

# Community meeting summary

## Glenorchy Community Hall 30 November 2022

### Attendees

Northern Grampians Shire Council (NGSC) Councilors – Councillor Erwin	
Trenton Fithall	Acting Chief Executive Officer, NGSC
Rachel Whittaker	Flood recovery Project officer - NGSC
Kelly Boladeras	Emergency Management - NGSC
Ben Hughes	Engineer Water Technology
Luke Wilkinson	Wimmera Catchment Authority
Brett baker	Wimmera Catchment Authority
Mal Gibson	State Emergency Service (SES)
Claire Mintern	State Emergency Service (SES)

### Purpose of Meeting

NGSC has arranged a follow-up meeting after the 27 October meeting to assist residents to understand and assess the options that are available to limit the impact of flooding in Glenorchy. This second meeting is an opportunity for residents in Glenorchy and surrounding district to:

- Gain an understanding of the outcomes of past flood studies and what mitigation options have been acted upon and considered.
- Provide your own learnings and experiences from previous floods to inform mitigation options for the future.
- Learn about individual household flood mitigation options.

### Overview

#### Observations from the 2022 October Flood event

- There was nowhere for the water to run on Bunbury Street.
- The Floodway backed water up in the centre of town and there is nowhere for the water to go.
- Numbers 24 to 28 Bunbury Street block was flooded three quarters. Water came from the river onto the block and to Bunbury Street.
- The peak flood event passed and then the drainage water came back into town.

- The water is not able to get back to the river and instead tries to go down Boyd Street.
- Dunmunkle creek was blocked off.
- Drainage issues at 5 to 9 Bunbury Street. Once the 200mm plastic pipe used as the culvert couldn't cope with the water it went straight into the driveway and under the house.
- Water could not disperse quick enough at the junction of Bunbury and Arapiles which resulted in it going in to 5 to 9 Bunbury.

### **Key issues raised**

- Water should be allowed to freely flow into the Dunmunkle Creek up to Rupanyup.
- Reduced capacity of the Wimmera River due to the proliferation of Cumbungi and silt build up. This is thought to be as a result of Landcare / CMA fencing off riparian areas to exclude stock from grazing the Cumbungi and keeping it under control.
- Improvements need to be made to the drainage around Glenorchy. For example, Arapiles, Bunbury, Gleeson, Dry and forest streets.
- The floodway needs to extend past the dam at the end.
- Drainage improvements would help in aftermath / local storms.
- Local knowledge needs to be used in any mapping / modelling.

### **Ideas suggested**

- Potentially raise Bunbury Street Road level to provide access to town in case of an emergency.
- Warning notification – can people be sent a text warning when an event is predicted.
- Could all the non-private requests go to a 'one source of truth' page where all the queries that were raised are listed, and we update those queries with a response and update those as they progress. That way everyone along the street can find out what's happening rather than just say the person making the request
- SES cards to properties need to be updated.
- Notify people on what SES can do. Some people were not aware that SES doesn't come and sandbag on demand
- Community feedback page where queries are listed, and answers provided.
- Set up a proper flood/sandbagging station at a more central location.
- Electronically controlled weir flood gate.
- Flood information bulletin set up at post office.
- Raise Bunbury Street driveways.
- Add a culvert under the railway line near Treloar Road.
- It would be useful to know what the flood map would look like if all works that were done in Glenorchy since the previous study were added (any new development and road works).
- NGSC need to do a drive around to have a look where water is still sitting.
- Where should the community go in an emergency / evacuation situation (not relief centre). This is a theme that should be addressed in the community planning process.
- If individual levee banks are wanted other landholders would need to be considered and involved.
- The gutter at the end of Goode Street should go to Arapiles rather than ending abruptly.

### **Mitigation opportunities suggested**

- Private levees for those that have been identified as wanting them. Some people were keen on private levees protecting their entire parcel, others didn't want to ruin the aesthetics of their home/property.
- Removal of the weir.
- A levee for all of town
- The levee bank along the river between the railway line and Warracknambeal Road. (Railway and Warracknambeal create a natural levee).
- A bridge at the Warracknambeal Stawell Road
- Removal of the North Central Channel.
- Removal of Dunmunkle Valve and replaced with a Flood Way.

## Future opportunities

### Drainage works identified

#### Minor / short term works

- Marl Street – clean existing drain from Bunbury Street through to the river. Assess and remove the tree blocking the drain opposite Carfrae Street in the Marl St Drain.
- Investigate and clean out drains on Cameron Street.
- Investigate blocked drains and standpipe pad on Wills Street.
- 2x drains that run through the crown land from Wills St to Arapiles Street need to be cleaned out
- Clean the end of the main drain out where it runs into a dam. Investigate what can be done

#### Major / longer term works

- Continue the Wills Street drain that ends on Crown land through and under Arapiles Street.
- drainage along Arapiles street needs to be investigated.
- Surveying, design and cleaning required for a worthwhile outcome.
- Investigate the end of the main drain and the dam it runs into to assess if this can be changed.
- Cameron street drains and culverts upgraded.
- Bunbury street and Stawell Warracknambeal intersection – investigate where low lying water can be drained away.
- Investigate operation of Dunmunkle Street valve.
- Railway culverts near Glenorchy road changed. Drain low-lying water from culvert to private dam then connect private dam to open drain on Marls Street through to the river.

### Modelling opportunities

- At the Green Street and Forest Street intersection there is water ponding on Green Street. What effect did sealing the road have on flooding.
- Stawell Warracknambeal Stawell Glenorchy intersection – investigate what a major bridge or culvert would do to let water through to river.
- Could different flood scenarios other than 100-year events be mapped? E.g., Storm water compared to riverine flooding.
- The owner of 76 Marl Street said they would be open to run a small earth drain from the culvert under the rail line through to their dam then connect the outflow of the dam to the large open drain. This would remove a lot of stagnant water on.

- Include the above listed mitigation opportunities.
- Can a local flood event be mapped or modelled.

### Actions:

1. Nic to take a drive around Glenorchy with Troy Hemley to identify problem areas in the town - Done.
2. Nic to develop a minor works plan based on information from the community meeting and the drive around Glenorchy.
3. Nic and team put forward major works requests for the capital program for 2023/24.
4. Community-identified problems and Council-identified solutions to be communicated to the community e.g., website.
5. Request a quote for modelling from Water Tech
6. Complete modelling
7. Provide modelling outcomes to community by early March 2023 for feedback.
8. If needed hold a community meeting to discuss modelling, works completed and future infrastructure projects