



“Our Town, Our Say”

Glenthompson & District Community
Plan 2014 - 2020



Introduction:

Southern Grampians Shire Council has been part funded over three years (until September 2015) through the State Government's Putting Locals First Program to implement the Southern Grampians Shire's Community Planning Framework and Small Town Action Plan program. Eight towns will be working in partnership with the Shire to develop their own community action plan.

Community planning assists local people to decide what they would like to see happen in their own community and implement their own future visions and projects. The plan is designed to set out a medium to long-term vision for the future of a town. It connects people with each other, the resources of their local community, the Council and other levels of Government.

This Community Plan has been created by the Glenthompson community. It is a summary of their hopes and vision for a place which they are strongly connected to, intensely proud of and work tirelessly to support. The Glenthompson community should be commended for their efforts in creating this plan. It has involved strong leadership from a dedicated group that has worked hard to engage their community, seeking input and guidance to identify what is working well, what needs to be improved and what the community in partnership with other organisations can achieve for the future of Glenthompson.

The community spirit and the people of Glenthompson are its biggest assets. Glenthompson is a resilient community where people recognise the need to work together to achieve success. The community planning process uses the strengths of the community and builds on what is already working well in Glenthompson. The plan identifies areas that can improve the liveability of Glenthompson for today's residents and future community members.

The Community Plan document is broken into four sections:

- Our Place, Our Plan
- Our Future Our Vision
- Our Action
- Appendices
- The action plan priorities have three main themes:
- Community Life
- Physical, Environmental and Historical Assets
- Community Leadership

The next step in the community planning process is a crucial one: turning the communities' vision into action. The people of Glenthompson will lead the implementation stage and work in partnership to achieve their aspirations for their community.

Glenthompson is a community where people of all ages are welcome and accepted and where the residents have a sense of pride in all environmental, historical, social and physical assets.

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Glenthompson of Yesterday:



The picturesque township of Glenthompson lies on the Glenelg Highway between Hamilton and Ballarat. It has beautiful views of the Grampians mountain range. Originally, the township was named Yuppekiar after the creek and was built approximately five kilometers away from the current site. The first stations in the district were “Brie-Brie” and “Nareeb-Nareeb” established in 1841. In 1846, Captain Pollock took up a cattle station on the land where the township now stands.

During early 1860’s John McLennan from Scotland came to take charge of the Cobb & Co station at what was known as the Mail Tent which consisted of two tents and a hole mortised in the side of a large gum tree for mail, which was covered with a strip of hid to keep the rain out, this is now the Li-

ons’ Park. The township was given the name Glen-Thompson after Mr. Thompson who surveyed the earliest squatter holdings.

Mr. McLennan later built the first house when he also carried on a business as a hotel, store and post office. He became known as “honest Mac”

The township moved to the present location because of the construction of the rail line linking Hamilton to Ballarat which opened in 1878. The rail line was an important transport connection for the community and provided visitors to the township. Folklore has it that the hotel was such an attraction that passengers travelling though used to get off to have a drink whilst the stream train filled up with water. With the train full the driver had to blow the whistle to get the passengers back and failing that the driver himself took to the bar to retrieve his passengers ... needless to say the train was often very late and Mac’s Hotel was often to blame.

Like many country towns Glenthompson received an enormous boost after the Second World War, as thousands of soldiers took up parcels of land that had been purchased from the nearby sheep stations. As a centre that services a region with a radius of up to 15 kilometres, the town boomed through the 1950 and 60’s.

The Glenthompson Brick was a main industry during the post war era and provided bricks for regional buildings in the peak of the construction and much of the town was built with Glen bricks. The entire process of creating a Glenthompson Brick happens on site, where red and cream clay is excavated. Brick presses dating back to 1940 are still in operation today, the kilns are stacked by hand to ensure specific needs are met and colour varieties are achieved. A very early version of hand-made bricks can be seen at the Presbyterian Church on the highway. The works are a fascinating example of an ancient trade that continues to serve modern society.

Over the road from the brickworks is the historic Glenthompson School which has a very distinctive little bell tower. In 1866 a petition was sent to the Board of Education asking for a school to be established. It was opened in 1869 and burnt down in 1900, rebuilt and later opened in 1902. The school was decommissioned in 2012 but in the fifties and sixties the school catered for well over 150 students.

Glenthompson of Today:

Today Glenthompson is a quiet country town where people are well connected and work hard for their community. The town serves as a social, recreational and service hub for the community and surrounding farming district. The community takes a great deal of pride in its town and has a can do attitude when driving community lead projects, such as the Lion's Park development. They should feel very proud of their community and the spirit that has been fostered in the district is remarkable, which is demonstrated by the number of clubs and organisation for a community of a few hundred residents. A great sporting culture is also present in Glenthompson and the Glenthompson-Dunkeld Football Netball Club has had a lot of success in recent years.

Its peaceful lifestyle and magnificent views of the Grampians are enjoyed by the local residents and by those who pass through. Arguably the best view of the entire southern range of the Gram-pians can be seen from Menzies Lane, south of Glenthompson along the Caramut Road.

In the 2011 census, Glenthompson's population was 264 and has a median age of 47 years, which is 10 years above the Australian average. Over 80% of the residents were born in Australia and almost 95% speak English as their first language. Most residents (90%) are either full time or part time employed and the main occupations are managers or labourers, many being in agriculturally based industries.



GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS:

Catholic Church
Church of England
Glen Newsletter
Glenthompson & District Community Association
Glenthompson Ambulance
Glenthompson Angling Club
Glenthompson Catchment Group (Landcare)
Glenthompson Cemetery Trust
Glenthompson CFA
Glenthompson Dunkeld Football Netball Club
Glenthompson Friends of RSL Group
Glenthompson Hall Committee
Glenthompson History Group
Glenthompson Recreation Reserve Trust
Uniting Church

GLENTHOMPSON BUSINESSES:

Complete Spraying
Family Day Care
Glenthompson Brickworks
Glenthompson Motors
Grampians Pure Sheep Dairy
Greenleaf Crop & Pasture
JB's Driving School
JC's Pet Grooming
MJ's Roadhouse
Neil Henry's Fertilizer
Phillips Contracting & Trucks
Pilates Perfect
Tony Roache Agricultural Spraying



SERVICES:

Ambulance
CFA
Community Bus
Family Day Care
Glenthompson Swimming Pool
Mobile Library
Post Office Agency
Rural Transaction Centre

EVENTS:

Annual Hall Dinner
ANZAC services
Australia Day Celebration
Hoi Day
Remembrance Day
Santa in the Park



Our Plan:

Southern Grampians Shire Council is facilitating the development of community plans through the community planning framework with eight towns across the Shire. The framework is a new way for Council and towns to work together to make decisions about their future. Community plans developed through this planning process are designed, owned and implemented by the local community. The community plan is a living document that can be reviewed every two or three years. It is essential to remember that in order for projects and actions to work the community will need to participate and own the actions.

What is a community plan & why do we need one?

A community plan will provide Glenthompson with a focus on key future directions and a common reference when working with all levels of government. A plan provides a community with a strong voice and strengthens connections and communication across the general community. The plan outlines a vision, short to medium and long-term goals, with solutions that will assist the future development of the town. It is a 'whole of community' focus and identifies partnerships which help achieve action.

Development of the Glenthompson Community Plan:

The community planning process has four main stages: each with a series of actions that need to occur before commencing the next planning stage.



The Glenthompson community commenced its community planning journey in February 2014. A leadership group was formed with representation from various groups and organisations. Several meetings were held to determine the best ways of engaging the broader community. A survey was developed and distributed to all residents and a facilitated community forum was held to further explore the priorities for the Glenthompson community.



Over several meetings, the leadership group reviewed the survey results and the work achieved at the community forum. This information was all used by the leadership group to create a draft action plan. The draft action plan was then put out to the community for further feedback to ensure all potential partnering community clubs and organisations were able to contribute in the plans development. The community feedback form also provided information to determine the prioritisation of the draft initiatives.

The community planning framework comes from an asset and approach, building on the current strengths of the community and considering all physical, social, environmental and economic assets. It also looks at existing work that has taken place in recent years including the Urban Design Framework and Planning Scheme Review. The plan was also informed by existing Council plans and strategies such as the Southern Grampians Council Plan 2013-2017 and the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Glenthompson Community Planning Leadership Group:

Elaine Budgen Todd
Burger
Sally Dawson Penny
Fraser Heather Lynch
Vic Lynch
Rifka McClure Fiona
Mitchell Russell
Mitchell
Ian Murray
Tracey Potatau-Wright
Gordon Wilson
Dot Williams
Zilma McCallum



What three things do you value about living in Glenthompson?

What do you want to be maintained and preserved in Glenthompson?

What keeps you living in Glenthompson?

What could be improved to make it a better place to live?

What is one thing you would like to see happen in Glenthompson?

AGE	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
GENDER	Male	Female	Please fill out your name and contact details if you want to receive meeting invitations and planning updates.						
NAME									Phone
ADDRESS						Post Code			Email
							Address		

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY, PLEASE RETURN TO THE HIGHLAND GAMES OR TO THE ROADHOUSE BY 29 MARCH.

Glenthompson Community Plan Survey

Summary of Glenthompson Survey Results 2014: (34 Surveys completed by community members)

What do you value most?

- Community: community spirit, friendly people, neighbours
- Assets: pool, rec reserve, emergency services, Lion’s park, roadhouse/post office, access to fuel
- Natural environment: peace and quiet, views and scenery, closeness to the Grampians
- Historical buildings

What do you want to be maintained and preserved in Glenthompson?

- Facilities/Services: Emergency Services, Pool, Memorial Hall, Public amenities, recreation reserve, mobile library
- Parks & gardens
- Old Primary School
- Community Spirit
- Natural Environment

What keeps you living in Glenthompson?

- Own property in the district/town
- Family connections
- Peace & scenery
- Sense of community

What could be improved to make it a better place to live?

- More visiting services: doctor, hairdressers
- Increased number of businesses & shops
- Council support
- Meeting place
- Improved transport

What is one thing you would like to see happen in Glenthompson?

- School for community use
- New industry/business/employment opportunities
- Increased community participation & more social events
- More activities to young people & young families
- Reopen the hotel or new pub

Our Future, Our Vision:

“Glenthompson is a community where people of all ages are welcome and accepted and where the residents have a sense of pride in all environmental, historical, social and physical assets.”



What do we hope to achieve through this plan?

This community plan is owned and driven by the residents of Glenthompson and District and is an expression of what they want for their community now and in the future. With a strategic and collaborative approach, this plan will provide a clear direction for the community to work together in partnership with all levels of government and other organisations. It provides a vehicle to confidently communicate, validate and progress ideas into action for the improved liveability of their community.

Key Priorities for the Glenthompson Community: A plan for moving ideas into action.

The identified priorities outlined in the action plan below have been grouped together under the themes of Community Life, Physical, Environmental and Historical Assets and Community Leadership.

The initiatives were then placed in order of priority determined by wider community feedback.

The following priorities are seen as their key areas of importance and will be the first initiatives that the community will work together on to achieve.

Community Life:

Goal: To provide activities and facilities for residents to strengthen the sense of community, improve their health and wellbeing and connection to community to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and liveable community.

- Advocate for improved internet and mobile phone service
- Development of the former school into a community space for a range of activities
- Physical, Environmental and Historical Assets
- Activate and revitalise old shops
- Improve transport options
- Create more activities for young people

Physical, Environmental and Historical Assets

Goal: Encourage and support the Glenthompson community to develop, maintain, enhance and promote our physical, environmental and historical assets for current and future generations, and visitors.

- Maintain and strengthen the Glenthompson pool facilities
- Improve disabled access to the toilets at the Memorial Hall
- Preserve and strengthen emergency management services in Glenthompson
- Explore a possible walking trail between Glenthompson and Dunkeld

Community Leadership:

Goal: Development of a strong, diverse and representative leadership group to coordinate planning and activities for Glenthompson.

- Increase interaction and support between the Glenthompson community and Council
- Strengthen the Progress Association

Greater Glenthompson Community Action Plan 2015-2020

Glenthompson is a community where people of all ages are welcome and accepted and where the residents have a sense of pride in all environmental, historical, social and physical assets.



COMMUNITY LIFE:

Goal: To provide activities and facilities for residents to strengthen the sense of community, improve their health and wellbeing and connection to community to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and liveable community.

Objective:	Timeframe Short: 1-2 years Medium: 2-4 years Long: 4+ years	Priority Level: -High -Medium -Low	Who is responsible /leading? -key groups -individuals	Partners:	Action and resources required:	How are we going to know we have achieved it?
Advocate for improved internet and mobile phone service	Short	High	Community Association	NBN-telephone companies	Continue to advocate for increase mobile phone coverage and improved internet service	

Development of former school into a community space for a range of activities	Long	Medium	Community Association	Council DEECD	<p>Lobby politicians & Education Department</p> <p>Hold Town meeting to seek long term commitment to the site</p> <p>Develop business plan which includes hire fee, maintenance costs, set up costs (bring it up to code) and governance structure.</p> <p>Explore major sponsor such as copper mine, wind farm etc.</p> <p>Explore possible grants from Tourism Victoria, Heritage Victoria</p> <p>Explore sponsorship program such as bricks, plaques, plants etc</p> <p>Fundraising for set up costs & ongoing maintenance costs</p> <p>Explore possible RV dump point & possible caravan parking</p> <p>Develop merchandise</p> <p>Discuss rate reduction with Council</p>	
Activate and revitalise old shops	Short	Medium	Community Association Local property owners	Council	<p>Make contact with local owners to see if window displays can be developed</p> <p>Explore local working bee based on Coleraine's model to increase the attractiveness of the local disused shops</p>	

Improved transport options	Ongoing	High	Community Association	Council	<p>Advocate for more bus services on a Sunday (Vline)</p> <p>Advocate for the return of passenger rail</p> <p>Maintaining the patronage of the community bus to support those community members that are socially and physically isolated can access services.</p>	
Create more activities for the young people in the community	Short	Medium	Parks Trust	Progress Association Council	<p>Write to CEO and all Shire Councillors and the Manager of Waste Services.</p> <p>Work with Council to negotiate a suitable resolution to the current situation.</p> <p>If no suitable response or solution then: Contact local media (Hamilton Spectator) to make community members aware of the situation.</p>	<p>Letters have been written to Council</p> <p>Community Representative has attended Joint Progress Association Meeting</p>

<p>Capitalise on impending copper mine</p>	<p>Ongoing -Long</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Community Association</p>	<p>Local Business Council</p>	<p>Invite mining company to meet with community to discuss their needs and what our town can offer such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel in town • Public transport (VLine) goes through town. • Accommodation – houses for sale, rental properties, hotel could become a hostel and provide meals • Look at caravan facilities – school grounds, Lions park, Behind Uniting, church. • Access to schools – Hamilton (Public 7 Private) Dunkeld, Lake Bolac • Pre-school/child minding facilities available • Three active church denominations • Scenic area and wildlife <p>Continue to have ongoing and open discussions with mining company</p>	<p>Greg Walcott & Director of Mining company has attended a community meeting to discuss their needs</p>
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<p>Have more community get together to increase community connections</p>	<p>Short</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Community Association Hall Committee Pool Committee Parks Trust</p>	<p>Delegate 6 different organisations or people/ groups to organise one event per year 2015 scheduled events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26th January-Australia Day-Community • 14 Feb – pool party (Pool Committee) • 17 April - Tennis/ cricket match & pizza night • June – Casserole night • August – trivia/ games night (Hall Committee) • December – Xmas break up & Santa in the park <p>Explore more regular events if 2015 is a success and community groups are willing to take the lead on these community get togethers</p> <p>Explore subsidised community outings to increase community involvement</p>	
<p>Explore a community website</p>	<p>Long</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Community Association</p>	<p>Explore the costs and administration of setting up a community website</p> <p>Explore which groups would be interested in having information on the website</p>	

Increase visitor numbers to Glenthompson	Long	Low	Anglican Church Sheep Dairy History Centre Brick-works Gallery	Community Association Council - Tourism Department	<p>Continue to promote the Anglican Church mural</p> <p>Lion's Park is being used well; continue to promote use for parties and family get togethers.</p> <p>Explore the Recreation Reserve being used for caravans</p> <p>Explore the possibility for a community member to take on town promotion and creation of local tours to encourage more visitor numbers</p> <p>Explore an "Open Garden" day</p> <p>Explore an RV dump point</p>	
Create Facebook site for the community	Immediate	High	Rob Tracey TJ Fiona		<p>Investigate the setting up of a Facebook page</p> <p>Register name of Glenthompson if possible</p> <p>Discussion and decisions on rules of posting</p> <p>i. e what is acceptable – look at other sites</p>	Facebook page has been set up- Completed

PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL & HISTORICAL ASSETS:

Goal: Encourage and support the Glenthompson community to develop, maintain, enhance and promote our physical, environmental and historical assets for current and future generations, and visitors.

Objective:	Timeframe Short: 1-2 years Medium: 2-4 years Long: 4+ years	Priority Level: -High -Medium -Low	Who is responsible/ leading? -key groups -individuals	Partners:	Action and resources required	How are we going to know we have achieved it?
Maintain and strengthen the Glenthompson pool facilities	Ongoing	High	Community	Council	<p>Develop the Friends of Pool committee</p> <p>Advertise on Glenthompson pool hours on the both Glenthompson & Council Pool Facebook pages and community newsletters (Dunkeld & Glenthompson)</p> <p>Continue to provide community activities at the pool to encourage more usage. Investigate having a free pass for each community members as a way of promoting the pool.</p> <p>Advocate to Council and the Councillors the importance of the swimming pool to the community.</p> <p>Encourage more local residents to train as life guards.</p>	
Improve disabled access to the toilets at the Memorial Hall	Short	High	Hall Committee	Progress Association Council	<p>Work with Hall committee to explore the possibility of creation of an universal access toilet</p> <p>Scope project costs</p> <p>Explore funding options-possible Council grant</p> <p>Investigate require planning/building regulations</p> <p>Work with Council re: design and access requirements</p>	Some work has been done around this and it is an identified priority for the Hall committee

Preserve and strengthen emergency management services in Glenthompson	Ongoing	High	Serra Group CFA Ambulance	Dunkeld SES Dunkeld Victoria Police Council Progress Associa- tion	Advocate for the retention of current service levels of emergency management for Glenthompson area. Encourage and promote membership to these groups. Include this information into the new resident pack. Encourage knowledge around best practice for road side native vegetation management.	
Preserve and record local history of the area	Short	High	Murray Rogerson		Explore different methods of preserving history such as digitalizing the history, publication of history etc. Explore funding possibilities. Explore best Archiving practice to preserve the history.	
Preserve and strengthen the Lion's Park area	Ongoing	High	Community Association	Dunkeld and District Lion's Club	Continue to maintain current facilities and make necessary improvement to the area. Seek funding for ongoing projects as required.	

Explore a possible walking trail between Glenthompson and Dunkeld	Medium	Medium	Community Association Working Group	Council	<p>Form a working group to explore the possibility of having a walking/ biking link between Dunkeld and Glenthompson.</p> <p>Explore utilising the fire break along the road reserve on highways as a trail</p> <p>Explore funding opportunities Scope need and regulations around trail & usage.</p> <p>Explore educational signage on the trail (historical & vegetation etc)</p>	
Preserve and enhance the Railway Station	Ongoing	High	Glenthompson Historical Group	Council VicTrack	<p>Advocate for the maintenance of the Railway Station</p> <p>Explore the use of Council Heritage grants for improvements or maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the possibility of accessing the Vic-Track funding and other funding possibilities to improve the facilities to be fit for purpose for the Glenthompson Historical Group</p>	

Streetscape Beautification program	Ongoing	Medium	Community Association	Council	Encourage use of the Council Heritage Grants to improve the appearance of historic buildings. Explore a community working bee to improve the appearance of the old shops. Work with the Heritage Advisor to look at opportunities to maintain and restore some of the key historic buildings.	
Clean up Yuppeckiar Creek	Short	High	Progress Association	Community groups	Explore as possible Clean Up Australia Day Activity	
Maintain and continue to do improvements to the Recreation Reserve to increase usage of this facility.	Ongoing	Medium	Parks Trusts Committee	Council Minnera & District Football league AFL Victoria	Investigate upgrading of the women's toilets facilities Improvements to the BBQ area Encourage regional usage of the ground by other user groups. Investigate funding possibilities for ongoing projects.	
Explore options and opportunities to improve domestic waste water management in the town centre	Medium	High	Council Progress Association		Work with Council to begin discussion around opportunities to improve domestic waste water management	

Investigate the creation of a skate park	Short	Medium	Working Group	Progress Association Council	<p>Form working group consisting of community members and local young people.</p> <p>Investigate need for the project. (Report back to progress association) If there is identified need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope project • Investigate the possibility to utilise land and facilities already available in the Lion's Park area • Explore fundraising activities such as car wash, Safeway BBQ or other ideas • Explore other funding sources such as sport and recreation grants 	
Town Signage	Medium	Low	Community Association	Council VicRoads	<p>Advocate for signage at town entrance for trucks not to use their brakes through town.</p> <p>Develop community banners to be used for community events</p> <p>If funding becomes available explore the creation of town entrance signs which represents the Glenthompson community</p>	
Explore the possibility of a Creek walk and dam beautification program	Long	Low	Land care groups	Community Association	<p>Explore the construction of a walking track along the Creek</p> <p>Work on regeneration of native vegetation along the creek and also the walking track to the dam</p> <p>Explore possible installation of picnic facilities for visitor usage</p>	
Promote the Glen Brick Works	Ongoing	Ongoing	Glenthompson Brick Works	Community Association	<p>Promote the Glen Brick Works as it is an historic icon of the community.</p> <p>Promote the possibility of tours for school groups etc. by appointment.</p>	

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Goal: Support and enhance a strong, diverse and representative leadership group to coordinate planning for Glenthompson

Objective	Timeframe Short: 1-2 years Medium: 2-4 years Long: 4+ years	Priority Level: -High -Medium -Low	Who is responsible/ leading? -key groups -individuals	Partners:	Action and resources required	How are we going to know we have achieved it?
Increase interaction and support between the Glenthompson community and Council	Short	High	Glenthompson Community Association	Community Planning Coordinator Council	<p>Liaise with other community groups to see if they would support the idea of proposing to Council that they implement a system where each member of the senior executive management team has responsibility for a particular community.</p> <p>If there is support then develop a combined proposal to go to Council on behalf of the community groups.</p>	

Develop "Welcome to Glen" packs	Ongoing	Medium	Progress As- sociation	Post Office	<p>Form working group to gather information about town attractions, community group information, business information, community activities and events. Create draft welcome pack and have prof ready by Progress Association. Include external services that service the community. Town brochure & one month of the newsletter. One pack would go to everyone resident.</p> <p>Post Office to facilitate distribution of the welcome pack to new community members.</p>	
Strengthen the Progress Association	Ongoing	High	Glenthompson Community Association		<p>Continue to encourage a broad membership by inviting community groups to send representatives to progress association meetings.</p> <p>Regularly put articles in the community newsletter with updates of progress against the Community Plan or other progress association initiatives. Put meeting notices in the community newsletter encouraging people to attend the progress association meetings.</p> <p>Send "welcome" to Glenthompson note to new residents from the progress association. Invite new community members along to a progress association meeting.</p>	New members Full execu- tive commit- tee

Effectively manage Glenthompson and District Community Plan	Ongoing	High	Community Planning Group Leadership Glenthompson Community Association	Council Other gov-ernment bodies Community groups	Decide on community plan priorities Direct the priorities to the relevant body responsible for undertaking the task. Make sure tasks are un-dertaken or completed. If there are any finances to be involved in any task undertaken this group will be the overseer. Lead groups to regularly report back to the Community Planning leadership group on progress.	
Explore the idea of smaller committees coming under the banner of the Community Association to less the meeting burden to community members	Medium	Low	Glenthompson Community Association	Community groups	Explore options to have the Glenthompson Community Association to be the umbrella for other small community groups (sub committees) Explore community meeting model to have community meetings on the same night to reduce the nights out for community members who are members of several community groups.	

Glenthompson & District Community Plan

Appendix:

- Survey Summary
- Glenthompson Forum Flyer
- Glenthompson Forum report
- Glenthompson Draft Action Plan Community Feedback Results
- Urban Design Framework 2010

Appendix # 1: Survey Summary:

Greater Glenthompson Community Plan Survey Report-34 surveys returned

What three things do you value about living in Glenthompson?

People, neighbors-18 responses

Facilities/Services-15

Community Spirit-14

Peace & Quiet-9

Views/Scenery-8

Safety & Security-3

What keeps you living in Glenthompson?

Own my house/farm-11

Family-7

Scenery/Views-7

Peace & Quiet-5

Cheap Housing-4

Location-3

Work-3

Businesses & Amenities-2

What could be improved to make it a better place to live?

Increased visiting services-6

More shops-5

More support from Council-5

A meeting place/pub-4

Improved Internet/phone service-3

Improved Safety-3

Increased Population-2

Sewage-2

Activate Old Shops-2

What is one thing you would like to see happen in Glenthompson?

School for community use-6

New industry/businesses/more jobs-6

Increased community participation/social gatherings-6

More support for young people-4

Increased population-2

Town Beautification-2

Proposed Mining go ahead-1

Fix up bridge-1



Be a part of the next step

**Come Along & Share Your Brilliant Ideas-
Help Our Town Move Forward**

**Sunday 22 June
11:00 am-3:30 pm
Glenthompson Hall**

FREE LUNCH!

All Ages Invited

**RSVPs Essential by 18 June on
5573 0423 or jdrechsler@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au**

**Child Minding options available-you must book!
PH: 5573 0243 to register your children by 18 June**

**In partnership with Glenthompson Progress Association,
Southern Grampians Shire Council & State Government Victoria**

Appendix #3: Glenthompson Community Planning Forum Report 22nd June 2014

Participation: 32 Community members attended the forum with a large range of ages from around 15 years to 80s.

What people value about living in Branxholme

- People – friendly
- Sense of community/ community spirit
- Country lifestyle
- Beauty of the environment

What people are passionate about?

When asked to make public statement about what you are passionate about and prepared to do something about 21 topics were nominated. People then chose the three topics that they were most interested in discussing and from these the topics were reduced to eight discussion topics – several discussion topics were incorporated together.

Topics not discussed

1. Pick up service for scripts – Carol
2. Promoting what we have to engage locals and visitors to our town – Helen
3. Developing improved internet and mobile communication – Zilma
4. Possibility for rail trail between Glenthompson & Dunkeld – Naomi P
5. To be more inclusive as a community – to get more people involved
6. Subsidies for trips out of town – Sylvia
7. Youth facilitator to provide events and facilities for teens, possibly using the school as a venue - Tracey
8. More public transport – Carol
9. Use of small van for community use – Gordon
10. Diabetic educator service in town - David

Topics discussed – See action sheets below

1. Create facebook site for the community – Rob.
2. Free community newsletter available to all residents – Fiona M. – This was incorporated into discussion re facebook page
3. Development of former school into a community space for a range of activities – This was put forward by a number of people – Rifka, Margaret, Vic
4. Creation of a skate park in town
5. Create youth fundraising committee in order to create activities and events for young people – TJ – this was included with discussion of skate park
6. Development of a community bus service – Kate
7. Re-instate the arrangement of scrap metal collection (& funds) for the Glen Parks Trust – Russell
8. More support from Sth Grampians Shire – regular council meetings at Glenthompson – Georg, Neil – This was discussed by the group above as well.
9. Capitalise on impending copper mine – Eric
10. Have more community get-togethers – Damien
11. Creation of disabled toilets at town hall – Carolyn Hurley

Draft Community Vision

(The draft vision was developed from the introduction activity and discussion.)

In 10 -20 years Glenthompson will be a place where:

- the existing community spirit of willingness to participate in working for the community is maintained and enhanced by finding ways to involve more people in activities – particularly younger people.
- our existing services and infrastructure is maintained
- the old school has become a vibrant community space that offers a broad range of activities for all community members as well as a place to draw people to the town.
- tourists are encouraged to stop.

Glenthompson Community Planning Session Outcome Sheets 2014

Topic: Facebook and community newsletter

Convenor: Rob Stevens & Fiona

Co-workers: Russell, Parnia, Elaine, Helen, TJ, Rifka, Tracey

Issues/ideas

Facebook could:

Inform people of current issues/news particularly ex-residents, young people who have left town to go to uni etc.

Increase community engagement through highlighting events, meetings, sport, photos, BDM's, notices etc.

Rapid changes in events, plans etc can be quickly and easily communicated

Moderation: re rules need to have at least 2 moderators

Could eventually carry advertising

Promote Glenthompson to wider population

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
People to be informed about current things happening Inform ex-residents and new residents	Investigate the setting up of a facebook page Register name of Glenthompson if possible Moderators: Rob Fiona Tracey TJ Discussion and decisions on rules of posting i.e what is acceptable – look at other sites	Rob	Will report back in 4 weeks	Time

Topic: Development of former school into a community space for a range of activities

Convenor: Rifka McClure, Lynne Stewart

Co-workers: Dot Williams, Kate Coote, Rob Stevens, Eric Bubb, George, Gordon

Issues/ideas

- Tourist information, caravan parking, RU Dump – minimal fees
- History group
- Adult education classes
- Contact local politicians at Sheepvention
- Maintenance costs – obtain funds through: donations at history centre, wind farm, sale of merchandise
- Public liability insurance
- Information on noticeboard at public toilets.

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
Get hold of school	Lobby politicians & Education Department Fundraising for maintenance Potentially attract promissory – copper mine? Wind turbines for 5 years charge for classes, clubs, meetings etc charge for RU dump caravan parking fees merchandising grant from Tourism Victoria, Heritage Victoria Sponsor an item or feature – brick, plaque, plant Request that Shire waive rates	Rifka & Lynne Everyone Rifka	ASAP including Sheepvention As needed ASAP	Timet

Topic: Create more activities for young people including a skate park

Convenor: TJ & Parnia

Co-workers: Tracey, Elaine

Issues/ideas

- Lack of facilities & funding for youth events
- Fundraising led by youth with assistance of community
- Look into grants and funding
- Reach out to youth in other small communities
- WDHS – Brianna Picken

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
Skate park A variety of events for youth such as : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talent quests • freeZa event • Movie nights at hall • MFM Pool party • Raise funds for youth activities 	Utilise land and facilities already available in the area Look at equipment to hire to run events Look into funding and grants Contact vichealth, sport and rec, freeZa- WDHS Approach cheap, dairy producers for products to be used for fundraiser with youth assisting in making products Safeway BBQ Car wash in summer	Youth assisted by community TJ contact Brianna Picken & MFM Mark Crawford re Pool party TJ, Tracey, Parnia & Elaine	Within the next year	Land, funds Movies (movie screen, projector etc) *Council have applied for grant to purchase film projection equipment for communities Approach Safe way to donate items for BBQ

Topic: Community bus and other services for the community

Convenor: Kate

Co-workers: Margaret, Sylvia, Gordon, Lynn, Val, Neil

Issues/ideas

- Purchase a 12 seater bus to be used for:
- Shopping/appointments/socialization
- Community groups e.g. History group/ community association/junior sports groups/ farmer groupa, family day care etc.
- Youth – freeZa, Movies, Pool activities in winter
- Craft groups
- Theatre trips
- Appointments to Warrnambool, Ballarat, Melbourne??
- Support other HACC services - giving additional services
- Gordon has van that could be used for delivery and pick-up
- Promote the services that are available
- Men’s shed in Brownie Hall

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
Purchase 12 seater bus	Fundraise Find beneficiaries Costing Garage bus – old Council yard ? Maintenance Drivers- no extra licence required Whose responsibility – community association? Shire? Vaibility survey to all Glenthompson people – door knock	Shire with help from Kate and community association	Within the next year	\$ to purchase bus – Perhaps wind farm is option Maintenance Would Shire assist with % of fuel per month is support Shed to garage it Mechanic

Topic: Re-instate scrap metal funding between the Shire & Glenthompson Recreation Reserve

Convenor: Russell Mitchell

Co-workers: John Haydon, Val Henry, Fiona Mitchell, Zilma McCallum, Neil Henry

Issues/ideas

- Detrimental to the viability of our Recreation Reserve. Without this money our Rec Reserve will run at a \$2,500 (approximate) loss each year
- Rec Reserve Committee (Not the football club) initiated a fundraising scrap metal drive over 10 years ago and have used this income to run the Rec Reserve.

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
To have this arrangement re-instated Or Shire could support our Rec Reserve by funding us \$2,500 per year.	Write to CEO and all Shire Councillors and the Manager of Waste Services. If no suitable response or solution then Contact local media (Hamilton Spectator) to make community members aware of the situation.	Glenthompson Rec Reserve Committee	By end of June	Time from community members and commitment from ShireT

Topic: Getting more support from South Grampians Shire

Convenor: Neil Henry

Co-workers: Russel Mitchell, John Haydon, Val Henry, Fiona Mitchell, Zilma McCallum

Issues/ideas

- Community engagement all seems to be a bit one-sided – community members put in lots of energy, time and resources into improving their community but senior staff at Council does not connect with local communities.
- Increase connection and sense of ownership between communities and Council
- How to make senior decision-makers in Council more aware of the local issues on the ground in small communities like Glenthompson.

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
To have a senior executive manager to have responsibility for liaising and connecting with Glenthompson so that we have a conduit into the senior management of Council and have greater understanding of Council decision-making processes etc.	Liaise with other community groups to see if they would support the idea of proposing to Council that they implement a system where each member of the senior executive management team have responsibility for a particular community. If there is support then develop a combined proposal to go to Council on behalf of the community groups	Glenthompson Community Group	ASAP	Time from community membersT

Topic: Capitalise on mining in Glenthompson area

Convenor: Eric Bubb

Co-workers: John Haydon, Zilma and George McCallum, Ian Murray

Issues/ideas

- Market the town to mining companies – promote our services such as
- Fuel in town
- Public transport (VLine) goes through town.
- Accommodation – houses for sale, rental properties, hotel could become a hostel and provide meals
- Look at caravan facilities – school grounds, Lions park, Behind Uniting, church.
- Access to schools – Hamilton (Public 7 Private) Dunkeld, Lake Bolac
- Pre-school/child minding facilities available
- Three active church denominations
- Scenic area and wildlife

Issues

- Involvement for women & families
- As more numbers increase then more clubs/activities can be established.

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
Glenthompson to gain benefit from mining in the area	Invite mining company to meet with community to discuss their needs and what our town can offer	Progress Association (Russel Mitchell)	ASAP	Time from community members and support from ShireT

Topic: Have more community get togethers

Convenor: Nyrie

Co-workers: Margaret, Helen, Vic, Heather, Ian

Issues/ideas

- Have a social get together every 2 months
- Community hoedown
- Casserole nights @ footy club(Footy club to do bar provide income for them)
- Pizza nights at Rec Reserve.
- Tennis evenings in summer – with BBQ or Pizza tea(Plenty of room for kids to run around)

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
6 get togethers a year	Delegate 6 different organisations or people/groups to organise one event per year.	Progress Association to coordinate	Time around school & Uni holidays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feb – pool party (Pool Committee) • April - Tennis/cricket match & pizza • June-July – Casserole night • August – trivia/games night (Hall Committee) • October?? • December – Xmas break up 	Time & commitment from community groups.

Topic: Construct a disabled toilet at the Glen Hall

Convenor: Carolyn Hurley

Co-workers: Heather Lynch, Sylvie Adams, Neil Henry Vic Lynch, Dot Williams

Issues/ideas

- Need for ramps in Hall as access to ladies toilet – steps too steep.
- Need to ensure services for aged are maintained as our community is getting older

What we want to achieve	What we will do	Who will do it	When	Resources needed
<p>Older people or those with a disability have SAFE access to Hall, this will increase people able to use the hall.</p> <p>Upgrade kitchen in hall.</p> <p>Maintenance of services for the aged such as lawns mowed, library kept open, home help etc.</p>	<p>Lobby the Hall Committee</p> <p>Obtain a grant</p> <p>Keep complaining to the Shire – we all pay rates</p>	<p>Consultation with the Shire</p> <p>Hall Committee</p>	<p>Immediately</p> <p>When get grant</p>	<p>Subsidy from Shire with clients willing to contribute</p>

Appendix #4: Glenthompson Draft Action Plan Community Feedback Results

Glenthompson Draft Action Plan 2014 (12 Correct Survey Results & 5 incorrect surveys)

The Glenthompson community has been working to develop a community plan which will provide Glenthompson with clear direction for the future. It outlines a vision, goals and actions that will assist in the development of your town. It has a 'whole of community' focus and identifies partnerships to help achieve these goals. This plan will be owned and driven by the Glenthompson community, so we need your help. We value your input so please review the draft plan below and rank your top 5 priorities for the Glenthompson Community. Please indicate your willingness to make this happen for Glenthompson.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Goal: To provide activities and facilities for residents to strengthen the sense of community, improve their health and wellbeing and connection to community to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and liveable community.

TOTAL SCORE:	Priorities: (What we will do)	1	2	3	4	5	Total ticks	Total Score from incorrect surveys
1	Create Facebook site for the community					1	1	5
50	Advocate for improved internet and mobile phone service	7	1	3	1		12	20
10	Improved transport options		1	1	1	1	4	9
1	Have more community get-togethers to increase community connections	t				1	1	9
13	Activate and revitalise old shops		2	1	1		4	9
22	Development of former school into a community space for a range of activities	3	2	1			6	12
9	Create more activities for the young people in the community	1	2				3	3
7	Explore the re-instatement of the scrap metal collection for the Glen Parks Trust		2	3			5	3
2	Capitalise on impending copper mine				1		1	5
-	Increase visitor numbers to Glenthompson						0	6
1	Explore a community website					1	1	3

PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORICAL ASSETS

Goal: Encourage and support the Glenthompson community to develop, maintain, enhance and promote our physical, environmental and historical assets for current and future generations, and visitors.

7	Improve disabled access to the toilets at the Memorial Hall		1	1			2	10
5	Maintain and strengthen the Glenthompson pool facilities				2	1	3	17
7	Preserve and strengthen emergency management services in Glenthompson			1	1	2	4	9
1	Preserve and strengthen the Lion's Park area					1	1	2
1	Preserve and enhance the Railway Station					1	1	4
1	Clean up Yuppeckiar Creek					1	1	1
3	Preserve and record local history of the area			1			1	0
-	Explore options and opportunities to improve domestic waste water management in the town centre						0	5
1	Investigate the creation of a skate park					1	1	0
-	Maintain & continue to do improvements to the Recreation Reserve to increase usage.						0	0
10	Explore a possible walking trail between Glenthompson and Dunkeld	1		1	1		3	5
7	Streetscape Beautification program	1				2	3	6
4	Town Signage				1	2	3	0
5	Promote the Glen Brick Works		1			1	2	8
-	Explore the possibility of a Creek walk and dam beautification program						0	9

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Goal: Development of a strong, diverse and representative leadership group to coordinate planning and activities for Glenthompson.

-	Effectively manage Glenthompson and District Community Plan						0	13
-	Strengthen the Progress Association						0	20
4	Increase interaction and support between the Glenthompson community and Council				2		2	17
-	Explore the idea of smaller committees coming under the banner of the Community Association to less the meeting burden to community members						0	9
1	Develop "Welcome to Glen" packs					1	1	6

Appendix #5 Urban Design Framework 2010

GLENTHOMPSON

Indicative cost band:

5 \$0-\$10,000 = least resources required

4 \$10,000 - \$75,000

3 \$75,000 – \$100,000 = moderate resources

2 \$100,000 – \$250,000

1 \$250,000-\$1,000,000 = most resources required

Priority Action	Proposal	Strategy No.	How	Cost band	Priority	When	Rationale
Gln1	Truck parking reconfiguration	13	Reconfigure truck parking area along the Glenelg Highway, west of Cameron Street, and establish a maximum 1 hour truck parking duration in the township zone.	2	High	2005-2007	This will improve the traffic management of the area and restore the balance between the needs of local residents, trucks, public transport users and local businesses.
Gln2	Overnight truck parking areas	14	Install lighting, toilet and rubbish disposal facilities of the overnight truck parking.	3	High	2005-2007	This will provide an attractive and safe area for overnight truck stop parking. This will reduce the disturbance on local residences from the livestock trucks parking outside overnight.
Gln3	Upgrade intersection	12	Upgrade the main Glenelg Highway/Cameron St/McLennan St intersection by providing better signage to this turnoff, enhanced lighting and physical improvements, especially to the northern turnoff.	2	High	2005-2007	This will improve the safety for pedestrians at the intersection and reduce the incidence of large truck manoeuvring 'U-turns' in the middle of the Glenelg Highway after they miss the turn-off to Ararat.
Gln4	Reduce speed limit	10	Rationalise the speed limits through the town by reducing the vehicle speed throughout the Glenthompson township zone to 50km/hr, except for the 40km/hr school zone.	5	High	2005-2007	This will improve the safety for pedestrians crossing the Glenelg Highway, especially for pupils at the primary school, where drivers often ignore the current school zone.
Gln5	New public space	9	Incorporate a small 'town square' in the redesign of the front of the new shop and Rural Transaction Centre.	5	High	2005-2007	This will provide a sheltered 'social space', serving as an outdoor eating/socialising space and memorable landmark on the journey.
Gln6	Co-ordinated signage and icons for the towns	1	Council to install signage columns at the entrance to the town, subject to the detailed design guide in AUSTRROADS Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 8.	2	High	2007-2010	Provide a graphic identity for the town showcase its principle assets and provide an attractive and memorable entrance and tell people that they have arrived somewhere special.
Gln7	Promotional maps for each town	2	Council to establish a freestanding structure to house the town map, and prepare both an adults and children's version of the 'tear-off' maps to be placed in shops.	3	High	2007-2010	Will raise awareness of the many interesting features in and around the town.

Gln8	Recording and telling the towns stories	3	Council to invite the local community to share their stories and historical insights. Council to then install interpretive features at the points revealed by the research.	4	High	2007-2010	Will give value to peoples recollections and will provide interpretive features that effectively describe the wonderful collection of stories in the town.
Gln9	Proposed walking trails	4	Council to develop a town trail connecting the interesting features and advertised on the town map.	5	High	2007-2010	Will provide a way of enabling interested people to engage in the qualities the town offers.
Gln10	Public toilet improvements	8	Increase the capacity of the septic tank public toilet facilities at the western gateway and incorporate a sign saying additional toilets are located within the Lions Park.	4	High-Medium	2007-2010	This will improve many peoples experience of Glenthompson at this prime entry to the town.
Gln11	Creek walk	5	Construct a footpath along the Creek and regenerate/replant the creekside to the west of the post office as a 'wildlife walk' in partnership with the local Land Care Group.	5	Medium	2010-2015	This provides an attractive part of the circular walking route around Glenthompson.
Gln12	Viewing points at Brickworks	11	Investigate the possibility of a walking path and viewing points into the Brickworks around the periphery, as well as the development of a souvenir shop to promote the unique Glen Brick adjacent to the recently installed parking places.	4	Medium	2010-2015	This will create a visitor destination as well as reinforce the strong identity of Glenthompson as home of the unique 'pressed' Glen Brick.
Gln13	Footpath repairs	7	Upgrade and repair the paved footpaths, especially between the shops to the swimming pool, Lions Park and to the school crossing to the Primary School.	4	Medium	2010-2015	This will improve accessibility to key destinations.
Gln14	Main Street Landscape Improvement Program	6	Implement a Main Street Landscape Improvement Program to capitalise on the attractive War Memorial Gardens and the walkable environment along the main street.	4	Medium	2010-2015	A pleasant and enticing streetscape with a strong and memorable landscape character will encourage more visitors to stop and spend money locally, as well as encourage future economic investment.
Gln15	Wildlife talks	15	Establish a program of wildlife talks to groups including eco-tourists in conjunction with the opportunity to rehabilitate the Creek and water lillies in the Shire Dam to the west of the post office and 'The Den'.	5	Medium	2010-2015	This will further attract many national and international visitors to the town to experience Glenthompson's unique wildlife habitats.
Gln16	Welfare and web information improvements	16	Investigate opportunities to co-ordinate council service provision with those provided at 'The Den', community house, drop-in centre and wildlife rescue.	5	Medium	2010-2015	Making local and wider regional connections of this multi-functional facility raises the awareness and educational potential of this important community facility and social hub.