

A photograph of a community sign for Marnoo. The sign is a low, rectangular wall made of red bricks. On the left side of the wall, the word "Marnoo" is mounted in large, dark, serif capital letters. To the right of the text is a white cutout of a ram's head with curved horns, and below it are several golden wheat stalks. The sign is set against a clear blue sky with some green trees in the background. The foreground is covered in a layer of dry, light-brown mulch.

**Marnoo**

**Community Action Plan 2021-25**



The Marnoo Community Action Plan provides ideas, activities, and actions to guide direction for community led initiatives, alignment to council's strategic plans, and to guide decision making for infrastructure, community programs and service delivery over the next four years.

The definition of a plan is 'a detailed proposal for doing or achieving something.' As one resident explained, "Having a community plan is for the future of the town. To ensure it can survive and in some ways grow and develop." The Marnoo Community Plan is not just a document for document's sake it has been developed as a roadmap for the continuation of the town's future growth and sustainability.

To align with the vision the actions and activities in the 2021-25 plan are designed to.

1. Encourage families to stay in the area
2. Attract and retain new families
3. Retain and grow local job opportunities

In the plan opportunities and actions to achieve the aims are broken up into four categories:

- 1. Local Business and Innovation**
- 2. Places and Spaces**
- 3. Connecting Community and**
- 4. Services and Facilities**

To ensure the plan is implemented as the community members intended it is proposed a group ideally representing each of the existing committees will be responsible for guiding the plan with the support and guidance of a council representative.

Initially the identified opportunities and strategies will be prioritised, and responsibility allocated to further develop the actions required for success.

### Utilisation of this document

Under each of the above-mentioned categories the tables in the following pages outline the suggested opportunities, strategies, community sentiment (the level of community support for the identified strategy) and community and council responsibilities.

To utilise this document effectively it is to be used in conjunction with the detailed Community Planning document 2021-25 which explains in extended detail how the plan was developed and the rationale behind the opportunities and strategies being proposed.

Community sentiment key: 😊😊😊 A key opportunity mentioned by most if not all people who were consulted 😊😊 An important opportunity identified by many residents.  
😊 A valid opportunity mentioned by one or two community members.

## Local Business and Innovation (Economy)






























The Marnoo economy is influenced and built on the agricultural industry within the district. Wheat, a variety of other grains and merino sheep provide a thriving agriculture industry. Businesses vary from agriculture supplies and services to engineering, construction, importing farm machinery and grain storage.

Over the past five years agriculture has experienced significant growth and is the second largest economy, behind manufacturing in the Northern Grampians Shire. Marnoo is an important part of the shire's growth.

| Opportunities/<br>needs                      | Suggested strategies   | Community<br>Sentiment | Community role   | Council role   |
|--|--|------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Housing</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities for increased housing within Marnoo</li> </ul>                        | 😊😊😊                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide examples and data</li> <li>Inform options &amp; solutions</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Support housing solutions</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Convenience store/shop/fuel</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore business opportunities/alternatives</li> </ul>                                      | 😊😊😊                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess community support for a shop</li> <li>Engage existing businesses to operate at requested times</li> <li>Examine and assess alternatives</li> <li>Explore opportunity for regular food markets</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support identification of options</li> <li>Business support</li> <li>Advocate</li> <li>Assistance with permits</li> </ul> |
| <b>Marnoo branding</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities for Marnoo specific branding based on grains and livestock</li> </ul> | 😊                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform, design, develop</li> <li>Provide leadership</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance</li> <li>Funding opportunities</li> <li>Capacity building</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Developing new business opportunities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Business opportunities</li> </ul>   | 😊                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options and priorities</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflected in the 10-year economic strategy</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Business support</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable business opportunities</li> </ul>   | 😊                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage NGSC Business Support</li> <li>Identify opportunities</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of information</li> <li>Guidance</li> <li>Funding Support</li> <li>Capacity building</li> </ul>                 |



















## Places and Spaces

Providing diverse and safe access to public spaces continues to be of high importance to Marnoo residents. Improving and upgrading existing facilities to meet with a growing diversity of uses remains the focus.

| Opportunities               | Suggested strategies  | Community Sentiment  | Community role  | Council role  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Shanahan Park</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shade sail for playground</li> <li>Road maintenance near post boxes</li> <li>Seating at post boxes</li> </ul>            | <br>  <br>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform Council of needs</li> <li>Advise Council on requirements</li> <li>Source funding for shade sail</li> </ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road maintenance</li> <li>Installation of a shade sail</li> <li>Capacity building on council communication platforms</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Recreational Reserve</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of a Playground</li> <li>Caravan and camping access</li> <li>Oval maintenance</li> </ul>                    |   <br> <br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Source funding</li> <li>Playground design</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Support grant applications</li> <li>Advise/guidance</li> <li>Links to Grampians Tourism</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Tennis courts</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New shed/meeting space</li> <li>Removal of old courts</li> </ul>   | <br>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design</li> <li>Source part funding</li> <li>Develop a plan for tennis court redevelopment</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include in capital project planning</li> <li>Advocate and support grants</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Town beautification</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploration of silo/mural art</li> <li>Improve town appearance</li> <li>Sustainable on-going town maintenance</li> </ul> |  <br>  <br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning &amp; design for art installations/town signs</li> <li>Source funding</li> <li>Communication with council on maintenance needs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscaping design for township</li> <li>Review of maintenance schedule</li> <li>Support grants for arts/creative projects</li> <li>Share funding opportunities</li> </ul>                                   |
| <b>Roads and signage</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of road upgrades</li> <li>Strengthen methods of two-way communication on road maintenance</li> </ul>           |   <br>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand and utilise: Snap Send Solve</li> <li>Communication with VicRoads</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community capacity building on Snap Send Solve</li> <li>Scheduling of work and informing community</li> <li>Advocating to VicRoads if needed</li> <li>Provision of road upgrades where identified</li> </ul> |

## Connecting Community

Marnoo residents continue to show resilience, determination, and creativity to create and maintain connections within the township and beyond. Means of communication include social media and more traditional forms such as noticeboards. A variety of groups and committees exist allowing a diverse range of interests to be met. Strengthening and adapting existing means of communication and engagement is a priority.

| Opportunities for connecting             | Suggested strategies   | Community Sentiment  | Community role   | Council role   |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Events &amp; community gatherings</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local events</li> <li>Regional/large community events</li> <li>Markets</li> </ul>   |   <br> <br>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore new opportunities</li> <li>Engage the school</li> <li>Promotions within the community</li> <li>Consideration of engaging children at local events</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share suitable grant options</li> <li>Promotions on NGSC website</li> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Inform of leadership opportunities for youth</li> <li>Capacity building</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Sharing of information</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of a Notice board (static/electronic)</li> <li>New resident welcome pack</li> <li>Explore newsletter distribution options</li> </ul> |   <br><br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for consistent and sustainable methods for longer term public communication e.g., electronic notice board/ roadside directional signage</li> <li>Develop a long-term sustainable plan for local newsletters</li> <li>Development of a welcome pack for new residents</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for a notice board</li> <li>Installation of a notice board</li> <li>Share funding opportunities</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Council communication</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A group of Marnoo representatives to oversee the implementation of the action plan</li> <li>Regular Council updates</li> </ul>                    |   <br>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form an advisory group</li> <li>Utilisation of Council communication platforms</li> <li>Contribute</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular updates provided to community news</li> <li>Regular communication with Community Development officers</li> <li>Annual action plan review</li> <li>Inform community of priorities for annual capital plan</li> </ul> |
| <b>Children &amp; young people</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusion of young people in decision making</li> </ul>   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for young people to inform, provide ideas, be included in decision making</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform of opportunities for youth leadership programs</li> <li>Share funding opportunities</li> </ul>   |

## Service & Facilities

The Marnoo Recreational Reserve and the Marnoo Memorial Hall are well utilised community facilities and enable community members to hold events and activities. Other facilities include: a swimming pool, a small playground, public toilets, an information shed and a primary school.

| Opportunities for enhancing                         | Suggested strategies  | Community Sentiment                           | Community role  | Council role   |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Marnoo Memorial Hall</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filtered water installation</li> <li>Kitchen upgrade</li> </ul>  | 😊   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kitchen design</li> <li>Source funding</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development of project plans &amp; funding applications</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Community Pool</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independent audit</li> <li>Needs assessment</li> <li>Working bees</li> <li>Fence upgrade</li> </ul>  | 😊 😊<br>😊 😊<br>😊 😊<br>😊 😊                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate audit</li> <li>Organise community working bees</li> <li>Source funding for Fence upgrade</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance &amp; advice from Stawell Sports and Aquatic Center</li> <li>Insurance</li> <li>Advocacy</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Library</b>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach library service</li> </ul>  | 😊   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy to council regarding community needs</li> <li>Identify opportunities such as a book share facility or distance borrowing</li> </ul>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of Marnoo residents in the NGSC Library review</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Marnoo Primary School</b>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a supportive Community Space.</li> <li>Facilitate regular playgroup</li> <li>Sustainable connections with Stawell schools</li> <li>Advocacy, small school promotions</li> <li>After school programs</li> </ul> | 😊 😊<br><br>😊<br><br>😊 😊<br><br>😊 😊<br><br>😊 😊 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a space for general community to connect on a regular basis</li> <li>Initiate a community led playgroup</li> <li>Explore options of after school programs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy for inclusion into NGS and regional school networks</li> <li>Small school promotions</li> <li>Support for developing a functioning and sustainable play group</li> <li>Support grants</li> </ul> |
| <b>Visiting Health and Community Services</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop two-way communication between services and community</li> </ul>  | 😊   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communication with services regarding community needs</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Household maintenance and rubbish collection</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities developed for waste management options</li> </ul>  | 😊 😊 😊   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for waste management solutions</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community capacity building e.g., Information sessions</li> <li>Solutions developed with the community for waste management</li> </ul>  |