of Precinct for major events/festivals.</li> <li>• What is needed at St Arnaud Sporting Club to make more attractive for events and activity?</li> <li>• Unstructured sport is a growth area.</li> <li>• Possibility of Football League amalgamation.</li> </ul> | New major change room facility/multi use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need access for people with a disability.</li> <li>• Unisex design.</li> <li>• Located central to all activities . east end of Sheep Pavilion or demolish TOTE and replace with multi use Ag shed replacement.</li> <li>• Need to include capacity for team/club meetings, but not necessarily function rooms.</li> </ul>  |
| Need to provide for broader community use.  | Improvements to public toilets.   |
| Need for direction/vision.  | Wilson Hill improvements.   |
| Overall . what is affordable; opportunity of funding through Putting Locals First; need adequate change rooms . can TOTE be upgraded? Need drainage, watering and irrigation and lighting. Opportunities for facility to cater for major events (flow on effects for town).   | Lighting Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground to be adequately lit to play at night. Attraction to run training camps also central within region so ability to be regional facility.</li> <li>• Football and night time harness racing.</li> <li>• Evening/night time sport - opportunity to increase participation and attract major sporting events.</li> </ul>  |
| What is affordable?   | Need to consider accessibility of LNP and all facilities.<br>Harness Racing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need improved capacity e.g. suitable for television (i.e. decent media facilities).</li> <li>• Is 1,000m track necessary or warranted? Consider broader impacts.</li> <li>• Opportunity to move / relocate stables so not conflict between people and horses.</li> <li>• Relocation of mounting yard to east end of track.</li> </ul> |
|   | Is the TOTE suitable for modifications - TOTE Building is underutilised. Not sure re structural integrity . is steel frame.   |
|   | Sheep Pavilion - expansion in shearing - speed sheering events; need to provide for expanded viewing in close proximity.  |

### 3.2.4 Murdoch Community Services

A discussion was conducted with a representative from Murdoch Community Services (St Arnaud) to identify the future improvements and opportunities to guide development of the Precinct Plan for Lord Nelson Park.

It is important to note that in its current format many areas are not accessible, if Lord Nelson Park is accessible and inclusive then Murdoch Community Services will make use of it and their clients will be able to more actively participate in the events and activities occurring in the precinct. Responses are summarised in the table on the following page.

Table 3.7 Murdoch Community Services Consultation Summary

| Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities   |
|---|
| Accessible toilet facilities including at toilet block near Wilsons Hill equally important . picnic area, look out, etc   |
| Accessible access (ramp): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To track, oval and hockey pitch.</li> <li>• Kiosk.</li> <li>• Footpath</li> <li>• Events need to provide accessible parking (when event parking is all off-site).</li> </ul>   |
| Car parking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undercover, accessible car parking for wheelchair load and unload. Small bus that transports clients need ramp or level ground.</li> <li>• Car parking immediately outside next to footpath for events when no parking onsite.</li> <li>• Visual amenity . landscaping.</li> </ul>  |
| Improve accessibility of site . seal and improve area between entry and Wilsons Hill for events.  |
| Develop area of Wilsons Hill and surrounds.   |
| Playground - accessible play (Liberty Swing option?), outdoor gym equipment. Playground near netball court . local level.   |
| Walking paths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bush shared trail 1 to 5km, flat and wide (wheelchair accessible) with seats at regular intervals.</li> <li>• Exercise is important for clients so nature walk would be good.</li> <li>• Provide information signage.</li> <li>• Path from back of Harness Racing track so can then walk back down to Napier Street.</li> <li>• Links between Caravan Park and LNP . recreation paths.</li> </ul> |
| Entrance . profile needed and entrances around LNP (improves access).   |
| Shade around LNP . some trees.  |
| Lighting for night time community events including Agricultural Show and improved PA system.  |

### 3.2.5 St Arnaud Schools

St Arnaud Primary School and St Arnaud Secondary College provided information regarding usage, key issues / constraints and future improvements and opportunities to guide development of the Precinct Plan for Lord Nelson Park with responses provided below (usage information has been included in Section 2.4.2).

The future needs and opportunities at Lord Nelson Park identified by a representative from St Arnaud Primary School and a representative from St Arnaud Secondary College are:

- Sheep pavilion . more power points, lighting, PA access and tables / chairs for events particularly cross country. Permanent BBQ would be good.
- Playground.
- Walkway access direct from back of Primary School.
- Lighting would enable greater / improved community use.
- Access for all to community facility.

### 3.2.6 Consultation with Buloke Shire Council

Buloke Shire Council, the neighbouring municipality in closest proximity to St Arnaud completed a phone interview regarding the project. Key points to note are:

- Current issues with existing sport and leisure facilities, programs and services in proximity to St Arnaud were:
  - Ageing and disjointed infrastructure.
  - Improving connection between sports.
  - More multi-purpose facilities that can be used by a range of organisations.
  - Quality of ageing infrastructure.

- Planned facility developments in proximity to St Arnaud
  - Charlton Park 2020 Community Facility . large scale development of multi-purpose facility being planned to combine facilities for netball, hockey, football, cricket and harness racing. Considering community gym. Community driven project. Business case and design and tender documents being finalised. Subject to funding. Intention to be regional centre in future especially for harness racing, as well as football, netball and hockey. Community have raised funding for design (\$300,000, received \$100,000 Putting Locals First Grant<sup>20</sup>) as well as \$1million over two years for the project.<sup>21</sup>
  - Donald Recreation Reserve . concept plans for a full refurbishment of two-storey pavilion overlooking oval servicing football, netball, hockey and cricket; subject to funding (anticipate around \$1million); consistent with Master plan; other current facilities at the reserve include basketball stadium and squash courts.

### 3.3 Vision and Concept Development Cafés

Two vision and concept development cafés were conducted, one youth café and one community and user group café.

#### 3.3.1 Youth Session

The Youth Café comprised representatives from St Arnaud Primary School, St Arnaud Secondary College and St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, St Arnaud with key information provided below.

##### 1 Best things about Lord Nelson Park

The best things about Lord Nelson Park as identified at the Youth Café are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.8 Best Things about Lord Nelson Park from Youth Café*

| Best things about Lord Nelson Park          |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Hockey                                      | Viewing for football and hockey.    |
| Canteen . place, cover.                     | Green                               |
| Size  | Netball club room have electricity. |
| Sporting Club for after game and functions. | Near the school.                    |
| Good location easy to find.                 |                                     |

##### 2 Issues – what needs to be fixed?

The key issues raised in the Youth Café are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.9 Lord Nelson Park Key Issues from Youth Café*

| Issues – what needs to be fixed  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>General Amenity and Public Facilities</b>                           |   |
| Lack of amenities and quality issues.                                  | Lot of surface water after rain.                      |
| Aesthetics . too bland.  | Bad public toilets . old, unclean, uncovered.         |
| Accessibility to club and track is very difficult.                     | Fences at lookout                                     |
| Hole in Shearing Shed - kids climb in.                                 |   |
| <b>Traffic, Car Parking and Access</b>                                 |   |
| Road in between netball courts and Sheep Pavilion.                     | Muddy driveway at hockey.                             |
| Fix the road behind club.  |   |
| <b>Spectators</b>  |   |
| Lack of shelter (wet weather) and seats (watching footy)               | Not as much area for spectators to watch the netball. |
| Difficult for parents to watch both (all) sports                       | Not enough cover when seated . cold.                  |
| Separation between the netball courts and the hockey and footy grounds |   |

<sup>20</sup> Charlton 2020 Project moves forward, Media Release, Peter Walsh MP, Friday 15 February, 2013

<sup>21</sup> In 2011 also received \$55,000 for development of plans and costings, with Shire of Buloke contributing \$58,000. Media Release The Hon Peter Ryan MP, Friday 20 May 2011.

| Issues – what needs to be fixed  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Sporting Facilities</b>   |  |
| Netball courts need fixing . flooding needs fixing; fix behind the courts; too far away from hockey and football; uneven (sunken); dangerous; puddles; slippery. | Hockey field is not great; car parking like a swamp; no electricity; no toilets; no change rooms at field. |
| No water, toilets etc to Hockey Field  | Lines need redoing and wobbly posts and rings.   |
| Maybe sport in the area is limited by lack of facilities.  | Football rooms are very old and run down.  |

Participants were able to vote for the top three issues with the results (in priority order) being:

1. Netball court flooding.
2. Club rooms . football.
3. Hockey . artificial.

### 3 Future Improvements and Opportunities

The future opportunities and opportunities (solutions to issues) for Lord Nelson Park as raised at the Youth Café are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.10 Future Improvements and Opportunities – Youth Café*

| Future Improvements and Opportunities  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>General Amenity and Public Facilities</b>   |   |
| Better children's play area inside Sporting Club; kids playroom joined onto the Club; put rails back beside bar so more short; people can see.   | Better aesthetics - logos and murals on outside walls; painting.  |
| Playground   | More seating and tables; better eating areas.   |
| Upgrade fences at lookout  | More amenities and better quality.  |
| Redesign caravan parks.  | Fix toilets and toilets in more areas, everywhere at sports.  |
| More healthy eating options at the canteen.  | Change rooms for public use if people want to utilise the oval or cross country tracks.   |
| Doggie bag dispensers and bins.  | Lord Nelson statue at entrance.   |
| (Drinking) fountains.  | Path outside trotting track.  |
| Options down back (bit swampy)   | More bins   |
| <b>Traffic, Car Parking and Access</b>   |   |
| Remove road in between netball courts and Sheep Pavilion.  | An additional road to access club/track.  |
| Better footpaths.  | Neater car parks and more parking.  |
| Improved ticket box.   | Easier access.  |
| Re-asphalt roads.  | Extend car parks  |
| <b>Spectators</b>  |   |
| Better shelter for viewing (so don't need to watch from cars); able to view all sports from the one spot.  | More cover for spectators around the actual oval eg shade sails, metal shelters.  |
| Seating at netball and hockey.   | Undercover seating near nets, hockey, cricket, football, netball.   |
| Fix grand stands.  | Grandstands closer to footy.  |
| More shelter everywhere.   |   |
| <b>Sporting Facilities</b>   |   |
| Netball courts . re-lay to prevent / fix flooding of courts, own amenities; move to Sheep Pavilion . better viewing and closer to other sports; roof option; move netball courts to sheep shearing to stop flooding and also so that all sports can be watched from one place; drainage; synthetic courts. Resurface netball courts. | Artificial hockey pitch . able to be used as a tennis court and soccer field as well; many other sports could be played on it; sand based as we don't have enough water for water base; |
| Bigger and better cricket ground   | Social room so all players able to be together.   |
| More sand on the trotting track.   | New football scoreboard.  |
| Redo all lines for everything.   | Need a bigger hockey shed.  |
| More room for the horse events because the town would make a lot of money; more car parks for horse floats at the Show.  | Hockey - electricity, water and toilets; better drainage around pitch.  |

| Future Improvements and Opportunities   |   |
|---|---|
| Sporting Facilities (cont'd)  |   |
| More room for the horse events because the town would make a lot of money; more car parks for horse floats at the Show. | Hockey - electricity, water and toilets; better drainage around pitch.                    |
| Firm up the first leg of the cross country track.   | Better Change rooms.  |
| More athletics areas . shot put, long jump, discus, javelin, athletics track  | Turf cricket pitch; redo cricket pitchredo cricket nets and move closer to cricket pitch. |
| Bike track; BMX track   | Soccer field . near other sports  |
| Rehabilitation centre with indoor pool, basketball courts, netball courts, gym.   | Shearing shed . repair hole and level up dirt behind shed.                                |
| More lighting so that we can see during training.   | Indoor heated swimming pool.  |
| Move trotting track.  | Speakers to play theme song.  |
| Lights at footy and hockey (night games).   | More room between footy and hockey.   |
| Scoreboards . better for all sports.  | Better grass.   |
| Practice squash court.  | Cover for hockey and other sports.  |
| Upgrade cross country course  | More stallion boxes.  |
| More practice nets . cricket.   | Girls footy! Need other teams; policy.  |
| Soccer . winter with lights so played at night.   | Football club rooms . renovate them; demolish it . build new.                             |
| Turn angling club into another netball court or smaller indoor swimming pool.   | Goalposts . netball.  |

#### 4 Vision - What Lord Nelson Park will be in five to ten years' time?

The Youth Café participants were asked to describe what Lord Nelson Park would be in five to ten years time with results provided in the following table.

Table 3.11 Youth Café Lord Nelson Park Vision

| What Lord Nelson Park will be in five to ten years' time?       |                           |                                |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sensational   | New and improved          | Upgraded                       |
| Beautiful   | Better                    | Cool                           |
| Charismatic   | Positive!                 | Upgraded                       |
| Neat!   | Green (grass)             | Colourful                      |
| Wonderful   | Amazing                   | Beautiful!                     |
| Clean   | Interesting               | Wow!                           |
| Gobsmacking   | Awesome                   | Historical                     |
| Well maintained   | Hygienic                  | Pretty!                        |
| Benefit to the region   | Futuristic                | Amazing                        |
| Welcoming   | Great sporting facilities | Fresh and vibrant              |
| Renovated   | Innovative                | Community meeting place        |
| New   | Modern                    | Aesthetic                      |
| Sport centre  | Central                   |                                |
| Attraction to the community because of all the different things |                           |                                |
| Refreshed   | Easy access               | Clean                          |
| Different   | New                       | Green                          |
| Improved  | Friendly                  | Easy access                    |
| Roomy   | Cared for                 | Lord Nelson Park is peaceful   |
| Loved   | Has good view             | Healthy                        |
| Soft  | Fun                       | Upgraded                       |
| Well used   | Aesthetic                 | Has awesome facilities         |
| Tidy  | Action packed             | Beautiful                      |
| Animal friendly   | Creative                  |                                |
| Better surfaces   | New facilities            | A family place                 |
| Eco friendly  | Appealing                 | Exercise bikes                 |
| Magnificent   | Inviting                  | Visually attractive            |
| Inviting  | Outstanding               | Heaven                         |
| Pretty  | Healthy                   | Modern                         |
| Clean   | Safe                      | Exciting                       |
| Green   | Diverse Diversity         | Full of girls playing softball |
| Nice statue   |                           |                                |

## Summary from each Group – what you will see when you

- Modern, clean, eco-friendly
- Sensational, beautiful, upgraded
- Aesthetic, benefit to region, community meeting place and attraction.
- Awesome facilities, creative, well used, action packed, easy access.
- Positive, gob smacked, charismatic.

### 3.3.2 Community and User Group Café

#### 1 Best things about Lord Nelson Park

The best things about Lord Nelson Park as identified at the Community and User Group Café are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.12 Community and User Group – Best Things about Lord Nelson Park*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Good location . easy access             | Multi-purpose                          |
| Space . capacity                        | 24/7 green                             |
| Reasonable infrastructure               | Well managed                           |
| Community space for all ages            | Potential! (improvement opportunities) |
| Sporting Club asset to overall facility | User friendly                          |

#### 2 Issues – what needs to be fixed?

The key issues (what needs to be fixed) raised in the Community User Group Café are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.13 Community and User Group – Lord Nelson Park Issues*

| Issues – what needs to be fixed   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>General Amenity and Public Facilities</b>                                |  |
| Drainage of surfaces  | Public toilets . old, not hygienic, not weatherproof and not accessible.                       |
| Free power to some.   | Area surface . sprinklers.   |
| Camping / power for events.   | Lack of signage  |
| Sound system is broken . doesn't work.                                      | Lack of play areas.  |
| Canteen . old.  | Ageing event facilities . access to power  |
| Lighting  | Outdoor public toilets are outdated,   |
| <b>Traffic, Car Parking and Access</b>                                      |  |
| Traffic management, access and fencing                                      | Seal roads all the way around.   |
| Get rid of steep parking . traffic management needs attention, speed humps. | Traffic control / horse area.  |
| Undercover disability parking   | Road surface at entrance.  |
| Disability access everywhere . toilets and front of grandstand area.        | Ticket box . multi-lane and need to cross-over traffic (on exit side); isolated from activity. |
| Sporting Club entrance . visual amenity                                     | Unsealed roads not accessible  |
| <b>Sporting Facilities</b>  |  |
| Scoreboard.   | Media room upgrade.  |
| Netball court surface / foundations   | Ageing horse facilities  |
| Netball rooms need water.   | User contribution funding . where from?  |
| Hockey . needs water and power  | Football rooms - disgraceful   |
| Netball Facilities poor   |  |
| <b>Other</b>  |  |
| Communication between user groups.  |  |



### 3 Future Improvements and Opportunities (Solutions)

The future opportunities and opportunities (solutions to issues) for Lord Nelson Park as raised at the Café for Community and User Groups are summarised in the following table.

*Table 3.14 Community and User Group Café - Future Improvements and Opportunities*

| Future Improvements and Opportunities   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>General Amenity and Public Facilities</b>  |  |
| Relocate caravan dump point.  | Stop caravans except for special events.   |
| Toilets strategically placed.   | Improved and more signage.   |
| Outdoor public toilets replaced.  | Playground with exercise equipment   |
| Canteen . bring front wall forward 4 feet to make a larger kitchen; replaced / refurbished.                                 | Facilities . drainage, traffic, buildings, oval and lighting.  |
| Children's Playground   | Walking trail in bush.   |
| Outdoor public toilets upgraded.  | Rebuild lookout . history; promote tourism.  |
| Outdoor dining / arena viewing  | Entry / showcase to sporting club.   |
| Improved lighting and sound system all areas.   | Spaces available   |
| <b>Traffic, Car Parking and Access</b>  |  |
| Fencing external.   | Traffic Management . speed limits.   |
| Traffic Management . restructure traffic flow; dual lane entry to roundabout with drop off point.                           | Better access from caravan park through to Lord Nelson Park; make entrances more visually appealing.   |
| Relocate entry ticket box . closer to playing arena; traffic management.  |  |
| <b>Spectators</b>   |  |
| Spectator comfort . enjoy experience.   |  |
| <b>Sporting Facilities</b>  |  |
| Netball courts . wet weather, roofing.  | Football sheds replaced  |
| Multifunction change room and toilets in Sheep Pavilion (ie central location) and extend Sheep Pavilion out the back more.  | New multi-purpose facility for all users (sports and user groups) with change rooms for football/hockey and netball/hockey, canteen, community function centre playground, accessible toilet/shower; spectator viewing, gym, |
| Move netball courts to Sheep Pavilion area (current netball clubrooms could become sheep area.                              | Lighting of football ground and all areas including entrance, car parks and playing arenas.  |
| Shift horse stables to another area.  | Stables area re-configured.  |
| Scoreboard . upgrade; school youth program project design / manufacture (solar / alternative energy).                       |  |
| <b>New facilities and activities</b>  |  |
| Playground and outdoor exercise equipment; outside gym / commando area.   | Walking and bike trails; skateboard  |
| Incorporate other sports eg basketball, bowling greens, tennis, horse / pony club, golf, athletics track, motor cross track | Other groups . Senior Citizens.  |
| Community BBQ and shelter   | Ramp access  |
| Gym   | Horse  |
| External viewing area   | Seats  |

Each group identified their key future priorities with results provided in the table on the following page.

*Table 3.15 Community and User Group Café – High Priority Future Improvements and Opportunities*

| Priorities                                  | Future Improvements and Opportunities  |
|---|--|
| Accessibility                               | Facilities and site.   |
| Club rooms                                  | Multi-purpose club rooms where TOTE Building (and maybe part/all of Sheep Pavilion) for all users (sports, harness racing, show and events), canteen, trainers areas (gender issues) |
| Drainage                                    | Courts, oval and surfaces.   |
| Football Club Rooms                         | Demolition   |
| Lighting                                    | Sports, amenity, car parking and security  |
| Lookout                                     | History of town and Lord Nelson Park (mining).   |
| Marketing                                   |  |
| Netball courts                              | Resurfaced; option to move to sheep Pavilion and Sheep Pavilion to netball courts . improved viewing of all three winter sports.   |
| Playground                                  | In between change and courts.  |
| Sheep Pavilion                              | Squarer for enhanced viewing . not long and narrow. Option for new agricultural for sheep and poultry.   |
| Traffic Management and Access to Facilities | Safety<br>Dual lane access with ticket box in middle and roundabout where Football Clubrooms.  |

#### **4 Vision - What Lord Nelson Park will be in ten years' time?**

The Community and User Group Café participants were asked to describe what Lord Nelson Park would be in ten years time with results provided in the following table.

*Table 3.16 Community and User Group Café Lord Nelson Park Vision*

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| The premier sports and leisure centre of the North Central Goldfields.  | User friendly neat and well laid out. |
| Community event and recreation hub                                      | Community show piece.                 |
| Best hidden ARK?  | State of the art facility.            |
| Lord Nelson Park will be a vibrant, safe, sporting and community space. | Icon for the town.                    |
| Up to date / modern.  | How much better is it now.            |
| Awesome!!   |                                       |



## 4 Site Assessment

### 4.1 Introduction

Site visits to Lord Nelson Park were undertaken in June and July 2014 with key review and assessment details summarised in this section of the report.

### 4.2 Entrance

The main entrance to Lord Nelson Park is via Dunstan Street off the Charlton . St Arnaud Road. A Lord Nelson Park brick sign that is parallel to the road marks the road entrance. The sign is difficult to see on approach and as such access is not obvious.

The sign is overshadowed by a St Arnaud Sporting Club sign. There is some directional / wayfaring signage from the main road for the Harness Racing Track.

There is no signage to identify the facilities, sports or clubs / organisations available and / or based at Lord Nelson Park.



### 4.3 Access

A review of the pedestrian and vehicle access to Lord Nelson Park is provided in the following sections. Controlled entry is required for the Winter season sporting competitions, St Arnaud Agricultural Show and other community events where an entry fee is charged.

#### 4.3.1 Pedestrian Access

Main pedestrian access is via a recently developed footpath on the south side of Dunstan Street, however the footpath ends at / near the fence line and pedestrians are then mixing with vehicle traffic to access the facilities and horses accessing the track from the front stables.

This is unless at a Harness Racing Event when the pedestrian gates are operational. There is no identified pedestrian access from this point to the various facilities within Lord Nelson Park.





There are also gates that provide access to Lord Nelson Park off Alma Street as well as from Trafalgar Street and Cromwell Road (Training Track). During the consultations participants identified that there are issues with the integrity of the fence enabling pedestrian access through the fence line at a number of points (refer Fencing below).

A number of houses backing onto the park have rear gate pedestrian and / or vehicle access to / from Lord Nelson Park.



### 4.3.2 Vehicle Access

The main vehicle access is via Dunstan Street off the Charlton . St Arnaud Road. A second vehicle access is from Trafalgar Street, also off Charlton . St Arnaud Road. Vehicles are also able to access Lord Nelson Park from the east via Cromwell Road (training track) and Dunstan Street at rear from Millett Street. There a lockable gates at the secondary vehicle entrances.

## 4.4 Traffic Management and Car Parking

Traffic management and car parking within the precinct has been identified as an issue. Some of the key points include:

- Number of roads and intersections within the precinct . sealed, unsealed and %oat tracks+ (additional %oads+created by users).
- Lack of separation between vehicles, pedestrians and horses (utilising rolling gates for Harness Racing events). The road between the netball courts and change rooms at St Arnaud Sporting Club was raised as a concern.
- Difficulty in knowing where to go . reliance on road markings and lack of directional signage.

- Horse and vehicle access onto and across the harness racing track, hockey pitch and oval.
- Car parks to north of netball courts . lack of separation from court area and mixing of players and netballs with cars; reliance on concrete parking blocks.
- Car parking (grassed) at hockey field.
- Lack of formalised parking in some areas (can result in reduction in number of vehicles able to be accommodated).
- Ticket Box located on exit side rather than entrance . as such volunteers required to continually cross road to collect entry fees for events where vehicle access is available.
- Reliance on off-site parking for events such as St Arnaud Agricultural Show with vehicles parking along Charlton-St Arnaud Road.
- Caravan and event power access points.
- Location of caravan dumping point.



## 4.5 Public Amenities

There are two poor standard free standing public toilet blocks provided, one on an island within the car park access roads and one located at the foot of Wilson's Hill Lookout.

Public toilets are also available in the St Arnaud Sporting Club.

There are no compliant accessible public toilets . one disabled toilet in the St Arnaud Sporting Club has a small step and narrow non-accessible door.

Other toilets are located in the TOTE Building and Football Change.



## 4.6 Sport Facility and Site Lighting

There is currently limited street, car park or security lighting on-site. Some lighting of car parking / roads off football pavilion and TOTE Building and toilet block near main car park.



In terms of sporting facility lighting there are:


- Four light poles providing lighting to the football/cricket oval.
- One fold down pole for the hockey pitch.
- One pole on each netball court with three lights on each with all only suitable for training only (Refer Sports Field Facilities for further information).

## 4.7 Sports Field Facilities

The functionality and quality of the playing field facilities for each current sport played at Lord Nelson Park is summarised for the main sporting facilities by sport and / or facility. Structural assessments were not completed.

Table 4.1 Sport Field Facilities Review





| Facility Element                              | Quality / Functionality  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Australian rules football</b>              |  |  |
| Oval  | Drainage issues identified in consultations.   |  |
| Coaches boxes<br>Interchange benches          | Visual barrier   |  |
| Interchange steward / umpires / officials box | Visual barrier   |  |
| Scoreboard                                    | Distance from spectators.  |  |
| Sports Lighting                               | Experiencing ongoing issues with light failure.<br>Training standard.  |  |
| Fencing                                       | No internal oval fence . fence outside edge of harness racing track.   |  |
| <b>Cricket</b>                                |  |  |
| Two Synthetic Cricket Nets                    | Run-up is located on the hockey pitch / synthetic oval.<br>Club identified issues with sections of fencing.<br>Wearing of mats . bowlers footmarks.<br>May impact on viewing of harness racing events.<br>Distance from amenities.<br>Turf ground however no turf practice wicket. |  |
| Oval - turf                                   | Access to change rooms and covered seating.<br>Turf wicket rated as very good by club.   |  |
| Oval - synthetic                              | Different grasses so ball goes dead on hockey side; problem with creases.  |  |

| Facility Element           | Quality / Functionality   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Harness Racing</b>      |   |  |
| Track                      | Too short, tight bends.<br>Used as car parking for football.<br>Regular vehicles crossing track to hockey / synthetic cricket.<br>Football clubroom . proximity to track and location on bend.                    |    |
| Stables                    | Location . accessing track requires manually operated roll out gates.<br>Guttering in front of stables.   |  |
| Stewards towers            | Suitable.   |  |
| Track lighting             | None.   |  |
| <b>Hockey</b>              |   |  |
| Pitch                      | Good  |   |
| Fencing                    | No pitch fence . fence outside edge of harness racing track.  |  |
| Coaches & Player Benches   | Use temporary.  |  |
| Sports lighting            | One tower with three lights.<br>Issue with coverage . dead spot at southern end . light alignment / angle to be checked and adjusted.<br>Training standard.   |  |
| Scoreboard                 | No permanent scoreboard.  |  |
| Spectator shelter          | Temporary stands (four) . no shelter or weather protection.   |  |
| <b>Netball</b>             |   |  |
| Two asphalt courts         | Not level so pooling of water on both courts with court two often not playable.<br>Not 3.65m between courts.<br>Proximity of car parks at northern end.<br>Issue with drain between Court 1 and Terraced seating. |  |
| Sports lighting            | One tower with three lights on each court.<br>Training standard.  |  |
| Officials and team benches | Court 1: one covered bench at side (southern end). Covered concrete terracing.<br>Court 2: Two covered team benches and covered official's bench.<br>Locations - proximity to courts, spectators.                 |  |
| Fencing                    | Two sides . cyclone.<br>Club room and Poultry Pavilion on third side.<br>No fencing between car parking and courts on north side.   |  |
| Scoreboard                 | No permanent scoreboards - manual used.   |  |
| Spectator shelter          | Court one only . concrete terracing in front of clubroom.   |  |

## 4.8 Sport Pavilions and Other Buildings

The functionality and quality of sports pavilions and other buildings are summarised for the main facilities by sport and / or facility. Structural assessments were not completed. Plans where provided are included in Appendix Five.






Table 4.2 Sport Pavilions and Other Buildings

| Building                   | Quality / Functionality  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Football Club Rooms</b> |  |  |
| Change Rooms - Home        | <p>Shared shower area . no cubicles. Home showers have been upgraded. Room has benches and clothing hooks and memorabilia.</p> <p>Access to Trainers room which is used for storage also.</p>  |    |
| Change - Rooms Away        | <p>Away amenities are very poor condition / quality. Room has benches and clothing hooks; carpet (needs replacing). Access to area for %trainers+with rub down benches (labelled as Office 2 on plan). Shared shower area . no cubicles.</p> |   |
| Umpires Change             | <p>External and internal access (off Away Room). Umpires shower.</p>   |  |
| Disability access          | <p>No - all entrances have steps / stairs.</p>   |  |
| Office / Administration    | <p>Two labelled on plan - one being used as Trainers Room for Away Team. No access to other office . has external and internal access.</p>   |  |
| Storage                    | <p>Small storage area with internal and external access. Some shelves in Home Trainers Room. Insufficient storage resulting in equipment being inappropriately stored in other areas.</p>  |  |
| Verandah                   | <p>Terraced steps and seating provided at front of pavilion in poor condition.</p>   |  |



| Building                   | Quality / Functionality   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Other                      | <p>Rubbish bins stored against back wall . no bin enclosure for the pavilion.<br/>           Small water tank.<br/>           Location close to Harness Racing Track.</p>    |    |
| <b>Hockey</b>              |   |  |
| Shed                       | <p>No access provided to assess internal areas.<br/>           Based on plan there are two external roller door storage areas, one internal storage area and main area.</p>   |   |
| Change room and amenities  | <p>Located in St Arnaud Sporting Club - separated from pitch.<br/>           Very good condition. Benches; no clothing hooks.<br/>           Shared with Netball.<br/>           Also are amenities for St Arnaud Sporting Club Function Room.<br/>           Shower cubicles.</p>  |   |
| Verandah                   | <p>Small shelter at front of shed.</p>  |  |
| <b>Netball</b>             |   |  |
| Clubroom                   | <p>Located at end of Poultry Pavilion.<br/>           No water.<br/>           Concrete terracing at front.<br/>           Heating and water tank.<br/>           Good condition.</p>   |  |
| Change Rooms and Amenities | <p>Located in St Arnaud Sporting Club.<br/>           Separated from courts (by road).<br/>           Very good condition.<br/>           Benches; no clothing hooks.<br/>           Shared with Hockey.<br/>           Also are amenities for St Arnaud Sporting Club Function Room.<br/>           Shower cubicles.</p> |  |
| Umpires Change             | <p>No separate umpires facilities.</p>  |  |
| Storage                    | <p>Internal storage in Club Room for small equipment.<br/>           External Storage for goals.</p>  |  |
| Disability access          | <p>To Clubroom via backdoor.<br/>           Stairs at front preventing access.</p>  |  |
| Office / Administration    | <p>Use area in Clubroom.</p>  |  |
| Other                      | <p>External visual amenity is poor.<br/>           No signage on car park side to identify building.</p>  |  |

| Building                       | Quality / Functionality  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Netball (cont)                 |   |    |
| <b>Sheep Pavilion</b>          |  |  |
| Sheep Pavilion                 | <p>Large three sided shed with recently concreted floor. Café style blinds on oval side as weather protection.</p> <p>Used for Show, spectator seating (temporary stand), covered car parking for weekend sporting competitions, cross country participants, spectators and officials (shelter) and requested as venue for functions (eg birthday parties).</p> <p>No longer correct shape for Sheep Events (eg speed shearing) as spectators not able to see stage (distance from stage . length and stage not elevated).</p> <p>Access for loading / unloading sheep is steep; no permanent yards.</p> <p>Rust evident in some panels.</p> |   |
| <b>St Arnaud Sporting Club</b> |  |  |
| Entry & Foyer                  | Not obvious or appealing - dominated by asphalt car park and shipping container.   |  |
| Function Room                  | <p>Bifold door with Members clubroom.</p> <p>Access to Netball / Hockey amenities.</p> <p>Bar servery.</p> <p>Good condition.</p> <p>Issue for sporting clubs due to separation from sporting clubrooms and part of Gaming Facility.</p> <p>Very good view main oval and Harness Racing. Suitable for VIPs.</p> <p>St Arnaud Football Club memorabilia displayed.</p> <p>Dance floor.</p>  |  |
| Amenities                      | Male and female toilets. Hockey and Netball amenities male and female toilets, showers and change areas in very good condition.  |  |
| Disabled toilet                | Non-compliant including step and door.   |  |
| Storage                        | A shipping container is located at front of building. Visually unattractive.   |  |
| Other                          | <p>Gaming room, bar, members clubroom, kitchen and cool room have not been assessed.</p> <p>Rubbish bins and other items not securely stored (eg kegs).</p>  |  |
|                                |  |  |

| Building                               | Quality / Functionality   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>TOTE Building</b>                   |   |  |
| Kiosk / Canteen                        | Suitable location for oval with external tables and chairs.<br>May be issues for staff given narrow width and equipment provided.<br>No visual connection to netball facilities.  |    |
| Amenities                              | Partially updated - showers are group not cubicles (used for Show - camping).<br>Access to Female through internal storage.   |   |
| Accessibility                          | Not accessible . steps to access parts of ground floor and stairs to Levels 1 and 2.  |  |
| Show office                            | No access.  |  |
| Multi-purpose Room                     | Used for show (currently also used by St Arnaud Football Club as social area).  |   |
| Storage                                | Internal store area; Show display cases stored in entry area/display area (visual amenity in accessing multi-purpose room).   |  |
| Verandah and outdoor tables and chairs | Good viewing point.   |  |
| Entry area                             | Entry via single door or roller door.<br>Stairs to upper levels accessed externally from front of building could be a hazard / issue (items stored under stairs).   |  |
| Level 1                                | Used for Harness Racing callers, judges and media and football timekeepers.<br>In very poor condition (including mildew . potential leak).<br>Access from stairs to roof of building (unsecured once access stairs which are locked).<br>Excellent view of Harness Racing Track, oval and hockey pitch. |  |
| Level 2                                | Stair access . query compliance / safety.<br>Not accessed.  |  |
| Other                                  | The functionality of the building is an issue with poor layout, different floor levels / surfaces.<br>Quality issues throughout.<br>Poor quality overall.   |  |
| <b>Other</b>                           |   |  |
| Poultry Pavilion                       | No access.<br>St Arnaud Agricultural Society rated as adequate.   |  |
| Stables . old in north west corner     | Old, issues re condition and only used for St Arnaud Agricultural Show.   |  |
| Stables - leased                       | No access.  |  |
| Storage for Agricultural Society       | No access.  |  |
| Council Equipment Shed                 | No access   |  |

## 4.9 Leisure Spaces and Facilities

The leisure facilities (excluding sporting facilities above) on site include:

- Lookout tower (closed) and shelter on Wilsons Hill - poor condition.
- Four tables with seating at bottom of Wilsons Hill near toilet block, with some natural shade.
- Tables with seating and concrete terraces in front of TOTE Building (kiosk).
- Lawns and concrete terraces in front of the St Arnaud Sporting Club.
- Power for camping and caravans and a dump point.



There is no playground/play space, no BBQs or picnic shelters, designated walking / cycling paths, half-courts, hit-up walls, or elements that may attract a diverse range of people apart from facilities for sports training and competitions or organised community events. No drinking fountains were identified, there is a water tap at the picnic tables.

## 4.10 Fencing

There is a range of types of fencing in and around Lord Nelson Park. Cyclone fencing on the property boundary as well as around the Harness Racing Track, metal panels, metal post and rail and rural fencing.

The netball courts are fenced on two sides with 1.8m cyclone wire fencing. There is a 900cm/1.0m cyclone fence around the majority of the harness racing track with panel fencing on the remainder. Two horse and vehicle gates are provided to access the harness racing track.



Rural fencing was observed in the area near the stables (leased) to the Training Track however some maintenance and repairs required.

## 4.11 Site Topography, Vegetation and Landscaping

Lord Nelson Park is an elevated site with undulations / slopes that have required levelling for the development of sporting infrastructure and playing fields.

The site topography provides some natural spectator viewing points from along the front of the St Arnaud Sporting Club to the Sheep Pavilion. Conversely the topography also provides some challenges including accessibility and facility developments.



The site includes some natural vegetation and some plantings, providing some shade to areas of the site. There are areas of the site that would benefit from the softening and welcoming effects of landscaping such as most of the buildings adjoining the car parks including the St Arnaud Sporting Club, TOTE Building and the St Arnaud Netball Club. There is an existing planting at the TOTE Building end of the Sheep Pavilion, and some other areas, however the visual impact and approach to key infrastructure is quite hard (asphalt car parking). Some vegetation beyond netball courts and Sheep Pavilion was cleared due to part of the site being a Neighbourhood Safer Place.





# 5 Management Options Review

## 5.1 Introduction

A review of management models from industry best practice facility management models, current Lord Nelson Park and existing Northern Grampians Shire Council management as well as usage agreements was completed with details summarised in the sections below.

## 5.2 Selected Management Structures

Given that Lord Nelson Park is an operational facility this section of the report reviews relevant Management Systems / Structures currently available and used for the management and operation of similar community sport and leisure facilities. Those reviewed are:

- Advisory Committees
- Council Management
- Crown Land (Department Environment and Primary Industries) Committees of Management
- Incorporated Committees of Management
- Lease/s
- Special Committees - Section 86 Committees of Management
- User Representative Groups.

These are discussed in detail in the following sections.

### 5.2.1 Advisory Committees

Advisory Committees include representatives from Council and the community and provide an opportunity for Councils to access people with a specific skill set, resources and opinions to guide decision making. Terms of Reference will specify the purpose, role and responsibilities of the Advisory Committees.

An Advisory Committee does not have the power to make decisions on Council's behalf, however they are able to make recommendations for consideration of Council. Council is not bound to accept any recommendation of an Advisory Committee. The advantages and disadvantages of Advisory Committees are summarised in the following table.

*Table 5.1 Advisory Committee – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|--|--|
| Enables participation by the community in providing advice to Council relating to management, operation and development of community sport and leisure facilities. | Can be resource intensive particularly in regards to staff time.               |
| Able to bring in particular expertise e.g. sporting or facility management.  | Community members can become disillusioned if recommendations are not adopted. |
| At facilities with multiple users membership can be structured to have equal representation from each allocated user group.  | Community may not embrace Advisory Committee recommendations.                  |

Sources include: Victorian Local Government Association Website [http://www.vlga.org.au/Resources/Consultation\\_and\\_Engagement/Two-way\\_or\\_Interactive\\_Consultation/Steering\\_Advisory\\_Committee.aspx](http://www.vlga.org.au/Resources/Consultation_and_Engagement/Two-way_or_Interactive_Consultation/Steering_Advisory_Committee.aspx) and Good Governance Guide Website <http://www.goodgovernance.org.au/decision-making/the-process/gathering-information/>

There are currently no Advisory Committees.

## 5.2.2 Council Management

This management model sees Council being responsible for in-house management, employing any required staff. Council is responsible for all operations (policies, administration, human resources, financial performance, asset management and maintenance, risk management, etc.). An Advisory Committee, Committee of Management or User Representative Group may also be established.

The advantages and disadvantages of Council Management are summarised in the table on the following page.

*Table 5.2 Council Management – Advantages/Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|--|--|
| Total and sole management control of the facility, services and programs.  | Possible increase in FTE employees which increases Council's management of servicing those employees.  |
| Sole community recognition as a Council service and facility.  | Required to develop all operational procedures and documentation (possibly from scratch), which could be costly and time and labour intensive.   |
| Quality control over programming and customer service delivery.  | Council Employment Awards normally include penalty rates, which could have a negative financial impact.  |
| Ability to provide social services/programs that may need financial support from Council/government. <sup>22</sup>       | Red tape and Council policies may limit services delivery and innovation (eg usage and access to social media).  |
| Ability to use services and programs from sport and leisure facilities as marketing tools for other Council departments. | Where only a few staff are employed at the facility, Council will need to provide the necessary administrative support services such as finance, key collection, marketing, human resources. <sup>23</sup> |
| Ability to cross promote with other Council activities and services.   |  |
| Financial stability of operations under Council management.  |  |
| Retention of total net return from facility operations.  |  |

Northern Grampians Shire Council currently directly manages sporting reserves (seasonal allocations).

<sup>22</sup>Source: Managing Facilities, Department of Sport and Recreation Western Australia, <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/managingfacilities>, Last Accessed 11 February 2013.

<sup>23</sup>Source: Managing Facilities, Department of Sport and Recreation Western Australia, <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/managingfacilities>, Last Accessed 11 February 2013.

### 5.2.3 Crown Land - Committees of Management

Committees of Management have traditionally been used to manage Crown Land reserves. These are generally either local committees of management comprising community members and representatives of the municipal Council, statutory bodies and trustees or the municipal Council. Under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* the appointed committees are given the power to:

- *Manage and develop the reserve*
- *Undertake financial transactions, including borrowing money (with the Victorian Treasurer's consent) and entering contracts*
- *Enter tenure arrangements, such as leasing and licensing, for part or all of the reserve, subject to Minister's approval*
- *Employ people*
- *Enforce regulations.*<sup>24</sup>

The advantages and disadvantages of Crown Land Committees of Management are summarised in the following table.

*Table 5.3 Crown Land Committees of Management – Advantages/Disadvantages*

| Advantages  | Disadvantages   |
|---|---|
| Legislated governance model for the management of Crown land.                     | Capacity of committee members influences the success of the Committee of Management.  |
| Enables participation by the community in the management of community facilities. | If Council is not the Committee of Management it does not have control over management and usage of the facility which could reduce community access and community benefit. |
| Provides a lawful /legal structure for facility management.                       | A legal entity that relies on the clear responsibilities and obligations of the committee. <sup>25</sup>  |

Crown Land Committee of Management are located at a number of reserves in the Northern Grampians Shire area.

### 5.2.4 Incorporated Committees of Management

Incorporation provides community and not-for-profit groups with recognised legal structure through becoming a legal entity providing recognition by governments, the courts, other businesses and the public. As a legal organisation an incorporated association can:

- Accept gifts and bequests.
- Buy and sell property.
- Invest and borrow money.
- Open a bank account.
- Sue and be sued.
- Enter into contracts and agreements.
- Take out public liability insurance more easily.<sup>26</sup>

Requirements of an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (2012) includes:

- Have a set of written rules,
- Appoint a Committee of Management to oversee the operations of the organisation.

<sup>24</sup> Source Department of Sustainability and Environment Website <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/property-titles-and-maps/managing-crown-land/managing-crown-land-fact-sheets/managing-crown-land-fact-sheet-committees-of-management-and-reserved-crown-land> Last accessed 12 February 2013.

<sup>25</sup> *A Guide to Governing Shared Community Facilities*, Department of Planning and Community Development, September 2010.

<sup>26</sup> Should your club incorporate? Consumer Affairs Victoria Website, <http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-not-for-profits/incorporated-associations/become-an-incorporated-association/should-your-club-incorporate> Last accessed 12 February 2013.



- Hold certain meetings and keep relevant records.
- Provide financial information about the organisation, pay initial registration and annual fee to the government.

Incorporated Committees of Management have been utilised by many Councils in the management of sport and leisure facilities, with committee members coming from the tenanted user groups and in some instances residents from the local community.

These are more suited to facilities with more than one tenanted user group. The advantages and disadvantages of Incorporated Committees of Management are summarised in the table below.

*Table 5.4 Incorporated Committees of Management – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|--|--|
| Separate legal entity.   | Separate legal entity potentially operating outside control of Council in managing Council and community assets.                   |
| Members and office bearers are protected against personal liability for the organisation's debts and other legal obligations.          | Council does not have control over management and usage of the facility which could reduce community access and community benefit. |
| Eligible to apply for a large range of government and non-government grants.   | Not suitable for managing a significant asset.   |
| Capacity to employ staff, to enter into contracts and agreements with suppliers and services (may negotiate better rate than Council). | Must pay fees for ongoing statutory obligations.   |
| Continues to exist even when membership of group changes (perpetual succession).   | Capacity of committee members influences the success of the Committee of Management.   |

A management agreement with the Incorporated Committee of Management to *manage, operate and maintain the* facility for a specified term that ensures user groups and local community benefits may also be implemented.

There are currently no Northern Grampians Shire Council sport and leisure facilities with an Incorporated Committee of Management.

### 5.2.5 Lease/s

The owner of the land grants a right to the lessee to have exclusive use of that land for a specified period of time in return for an agreed fee/rental payment. Usually used where a site is occupied fully for a specific sport/purpose e.g. tennis courts, bowling greens, synthetic hockey pitches, croquet as well as for leisure and aquatic centres. A lease may also be provided if a group has made substantial contributions to the development of the facility. Lease terms may include lessee responsibility for maintenance, financial performance and operations.

The length of the lease varies but is not allowed to exceed 50 years (as per Local Government Act (1989)). If Council is seeking broader community benefits this must be specified in the lease agreement.

The advantages and disadvantages of a Lease are summarised in the following table.

*Table 5.5 Lease – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages   |
|--|---|
| The owner has no day-to-day administrative responsibility.   | The degree of Council control over centre operations is limited by the way the lease agreement is structured.     |
| The owner has minimal financial risk.  | Difficult to lease a facility that projects an operating deficit.   |
| Lessee may invest funds in the facility if they have sufficient tenure to generate an acceptable return on their investment. | Difficult for either party to withdraw from or change the terms of the lease without the consent of both parties. |

| Advantages  | Disadvantages  |
|---|--|
| The Lessee usually retains all operational profits. | Council does not have control over management and usage of the facility which could reduce community access and community benefit. |

Sources: Understanding Lease and Hire Agreements, A Guide for Sport and Active Recreation Clubs, VicSport, undated; When to use a Lease, Licence, Easement, <http://www.ucop.edu/real-estate-services/files/documents/leasing/leaselicense.pdf>, Last accessed 20 June 2013.

There are several sport and leisure facilities managed under a lease including Swifts Football Netball Club (North Park), Stawell Football Netball Club (Central Park) and St Arnaud Sporting Club (Lord Nelson Park).

## 5.2.6 Special Committee of Management - Section 86 Committee

Under Section 86 of the Local Government Act (1989) Councils are allowed by instrument of delegation, to delegate some of its functions, duties or powers under the Local Government Act (1989) or any other Act to a special committee.

In the case of management of sport and leisure facilities, it is likely that the committee will be mainly comprised of community members and potentially Council Representatives (Councillors and/or Council officers).

Special Committees have the power to make decisions on behalf of (or acting in place of) the Council itself and are subjected to the same statutory procedures and conduct as Council (e.g. conflict of interest).

The advantages and disadvantages of Section 86 Committees are summarised in the table below.

*Table 5.6 Section 86 Committees – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages  | Disadvantages  |
|---|--|
| Enables participation by the community in the management of community facilities.   | Council may not be able to influence how the infrastructure delivers the desired community outcomes.   |
| Provides a lawful/legal structure for facility management.                          | Capacity of committee members influences the success of the Section 86 Committee.  |
| Flexibility in the extent and type of delegation granted to each Special Committee. | Committee not meeting legislative requirements. Non submission of primary and ordinary returns within the required timeframe can result in fines to individual members of more than \$7,000. |
| May result in increased usage through greater sense of ownership.                   | Requirements on Council officers in terms of ensuring legislative requirements are met.  |
| Up-skilling of community members.   | May not have the required skills or expertise.   |

Source includes: Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate Information Bulletin 3 November 2011.

### 1 St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee

The St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee, a Northern Grampians Shire Council Section 86 Committee, appointed by Council, has delegated responsibilities for the facilities at St Arnaud Recreation Reserves, Lord Nelson Park and King George Park (the reserves) for the benefit of the community, provided that the allocation of use of the facilities by the Committee is in general compliance with council's long term policy for facility usage and development.

The Committee comprises:

- Six members . two members opt be appointed by Council from the St Arnaud Community and four members nominated by the user bodies of the Reserves.
- Committee is supported by one Councillor and one Council officer, appointed annually by Council.

The St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee appointed at the Council Meeting of 21 October 2014 are:

- Peter Knights - St Arnaud Community Representative (St Arnaud Agricultural Society and St Arnaud Hockey Club)
- Peter Vanrenan - User Body Representative (St Arnaud Agricultural Society).
- Peter Knight - St Arnaud Community Representative
- Kaye Boyd User - Body Representative (St Arnaud Harness Racing Club)
- Brett Douglas - User Body Representative (St Arnaud Football Club)
- Tony Hull - User Body Representative (St Arnaud Football Club)

The Council delegates as at 2 December 2013 are Councillor Merilee Reid and Director of Marketing and Community (or delegate).

The Committee's responsibilities include:

- Receive applications and allocate times for use of the facilities.
- Recommending fees and charges for use of the facilities to Council for approval.
- Develop and monitor user agreements and hiring policy.
- As per an established maintenance procedure, advise Council of maintenance requirements including repairs and replacements to buildings, fixtures and fittings located at the reserves and make recommendations for building alterations and Reserve improvements.
- Ensure no alterations are made to facilities or type of activities without prior approval of Council.
- Prioritise capital works and submit budget requests to Council and in conjunction with Council apply for grants and funding for capital projects. Negotiate with Council annually the maintenance and capital budget for the facilities allocated through the Council budget.
- Provide annually a schedule of recommended improvements or alterations or additional buildings of capital improvement to the Reserve.

Council's responsibilities include:

- Maintain structural integrity of property.
- Insurance policies for property and Section 86 Committee.
- Conduct annual inspection of facilities including condition of buildings, playgrounds and playing surfaces and current standard of maintenance and fit for purpose.
- Provide regular financial reports to the Committee relating to capital and maintenance projects.

The Committee is not to over commit the facilities and preference is to be given to local organisations when hiring the facilities.

### **5.2.7 User Representative Group**

The User Representative Group management model has been found suitable for facilities and reserves with multiple user groups. The model involves each club nominating one (or more if deemed appropriate) club committee member to represent them at User Representative Group Meetings and to liaise with Council.

Council manages the reserve or facility (see Council Management) considering all the interests of the various users and future users. Meetings are usually conducted at the change of seasons with issues or matters during the season dealt with directly by Council officers and club representative/s or an additional meeting can be called.

A Terms of Reference or similar governs the operation of the User Representative Group. The advantages and disadvantages of User Representative Groups are summarised in the table on the following page.

Table 5.7 User Representative Group – Advantages and Disadvantages

| Advantages  | Disadvantages   |
|---|---|
| Reduces the time commitment and responsibilities on club volunteers.  | Some clubs may disengage without a formal structure and requirements. |
| Reduced legislative requirement on volunteers (e.g. replaces Section 86 Committee or Incorporated Association).     |   |
| Reduction in Council officer time required to ensure legislative requirements are met.                              |   |
| Council has management control of the facility.   |   |
| Council has quality control over programming and customer service delivery.   |   |
| Financial stability of operations under Council management.   |   |
| Ability to provide social services/programs that may need financial support from Council/ government. <sup>27</sup> |   |

There are currently no Northern Grampians Shire Council sport and leisure facilities with User Representative Groups.

## 5.3 Usage Agreements

This section reviews the different usage agreements used for clubs and organisations being:

- Hire Agreement
- Licence Agreement
- Seasonal User Agreement.

### 5.3.1 Hire Agreement

A hire agreement is usually utilised for casual or short-term usage of a facility for a set price and under specified conditions. Under a hire agreement exclusive use of the facility may not be provided and as such they allow Council to allocate the facility to other user groups or to permit general public to access the facility.

The hire agreement does not convey an interest in the facility and the responsibilities of both parties usually ends when the hire period expires.

The advantages and disadvantages of Hire Agreements are summarised in the table below.

Table 5.8 Hire Agreement – Advantages and Disadvantages

| Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|--|--|
| Enables Council to maximise usage of facility by hiring out when not being used by others.   | Multiple short term hire agreements can be resource intensive to manage particularly in terms of staff time. |
| Allows Council to allocate other users or hire out the facility at times not specified in seasonal user or other usage agreements. |  |
| Does not convey an interest in real property and is usually revocable.   |  |
| Allows Council to respond to changing needs and conditions.  |  |
| Greater flexibility in usage/allocation of users.  |  |

<sup>27</sup>Source: Managing Facilities, Department of Sport and Recreation Western Australia, <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/managingfacilities>, Last Accessed 11 February 2013.

### 5.3.2 Licence Agreement

A licence provides a licensee (in this instance a sporting club) with permission to access the specified property for a specified purpose, at specified times and under specified conditions.<sup>28</sup> Under a licence exclusive use of the facility is not provided and as such they allow Council to allocate the facility to other regular user groups or to permit general public to access the facility at times not covered/specified under the licence.

Given that under the licence no interest is created it is likely that the rights and obligations on the licensee are not as stringent as may be included in a lease.<sup>29</sup>

The advantages and disadvantages of Licence Agreements are summarised in the following table.

*Table 5.9 Licence Agreement – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages  |
|--|--|
| Allows Council to allocate other users or hire out the facility at times not specified in the licence. | Maintenance and management responsibilities may not be clear with multiple users/licences/agreements for the one facility. |
| Beneficial where facility is shared by a number of user groups.  | Licensee unlikely to invest funds in the property due to lack of security of tenure.                                       |
| Does not convey an interest in real property and is usually revocable.                                 |  |
| Not transferable to another party (is personal to the licensee).                                       |  |
| Allows Council to respond to changing needs and conditions.  |  |
| More flexibility than lease.   |  |

Sources: Understanding Lease and Hire Agreements, A Guide for Sport and Active Recreation Clubs, VicSport, undated; When to use a Lease, Licence, Easement, [http://www.ucop.edu/real-estate-services/\\_files/documents/leasing/leaselicense.pdf](http://www.ucop.edu/real-estate-services/_files/documents/leasing/leaselicense.pdf), Last accessed 20 June 2013.

There are currently no Northern Grampians Shire sport and leisure facilities that are occupied by clubs under licence, although the Glenorchy Golf Club have a licence with Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

### 5.3.3 Seasonal User Agreement

Many Councils utilise Seasonal User Agreements to provide sporting clubs with access to a facility for a defined season each year. This is usually summer (1 October to 31 March) or winter (1 April to 30 September).

Council is able to allocate multiple user groups to a facility during each season. Council will usually have a set of terms and conditions of use (Seasonal User Agreement or equivalent) that includes payment of fees and charges for use of the facility.

The advantages and disadvantages of Seasonal User Agreements are summarised in the table on the following page.

<sup>28</sup> Understanding Lease and Hire Agreements, A Guide for Sport and Active Recreation Clubs, VicSport, undated.

<sup>29</sup> Understanding Lease and Hire Agreements, A Guide for Sport and Active Recreation Clubs, VicSport, undated.

*Table 5.10 Seasonal User Agreement – Advantages and Disadvantages*

| Advantages   | Disadvantages   |
|--|---|
| Allows Council to allocate other users or hire out the facility at times not specified in the seasonal user agreement. | Maintenance and management responsibilities may not be clear with multiple agreements for the one facility. |
| Beneficial where facility is shared by a number of user groups.  | User is unlikely to invest funds in the property due to lack of security of tenure.                         |
| Does not convey an interest in real property and is usually revocable.   |   |
| Not transferable to another party (is personal to the user group).   |   |
| Allows Council to respond to changing needs and conditions.  |   |
| Greater flexibility in usage/allocation of users.  |   |

Seasonal user agreements are currently in place with a range of sporting clubs and leisure organisations for use of facilities in Northern Grampians Shire including Agricultural Society, athletics, Australian Rules football, cricket, harness racing, hockey, netball, swimming and tennis clubs.



## 6 Future Facility Funding Development Opportunities

### 6.1 Introduction

Sport and community facility industry history shows there are limited alternative funding opportunities for Council to attract funding to assist with developing sport and leisure facilities. Traditionally facility funding sources usually involve:

- Council Funding
- State and/or Federal Government Grants
- Commercial Investment
- Commercial Fundraising
- Community Fundraising and User Group/Contributions
- Developer Contribution Schemes.

Traditionally, a combination of Council funding with Government Grants and some limited community fundraising has occurred for the majority of sport and leisure facilities in Australia.

In larger areas with greater commercial opportunities, there has been some commercial investment in return for rights to manage/operate facilities (\$1M to \$2M investment in return for longer-term management agreements). There also has been a number of Councils look at commercial fundraising. This appears to have been more successful in New Zealand than Australia.

The current key future facility funding development opportunities are summarised in the following sections.

#### 6.1.1 State Government Funding

##### 1. Community Facility Funding Program

The State Government, through Sport and Recreation Victoria manages the Community Facility Funding Program to help provide high-quality, accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.

The 2015 to 2016 Community Facility Funding Program Guidelines identifies the key objective of the program as improving participation outcomes. Project proposals must demonstrate how the project:

- *“Will increase or maintain participation*
- *Encourages greater female and junior participation*
- *Encourages development of multi-use, shared and co-located facilities*
- *Collaborates with schools and community groups*
- *Collaborates with state sporting associations or other relevant peak bodies*
- *Improves environmental sustainability*
- *Implements Universal Design principles”*<sup>30</sup>

<sup>30</sup> 2015-2016 Community Facility Funding Program Guidelines, Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure, March 2014.

The Major Facilities category is available to develop or upgrade major sport and recreation facilities. The maximum amount that currently can be received under this program is \$650,000 (where the total project cost is more than \$500,000, excluding GST) with a funding ratio for Northern Grampians Shire Council of SRV \$1:\$1 local. The objective of the Major Facilities category is:

*“To enable the development of major community sport and recreation facilities that are high-quality, accessible, innovative, effectively managed, sustainable and well-used.”<sup>31</sup>*

The types of projects that might be funded include:

*the development of new, or redevelopment of existing multi-purpose facilities that cater for a range of activities and user groups. Examples include new or redeveloped stadiums or development of multi-sport precincts.*

Assessment criteria includes:

- *responds to identified community needs and issues and is strategically supported by local or regional plans and/or state sporting associations/peak bodies planning*
- *addresses a gap in regional/sub regional provision of facilities*
- *increases (or in certain cases maintains) participation in sport and recreation.*
- *encourages the broadest possible community participation in sport and recreation activities*
- *has significant regional/sub-regional and/or multi-purpose benefits*
- *improves the quality and range of sport and recreation opportunities*

Some projects have also been able to secure additional State Government funding by demonstrating they cater for regional need.

There are two other categories that may be applicable depending on implementation and staging. Minor Facilities which are available for community groups, working in partnership with local government, to develop or upgrade community sport and recreation facilities with the maximum grant amount currently of up to \$100,000 for any one project (where the total project cost is up to \$500,000, excluding GST). Some of the types of projects that might be funded include accessible change facilities, shared paths and trails, sports lighting, play spaces, youth recreation facilities and multi-use recreation/meeting spaces.

Soccer Facilities grants are available for local soccer clubs working with local government, to upgrade existing or develop new facilities to maximise participation opportunities in soccer with grants of up to \$100,000 with priority given to the development of soccer facilities in communities with no or inadequate soccer facilities.

## **2. Country Football Netball Program**

Funding from the Country Football Netball Program assists grassroots country football and netball clubs, associations and umpiring organisations to develop facilities, with applications required to be submitted through Council. Example projects include unisex change room facilities and amenities, multi-purpose meeting spaces, development or upgrading of playing surfaces or lighting. There are a number of areas that will not be funded such as maintenance works of existing facilities however the guidelines also state that:

- *the replacement of like-for-like surfaces (e.g. netball hard-court surface is being replaced by a similar hard-court surface) will not be considered a priority to receive funding unless it can be demonstrated that additional uses are proposed and/or a multi-purpose element is included. Exceptional circumstances may be considered where a safety and/or standard/compliance issue is evident (page 9).*

Councils are eligible to receive up to \$100,000 per financial year comprising one larger or up to three smaller projects, with a funding ratio of SRV \$2:\$1 local, however only exceptional projects are likely to receive \$100,000 (eg both football and netball components of the club jointly benefit).

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<sup>31</sup> 2015-2016 Community Facility Funding Program Guidelines, Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure, March 2014.



### 3. Regional Growth Fund – Putting Locals First Program

A component of the Regional Growth Fund the Putting Locals First Program (PLFP) has four components including Improved Local Infrastructure. Grants of up to \$300,000 with a funding ratio of RDV \$3:\$1 other or for projects between \$300,000 and \$500,000 at a ratio of RDV \$1: \$1 other are available to local government authorities, not for profit organisations, private sector business and agencies and educational institutions. Up to 50% of the applicants contribution may be from in-kind support.

The types of projects that might be funded include upgrading open space, building or upgrading shared community facilities (eg meeting places), pathway projects connecting communities and attracting visitors (eg walking tracks), technology and internet access to shared community facilities. There are a number of areas that the PLFP will not fund including maintenance.

### 4. Local Facilities for Local Clubs

The Local Facilities for Local Clubs Program provides match funding for club and community contribution (cash and in-kind) up to \$50,000 for projects up to \$150,000. There are a number of areas that will not be funded such as maintenance works of existing facilities however the guidelines state that:

- *The replacement of sport surfaces (e.g. tennis hard-court surface replaced by a similar hard-court surface) will be considered with priority given to projects which provide greater participations, are multi-purpose element or provide safety, risk or compliance outcomes (page 9).*

The community contribution must comprise at least 25% of the project cost. Applications for the Local Facilities for Local Clubs close on 15 September 2015 and it is not known if further funding rounds will be offered.

### 5. Country Action Grant Scheme

The County Action Grant Scheme provides grants up to \$5,000 to projects and initiatives that *increase the skills of coaches, officials and managers and improve the accessibility and operational capacity of community sport and recreation organisations in rural and regional Victoria.* Three types of projects include initiatives to:

- Improve the operational effectiveness and efficiency of organisations (eg establishment of a new organisation).
- Improve the skills of club members through provision of training for coaches and officials, administration staff and management committee members.
- Increase community participation by provision of accessible sport and active recreation opportunities (eg sessions of a sport or active recreation activity for older adults or young mothers or partnerships between local sports clubs and health centres or providers of participation opportunities in sport and recreation for people with a disability).

## 6.1.2 Federal Government Funding

Federal Government funding has been restricted for most sport and recreation developments since the early 1990s when the Community Sports and Cultural Centres Improvement Scheme was discontinued. Although there has been no formal funding scheme, there have been a number of leisure facility projects that were able to generate significant political pressure to receive funding.

The Federal Government recently launched the National Stronger Regions Fund with the objective of the five year being to fund infrastructure projects (including major multi-purpose sports facilities) that support economic growth and sustainability of regions, particularly disadvantaged regions with grants from \$20,000 to \$10 million. Projects must meet all four assessment criteria being economic growth, support or addresses disadvantage, increase investment and builds partnerships in region, viability

and sustainability of the project. Projects which may be supported include community centres which deliver economic benefits or support increases in tourism and or large flagship or signature multi-purpose sporting facilities that generate significant long term economic and social benefits and or support leadership in local communities. Local sporting facility upgrades or expansions or single sport facilities are unlikely to be supported. Dates for the first two funding rounds are:

- Round One . applications close 28 November 2014.
- Round Two . applications open 1 May 2015, close 31 July 2015.

### 6.1.3 Sporting Association / Community Organisation Funding

In relation to the development of Council facilities history indicates that only low levels of capital funds have been raised from community fundraising or user group contributions. These are usually tagged or used for equipment purchase.

User group contributions can have restrictive use requirements in return for funding and can cause arrangements that may negatively impact on other groups usage or see low revenue yields for such use.

#### *Harness Racing Victoria*

Development Fund for capital works to maintain and develop the infrastructure of the Harness Racing Industry and relevant Occupational Health and Safety works<sup>32</sup> (approximately \$2million annually). There may also be funding available from Government on a 50/50 basis from the State Government (Victorian Racing Industry Fund).

### 6.1.4 Commercial Fundraising

Traditionally commercial fundraisers have been used on some leisure and sporting projects to raise some funds. The results indicate they usually have some success but the funds raised are regarded as low contribution levels compared to the high capital cost to build such facilities. Such companies traditionally charge up to 30% of funds raised for their services.

### 6.1.5 Other Potential Funding Options

There are some examples where new facilities have received funding through naming rights of facilities. For example the Bendigo Bank in Diamond Creek provided approximately \$1M towards the development of the indoor facility in Diamond Creek in return for the Centre being named the Community Bank Stadium.

Australia Post's *Our Neighbourhood Community Grants*, a national grant program is aimed at building healthier, more vibrant and more inclusive communities. It includes funding for community inclusion projects that foster whole of community spirit through connecting and supporting marginalised Australians including people with a disability, the aged and economically disadvantaged. The maximum grant is \$10,000 with not-for-profit organisations eligible to apply with funded projects including accessible toilet for community hall and ramp to enable people with a disability to access sport programs.

Not for profit organisations are able to apply to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal for grants up to \$5,000 through the Small Grants for Rural Communities Program for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities in small rural, regional and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural development. Applications from communities with a population of 10,000 or less receive priority. Funded projects have included playground upgrades, sound equipment for community events, commercial dishwasher, trail signage upgrade, farmer health project and upgrade to toilet, access and storage.

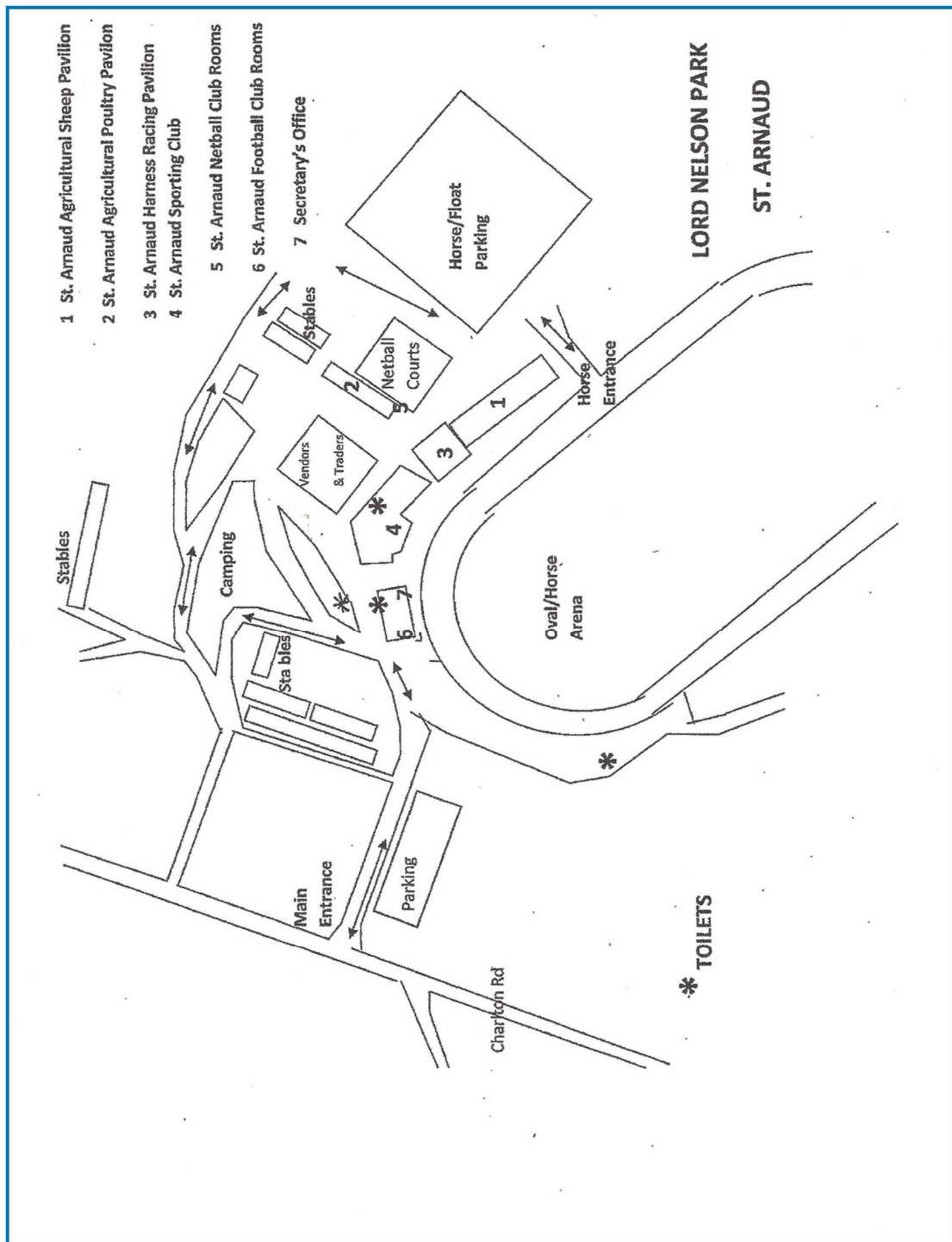
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<sup>32</sup> Harness Racing Victoria 2013 Annual Report.

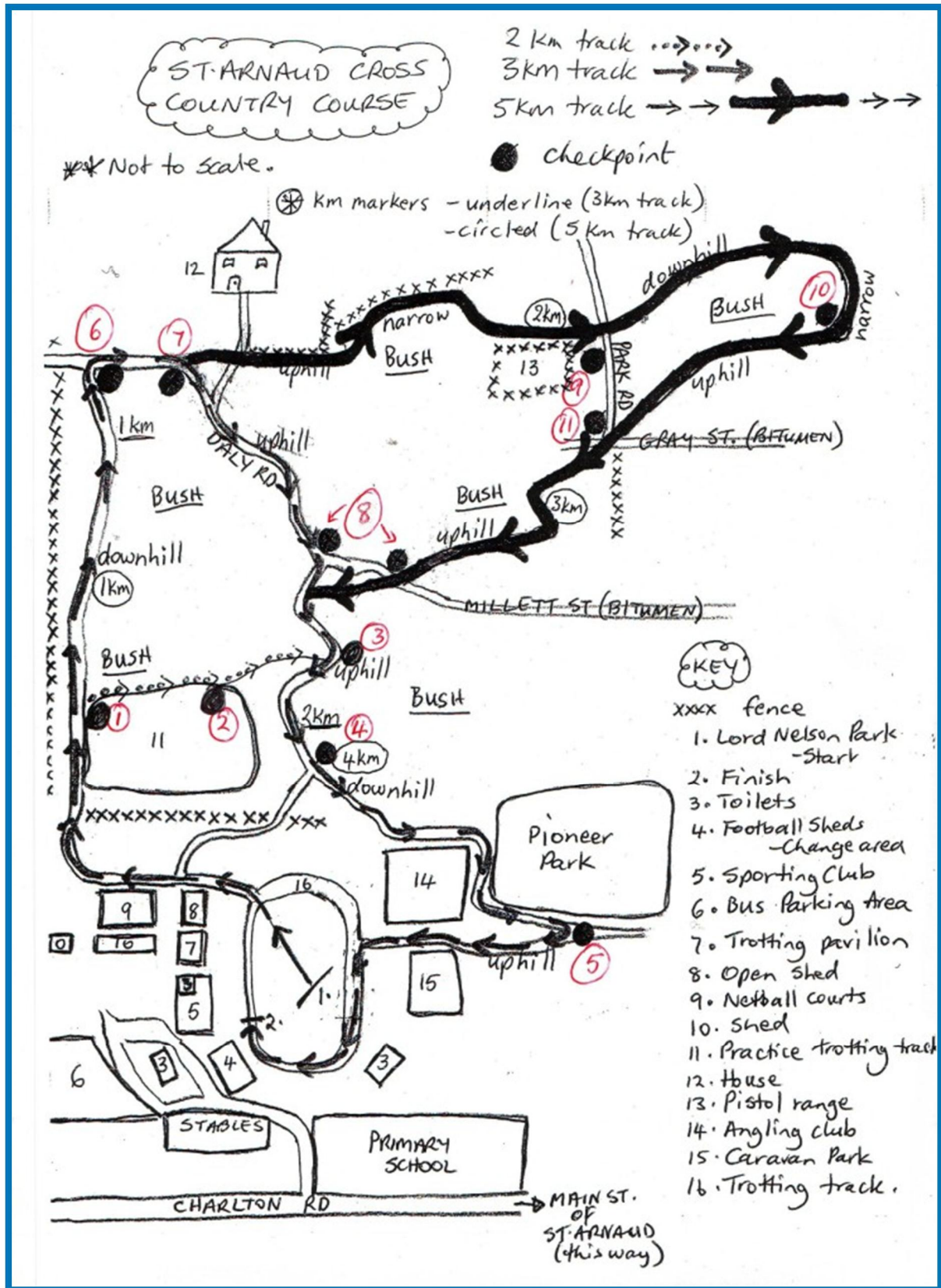
The Cadbury Fundraiser Community Grants support community-based projects that increase social inclusion and enhance community engagement with grants open only to Cadbury Fundraiser customers. The Live Well category is for initiatives *promoting increased opportunities for participation in sports and recreation or general community collaboration* and the Learn Well category for initiatives *promoting increased opportunities for learning and development*. Grants are to a maximum of \$1,200 with recently funded projects including swimming pool safety signage, netball clinics and equipment and hockey shed.

The above are a selection of grant programs that may assist in funding the implementation of the Lord Nelson Park Precinct Plan. As existing grant programs are subject to funding cycles and regular review and as new opportunities are released NGSC will need to review great options at the time of considering the funding of individual strategies.

# Appendix One: St Arnaud Agricultural Show Event Map



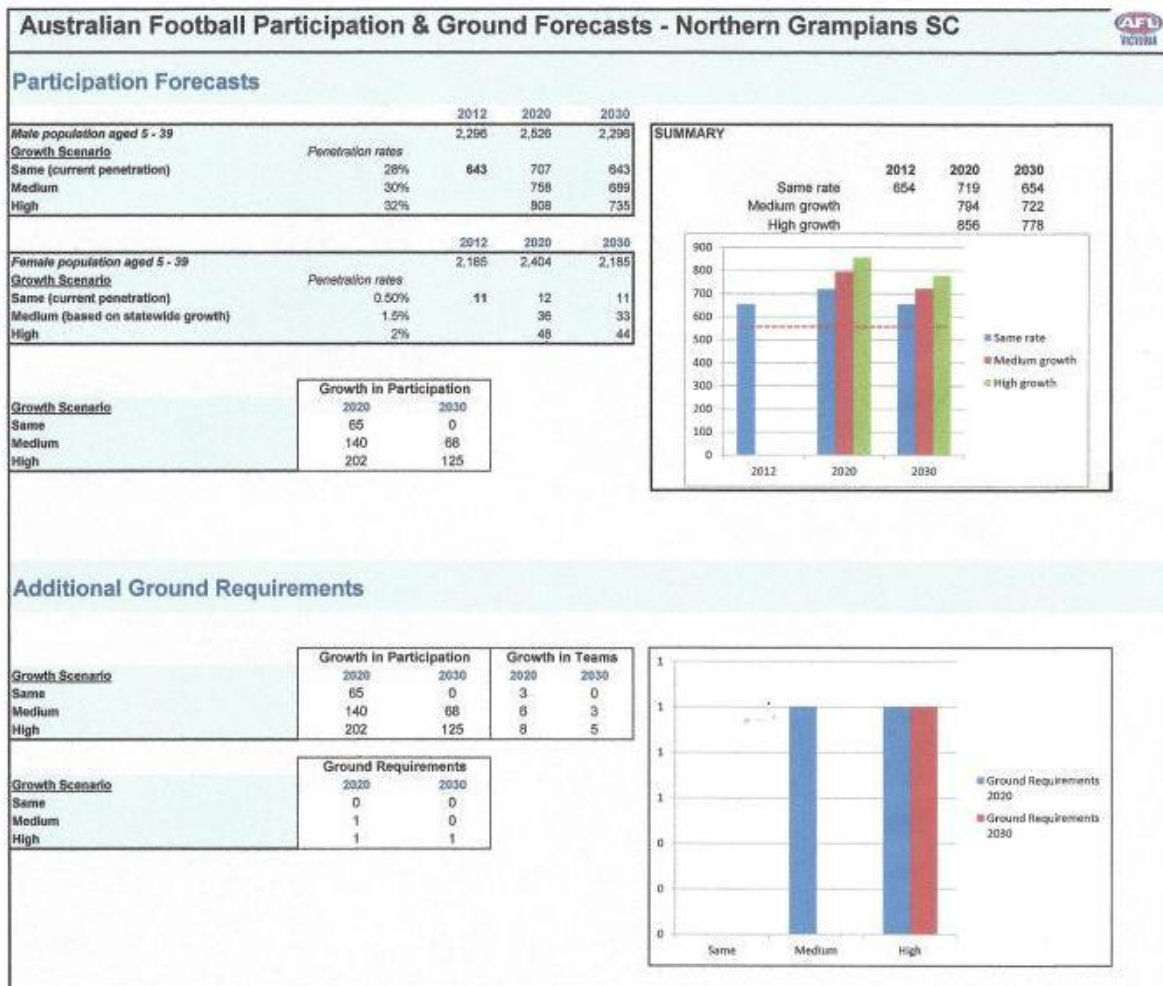
## Appendix Two: St Arnaud Cross Country Course



## Appendix Three: List of Representatives - Consultations and Interviews

| Organisation                             | Name                    | Position   |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Sporting and Tenant User Groups</b>   |                         |  |
| St Arnaud Agricultural Society           | Tony Marland            | Secretary  |
| St Arnaud Cricket Club                   | Jacob Patching          | Secretary / Treasurer  |
| St Arnaud Football Club                  | Brett Douglas           | President  |
| St Arnaud Harness Racing Club            | Kaye Boyd               | Secretary / Treasurer  |
| St Arnaud Hockey Club                    | Melissa Weir            | Secretary  |
| St Arnaud Netball Club                   | Nicole Amos             | Secretary  |
| <b>Other Regular User Groups</b>         |                         |  |
| Murdoch Disability Services              | Janelle Patching        | Murdoch Site Co-ordinator  |
| St Arnaud Junior Cricket Club            | Aileen Douglas          | Secretary / Treasurer  |
| <b>Regional and Peak Sporting Bodies</b> |                         |  |
| AFL Central Victoria                     | Paul Hamilton           | General Manager  |
| Cricket Victoria                         | Rohan O'Neill           | General Manager Gam and Market Development                         |
|  | Pat Meehan              | Consultant   |
| Harness Racing Victoria                  | John Anderson           | Chief Executive  |
| Hockey Victoria                          | Andrew Skillern         | Chief Executive Officer  |
| North Central Football League            | Lance Stanfield         | General Manager  |
| North Central Hockey League              | Tim McLelland           | President  |
| Netball Victoria                         | Amber Koster            | Facilities and Development Manager                                 |
| Netball Victoria . Northern Region       | Pam Ferrari             | Regional Development Manager (North)                               |
| Wimmera Mallee Cricket Association       | Gary Fernandez          | Secretary  |
| <b>Community Groups</b>                  |                         |  |
| St Arnaud Community Recreation Committee |                         |  |
| <b>Northern Grampians Shire Council</b>  |                         |  |
| Councillor<br>Council Officers           | Councillor Merilee Reid | Kara Ward Councillor   |
|  | Jim Nolan               | Director Economic and Community                                    |
|  | Michelle Kirk           | Customer Service Officer St Arnaud                                 |
|  | John Hunt               | Team Leader Parks and Gardens                                      |
|  | Jason Abbott            | Supervisor St Arnaud, Parks and Gardens                            |
|  | Tony Dark               | Team Leader Recreation and Children's Services                     |
|  | Trenton Fithall         | Infrastructure Engineer  |
| <b>Schools</b>                           |                         |  |
| St Arnaud Primary School                 | David Marsh             | Welfare Officer  |
| St Arnaud Secondary College              | Craig Cornwell          | Physical Education   |
| <b>Neighbouring Councils</b>             |                         |  |
| Buloke Shire Council                     | Paul Fernee             | Community Facilities Co-ordinator                                  |
| Pyrenees Shire Council                   | Sue O'Brien             | Manager Community Development                                      |
| <b>State Government</b>                  |                         |  |
| Regional Development Victoria            | Michelle Anderson       | Acting Manager, Regional Strategy<br>Regional Services . Grampians |

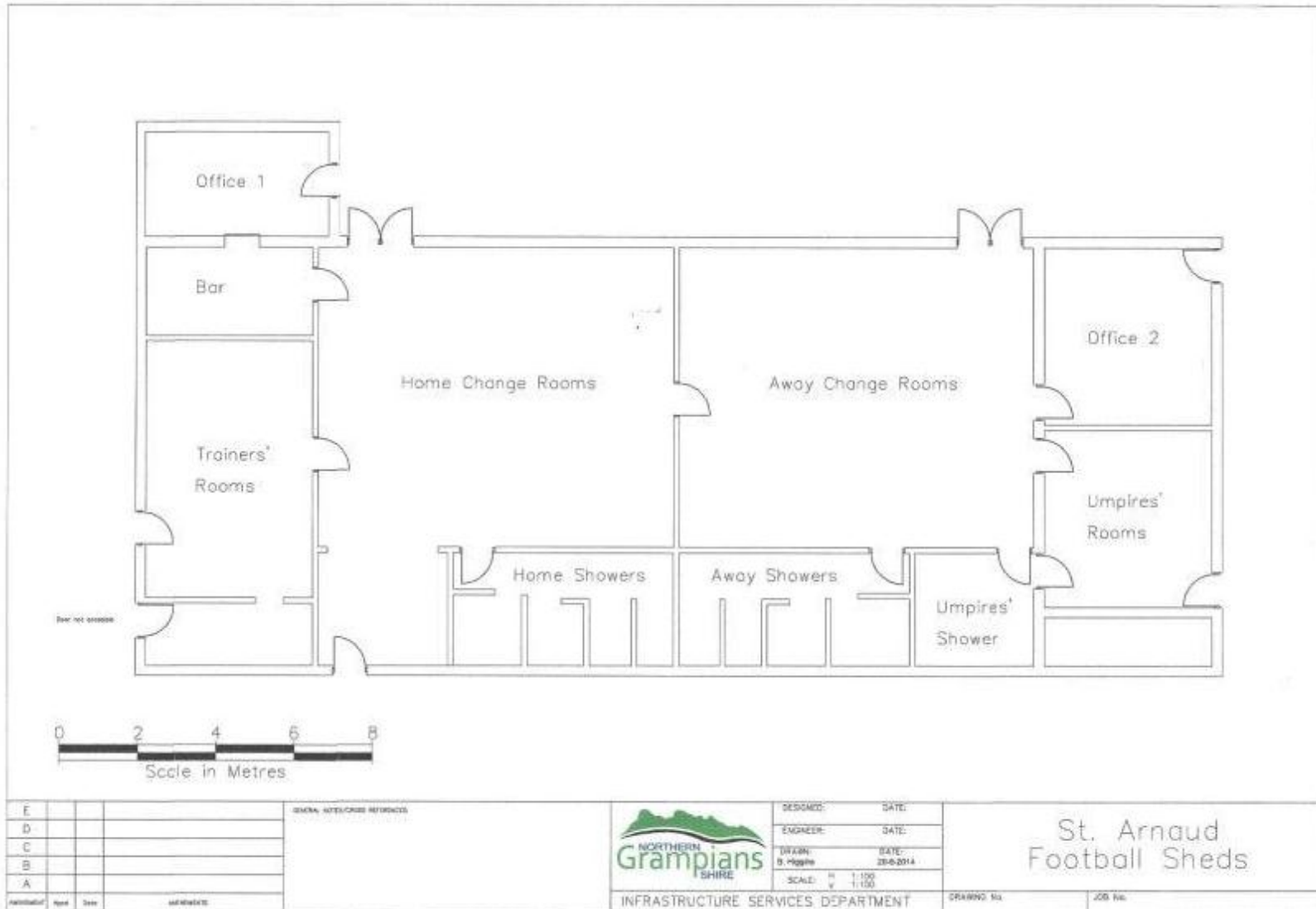
# Appendix Four: Australian Football Participation and Ground Forecasts Northern Grampians SC



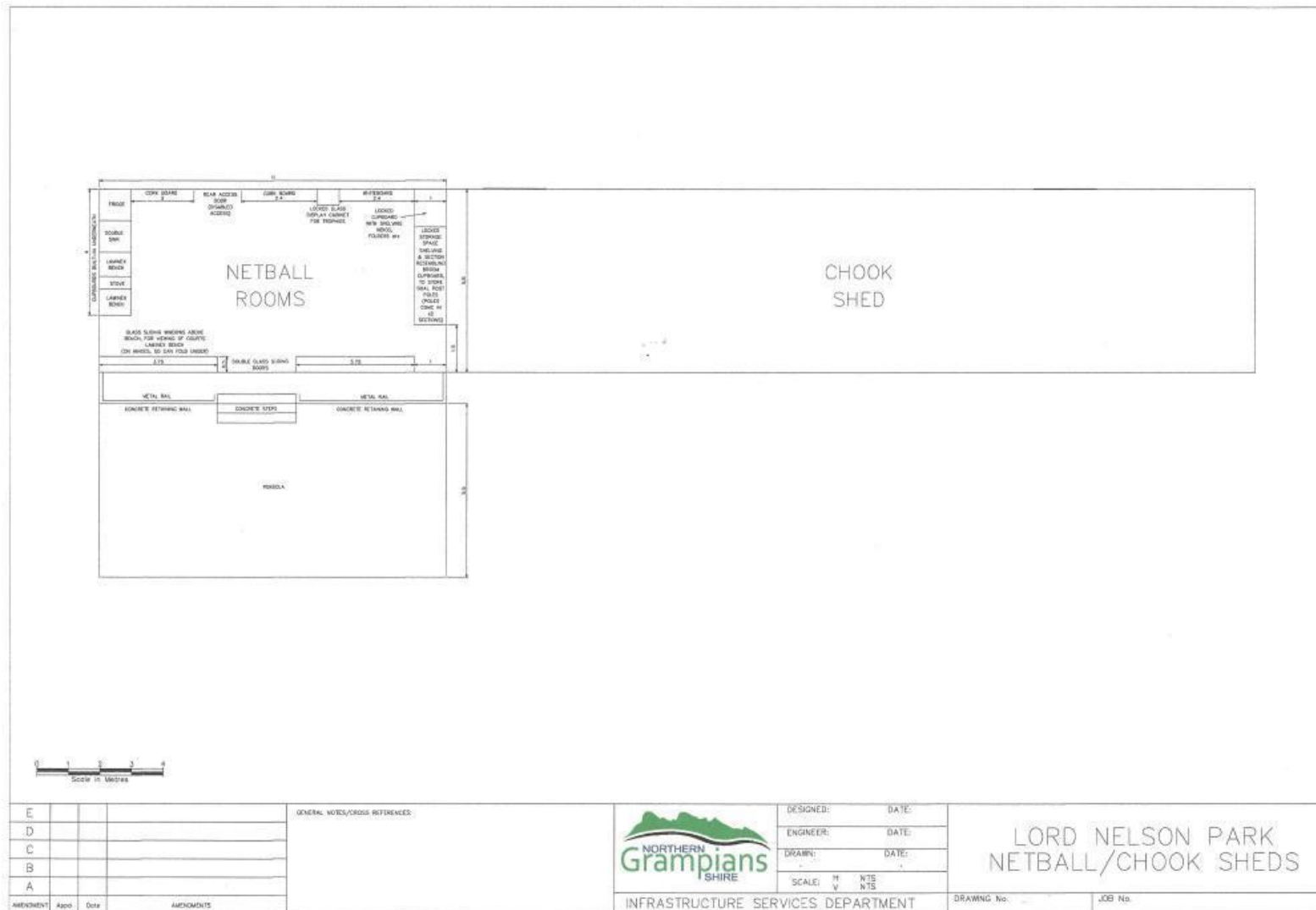
**Notes:**


1. Source of population growth is 2011 Census data and DPCD Population & Household Projections 2011-2031 for Victoria & its Regions Report
2. Population estimated to increase 0.1% annually to 2020 and decrease -0.01% annually to 2030 according to DPCD Population and Household Projections 2011-2013 for Victoria & its Regions Report
3. Growth in teams is based on 25 players per team
4. Additional ground requirements are based on a carrying capacity of 7 teams per ground
5. Additional ground requirements assume current grounds are at capacity and that there is no current deficit of grounds

## Appendix Five: Lord Nelson Park Building Plans







|           |      |      |            |                                 |   |              |                   |   |
|-----------|------|------|------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------|---|
| E         |      |      |            | GENERAL NOTES/CROSS REFERENCES: |  | DESIGNED:    | DATE:             | LORD NELSON PARK<br>NETBALL/CHOOK SHEDS |
| D         |      |      |            |                                 |   | ENGINEER:    | DATE:             |   |
| C         |      |      |            |                                 |   | DRAWN:       | DATE:             |   |
| B         |      |      |            |                                 |   | SCALE:       | H<br>V NTS<br>NTS |   |
| A         |      |      |            |                                 |   |              |                   |   |
| AMENDMENT | Appo | Date | AMENDMENTS |                                 | INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT  | DRAWING No.: |                   | JOB No.                                 |

