



SPORTING & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

SHIRE OF MOUNT MARSHALL

APRIL 2016



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- Dirk Sellenger, CEO, Shire of Mt Marshall
- Sally Morgan, Community & Recreation Officer, Shire of Mt Marshall

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1. Introduction and background

Tredwell Management Services is a specialist sport, recreation and open space planning and management firm and has prepared this Sporting and Recreation Master Plan (SRMP) for the Shire of Mt Marshall.

The end result of this project for Council is a well-researched and pragmatic blueprint for the provision of sport and recreation for the Shire of Mt Marshall over the next ten years. It includes a broad vision and a desired sporting and recreation network identifies recommendations, strategies and actions linked to resources.

The development of a broad strategy for sport and recreation provision with pragmatic recommendations is a comprehensive task. It is important to engage widely with the key stakeholders and engender a sense of community ownership of the plan. Ensuring that targeted and innovative consultation mechanisms are used was an important part of our process.

When determining service levels for sport and recreation provision, Local Governments are faced with a number of challenges. Typically they are responsible for large amounts of facility based assets such as clubrooms, pavilions, courts, amenities, major indoor recreation and aquatic facilities and community halls. Many of these assets were developed with a single use focus and often in an ad-hoc manner. Contemporary recreation asset planning is based around the principles of multi-use, flexibility in design, environmental sustainability and fit-for-purpose. Balancing all of these needs and desires and meeting the community's expectations is difficult, particularly with limited resources and competing demands.

Since the CEO commenced work at the Shire of Mt Marshall in October 2014, a lot of discussion has taken place regarding the existing sporting facilities (both Shire owned and non-Shire owned) in the town sites of Beacon, Bencubbin, Welbungin and Wialki. The CEO does not believe the future direction for the sporting and recreations facilities within each of the town sites is currently clear. To clarify the future direction the development of the SRMP document is considered essential. The SRMP will remove future confusion, misunderstanding and possible conflicts between various sporting teams, clubs and associations.

1.1 Project scope

It is essential that the development of the SRMP is inclusive of all towns and locations within the Shire to ensure all the needs and wants of the clubs and associations are heard and considered during the development of the plan, irrespective of how large or small they may be.

The Shire wishes to engage with the community to discuss and prioritise where sport and recreation funding should be invested.

The development of the SRMP document involves and encourages a large amount of community input and feedback from clubs, associations, teams and individuals. This process is to include public meetings, surveys and in person meetings during the development of the plan to ensure that as much information as possible is gathered. This is essential for the development of an accurate and workable Master Plan which truly reflects the needs and wants of the Mt Marshall sporting and recreational community.

The Shire requested that the following tasks be delivered within the project methodology;

- Information Gatherings
- Survey – online and mailed out to all residents within the Shire
- Small group interviews
- Workshop
- Initial Reporting
- Final Reporting

It was also outlined by the Shire of Mt Marshall that the final report was to include details on the following;

- Gauge feedback on standard of facilities
- Projected future use of facilities and changes in use and participation of clubs
- Strategies, actions and notional costs for the future provision of facilities
- Current and future priorities for all facilities
- A prioritised guide for future facility development within the Shire

1.2 Study area

The Shire of Mt Marshall is located in the North Eastern Wheatbelt of Western Australia, 275km north east of Perth. The Shire comprises of 2 main towns, Bencubbin and Beacon. There are also 3 smaller towns (Wialki, Gabbin and Welbungin) located within the Shire.

Gazetted in 1917, the shire is dominated by agricultural pursuits, including the growing of wheat, lupins, barley, oats and the breeding of sheep, pigs and cattle. Local businesses provide retailing and servicing of machinery, which are supported by the rural industry. The Shire offers a range of community, recreation and leisure services, all of which are managed by local community members who volunteer their time.

The Shire of Mt Marshall is home to 486 individuals (2011 Census data) and provides over 25 separate sporting and recreational groups, clubs and associations. This is a relatively large number of sporting/recreational groups considering the relatively small population.



2. Methodology

This table outlines the key stages utilised in the development of the SRMP.

Table 1: Project methodology

Phases of Methodology	Key Deliverables	Timeframe (weeks)
Stage 1: Start-up and Background Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start-up meeting minutes• Site appraisals• Document review• Inventory of sport and recreation facilities• Demographic, participation and trend analysis findings	Week 1- 3
Stage 2: Stakeholder Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary of research and consultation findings report including survey results	Week 4 – 10
Stage 3: Draft Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft the SRMP including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Needs Analysis○ Strategic Planning Framework○ Prioritised and Costed Action and Implementation Plan○ Master Plans of the Bencubbin Recreation Centre/Pool	Week 11-15
Stage 4: Final Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final SRMP	Week 16 - 20

3. Strategic planning and policy framework

Upon initiation of the SRMP a literature review was conducted of key council and supporting documents. The purpose of this review was to identify any relevant strategic outcomes or policy directions that have been allocated specific actions or strategies in previous documentation. Once identified suggested actions and or strategies can be used to support and guide the direction of this report.

Key documents reviewed included:

- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Draft Management Plan - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Feasibility Study - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Needs Assessment - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Review of Sport and Recreation in Regional Western Australia 2008
- Shire of Mt Marshall Annual Report 2013/14
- Shire of Mt Marshall Corporate Business Plan 2013
- Shire of Mt Marshall Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012 – 2017
- Shire of Mt Marshall Local Recreation Plan Summary of Findings (2003)
- Shire of Mt Marshall Strategic Community Plan
- Wheatbelt Regional Planning and Infrastructure Framework 2014
- Wheatbelt Regional Plan 2013-18
- SD5 Framework (Strategic Directions for the WA Sport & Recreation Industry)
- DSR Facility Planning Guide – Sport and Recreation Facilities (2007)

Principles, actions, and strategies relevant to the development of the SRMP are detailed in Appendix 1.

4. Demographic analysis

Table 2 below provides a demographic comparison of the Shire of Mt Marshall, Western Australia and Australia. The purpose of this table is to highlight key points of difference for Mt Marshall when compared against State and National averages.

Table 2: Demographic comparison – Mt Marshall, Western Australia & Australia

Area	Mt Marshall (2011 ABS census)	Western Australia	Australia
Total population	486	2,239,170	21,507,717
Male and female	54.5% male 45.5% female	50.3% male 49.7% female	49.4% male 50.6% female
Family demographics	133 families in total 45.1% were couple families with children 49.6% were couple families without children 5.3% were one parent families 0% were other families	585,310 families in total 44.9% were couple families with children 38.8% were couple families without children 14.5% were one parent families 1.8% were other families	5,684,059 families in total 44.6% were couple families with children 37.8% were couple families without children 15.9% were one parent families 1.7% were other families
Employment	274 people over 15 are in the labour force 73% employed full time 22% employed part-time 2.2% were employed but away from work 2.2% were unemployed	1,152,200 people over 15 are in the labour force 60.7% employed full time 28.1% employed part-time 6.4% were employed but away from work 4.7% were unemployed	10,658,460 people over 15 were in the labour force 59.7% employed full time 28.7% employed part-time 5.9% were employed but away from work 5.6% were unemployed
Common industries of employment	Managers 56.2% Labourers 9.9% Technicians and Trade Workers 8% Machinery Operators and Drivers 8% Clerical & Admin Workers 7.3% Professionals 6.6 % Community and Personal Service Workers 2.9%	Professionals 19.9% Technicians and Trade Workers 16.7 % Clerical & Admin Workers 14.4% Managers 12.2% Labourers 9.7% Community and Personal Service Workers 9.4% Machinery Operators and Drivers 7.6%	Professionals 21.3% Clerical & Admin Workers 14.7% Technicians and Trade Workers 14.2% Managers 12.9% Community and Personal Service Workers 9.7% Labourers 9.4% Machinery Operators and Drivers 6.6%
Income	The median weekly personal income (people aged 15 years and over) was \$613. Weekly median household income \$970	The median weekly personal income (people aged 15 years and over) was \$662 Weekly median household income \$1,415	The median weekly personal income (people aged 15 years and over) was \$577 Weekly median household income \$1,234

Source: ABS census data 2011 & Department of Planning and Local Government Data 2011

Table 2 highlights several demographic factors that differentiate the Shire of Mt Marshall from both the West Australian and Australian averages. The main points of difference are noted below;

- The Shire of Mt Marshall has an elevated percentage of males and lower percentage of females compared to State and National averages.
- The Shire of Mt Marshall has an elevated percentage of couple families without children and a lower percentage of one parent families and other families compared to State and National averages.
- The Shire of Mt Marshall has an elevated percentage of individuals employed full time and lower percentages of those that are part time employed, employed but away from work or unemployed compared to State and National averages.
- The Shire of Mt Marshall has a notably elevated percentage of individuals employed as managers. Industries of employment are also generally more skewed towards manual labour than in State and National averages.
- The Shire of Mt Marshall has a lower than average weekly median household income than both State and National averages. Mt Marshall also has a lower than average weekly median personal income when compared against State averages. However, in a National context the Mt Marshall personal weekly income is higher than average.

As well as understanding these demographic factors, understanding the age profile of any given location is important when considering the Shire's sports and recreation facility needs and requirements. **Table 3** below provides an age profile comparison of Mt Marshall, Western Australia and Australia.

Table 3: Age profile comparison – Mt Marshall, Western Australia & Australia

	Mt Marshall		Western Australia		Australia	
	No. of People	% of Total	No. of People	% of Total	No. of People	% of Total
0 – 4 Years	35	7.2%	151262	6.8%	1,421,050	6.6%
5 – 14 Years	84	17.3%	288,809	12.9%	2,722,975	12.7%
15-24 Years	33	6.8%	307,218	13.7%	2,866,471	13.3%
25-34 Years	63	12.9%	324,096	14.5%	2,967,011	13.8%
35-44 Years	75	15.4%	328,257	14.6%	3,063,017	14.3%
45-54 Years	84	17.3%	310,228	13.8%	2,951,546	13.7%
55-64 Years	62	12.8%	254,425	11.4%	2,503,360	11.6%
65 + Years	51	10.4%	274,876	12.3%	3,012,289	17%
Median Age	39		36		37	

Source: ABS census data 2011

The Shire of Mt Marshall has a higher than average median age (39yrs) compared to both West Australian (36yrs) and Australian (37yrs) averages.

Other statistical highlights presented in **Table 3** include the low proportion of the Mt Marshall population within the 15-24yr age bracket and the high proportion of population within the 5-14yr and 45-54yr age brackets.

The lack of individuals in the 15-24yr age bracket in Mt Marshall might be explained by the broad trend for young adults moving to Perth to pursue education/ employment opportunities. Until recently, schooling was provided for local students up to grade 7 but, as of 2016, schooling will be provided up to grade 6.

The elevated percentage of children 5-14 is encouraging for the Shire of Mt Marshall as retaining youth is a key element of survival for any regional town. It will be integral to consider and where appropriate provide facilities to cater for the needs of this important age bracket.

Table 4 identifies the country of birth of the Shire of Mt Marshall population. This shows that the vast majority of the Mt Marshall population are Australian born (89%). This figure is much higher than both the West Australian (62.9%) and Australian (69.8%) averages. The only other notable international place of birth is England, which is where 3.3% of the Mt Marshall population were born. Also interesting to note is that in the 2011 census there were no individuals within the Shire of Mt Marshall that identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage; this differs significantly from both the West Australian (3.3%) and the Australian (2.5%) averages.

Table 4: Cultural diversity comparison- Mt Marshall, Western Australia & Australia

Country of birth (top 5 excluding Australia):			
% of population	Mt Marshall	Western Australia	Australia
Australia	88.9%	62.9%	69.8%
England	3.3%	8.6%	4.2%
New Zealand	1.2%	3.2%	2.2%
Gaza Strip & West Bank	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Germany	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%

Source: ABS census data 2011

Such cultural diversity figures are not uncommon in regional Australian locations and would tend to suggest that traditional sports such as football, cricket, netball and tennis are favoured by the population.

5. Trend analysis

5.1 National trends

5.1.1 Australia wide sporting trends

A recent report entitled 'The Future of Australian Sport' (CSIRO / Australian Sports Commission 2013) identified six sporting 'megatrends' that may redefine the Australian sport sector over the next 30 years.

1. A perfect fit

A perfect fit refers to the trend of the increasing popularity amongst individualised sport and fitness activities (yoga, gym, aerobics, jogging etc.). People are progressively becoming involved in individualised sport and fitness activities due to living busier lifestyles and having a lack of time for structured/organised sports. Individualised fitness pursuits allow people to align their fitness activities with their ever-changing weekly schedules.

This trend is likely to affect Mt Marshall through the increased public and unstructured use of sport and recreational facilities such as ovals, gyms, multi-use rooms/spaces, courts, trails and parks. This trend threatens to reduce the number of individuals becoming involved with traditional community level sport and organised clubs/groups due to the actual or perceived time commitment associated with club/organisation involvement. However, due to the high level of importance the Mt Marshall community places on local organised sport (and its continuation), this national trend is unlikely to become problematic in the near future, but remains an important consideration moving forward. An important consideration from this trend will be ensuring that sport and recreation facilities are open to the public for unstructured use and individualised pursuits of fitness, otherwise existing facilities will not be optimising their levels of community use/value.

2. From extreme to mainstream

From extreme to mainstream refers to the trend of 'Adventure', 'Lifestyle', 'Extreme' and 'Alternative' sports increasing in popularity. This is especially the case in younger individuals as they are more likely to be attracted to these forms of sport and recreation through generational change and increased awareness through online content (Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter etc.). These sports are often characterised by a strong lifestyle element and participants often obtain cultural self-identity and self-expression through participation in these sports/activities. These sports are beginning to appear at the Olympic Games (e.g. BMX).

In terms of 'extreme sport' the Shire of Mt Marshall has some unique offerings as a destination for go-karters, shooters and off road racers. The off road racing event (WA Off Road Racing Championships) is the most significant as it attracts participants from around the state/country. However, outside of these offerings there is little for individuals seeking sports/activities that have an 'adventure', 'lifestyle' or 'alternative' aspect to them. An opportunity exists for Mt Marshall to integrate this trend into future

developments. Mt Marshall is a unique destination with the scope to provide additional sporting/recreation activities that are noisy and hard to locate (making them difficult to provide in more densely populated Shires). Examples of potential sports to explore include motor sports (off road car and motorbike racing, four wheel driving experiences), mountain biking and inland kite boarding amongst others. If planned correctly the Shire could centralise such activities into a noisy and hard to locate sporting hub and become known for its provision of such activities. If supported by the local community the development of 'extreme' or 'unique' sports/activities in the area may assist in retaining the youth/young adult component of the local population and attracting tourist to the region.

3. More than sport

More than sport refers to the trend of governments (at Federal, State and Local level) and companies increasing their utilisation of sport to achieve their policy objectives. Governments in particular are increasingly incorporating sport into various policies to tackle a range of issues from childhood obesity through to mental health issues and community wellbeing. Furthermore, local governments associated with marginalised communities are trending towards the utilisation of sport as a means of building social capital within their community.

This trend may increase the chances of Mt Marshall securing sport and recreation based funding for facility development/maintenance. Increased chances of appropriate project funding may be possible due to the increased utilisation of sport/recreation facility development to achieve policy goals by State and Federal governments. If the Shire of Mt Marshall is to make the most of this trend they must ensure that all efforts are made to align funding applications with current State and Federal policy/strategy/goals.

4. Everybody's game

Everybody's game refers to the trend of sports/recreational activities becoming more and more geared towards an ageing and more culturally diverse population. This will change both the types of sports we play and how we play them, recent indicators suggest that more and more Australians are embracing sport well into their old age. Australia is also becoming more culturally diverse with new arrival populations growing around the Nation. As the population ages and becomes increasingly diverse (culturally) the sporting preferences of Australia are likely to change as a result.

This trend is likely to affect Mt Marshall as the demographic analysis shows that, when compared to State and National demographics, Mt Marshall has relatively low levels of cultural diversity and a higher than average median age.

The low level of cultural diversity indicates that maintaining the current provision of 'traditional' sports (football, netball, basketball, hockey, tennis, lawn bowls etc.) will be a priority for the Shire moving forward. This is likely to occur as this report has found little community support for the provision of additional sports typically popular amongst international communities (soccer, rugby etc.).

Being home to an older population means that Mt Marshall should consider the effects of this trend when planning for future sport and recreation based facilities. Facility needs and desires of elderly individuals differ greatly to that of a younger demographic, therefore providing age appropriate activities and facilities (that consider aspects such as

accessibility, security and safety etc.) could assist in shaping the development of a more inclusive sporting/recreational community in the Shire.

5. New wealth, new talent

New wealth, new talent refers to the growth of Asian countries (in terms of both population and income). This trend will see the creation of a more competitive sporting arena for Australians, both on the sports field and in the sport's business environment. Asian countries (especially China) are investing heavily in sporting facilities, training and participation programs all of which are rapidly improving their gold medal counts in the Olympics Games in recent times. The growth of disposable income amongst Asian countries is resulting in an increased interest in sport as people have more money to spend on sport, leisure and recreation activities. This could also potentially create new markets for sports television, sports tourism, sports equipment, services and events.

Mt Marshall is unlikely to be affected by this trend as it does not provide high level facilities designed to support national and international athlete development and does not have the population to support such facilities. If Mt Marshall were to develop itself as a destination for noisy and hard to locate sports then it may benefit from increased tourism due the growth of the Asian sport/recreation tourism industry.

6. Tracksuit to business suit

Tracksuit to business suit refers to the trend of some sports receiving much higher salaries for elite athletes than other sports, with participation increasing in sports that receive a higher salary at the elite level. This trend is increasing the existing pressures placed on less financially backed sports. Market forces are also putting greater pressures on loosely organised community sporting clubs to become organisations with corporate structures and formal forms of governance, a challenging task for many. A secondary point to this trend is the acknowledgement of the rising cost of sports participation which is now becoming a barrier for some members of the community.

Currently due to the traditional nature of the local sporting environment (i.e. the dominance of 'traditional' sports such as AFL football, netball, tennis etc.), this trend is likely to have little local effect. However, appropriate management modelling will be an important consideration for all sporting/recreation clubs and organisations in Mt Marshall as currently many are 'loosely' organised with informal management structures and plans, potentially placing their longevity at risk. Also due to the lower than average median income in Mt Marshall the cost of facility use and financial barriers to participation will be an integral consideration for the Shire when planning facility developments, upgrades and/or considering levels of free public accessibility.

5.2 State trends

Adult Participation in Organised Sport in Western Australia

The table below shows that the five most popular sport and recreation activities for adults in Western Australia are activities that can be conducted both individually and informally (i.e. walking, fitness, swimming, cycling, and jogging). This is in line with the 'perfect fit' trend (discussed in the previous section) which refers to the increasing popularity of flexible, individualised activities that can be pursued at the convenience of an individual.

The five most popular team orientated sports (in order of popularity) are tennis, soccer (outdoor), Australian rules football, netball and basketball. In terms of participation growth fitness/gym activities; jogging/running and soccer (outdoor) have shown strong growth ($\geq +1\%$) in participation from 2006 – 2012. On the other hand walking for exercise, netball and golf have declined ($\geq -1\%$) in participation over the same timeframe. Participation in other listed activities tends to be cyclical in nature.

Table 5: Adult participation in sport and recreation activities (Western Australia)

Sports & physical recreation activities	Estimate ('000)			Participation rate (%)		
	2006	2009	2012	2006	2009	2012
Walking for exercise	436.0	414.6	422.9	27.9	23.5	22.5
Fitness/Gym	222.8	236.0	321.7	14.3	13.4	17.1
Swimming/Diving	155.1	148.0	180.9	9.9	8.4	9.6
Cycling/BMXing	133.6	138.8	166.0	8.6	7.9	8.8
Jogging/Running	66.4	104.5	142.6	4.3	5.9	7.6
Golf	97.3	80.3	86.4	6.2	4.6	4.6
Tennis (indoor and outdoor)	61.0	51.7	66.9	3.9	2.9	3.6
Soccer (outdoor)	26.6	45.0	52.5	1.7	2.6	2.8
Australian Rules football	50.3	36.1	47.0	3.2	2.1	2.5
Netball (indoor and outdoor)	52.6	39.8	45.1	3.4	2.3	2.4
Dancing/Ballet	22.8	38.8	38.9	1.5	2.2	2.1
Fishing	28.0	13.5	38.6	1.8	0.8	2.0
Bush walking	38.5	29.0	37.9	2.5	1.6	2.0
Basketball (indoor and outdoor)	45.0	38.0	37.8	2.9	2.2	2.0
Cricket (outdoor)	41.2	30.5	33.8	2.6	1.7	1.8
Lawn bowls	20.9	24.2	33.0	1.3	1.4	1.8
Martial arts	30.6	24.3	28.8	2.0	1.4	1.5
Yoga	27.4	21.3	28.7	1.8	1.2	1.5
Surf sports	30.9	37.3	22.2	2.0	2.1	1.2
Football sports (e.g. Touch, American, Oztag & Gaelic)	-	-	14.0	-	-	0.7

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS 2013)

Table 5 highlights the fact that the Shire of Mt Marshall provides facilities for the vast majority of the top 20 sport and recreation activities in Western Australia. Activities in the top 20 that do not have appropriate facilities in Mt Marshall include cycling/BMXing, soccer, fishing, martial arts, yoga, surf sports and football sports (i.e. Touch, American, Oztag & Gaelic).

Some activities are not possible in the Shire due to environmental constraints (i.e. fishing and surf sports) with others difficult to provide due to the low population base that activities can draw participants from, making the survival of these activities difficult to achieve. Activities not provided for in the Shire that could utilise existing infrastructure include indoor soccer, martial arts, yoga and football sports. These are all activities that may or may not be successful (depending on the level of local community interest), however hosting come and try events could provide council with the opportunity to gauge local interest in alternative activities not currently provided within the Shire.

Other popular Western Australian sports that are not currently provided for within the Shire of Mt Marshall but could potentially be if new infrastructure was to be provided include cycling/BMXing and outdoor soccer. These are very popular sports/activities in a Western Australian context with cycling/BMXing ranking 4th overall and soccer ranking 8th. The provision of stand-alone outdoor soccer facilities is unlikely due to the required infrastructure (and associated a high capital cost/ ongoing facility maintenance), however multiuse synthetic surfaces (combining with hockey, tennis etc.) may provide some scope for further investigation. BMX/cycling provides significant opportunity for the Shire as this is an activity that can be achieved individually (aligning with national mega trends) and has relatively low costs in terms of developing appropriate infrastructure.

BMX and cycling opportunities could be achieved through the introduction of a portable BMX pump track and/or investigation into the development of an on-road cycling loop. A BMX pump track would provide entertainment for the youth of the Shire whilst the development of cycling loop could benefit a much wider age bracket. Development of an on road cycling loop could be achieved by widening the shoulder/verge on selected roads (something that could be achieved during scheduled road maintenance works) to install the required bicycle lane in appropriate locations. Potential barriers to the development of on-road cycling trails are the cost of facility development and the high local road speeds (presenting additional risk to the user).

Table 5 also highlights two activities that are popular in a Western Australian context but have limited provision locally, these are walking for exercise and jogging/running. These activities are limited by the low numbers of dedicated walking/running trails in the local area and the lack of existing facility advertisement/marketing. Trail provision provides a unique set of challenges in rural locations (high road speeds, dispersed population, consideration for multi-use, identification of key attractions/locations etc.) but when implemented correctly trails provide opportunities for individualised pursuits of fitness for varying ages and abilities. Trailing is a highly inclusive activity that can encourage participation from a wide cross section of the community, the provision of additional trails (outside of the existing offerings) is worthy of further investigation. Further consideration should also be given to increasing the advertisement of existing trails (improved signage and marketing). This may increase local tourism and encourage visitors to stop and engage in local trail experiences.

6. Facilities Inventory & Hierarchy

An inventory of sport and recreation facilities in the Shire of Mount Marshall was undertaken as part of the development of the SRMP.

Ensuring that all members of the community have appropriate levels of access to sport and recreation facilities is of critical importance, as is the provision of community facilities deemed essential to meet the broader needs of the community.

It is acknowledged that the majority of the Shire's population is distributed between two townships, namely Bencubbin (the administrative centre) and Beacon. Given that levels of resources available to invest in and maintain community facilities are finite, it is not considered feasible to deliver matching levels of facility provision in both townships.

It is common practice in sport and recreation planning to develop a hierarchy to assist in the planning and future development of facilities. When establishing a hierarchy, relevant facilities are categorised based on a number of factors. For this study key factors include the size and quality of the facility, potential for facility development, potential for the facility to address community needs, the facility's ability to cater for various levels of competition, proximity to population centres and its current/potential catchment area.

The facility hierarchy developed for this study includes three categories (see below).

- **Regional**
 - A regional sports/recreation facility is one that attracts users from the extent of the local government area and beyond (i.e. all of Mt Marshall + surrounding Shires) and meets the standards of a peak sporting body to host major regional/state level competitions and/or training.
- **District**
 - A district sports/recreation facility is one that attracts many of its users from nearby suburbs/towns in addition to local users. A district sports/recreation facility has the ability to cater for association carnivals and final series when required.
- **Local**
 - A local sports/recreation facility is one of small to medium size that is capable of catering for a range of users and/or a specific sport. Local facilities are generally provided to an appropriate standard for the level of sporting activity. A local facility generally only attracts users living in relatively close proximity to the facility itself (i.e. local township only).

Further details relating to the various hierarchical levels are included at Appendix 2.


Utilising these criteria a facility hierarchy was developed for the Shire of Mt Marshall to clarify the standings of various sport and recreation facilities within the Shire and guide targeted future investment in these facilities.





The facility hierarchy will provide clarity for both the Shire and the community in regards to how facilities are to be prioritised in terms of future investment and to what level they should be maintained, developed or consolidated.


6.1 Facilities Inventory





The table below identifies all known sport and recreation facilities within the Shire. For a Shire with a relatively small population of 486 (2011 Census data) Mt Marshall provides a significant number of sporting and recreational groups, clubs and associations. The following facilities/clubs exist within the Shire.




Table 6: Facility summary table





Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Beacon Bowling Green	Synthetic bowling green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beacon Bowling Club 	




Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Beacon Country Club	Bar, kitchen, children's activity room, various social spaces (adjoins Beacon Bowling Green)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Country Club • Beacon Bowling Club • Beacon Football, Netball & Hockey Club also utilise the country club for meals and presentations after home games and events 	 
Beacon Gun Club	Shooting range (Range - Club shed, Generator shed, Tower 1 clay thrower, bunkers, rifle lean-to)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Gun Club 	 


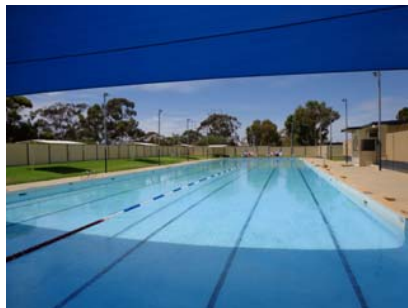

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Beacon Men's Shed	Shed, kitchenette, workspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beacon Men's Shed members 	



Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Beacon Recreation Complex	Football oval, outdoor netball & basketball courts, hockey field, tennis courts, tennis clubhouse, cricket nets, indoor squash courts, change room facilities, skate park, activities room, kitchen and gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Community Recreation Council (manages Beacon Rec Complex) • Beacon Football Club • Beacon Basketball Association • Beacon Tennis Club • Beacon Hockey Club • Beacon Netball Club • Beacon Junior Cricket Club 	   

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Beacon Town Hall	Space provided for stage shows, rehearsals, storage of costumes and props, kitchen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc. • Beacon Playgroup 	
Bencubbin Golf Course	Golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin Golf Club 	
Bencubbin Heritage Trail	Starting at the centre of town the 5km trail travels through town and the surrounding bushland. Includes 36 (signed) stops that outline the history of Bencubbin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Bencubbin Recreation Complex	Football oval, indoor netball/basketball court, outdoor netball/basketball courts(derelict), 4 tennis courts (derelict), cricket nets, synthetic bowling green, hockey field, change room facilities, activities room, kitchen and gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (manages Bencubbin Rec Complex) • Bencubbin Basketball Club (has not run for the last 2-3 years) • Bencubbin Bowling Club • Bencubbin Football Club • Bencubbin Hockey Club • Bencubbin Netball Club • Dance club • Mt Marshall Agricultural Society • Western Australian Off Road Racing Working Group 	   

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Bencubbin Rifle Range	Shooting range (target shooting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Rifle Club 	
Bencubbin Sports Club	Bar, kitchen, disused bowling green, various social spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Sports Club Bencubbin Golf Club 	 
Bencubbin Town Hall	Currently leased by private enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current sport/recreation user groups 	

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Mt Marshall Go Kart Course	Go kart track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mt Marshall & Districts Go Kart Club 	
Mt Marshall Swimming Pool	50m outdoor pool & toddler pool located in Bencubbin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mt Marshall Swimming Club 	
Sturt Pea House	Space used for crèche and playgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Playgroup 	

Facility Name	Facility Components	Clubs utilising the facility	Image(s)
Welbungin Tennis Courts	Tennis courts, 'hit up' practice wall playground, clubhouse, toilet block and social spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welbungin Tennis Club 	
Wialki Golf Course	Golf course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wialki Golf Club 	

7. Shared Use Facilities

The encouragement of shared facility provision and the co-location of facilities will be an important consideration for the Shire of Mt Marshall moving forward.

The Department of Sport and Recreation Sport and Recreation Facility Planning Guide (2007) outlines the benefits of joint provision/shared use facilities below:

Joint Provision/Shared Use Facilities

There are many benefits to joint provision and shared use of sport and recreation facilities including:

- *Less duplication and maximum use of community facilities and services*
- *Creation of a community hub—a focal point for community activity*
- *Shared capital costs, services, resources and expertise*
- *Improved relationships between organisations*
- *Reduced operating costs*
- *Increased community ownership of facilities*
- *Access to a broader range of services and expertise*
- *Reduced vandalism*

Potential partners for sport and recreation facilities include:

- *Schools, colleges and universities*
- *Sport association headquarters*
- *Senior citizen centres*
- *Neighbourhood and community centres*
- *Churches*
- *Community and child health centres*
- *Health and fitness clubs*
- *Art and entertainment venues*
- *Local government authority*
- *The private sector*

The basis of shared provision and use is to broaden access, maximise usage and rationalise costs in order to get the best possible value from the facility. However, if shared facilities are to be successful, all parties need to think through their specific needs for access and use, and be assured that an opportunity for compatibility exists before planning advances to the design phase. Management agreements for shared use facilities should be comprehensive, detailing arrangements for location, funding, management risk allocation and use. However, if the sharing arrangement is to be successful, their application requires flexibility, trust, open communication and co-operation.

Where appropriate co-location, joint provision and shared use of sport and recreation facilities can result in the best outcome for your sport, club, school or community. These options should be explored at length with various government agencies, State Sporting Associations, commercial operators, neighbouring local governments and sport and recreation clubs before any decisions are made to extend or build a new facility.

Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) WA provides the following comments and definitions in its Benchmarks for Community Infrastructure document:

Shared Use Facilities

To meet the needs of the community with limited resources, it has become more important to ensure that there is flexibility in the way that facilities are provided. Where opportunities arise PLA WA support the potential to develop facilities which have the potential for:

- *Providing multiuse facilities;*
- *Co-location of Council services;*
- *Co-location or partnerships with other providers;*
- *Outreach programmes or other linkages between facilities;*
- *Other ways of providing services such as through electronic access; and*
- *The potential to stage development where practicable.*

Multi-Functional Facilities

This refers to the design and adaptability of single buildings and/or playing field space. New community infrastructure must recognise the dynamic and changing nature of communities. The design of facilities needs to be flexible, innovative and adaptable to meet the needs of a variety of users and use requirements to address changing demographics. PLA WA encourages the joint use/co-location of services that are compatible and where the management of services allows for multi-use with other services. Reference is made in the benchmarks to different types of service provision and the potential opportunities to co-locate these within one building or playing field area.

Multi-sport hubs

Multi-sport hubs utilise a range of shared sporting services within one combined location under a single management arrangement. This provides a more effective and viable operation. Examples of this include Melbourne Sports Hub (pictured below).



Image: Melbourne Sports Hub

A number of case studies identifying best practice examples for the provision of shared use, multi-functional facilities in regional locations are included at Appendix 3.

8. Facility Provision Benchmarks

Facility benchmarking can play an important role in the identification of required sport and recreation facilities for a designated area. However, due to the Shire's geographic location and relatively low population, typical provisional standards are difficult to apply.

PLA WA states in the Benchmarks for Community Infrastructure working document that *"Regional rural areas and towns will have pockets of community provision that cannot be aligned to population benchmarks... Within these areas, it is essential to establish the need of the community on a case by case basis and ensure that where infrastructure is provided it meets minimum design, technical and spatial standards and provides suitable opportunities to provide outreach services"*.

The table below details the current provision of Mt Marshall sport and recreation facilities as compared with PLA WA standards. This data is provided for information purposes only and is intended to highlight that sport and recreation facility provision within the Shire needs to respond to the unique circumstances of the local population.

The level of facility provision recommended in this report will be guided, to varying degrees, by the Shire's financial limitations, population demographics, public consultation, ongoing maintenance requirements, industry best practice and the professional opinion of Tredwell Management.

Table 7: PLA WA sport and Recreation Provision Ratios

			Local Population = 486
	Facilities required	Per population of	Mt Marshall Current Provision
Aquatic Facilities - Outdoor 25m and leisure pool	1	25,000	0
Aquatic Facilities - Outdoor 50m pool	1	75,000	1
Basketball Courts	1	3,000	3
BMX dirt track facility	1	10,000	0
Golf	1	30,000	2
Indoor multi-use courts	1	5000	1
Lawn Bowls	1	25,000	2
Netball courts	1	3,000	3
Senior AFL Ovals	1	5,000	2
Senior Cricket Ovals	1	8,000	2
Skate Park	1	5,000	1
Tennis	1	1,875	8
Multi use synthetic surface (i.e. hockey/tennis)	Standards are area/location specific		
Off-road recreational motorsport	Area Specific. To balance reasonable demand with the need to protect the environment		
Trails (walking, cycling and bridlepaths)	No established Australian standard		

9. Consultation

The consultation process utilised in the development of this plan included the following key components:

- 1x Shire Councillors meeting
- 4x sport/recreation group meetings (groups from both Bencubbin and Beacon)
- 2x community workshops (Bencubbin and Beacon)
- 1x community online survey
- 1x sport/recreation club online survey

This section presents a summary of the findings for each of the consultation mechanisms.

9.1 Councillors Meeting

Councillor's Meeting Summary

- There is significant concern over recent population decline
- It was suggested that building new sporting facilities may attract younger people to come and live/work in Mt Marshall - Young people expect quality facilities to be available
- The issue of investing in community vs. Shire owned buildings/assets was discussed
- Pool facility, in its current condition, is losing the Shire a significant amount of money (due to leakage and maintenance requirements). A new aquatic facility is required but the appropriate location and specifications are still to be determined
- Splash pad concept was discussed and met with positivity from the group
- General support for the community sporting hub model (i.e. bringing appropriate sporting facilities to a central location where possible/viable)
- A staged approach could be considered as an option for developing sporting hubs in Bencubbin and Beacon
- Ideas for attracting people to town were discussed (development of official wildflower trail, motor bike endurance racing, Mountain biking events on rocky outcrops, BMX track development, go karting, wind powered carts on Lake McDermott, development of Mt Marshall Reservoir to support water based activity).

9.2 Sport/Recreation Group Meetings

Beacon Progress Association Meeting Summary

- Maintenance is the key issue for facilities in Beacon - residents want to see what they have fixed up and not additional facilities. Many things haven't been touched (in terms of maintenance) since the 70's
- The opinion of the group is that it is not critical to have any major developments in the Shire – only minor upgrades required (for both Bencubbin and Beacon)

- It is perceived that that the Shire does not provide much in Beacon in terms of maintenance and facility management – with a lot of work being completed by volunteer groups
- Very strong community input for all local sporting facilities (strong level of community ownership)
- Residents are concerned that if facilities are built at Bencubbin (and not Beacon) then they will be paying for facilities that they won't utilise due to them living too far away
- Population decline and aging population were identified as issues for the Shire moving forward
- Men's shed needs additional infrastructure as it is currently at capacity

Beacon Country Club/Bowls Club Meeting Summary

- Bowls and Country clubs work together - one could not survive without the other
- Current facilities are adequate (not perfect, but adequate)
- The club suggested that they could use some financial support from the council to assist with maintenance/operational costs
- A commitment from the Shire to manage or help manage/maintain the Country Club facility for 10 years may keep the facility running in the long run
- Generally speaking – attendance at the club is dropping due to population decline
- Efforts are being made to increase attendance through scheduling of additional events/nights

Bencubbin Sports Club Meeting Summary

- Sports Club now functions as both the golf clubhouse and the unofficial town pub
- The Sports Club has recently transitioned from being run by a volunteer base to having paid staff
- Sports Club is making a small surplus and are looking to invest profit directly back into local clubs through sponsorship.
- Recently the Sports Club installed a new kitchen, new bar, new electrics and new carpet – built mostly by volunteers
- The main goal for the Sports Cub is to keep the facility viable for the local community
- The Sports club has some concerns about moving down to the recreation centre as they are unsure if golf club would survive - they don't want to abandon golf
- There was discussion in regards to turning the now disused bowling green into some form of golf practice facility (i.e. driving nets and a putting green)

Welbungin Tennis Club Meeting Summary

- For the last 3-4 years the number of new players increased by 10% annually
- It was suggested that the reason the club is successful is that the facility is not based in town (i.e. Bencubbin) - The club does not want to be moved back to Bencubbin
- Current courts have been down for nearly 20 years (they are overdue for a resurface) - resurfacing of the 4 courts would cost around \$100,000 (latest quote).

- It was suggested that the two towns will need to share their sporting facilities as the current level of facility duplication is not sustainable

9.3 Community Workshops

Community workshops were held in both Beacon and Bencubbin. In total 83 individuals attended these facilitated workshops; 46 attended the Bencubbin workshop and 37 attended the Beacon workshop. The workshops were advertised by the Shire of Mt Marshall through a number of avenues and were open to all members of the community.

The first exercise involved the attendees to work in groups to establish overall levels of satisfaction on a range of topics related to sport and recreation facilities, programs and activities provided for in the Shire of Mount Marshall. Each topic area was rated out of 10; the higher the rating, the more satisfied the group are with the levels of current provision for each topic area. The responses are summarised in the table below.

Table 8 Topic Area / Rating

Topic Area	Average Rating (out of 10)	Overall Ranking
Rec & Sport Clubs	8.9	1st
Facilities	7.3	2nd
Community Governance	6.3	3rd
Programs & Activities	5.4	4th
Access	5.2	5th
Economic Development	4.5	6 th

The second group exercise involved the identification of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT analysis) relating to each of the topic areas identified above. This information is presented in Appendix 4.

The final exercise built on the findings of the SWOT analysis to identify key issues and suggested actions that would address each issue in turn. These issues and actions are identified in the following table.

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Table 9 Community Workshops Issues & Actions

Community Governance	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership • Partnerships • Consultation • Community/ Volunteer Involvement • Regional Cooperation 	Beacon	Issue: Community and Volunteer involvement Action: More support from the Shire with funding applications and maintenance of facilities (would take pressure off declining population). CEO could visit the community on a weekly basis to discuss current issues.
		Issue: Declining population base means less people available for club administration Action: Develop a centralised club administration for all sports clubs
		Issue: Distance to/from education/training opportunities Action: More communication from the Shire in regards to options and available opportunities
	Bencubbin	Issue: Lack of new volunteer recruitment Action: More support system for new recruits
		Issue: Lack of partnerships between groups / clubs Action: co-location and cohesion between clubs

Program & Activities	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness & Promotion Participation Funding Education Training & Development 	Beacon	Issue: Lack of funding Action: Increase funding/subsidies available to community groups in Shire. Funding to help both CRC's to run training and developments courses. Funding/programs to support local small business development
		Issue: Numbers required to run programs Action: Needs to be more pressure put on training providers to provide training service to a group with limited numbers
	Bencubbin	Issue: Limited diversity in programs available Action: Provide more arts and cultural based programs or diverse sports
		Issue: Lack of people to hold courses Action: Combining with other towns, video conferencing etc.
		Issue: Lack of adequate plans – limits access to larger infrastructure funding grants Action: Develop appropriate plans to be able to access this funding – this will better our town/Shire facilities and better facilities will allow more activities and programs to be run
		Issue: Lack of funding for clubs Action: Have clubs on a rotation for access to a sum of money allowing clubs to plan ahead for developing their clubs

Economic Development	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Development Employment Opportunities Tourism Special Events Funding 	Beacon	Issue: Lack of localised special events Action: More Shire assistance for hosting events (i.e. Increase Shire support for Beacon Big Busy Bee - money, vehicles, man power)
	Bencubbin	Issue: Making the most out of special events Action: More promotion of what happens already (i.e. car rally)

Facilities	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport • Recreation • Open Spaces and Parks • Trails • Amenities • Schools 	Beacon	Issue: Lack of Shire support for community owned facilities Action: Shire to support community owned facilities as well as council owned facilities
		Issue: Sport and recreation facilities Action: Maintain what we have, declining population does not warrant large expenditure. Current facilities require maintenance, Shire budgeting/funding required to conduct this maintenance (budgeted future asset plan)
	Bencubbin	Issue: No 24hr access to courts Action: Outside court near public toilets that use solar powered lighting
		Issue: Access to facilities of decent standard Action: Thorough planning for future change to optimise use, access + cost in the future
		Issue: Facilities spread across town Action: Co-location of sporting and community facilities
		Issue: Pool repairs Action: Repair
		Issue: Recreation centre needs redevelopment Action: Enhance central bar/dining area, facility entrance (make it clear and well defined), fix kitchen, changerooms, toilets, function space, crèche, tennis courts, oval maintenance – get funding and start somewhere otherwise nothing will ever get done

Recreation and Sport Clubs	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Volunteers • Membership • Participation 	Beacon	Issue: Lack of swimming pool in Beacon - no local swimming participation Action: Develop a swimming pool in Beacon
		Issue: Volunteers reducing in number Action: Shire to provide additional funding to encourage new (and maintain old) volunteers
	Bencubbin	Issue: Limited number of volunteers (existing volunteers aging) Action: Encourage volunteers from younger individuals by catering to their needs. Provide further incentive to volunteer. Subsidised training programs for umpires coaches and governance in general
		Issue: Collaboration between existing volunteers and sporting clubs Action: Improve communication skills mechanisms
		Issue: Sporting membership price is going up Action: Need for funding to counteract this

Access	Issues & Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Cost • Roads / paths • Disability • Special need groups 	Beacon	Issue: Special need/disability groups not catered for Action: Improved disability access to facilities, improved aged care/opportunity
	Bencubbin	Issue: Poor signage to sports ground Action: Improve signage to recreation ground, pool, golf course, signage within rec ground to hockey netball, toilets etc.
		Issue: Declining facilities and town services Action: Build population
		Issue: Poor disabled/aged/pram access to community facilities Action: Develop plan to better access facilities. Most used buildings should have their toilets renovated
		Issue: Transport/travel costs Action: Provide fuel rebates for sporting clubs

Other issues identified during community workshops

A wide range of complex and interrelated issues currently have a bearing on the community of Shire of Mt Marshall, and these issues came through strongly during the community consultation processes as part of the development of the SRMP. Whilst not necessarily directly related to sport and recreation provision within the Shire (and, in some cases, beyond the scope of the SRMP) it is recognised that a number of these issues do have an effect, to a greater or lesser degree, on sport and recreation participation, programs and activities in the Shire. Such issues identified by the community included:

- Declining population
- Aging population
- Neighbouring town rivalry - two towns in one Shire causes tension (sharing resources etc.)
- Poor mobile phone coverage
- Limited local employment opportunities
- Consultation between Shire and community should be improved
- Shire should better represent the needs of the community
- Shire need wider representation amongst members (women, varying age groups etc.)
- Concern over loss of grade 7's from local schools
- Local businesses need additional support from the Shire - provide funding/help to encourage and develop small local business
- Poor town aesthetics
- Lack of local accommodation for tourists/visitors
- Lack of public transport is seen as an issue
- Isolation of location – council could provide subsidised transportation to/between key Council facilities/townships

9.4 Online Community Survey Summary

A complete survey findings report is included at Appendix 5. A summary of the key findings of the survey are included below:

- In total 182 individuals responded to the online survey
- 50% of the respondents were male and 50% were female
- 35 to 49 years was the best represented age bracket amongst respondents (38%)
- The majority of survey respondents (61%) were from Bencubbin, 33% from Beacon
- The 5 most popular sport and recreation activities in terms of participation amongst survey respondents (most popular listed first) were tennis, fitness/gym, Australian rules football, walking and swimming/diving
- The 5 least popular sport and recreation activities in terms of participation amongst survey respondents (least popular listed first) were indoor soccer, BMX, baseball, Volleyball and outdoor soccer
- The 5 most used sport and recreation facilities in the area (most used listed first) are the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, the Beacon Bowling Green, the football oval at Beacon Recreation Complex, the Gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex and the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool
- The 5 least used sport and recreation facilities in the area (least used listed first) are the squash courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mt Marshall Go Kart course, Beacon Men's shed, the Beacon Town Hall and the Wialki Golf Course
- The Bencubbin and Beacon bowling clubs were the only two facilities that the majority of users ranked as excellent in terms of quality
- Facilities that >60% of users rated as being of good or excellent include the Beacon's Men's shed, the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the indoor netball/basketball court at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, the tennis courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the outdoor netball/basketball courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the football oval at the Beacon Recreation Complex
- No single facility was rated by the majority of its users as below average or poor in terms of overall quality
- The lowest ranked facilities were the kitchen in the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool and the changerooms at the Bencubbin Recreation Centre
- Community opinion on sport in Mt Marshall
 - Sport is an important aspect of their community
 - There is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the sports they enjoy
 - Three quarters of the Mt Marshall population believe there are enough existing sporting facilities in the Shire
 - Just under two thirds of the Mt Marshall population believe there are enough sporting programs in the Shire
 - Three quarters of the Mt Marshall population believe sporting facilities are in good condition generally

- A significant proportion of the population (40%) either disagree or are undecided on the quality of sporting facility maintenance within the Shire
- Community opinion on recreation in Mt Marshall
 - The vast majority of people of Mt Marshall believe recreation is an important aspect of their community
 - Three quarters of the Mt Marshall believe there is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the recreational activities they enjoy
 - Two thirds of people believe there are enough existing recreational facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall
 - Over 40% of the Mt Marshall population do not believe that there are enough recreational programs in the Shire
 - The majority of the Mt Marshall population believe that existing recreational facilities are in good condition generally
 - Two thirds of the Mt Marshall population believe that recreational facilities in the Shire are well maintained
- When asked what they would like to see in the Shire within the next 5 years responses received show that generally the pool upgrade was supported by both townships, with the Beacon population petitioning for the facility to be moved to their town if it were to be redeveloped in a new location. Improved maintenance of existing facilities and growth of the existing population were common themes in the responses collected from both towns
- Respondents were asked to vote for a priority sport and recreation based project for the Shire, with two projects specifically identified; the redevelopment of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. The opportunity to nominate an alternative priority project was also provided. In response 56 individuals (31% of survey respondents) prioritised redevelopment of the Bencubbin Rec Complex and 35 individuals (19% of survey respondents) prioritised modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. Of the other 73 responses received respondents favoured a variety of alternative projects, generally targeting upgrading existing infrastructure and/or addressing significant maintenance issues. Of these alternative projects (where nominated by more than 5 survey respondents):
 - 11 respondents proposed the development /relocation of the pool to Beacon
 - 7 respondents proposed upgrading the Beacon Recreation Complex
 - 6 respondents proposed improved maintenance of all current facilities across the Shire
 - 21 respondents specifically did not support the upgrade of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex Redevelopment nor the modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre (and did not propose alternative sport and recreation based priority projects for the Shire)
- To complete the survey respondents were provided with the chance for open comment. Within the collected comments there were very few common themes shared between responses collected from the residents of Beacon and the responses collected from the residents of Bencubbin
 - Bencubbin residents seemed to focus on the need to develop the Bencubbin Recreation centre into a more centralised 'sporting hub' type facility (including

the pool) and there was also concern about access to sporting facilities for the elderly/disabled.

- Prevalent themes within the Beacon responses included the need for smaller facility upgrades and improved maintenance on existing facilities, concern over the effects of population decline and the need for the Shire to support both towns equally. Beacon respondents suggested that facilities in Beacon require more attention (in terms of facility maintenance) than those in Bencubbin.

9.5 Online Clubs Survey Summary

A complete survey findings report is included at Appendix 6. A summary of the key findings of the survey are included below:

In total 16 sport and/or recreation clubs responded to the online survey. Of the 16 clubs that responded to the survey, 71% are affiliated with their respective peak bodies/associations.

Programs and activities conducted in the Shire include football, shooting, hockey, basketball, bowling, netball, tennis, theatre, playgroup, dance, go-karting and gym/fitness.

The main facilities utilised in Beacon are the Beacon Recreation Complex (football oval, gym, hockey oval, basketball, netball and tennis courts), shooting range, bowling green and town hall. The main facilities utilised in Bencubbin are the Bencubbin Recreation Complex (football oval, hockey oval, netball courts and gym), Sturt Pea House and the rifle range. Beyond Beacon and Bencubbin other facilities utilised include the Mt Marshall Districts Go-Kart Track and the tennis courts, hall and playground at Welbungin. Other facilities in the Shire utilised occasionally by some of the clubs include the Beacon Country Club (meetings/meals/clubrooms) and the caravan park units (hired by Go-Karters for overnight stays).

The majority of clubs are anticipating overall membership to remain fairly stable over the next year, reflecting recent and medium term stability trends in club membership numbers. Exceptions to this include the recently established Dance Club, which is anticipating an increase in demand and membership numbers as the club establishes itself, and the Beacon Gun Club that offers ongoing competition shooting and is introducing new shooting disciplines. Welbungin Tennis Club is also expecting membership to increase with increased interest shown in the club from the wider community. On average each club has 15 volunteers that are regularly involved in the running of the club.

Broadly speaking, existing sporting facilities are valued and considered to be fit for purpose (particularly the sports playing surfaces e.g. ovals, courts, pitches), with 74% rating current facilities either excellent, very good or good. However, supporting infrastructure such as changerooms, spectator areas, children's playgrounds and the overall functionality of sporting complexes are identified as being in need of attention. The swimming pool is also identified as a facility requiring refurbishment. Ongoing maintenance of existing facilities is also noted as a key issue to be addressed. Numerous clubs have ideas for new/enhanced facilities and ongoing maintenance issues, some clubs raised concerns with the safety and functionality of existing facilities.

Overall, there are concerns raised by several club representatives relating to the impact of the Shire's declining population, loss of families and younger people, resulting in declining club membership and volunteers willing to help support the clubs.

Other topics raised within the survey include:

- Certain clubs acknowledge the Shire for their support in enhancing their facilities
- Support requested in understanding the funding application process to help clubs upgrade existing facilities
- Support requested for conducting coaching/umpiring clinics (upskilling members)
- Some facilities require urgent attention to address health/safety concerns
- There are a lack of facilities/function areas/supporting infrastructure for women and children at the recreation centres – not a family friendly environment.

10. Issues & opportunities analysis

The table below summarises the key opportunities and issues/constraints identified during the previous stages of the SRMP process, relating to the future directions and development of Sport and Recreation in Mt Marshall.

Table 10: Issues & Opportunities

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	
STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY FRAMEWORK	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin recreation centre (identified for major redevelopment by 2017 in the 2013 Corporate Business Plan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major development issues/opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pavilion building (opposition changerooms/gym) is in disrepair and requires replacement Lack of function space & multipurpose room Ensuring all existing facilities are marked (where appropriate) for multiple use Other maintenance issues Management issues/opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage community use/participation (all ages, genders, cultural backgrounds and physical abilities) Promote sustainability principles Maintain an economical and sustainable facility Pursue sponsorship and fundraising opportunities Review and update management documents as appropriate 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mt Marshall Pool will require replacement due to its age and existing condition. Additional study required to further clarify existing condition of pool (inclusive of supporting facilities) and the feasibility of options for future development. Bencubbin Recreation complex identified as a potential destination for relocated aquatic facility that is smaller in size. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align future developments, events, strategies and plans with the Shire's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. Explore opportunities to upgrade access to existing facilities where possible 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an environment that enhances the growth, development and retention of youth whilst also facilitating the provision of infrastructure for aged persons. Local participation in sport/recreation is to be encouraged where possible 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sustainable facilities (environmental and economic) 	

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage co-location and resource sharing of community groups and sporting facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop, maintain and support appropriate recreation facilities throughout the Shire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage environmental initiatives (use of renewables energies, use of recycled materials, environmental impact mitigation etc.) in all aspects of facility development 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordability is a barrier to participation 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retaining existing and encouraging new volunteers is an issue – Shire should look to reduce barriers to and incentivise volunteerism where possible 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ongoing commitment to training and professional development is required to ensure the local sport and recreation industry is sustainable in the long-term 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local sporting organisations need to ensure they have sustainable operational and financial plans in place 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint provision/ shared use facilities can partner with a number of organisation outside of sport (i.e. school, community centres, medical etc.) to create a community hub 	
DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated percentage of individuals employed full time and lower percentages of those that are part time employed, employed but away from work or unemployed t - this potentially indicates that compared to the average Shire population residents are more likely to be time poor due to the demands of full time employment in a regional location 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower than average weekly median household income this potentially that local residents are less likely than the average Shire population to have disposable income available for sport and recreation participation and associated costs (equipment, travel, medical expenses etc.) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher than average median age (39yrs) - this potentially indicates that the Shire has an aging population with a lower than average percentage of young people. Future sport and recreation facility provision should consider they types of activities associated with an elderly demographic 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low proportion of population in the 15-24yr age bracket - This could potentially be attributed to the gravitation of this demographic to the metropolitan area, with implications for the continuing growth and development of sport and recreation clubs in the Shire. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics would indicate that traditional sports such as football, cricket, netball and tennis would be strongly supported in the Shire 	
TREND ANALYSIS	

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	
National Trends	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional space for residents to pursue individualised sport and fitness activities (yoga, gym, aerobics etc.) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that sport and recreation facilities are open to the public for unstructured use and individualised pursuits of fitness 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An opportunity exists for Mt Marshall to cater for the increasing popularity of 'extreme' or 'unique' sports/activities (e.g. noisy and hard to locate) with future sport and recreation facility development(s) within the Shire, subject to community consultation and relevant environmental impact assessment (where required) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase chances of gaining funding by aligning facility development plans and funding applications with current State and Federal policy/strategy/goals. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining the current provision of 'traditional' sports (football, netball, basketball, hockey, tennis, lawn bowls etc.) will be a priority for the Shire moving forward 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing sport/recreation activities and facilities that cater for age specific needs (accessibility, security, safety etc.) will assist in shaping a more inclusive sporting/recreational community for the Shire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity to accommodate additional noisy and hard to locate sport may allow the Shire to be marketed as a destination for sport and recreation tourism 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible assist sporting and recreation clubs/groups to formalise their management plans and structures. This process will help clubs/groups to identify club specific goals, strategies and plans whilst improving internal management structures. This process may also increase communication mechanisms between the Shire and clubs/groups 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important for the Shire to consider financial barriers to participation when planning facility developments, upgrades and/or considering levels of free public accessibility 	
State Trends	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the five most popular sport and recreation activities for adults are activities that can be conducted both individually and informally i.e. walking, fitness, swimming, cycling, and jogging – an opportunity exists to enhance the provision of multiuse trail facilities that cater for several of these activities (walking, cycling and jogging) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity exists for the Shire to host come and try events for popular sports/events current not provided for within the Shire. The purpose of this would be to gauge local interest in new or alternative sport and recreation based activities. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity exists to increase the in town signage and advertisement of existing sport and recreation facilities (including trails) 	

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soccer is not provided for within the Shire although it is the second most popular team sport in Western Australia - opportunity exists to investigate the provision of multiuse synthetic surfaces (combining soccer, hockey, tennis etc.). Other increasingly popular sports that could be provided for utilising existing infrastructure (pending community interest) includes martial arts, yoga and football sports.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The continued provision of flexible space for gym/ fitness activities will remain important for the Shire moving forward due to its growth state wide as an activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited provision of BMX and cycling facilities. Investigate provision of a BMX pump track and an on road cycling loop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider additional opportunity for multi-use trail development. Also enhance marketing of existing trail provision
CONSULTATION
Sport/Recreation Group Meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> population decline is an issue Pool in current condition losing Shire a significant amount of money due to condition of facility Development of a splash pad identified as an opportunity Opportunities to attract visitors to town <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of official wildflower trail motor bike endurance racing Mountain biking events on rocky outcrops BMX track development, go karting, wind powered carts on Lake McDermott, development of Mt Marshall Reservoir to support water based activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beacon Recreation complex <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance is the key issue for facilities in Beacon Men's shed needs additional infrastructure as it is currently at capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beacon Country Club/Bowls Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity for Shire to provide additional financial support for maintenance and operational costs club attendance dropping due to population decline

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Sports Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to turn disused bowling green into golf practice facility (i.e. driving nets and a putting green) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welbungin Tennis Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current court surface in need of replacement in next 3-5years The club is not in support of moving their operations to Bencubbin recreation complex 	
Community Workshops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community and volunteer involvement in sport and recreation needs more support from the Shire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced access to training opportunities required (coaches, volunteers etc.) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups perceive a lack of funding provided by Shire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of program and sport diversity an issue 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential facility development suffer from lack of adequate planning, reducing chances of gaining funding 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the number of large scale events, and increase marketing/promotion of existing events 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of support for community owned facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance required on existing facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of community access to existing facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to co-locate facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pool needs to be repaired 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to upgrade Bencubbin recreation complex 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of aquatic facility in Beacon 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to improve facility access for elderly/disabled/special needs groups 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to increase wayfinding signage to existing and future facilities 	
Online Community Survey	

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the lowest ranked facilities were the kitchen in the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool and the changerooms at the Bencubbin Recreation Centre 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40% of the population are either unhappy or undecided about the current level of facility maintenance 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 40% of the Mt Marshall population do not believe that there are enough recreational programs in the Shire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the next 5 years the community would like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pool upgrade is supported by both townships, with the Beacon population petitioning for it to be moved to their town Improved maintenance of existing facilities Growth of the existing population 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the next 10 years the community would like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> existing infrastructure and maintenance issues addressed (51% of survey respondents) redevelopment Bencubbin Recreation Complex (31% of the survey respondents) redevelopment of the Mt marshal pool (19% of survey respondents) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin residents see the opportunity to redevelop the Bencubbin Recreation Complex into a more centralised 'sporting hub' type facility (including the pool) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beacon residents see the opportunity to improve maintenance on existing facilities and the need for smaller facility upgrades instead of large scale development 	
Online clubs survey	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main facilities utilised in Beacon are the Beacon Recreation Complex (football oval, gym, hockey oval, basketball, netball and tennis courts), shooting range, bowling green and town hall – opportunity to focus funding towards maintenance of these facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main facilities utilised in Bencubbin are the Bencubbin Recreation Complex (football oval, hockey oval, netball courts and gym), Sturt Pea House and the rifle range and recreation centre – opportunity to focus funding towards maintenance of these facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance club (Bencubbin), Beacon gun club and Welbungin tennis club are expecting membership growth – opportunity to cater for growth through Shire support 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to improve supporting infrastructure (changerooms, spectator areas, children's playground/spaces etc.) 	

KEY ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall functionality of sporting complexes identified as an issue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mt Marshall swimming pool identified as being in need of refurbishment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of existing facilities identified as an issue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous clubs have ideas for new/enhanced facilities and ongoing maintenance issues, some clubs raised concerns with the safety and functionality of existing facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire support requested to help clubs to better understand the funding application process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire support requested to help clubs conduct coaching/umpiring clinics (upskilling members)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lack of facilities/function areas/supporting infrastructure for women & children has been identified at recreation centres
FACILITY HIERARCHY
<p>The Bencubbin Recreation Complex could potentially be redeveloped into a Regional Level Community Hub that can support and host regional scale events and functions. The creation of a facilities hub at the Bencubbin Recreation complex could potentially allow for the consolidation of facilities that are currently catered for off-site including the Mt Marshall Pool and Welbungin Tennis Facility.</p>
<p>Redevelop the Mt Marshall Go Kart course into a noisy and hard to locate sporting hub with the potential to attract visitors and users from Perth. This site has the potential to be expanded to include sports such as motorbike riding, 4WDing and other compatible activities, in consultation with existing club members. This noisy and hard to locate sporting hub would be inclusive of the Bencubbin Rifle Range</p>
<p>The Beacon Men's Shed could potentially be upgraded from a local level facility to a district level based on the success of the facility and the identified need for additional space</p>
<p>The Beacon Gun Club could potentially upgrade its current local level of facility provision and maintenance to district level. This club supports a range of shooting disciplines and is maintained to a good standard; due to this (and the clubs plans for facility enhancement) the facility should be investigated for enhancement</p>
<p>Potential development of the following projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mt Marshall Reservoir Precinct Beacon Splash Pad Beacon Wildflower Trail Youth Precincts in Beacon and Bencubbin
<p>Remaining local facilities are recommended to be maintained at an appropriate and functional standard</p>

11. Strategic Intent

11.1 Vision



“ The Shire of Mt Marshall will deliver fit-for-purpose sport, recreation and community facilities and programs to meet the needs and aspirations of its active and healthy community, now and into the future. Through the enhancement and development of facilities we will continue to promote and develop the Shire as a diverse, vibrant and exciting visitor destination offering a unique range of experiences. ”

11.2 Planning Principles

Tredwell Management has developed the following sport and recreation planning principles to guide Council on the planning and management of recreation services and facilities that they are responsible for:

- Provide a diverse range of recreation and sport opportunities relevant to the targeted needs of the community that are accessible by all of the community
- Manage recreation facilities professionally, effectively and equitably
- Provide safe recreation facilities and services
- Maximise use of existing facilities
- Encourage multi-use of facilities
- Encourage community involvement in the planning, design and funding of recreation facilities
- Environmentally sustainable facility provision
- Financially responsible facility development and club management
- Remove facilities that are redundant to future needs

11.3 Key themes/strategies

Building on the findings of the initial stages of SRMP, and the subsequently identified issues and opportunities, the following key themes and strategies have been developed:

Theme: COMMUNITY SPORTING HUBS

- Strategy 1: Continue to develop Bencubbin Recreation Complex as a district level community sports and recreation facility
- Strategy 2: Continue to maintain and enhance Beacon Recreation Complex as a district level community sports and recreation facility

Theme: AQUATIC FACILITIES

- Strategy 3: Establish best value options for the future sustainable and equitable provision of aquatic facilities across the Shire

Theme: ACTIVITY-SPECIFIC FACILITIES/PRECINCTS

- Strategy 4: Establish the Shire of Mt Marshall as a noisy and hard-to-locate sports/activities destination
- Strategy 5: Investigate and develop the concept of Youth Precincts in both Beacon and Bencubbin
- Strategy 6: Investigate and develop the concept of a Golf Precinct in Bencubbin
- Strategy 7: Undertake a feasibility study to identify opportunities for the development of water-based activities and associated infrastructure at Mt Marshall reservoir

Theme: TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

- Strategy 8: Support and enhance the provision of shared use trails and trail based experiences throughout the Shire of Mt Marshall

Theme: OTHER SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES, SERVICES & PROGRAMS

- Strategy 9: Continue to support sport and recreation clubs and groups with upgrades and enhancements to existing sport and recreation facilities
- Strategy 10: Continue to support sport and recreation clubs and groups through the provision and development of Sport & Recreation based services and programs

11.4 Proposed Facility Hierarchy

The following table details both the current situation and the proposed facility hierarchy for sport and recreation facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall.

Table 11: Existing and proposed facility hierarchy for the Shire of Mt Marshall sporting/recreation facilities

	Current facility hierarchy (2015)	Proposed facility hierarchy (2015-2025)
District level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Recreation Complex • Bencubbin Recreation Centre • Mt Marshall Go Kart Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin Recreation Centre • Mt Marshall Go Kart Course (developed as a noisy and hard to locate sports hub) • Beacon Gun Club • Beacon Men's Shed • Beacon Recreation Complex • Mt Marshall Reservoir Precinct (potential regional facility depending on level of development) • Mt Marshall Swimming Pool • Welbungin Tennis Courts
Local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Bowling Green • Beacon Country Club • Beacon Gun Club • Beacon Men's Shed • Beacon Town Hall • Bencubbin Golf Course • Bencubbin Heritage Trail • Bencubbin Rifle Range • Bencubbin Sports Club • Sturt Pea House • Wialki Golf Course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Bowling Green • Beacon Country Club • Beacon Town Hall • Beacon Wildflower Trail (potential development) • Bencubbin Golf Course • Bencubbin Heritage Trail • Bencubbin Rifle Range (maintained as part of the noisy and hard to locate sports hub) • Bencubbin Sports Club • Sturt Pea House • Wialki Golf Course • Youth Precincts (potential development for Beacon and Bencubbin)

The Action and Implementation Plan in the following section outlines specific strategies and actions that support the development of this proposed facility hierarchy.

12. Action and Implementation Plan

The following section presents strategies and actions to deliver the key themes/strategies described above and ultimately to deliver the vision for the SRMP.

Each strategy is prioritised and a rationale for the strategy is also provided. Listed actions have an identified time frame, partners and an estimate of resource needs. In assessing the priority for each of the strategies, the following factors were taken into consideration:

- Alignment with the Vision and Outcomes
- Identified need
- Safety
- Feasibility
- Level of planning undertaken
- Community support

The priority levels adopted in the report are as follows:

Table 12: Strategy Priority Levels

Priority Levels	
High	Essential in achieving the Vision and Outcomes
Medium	Important in achieving the Vision and Outcomes
Low	Contributes to achieving the Vision and Outcomes

The timeframe identified for completion of each action is an indicative timeframe and should be reviewed annually. The timeframes allocated to specific actions are 1-3yrs, 4-7yrs, 8-10yrs and 10+yrs.

Partners have been identified who may be able to assist Council with the delivery of the action. It is acknowledged that without partner support many of the actions identified will not likely be achievable.

An estimate and/or source of the resources required to implement each action have been identified to assist Council with its budget processes. It is noted that where cost estimates are provided, these are broad indicative estimates and should be reviewed prior to implementation or as part of annual business and budget planning.

Indicative costings are provided for each of the actions identified to offer a broad guide to likely cost implications for each proposal. Costings are identified in broad value ranges, as identified in the following table and should be used as an indicative guide only.

Table 13: Indicative Cost Bracket

Indicative Cost Bracket	
Low	< \$5,000
Medium	\$5,000 – \$50,000
High	\$50,000 – \$500,000
Major Project	>\$500,000

Theme: COMMUNITY SPORTING HUBS

Strategy 1: Continue to develop Bencubbin Recreation Complex as a district level community sports and recreation facility

Rationale: The continued development of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex as a district level community sports and recreation facility will ensure that the upgraded complex will become the destination of choice for district events and functions whilst also delivering fit for purpose recreation facilities for a wider section of the local community.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
1.1 Refine plan/design for 'community hall extension' development at existing recreation complex.	High	1-3yr	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private consultant (architect) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
1.2 Implement 'community hall extension' development Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New family function/lounge space New kitchen and bar area New verandah and viewing areas Demolition of existing gym and away changeroom Renovation of existing kitchen into a changeroom Conversion of existing function space to a gym 	High	1-3yr	Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private construction company Shire (works department) Bencubbin Community recreation council(CRC) User groups (current and potential) Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies User groups (current and potential) Community

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
1.3 Continue to support the Bencubbin sport/recreation clubs and community with required works to maintain existing facilities to maintain appropriate standards for use (where this does not conflict with the community hall extension proposals). Refer to Strategy 9 for further details.	Medium	Ongoing	Medium to high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin CRC • Shire (works department) • User groups (current and potential) • Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • User groups (current and potential) • Community
1.4 Explore opportunities to enhance community access to facilities to allow for unstructured use and individualised pursuits of fitness	Low	1-3yrs	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin CRC • User groups (current and potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire
1.5 Explore opportunities for formalised car parking areas (including conversion of existing/disused courts.	Low	8-10yrs	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire

Strategy 2: Continue to maintain and enhance Beacon Recreation Complex as a district-level community sports and recreation facility

Rationale: Beacon Recreation Complex will be maintained as a district level facility. This means the complex will continue to function at a standard that meets the needs and aspirations of the Beacon community.

Maintenance works are required on components of the existing complex to ensure it is maintained to a district standard. Once required maintenance works have been completed the development of an ongoing maintenance plan will ensure that the Beacon Recreation Complex is maintained at an appropriate standard moving forward.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
2.1 Support the Beacon community with required works to maintain existing facilities to appropriate standards for use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair leaking roof & associated water damage • Repair existing outdoor court • Upgrade facility power supply/transformer • Repair/replace plumbing and septic system (associated with changerooms/toilets) • Update existing kitchen, changerooms and toilets • Refer to Appendix 6 for other identified maintenance issues 	High	Ongoing	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon CRC • Current user groups • Community • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • User groups • Community
2.2 Extend the Beacon Community Men's Shed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend workshop area • Investigate development of a lean-to shelter/structure 	Medium	4-7yrs	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon CRC • Beacon Progress Association • Community • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • Community

2.3 Explore opportunities to enhance community access to facilities to allow for unstructured use and individualised pursuits of fitness	Low	1-3yrs	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon CRC • User groups (current and potential) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire
2.4 Investigate use of existing indoor space (squash courts and surrounds) to optimise flexible use of the space (potential for events, additional storage, multi-use sports, other activities etc.)	Low	8-10yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon CRC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • Community

Theme: AQUATIC FACILITIES

Strategy 3: Identify best value options for the future sustainable and equitable provision of aquatic facilities for the Shire

Rationale: The condition of the existing aquatic facility in Bencubbin is known to be deteriorating, with the facility nearing the end of its useful life. An engineering report (including a cost benefit analysis) is required to determine the appropriate option for redevelopment.

Three options for the future of the aquatic facility include the redevelopment of the existing 50m pool in situ (including redevelopment of supporting infrastructure), development of a 25m pool and program pool within the existing pool shell/structure (including redevelopment of supporting infrastructure) or the development of 25m pool and program pool within the Shire.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
3.1 Commission an engineering report for the existing Mt Marshall Swimming Pool to clearly establish the best-value option for the sustainable future of the facility, considering repair, comprehensive redevelopment and/or relocation	High	1-3yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
3.2 Act on the recommendations of the engineering report to ensure a suitable and sustainable aquatic facility is developed for the Shire of Mt Marshall	High	1-3 years	Major (depends on report findings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private construction company Bencubbin CRC User groups Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies User groups Community
3.3 Consult with the community on plans for a new pool	High	1-3 years	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies Community

Theme: ACTIVITY-SPECIFIC FACILITIES/PRECINCTS

Strategy 4: Establish the Shire of Mt Marshall as a noisy and hard-to-locate sports/activities destination

Rationale: The Shire of Mt Marshall has a unique offering as a destination for noisy and hard-to-locate sports/activities due to its regional location (availability of space), existing provision of noisy and hard-to-locate sports facilities (Mt Marshall and Districts Go-kart Course and Bencubbin Rifle Range and the Beacon Gun Club) and existing provision of noisy and hard to locate sporting events (Bencubbin 300 Off-Road Racing event - a leg of the Western Australian Off Road Championship).

By enhancing and building upon its current provision of noisy and hard-to-locate sports (through facility upgrade, maintenance and precinct development) the Shire of Mt Marshall could market itself as a destination for such activities, increasing its regional profile as a destination for major noisy and hard-to-locate events. This would have the potential to increase local tourism and may increase the appeal of the Shire to young/families which may assist in the growth of the local population.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
4.1 Upgrade and maintain Beacon Gun Club to a district level facility. Investigate and consider the following facility upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of electronic targets • Installation of new skeet range • Upgrade and maintain clubhouse facility to functional standard 	High	1-3yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Gun Club • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • Beacon Gun Club
4.2 Investigate and consider the following facility developments to the Bencubbin Rifle Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of 800 yard mound • Upgrade and maintain clubhouse facility to functional standard • Conduct a risk assessment to establish extent of safety and security issues on range 	Medium	4-7yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin Rifle Club • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • Bencubbin Rifle Club

<p>4.3 Investigate and consider Mt Marshall & Districts Go-kart Club in facility upgrades and development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with installation of the ablution block in possession of the club • Consider re-alignment existing in/out grid • Explore opportunities to assist with track maintenance • Investigate potential development of motorbike track onsite 	Medium	4-7yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt Marshall & Districts Go-kart Club • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies • Mt Marshall & Districts Go-kart Club
<p>4.4 Undertake a detailed master planning/feasibility study process to develop a noisy and hard-to-locate sports/activities hub within the Shire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider inclusion of additional noisy and hard-to-locate sports (off road car and motorbike racing, various motorbike disciplines, four wheel driving experiences, mountain biking, kite land boarding etc.) 	Medium	8-10yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private consultant • Noisy and hard to locate clubs/associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Noisy and hard to locate clubs/associations
<p>4.5 Support where possible the development of additional noisy and hard-to-locate sporting events and/or clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all precautions are taken to limit environmental impact of associated events or activities 	Low	10+yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noisy and hard to locate clubs/associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire
<p>4.6 Actively seek to promote and market the Shire as a noisy and hard-to-locate sporting destination</p>	Low	10+yrs	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noisy and hard to locate clubs/associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire

Strategy 5: Investigate and develop the concept of Youth Precincts in both Beacon and Bencubbin

Rationale: For some time there has been a transportable 'skate park' that has been moved between the townships of Bencubbin and Beacon. The issue with this is that when the skate facility is transported to the other township there is little/no public youth space provided (with the exception of children's playgrounds) in the township that it has left.

The existing skate park sites in both townships (the cement slabs in main street of Bencubbin and within the recreation complex at Beacon) could be developed to support additional features, potentially transforming them into more inviting youth spaces for the two townships. Features could include a shelter, water bubbler, half-court basketball (publicly accessible), play equipment designed for older children, solar power lighting etc.

Another important consideration for the development of appropriate youth precincts in Beacon and Bencubbin will be the acquisition of an additional transportable feature (preferably BMX based to address local need) that can be shared between Beacon and Bencubbin.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
5.1 Investigate the feasibility of upgrading existing 'skate park' sites to support additional youth features. Examples of potential facility developments include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shelter water bubbler half-court basketball (publicly accessible) play equipment designed for older children solar powered lighting 	High	1-3 years	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
5.2 Investigate the feasibility of purchasing an additional transportable youth feature (e.g. transportable pump track)	Medium	1-3years	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
5.3 Pending the findings of the previous two actions, upgrade and develop appropriate youth space initiatives where feasible	Medium	4-7years	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies Community

Strategy 6: Investigate and develop the concept of a Golf Precinct in Bencubbin

Rationale: The Bencubbin Sports Club is currently functioning as the town pub/bar as well as the golf clubhouse (for the adjacent Bencubbin Golf Course). The sports club used to be home to the Bencubbin Bowling Club who maintained a turf bowling green onsite, prior to the construction of the synthetic bowling green at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex; the now disused turf green is no longer maintained.

During discussions with the Bencubbin Sports Club representatives flagged the idea of developing a golf facility on the disused green. Such a facility could include driving nets and a putting green where golfers could warm up prior to a game and/or practice their skills on a regular basis. Development of the disused green into a golf facility could be achieved on a relatively low budget and would greatly enhance the connection between the existing Sports Club and golf course, essentially forming a local golf precinct.

Moving the Sports Club to the Bencubbin Recreation Complex for the purpose of facility consolidation and co-location has been discussed. However, due to its strong connection with the existing golf course and its unique standing as a functioning town pub this is not recommended. In its current form the Sports Club offers a unique service within Bencubbin.

Enhanced use of the currently disused green would improve the offerings of this facility and make it a destination for local golfers to practice their skills.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
6.1 Investigate the feasibility of maintaining a portion (possibly 1/2) of the disused bowling green as a putting surface and driving range space (2 driving nets)	Medium	1-3	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Sports Club Bencubbin Golf Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Bencubbin Sports Club
6.2 Develop disused green for golf related purposes pending results of the above investigation	Medium	4-7	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin Sports Club Bencubbin Golf Club Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Bencubbin Sports Club Funding bodies

Strategy 7: Undertake a feasibility study to identify opportunities for the development of water-based activities and associated infrastructure at Mt Marshall reservoir (Waddouring Dam)

Rationale: The Mt Marshall reservoir (Waddouring Dam) presents a unique opportunity for the Shire of Mt Marshall as it is one of the few permanent water bodies in the area. With this water body becoming disused as a water source the management of the reservoir is to be handed to the Shire in the near future, opening the uniquely located reservoir to activities such as swimming, kayaking, fishing etc. Provision of change facilities/toilets could also be investigated.

The feasibility, need and community desire for such a development would have to be gauged through a feasibility study/master planning process to ensure best use of the site is pursued by the Shire. If appropriately developed this could become a unique regional facility drawing in visitors from surrounding Shires.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
7.1 Investigate the potential redevelopment options for the Mt Marshall Reservoir (Waddouring Dam) Precinct	Medium	8-10yrs	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies Community
7.2 Develop the site as recommended in the completed study	Low	8-10yrs	Medium to high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies Community

Theme: TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Strategy 8: Support and enhance the provision of shared use trails and trail based experiences throughout the Shire of Mt Marshall

Rationale: The Shire of Mt Marshall currently has a limited provision of shared use trails and/or trail based experiences. Existing trail facilities include the Bencubbin Heritage Trail and Beacon Botanical Walk and various drive trails. These facilities should be made clearly visible (well signed, clear trailhead, obvious wayfinding markers, marketed online etc.) to encourage passing traffic to stop and enjoy. Provision of these facilities to a high standard will also provide quality trail based experiences for local residents.

Opportunities for further trails and trail based experience include the development of shared use pathways (to be utilised by bike riders, runners and walkers), the development of an on-road cycling loop, and the development of multiuse wild flower trails that encourage visitors to get out of their car.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
8.1 Enhance promotion of existing trail offerings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase roadside marketing/signage of trails • Provide additional online information (trail maps) 	High	1-3years	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's • Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire
8.2 Explore enhancement opportunities for existing trails (i.e. Bencubbin Heritage Trail, Beacon Botanical Walk, drive trails) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate provision of improved wayfinding signage • Investigate enhanced provision of seating/rest points • Investigate upgrading trails to support multiple uses (i.e. cycling, running and walking) • Explore opportunities for development of additional loop trails that offer variety (distance/route) from original trail 	Medium	1-3years	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's • Community • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies
8.3 Investigate the feasibility of an on road cycling loop within the Shire. For any proposed route consider cycle lane marking and widening of road verge to enhance rider safety	Medium	4-7years	High to major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's • Community • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies

8.4 Investigate, encourage and support (where practical) the development of additional trail based experiences within the Shire (bush walking, Mountain biking, Beacon Wildflower trail etc.)	Low	5-10years	Medium to high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's • Community • Shire (works department) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire • Funding bodies
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Theme: OTHER SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES, SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Strategy 9: Continue to support sport and recreation clubs and groups with upgrades and enhancements to existing sport and recreation facilities

Rationale: Existing sport and recreation facilities within the Shire of Mt Marshall require ongoing maintenance and required upgrades to align with council's strategic direction as well as community needs and expectations. It is integral to consider the importance of up to date maintenance planning for existing sport and recreation facilities. Without such planning facility maintenance can go unattended and facility standards can deteriorate over time, leaving large capital cost outlays for facility replacement.

It is important that existing sport and recreation facilities are supported by the Shire to ensure appropriate facility maintenance is upheld to extend the useable life of existing facilities. Once facilities have reached the end of their useable life and require large scale works to remain functional then the appropriateness of the facility (location, scale, community value etc.) must be considered as facility consolidation and relocation may be required where practical.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
9.1 Develop an asset management and maintenance plan for the Shire of Mt Marshall's sport and recreation facilities. Place particular focus on the Shire's recreation complexes.	High	1-3years	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies
9.2 Support, maintain, develop and upgrade (where practical) Shire and community owned sport and recreation facilities in accordance with Council's financial limits and strategies/ masterplans.	High	Ongoing	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Community Shire (works department) Relevant user groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies Relevant user groups
9.3 Consider the following initiatives for existing sport and recreation facilities to decrease the ecological footprint of the Shire's sport and recreation facilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of solar power panels Installation of rain water collection tanks Installation of energy efficient appliances (e.g. LED lighting) 	Medium	4-7years	High to Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Community Shire (works department) Relevant user groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies

Strategy 10: Continue to support sport and recreation clubs and groups through the provision and development of Sport & Recreation based services and programs

Rationale: Local sporting clubs require support and assistance from the Shire in a variety of ways (outside of facility maintenance and provision). Other key services and programs that the Shire can provide for local sporting clubs include assistance with funding applications, assistance with the development of club planning documentation (strategic plans, maintenance schedules etc.) and access to training for local sporting club volunteers and or staff.

Actions	Priority	Timeframe	Indicative Cost Bracket	Partners	Resources
10.1 Support local clubs throughout the funding application process to assist clubs in obtaining funds for facility upgrades that align with associated Shire strategies/ plans Support clubs in developing appropriate forward planning documentation (i.e. strategic plans, maintenance schedules etc.)	High	Ongoing	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding bodies (see section 15) Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Local sporting clubs and associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
10.2 Explore opportunities to increase Shire support for volunteers of sporting clubs (coaches, admin, umpires, helpers etc.) Investigate opportunities for the Shire to provide clubs with access to additional volunteer training (e.g. collaborate with nearby Shires to bring all interested volunteers to a single location where training providers can provide their service)	High	1-3yrs	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Training providers Bencubbin and Beacon CRC's Local sporting clubs and associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire
10.3 Continue to implement the strategies/actions proposed in the Disability Access & Inclusion Plan 2012 – 2017	Medium	Ongoing (until new plan is developed)	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Training providers Local sporting clubs and associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire Funding bodies
10.4 Assist clubs to align with relevant Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) club development programs	Low	Ongoing	Low to medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) Local sporting clubs and associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shire DSR Funding bodies

13. Bencubbin Recreation Centre

The SRMP supports the continuing development of the Bencubbin Recreation Centre, as detailed in the key strategies and actions outlined above. As discussed throughout this SRMP, the principles of developing a sports facility hierarchy (to support targeted future investment), and promoting co-location and shared-use of facilities is well supported by best practice approaches to sport/community facility provision and local, district, state and national strategic policy.

The recent re-location of the bowling green to the Bencubbin Recreation Complex was a first step towards consolidating and integrating key sports facilities.

Current proposals for an extension to the Community Hall have recently secured \$990,000 in funding from the National Stronger Regions Fund.

The extension proposal has been reviewed as part of the Master Plan process. The proposal includes the following key components:

- New family function/lounge space (approximately 400m²)
- New kitchen and bar area
- New veranda and viewing areas
- Demolition of existing gym and away changeroom
- Renovation of existing kitchen into a changeroom
- Conversion of existing function space to a gym

It is considered that the current proposal responds to, and reasonably addresses, the following gaps and key issues in existing sports and community facility provision within Bencubbin, and the Shire more widely:

- Inadequate provision of a single indoor community facility to accommodate larger community events/functions/gatherings
- Inclusive access compliance, within and around the centre
- Existing gym and 'away' changeroom in state of disrepair and in urgent need of attention

The proposal includes a flexible space that can be divided into smaller spaces to accommodate varying group sizes and activities simultaneously. These spaces could be utilised to define a children's activity area, and for running other activities such as yoga, pilates, fitness and community meeting and training events.

In consultation with Council staff, the Nungarin Recreation Ground was identified as local example of an appropriately sized multi-purpose function/bar/clubroom space. This facility serves as a benchmark facility to compare against the current extension proposal/scheme. The Nungarin Recreation Ground provides a modest, but entirely functional, multi-purpose space of around 350m² (including a bar area of approximately 25m²). The space is well related to all the key sports facilities within the Recreation Ground, and is understood to serve the 230 strong Shire population well. Further details of the Nungarin Recreation Ground are included in Appendix 3.

The current Community Hall extension proposal is of a similar scale to the Nungarin Recreation Complex facility and would serve a similar valuable function for the local community. In principle, it is considered that the scale and extent of the extension is appropriate to meet the current and future needs of the Bencubbin and Shire of Mt Marshall community. Some level of cost savings (in relation to the current extension proposal) may be delivered through the detailed design process through refinement of the overall spatial requirement, consideration of specific features currently included and material specification.

14. Potential funding sources

An essential component of a successful strategy is the sourcing of appropriate levels of funding for the development and ongoing maintenance sport and recreation facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall.

Applications for grants will likely initially focus on various State and Federal Government Departments, however, assistance may also be available from the local community and user groups.

This section identifies potential external funding sources available through state and federal government programs that could be utilised in the implementation of various projects. The status of these funding programs are continually changing and updated to respond to such issues as shifts in community participation rates and the continual evolvement of the sport and recreation industry more widely.

At the date of publication of the SRMP current programs include:

Australian Sports Foundation (Facilities and Programs)

The ASF can also offer a unique tax advantage to individuals, businesses and philanthropic donors for their contribution to the development of sporting facilities. Refer www.asf.org.au for details.

National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF)

This program will provide funding of \$1 billion over 5 years, commencing in 2015 - 2016, to fund priority infrastructure in regional communities.

- Grants must be between \$20,000 and \$10 million.
- Local government and incorporated not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply.
- Grant funding must be matched in cash on at least a dollar for dollar basis.
- All partner funding must be confirmed.
- NSRF funding will be provided for capital projects which involve the construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or an extension of existing infrastructure.
- The project must deliver an economic benefit to the region beyond the period of construction. Projects should support disadvantaged regions or areas of disadvantage within a region.
- The NSRF funded component of the project must be completed on or before 31 December 2019.

For further information visit <http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/NSRF/>

Department of Sport and Recreation - Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF)

The purpose of the program is to provide Western Australian Government financial assistance to community groups and local government authorities to develop basic infrastructure for sport and recreation. There are three types of CSRFF grants – small grants (\$2,500 - \$66,666) annual grants (\$66,667 - \$166,666) and forward planning grants (166,667 - \$3mil).

For further information visit <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/funding/facilities-%28csrff%29>

Wheatbelt Development Commission/ Government of Western Australia

- The **Regional Grants Scheme (RGS)** is an initiative of **Royalties for Regions** that aims to improve economic and community infrastructure and services in regional Western Australia. Funding is available to assist the development of infrastructure, services and community projects. Further information can be found at: <http://www.wheatbelt.wa.gov.au/funding/wheatbelt-regional-grants-scheme/>
- The **Creating Age Friendly Communities Small Value Grant Scheme** aims to improve age friendly community infrastructure and services in the Wheatbelt through funding projects that will enhance the quality of life as people age. Further information can be found at: <http://www.wheatbelt.wa.gov.au/funding/creating-age-friendly-communities-small-value-grant-scheme/>

Lotterywest

Lotterywest provides grants to not-for-profit organisations and local government authorities and support various types of projects. Some are small involving just a few people. Others cover the whole State. Some available funding streams are listed below:

- **Big ideas** can transform our community. They can be the catalyst for important change, benefiting future generations and having great public reach. Lotterywest grants help create enduring community assets and support large scale projects. <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/big-ideas>
- **Community Spaces Outdoor grants** can help create spaces for people to come together and join in activities that benefit their well-being such as skate parks, playgrounds, memorials, and community gardens. <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/community-spaces>
- **Community and workplace building grants** can help develop spaces where people can come together to share interests or seek support. They can also provide accommodation for community organisations to carry out their work. <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/work-places>
- **Trails grants** can help with the planning, development and promotion of all types of trails such as walking, cycling, horse riding and paddling routes. <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/trails>

Tourism Western Australia – Regional Events Scheme (RES)

The RES is an annual funding round administered by Tourism WA, through its Eventscorp division. The scheme is designed to assist with the development of events as tourist attractions within regional Western Australia. Application criteria stipulate that events must:

- Bring additional tourism income to regional communities by increasing visitor expenditure in the host community (economic impact);
- Involve and inspire the local community (social benefits); and
- Attract media coverage that will help to raise the profile of the region as a tourist destination (media impact).

Funding requests must be between \$5,000 and \$50,000. Lower amounts than what is requested may be rewarded and any request for more than \$20,000 must be accompanied by a three year strategic plan. Multiple year funding is available.

For further information please visit

<http://www.tourism.wa.gov.au/Industry/Sponsorship/Event-sponsorship/Pages/Regional-Events-Scheme.aspx>

Trusts and Foundations

There are numerous trusts and foundations established in Australia and a number provide funding for projects such as this. Often they are established by large corporations. Refer www.philanthropy.org.au.

Information on alternative grants which might be considered can be found at:
<http://grantlink.com.au/>

Private Sector

Given the high profile nature of the facility being proposed there may be an opportunity to partner with the private sector to develop the facility. This may be through capital investment, sponsorship arrangements, naming rights or in-kind support.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Strategic Policy and Planning Framework

Appendix 2 Facility Hierarchy Criteria

Appendix 3 Best Practice Shared Use Facility Case Studies

Appendix 4 Community Workshop SWOT Analysis

Appendix 5 Online Community Survey Findings Report

Appendix 6 Online Club Survey Findings Report

Appendix 7 Sport and Recreation Clubs – Facility Upgrade Requests

Appendix 1: Strategic Policy & Planning Framework

Upon initiation of the Mt Marshall Sport and Recreation Plan a literature review was conducted of key strategic planning documents. The purpose of this review was to identify any relevant strategic outcomes, policy directions or specific actions that are relevant to this project and are then used to support and guide the direction of this report's recommended approach.

Key documents reviewed included:

- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Draft Management Plan - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Feasibility Study - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Bencubbin Recreation Complex Needs Assessment - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)
- Review of Sport and Recreation in Regional Western Australia 2008
- Shire of Mt Marshall Annual Report 2013/14
- Shire of Mt Marshall Corporate Business Plan 2013
- Shire of Mt Marshall Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012 – 2017
- Shire of Mt Marshall Local Recreation Plan Summary of Findings (2003)
- Shire of Mt Marshall Strategic Community Plan
- Wheatbelt Regional Planning and Infrastructure Framework 2014
- Wheatbelt Regional Plan 2013-18
- SD5 Framework (Strategic Directions for the WA Sport & Recreation Industry)
- DSR Facility Planning Guide – Sport and Recreation Facilities (2007)

The table on the following page identifies key information, outcomes, policies, actions and strategies that are relevant to the development of the Mount Marshall Sport and Recreation Master Plan.

Document	Relevant Content	
Bencubbin Recreation Complex Draft Management Plan	<p>Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actively encourage community use of recreation activities and develop the capacity of local recreation, leisure and sporting groups in order to deliver services that improve participation 2. Encourage participation regardless of age, gender, ethnic group, religion and degree of ability or disability 3. Provide a safe and clean community facility, taking immediate action to any apparent risks 4. Provide support to sporting clubs and community groups, encouraging social interaction and development opportunities 5. Promote sustainability principles including reduction in energy & water usage 6. Maintain an economical and sustainable facility, pursuing sponsorship and fundraising opportunities 	
Bencubbin Recreation Complex Feasibility Study	<p>Key issues Identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state of the Pavilion building. Comprises the visitors changing rooms, umpires room and community gym. The condition of the foundation and brickwork is in a state of disrepair meaning any upgrade to the building is not recommended. • Lack of function space available within the Main Hall. The activities area can accommodate a maximum of 85 people, with over 15% of bookings requiring a space for a larger crowd and no other function space in town, the indoor netball court must be used. 	<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shire of Mt Marshall adopt the preferred concept plan as described in this report upon successful notification of relevant funding sources. • The Shire of Mt Marshall submit requests for funding grants through Department of Sport & Recreation and Lotterywest. • All clubs and community groups provide written commitment of capital funds commitment for the project. • The Shire of Mt Marshall manage the project with support from the Bencubbin Community Recreation Council • Enquiry and investigation of suitable architects, constructors and quantity surveyors • The following documents are reviewed and updated throughout the project; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Memorandum of Understanding between the Shire of Mt Marshall and Bencubbin Community Recreation Council ○ User Agreements between the Bencubbin Community Recreation Council and Main Sporting groups ○ Asset management plan

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Venue and equipment hire lease agreements ○ Management plan
SHIRE OF MT MARSHALL DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN 2012 – 2017	Outcome Outcome 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised or sponsored by Council. 	Action / Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the inclusion of the DAIP values and goals into other shire plans and strategies • That events provided and/or funded are accessible and inclusive to people with disabilities
	Outcome 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities provided by Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress public building upgrades to incorporate standards for access and requested additional needs for access • Redevelopment building works to have where practical mobility disability access and disability access where required • New building works have mobility disability access and disability access where required

SHIRE OF MT MARSHALL CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN 2013	PRIORITIES “The Shire’s focus is to maintain a strong sense of local community by building a caring and healthy community. This will drive our desire to provide active and passive recreation facilities and services. This will include a major refurbishment of the Bencubbin Recreation Centre by 2017.”	
SHIRE OF MT MARSHALL STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN	Outcome SOCIAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S2 Create an environment that provides for a caring and healthy community • S4 Provide active and passive recreation facilities and services 	Action / Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S 2.2 Facilitate provision of infrastructure for aged persons and people with disabilities (medium term) • S 2.3 Provide an environment that enhances the growth, development and retention of youth (medium term) • S 4.1 Develop a broad recreation master plan for the Shire (short term) • S 4.2 Develop, maintain and support appropriate recreation facilities throughout the Shire (ongoing) • S 4.3 Partner with stakeholders to achieve greater community participation in recreational facilities and services (medium term)
	ECONOMIC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E2 Facilitate the development of local and regional tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E 2.1 Advocate, promote and market the Shire as a place to live, work and visit (ongoing)
	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N1 Enhance the health and integrity of the natural environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N 1.2 Perform sustainable resource use and land management practices (ongoing) • N 1.5 Provide leadership for energy conservation projects and initiatives (ongoing) • N 1.6 Encourage the consideration of renewable energy generation technologies in the Shire (medium term) and encourage property owners (residential and commercial) to install water recovery and recycling systems (ongoing) • N 1.7 Encourage the use of recycled materials and create a zero waste culture amongst the community (ongoing)
	BUILT ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B 1.3 Develop and maintain sustainable assets and infrastructure

	- B1 Build a sense of place through public infrastructure and facilities	(medium term)
	CIVIC LEADERSHIP - C2 Improve the Shire's capability and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C 2.3 Facilitate resource sharing on a regional basis (medium term) • C 2.4 Use resources efficiently and effectively (ongoing) • C 2.5 Operate in a financially sustainable manner (long term)
Wheatbelt Regional Plan 2013-18	CHALLENGES - Recreation infrastructure requires replacement. This includes Community Centres, toilets, change rooms, sports pavilions, and swimming pools	OPPORTUNITIES - Co-location and resource sharing of community groups and sporting facilities - Further development of sport and recreational facilities

The following pages summarise the purpose and findings of several key documents, highlighting relevant information identified during the literature review:

SD5 Framework (Strategic Directions for the WA Sport & Recreation Industry)

SD5 has been developed to:

- Provide vision and direction for WA's sport and recreation industry.
- Increase stakeholder understanding of emerging issues.
- Guide strategic planning processes for organisations.
- Better inform governments of stakeholder aspirations.

Summary of Key Challenges

For the sport and recreation industry in Western Australia (the Industry) to make improvements in key strategic areas for change, the following challenges must be addressed over the next five years.

Participation

1. The current affordability barrier that is preventing many young people from low socio-economic families participating in sport and recreation must be overcome.
2. Continual adaptation and innovation of programs and services must occur to:
 - A. deliver more diverse participation options (e.g. new environments, scheduling variations, sport product variations and new pursuits); and
 - B. be more inclusive of low participation and new populations (e.g. migrants, indigenous populations, people with a mental illness, seniors, isolated populations, people with a disability).
3. The Industry must:
 - A. better influence the early childhood agenda to ensure that the importance of 'play' and development of fundamental movement skills are embedded as a core component of early childhood development and learning; and
 - B. ensure that models and products for early years participation in sport and recreation are based on principles of 'play' and generic fundamental movement skills.
4. The Industry, along with health, education, transport and planning, must proactively contribute to the collaborative endeavour to ensure more Western Australians are more active more often.

People Development

1. The industry must bolster its attraction and retention strategies to ensure competitiveness in a projected tight labour market.
2. Innovative solutions and models are required to:
 - A. enable productivity gains for 'time poor' volunteers; and
 - B. engage young people in volunteering.
3. A strengthened and ongoing commitment to workforce training and professional development is required to underpin the Industry's long-term sustainability. This extends to initiatives that:
 - A. strengthen the skills, efficiency and knowledge of employees/contractors; and
 - B. bolster executive and board governance capability.

Industry Development

1. Industry leaders must enhance the advocacy effort for the value-add that sport and recreation delivers for mainstream public policy (specifically community development, health, education, environment and justice).
2. The Industry must continue to make a proactive contribution to contentious issues that threaten its positive image and brand on two fronts:
 - A. Business and commercial partnerships (e.g. alcohol, betting, fast food); and
 - B. Responsiveness to existing and emerging social issues (e.g. drugs, alcohol, social inclusion, racial vilification).
3. The Industry must further develop linkages in the Indian Ocean Rim whilst retaining traditional bonds within the national network.

Organisational Development

1. Greater focus is needed on sport and recreation organisations evolving relevant and robust business models that enable:
 - A. Sustainable operational and financial viability;
 - B. responsiveness to changing markets and contexts (e.g. commercialisation, industrial awards, structure of sport system, unitary modelling, changing participant markets); and
 - C. efficient application of new technology and business systems.

2. Concerted efforts are required to manage or reduce the regulatory and compliance burden on the Industry, especially those that impact on the 200,000 volunteers within the Industry.
3. Partnerships must be formed to assist the Industry to interpret implications and to develop responses to key strategic externalities (e.g. tax reform, multiple COAG agendas, carbon tax introduction, water shortages, climate change).

Places and Spaces

1. Affordable and sustainable provision models must be applied to manage the long-term impacts of the strong investment in sport and recreation infrastructure and spaces in regional WA.
2. Fundamental shortcomings in open space quantity, quality and functionality must be urgently resolved. Specific approaches will be required to address the needs in:
 - A. Inner metropolitan;
 - B. Outer metropolitan; and
 - C. Regional and remote Western Australia.
3. Integrated policy and partnership approaches are required to ensure natural environments are well managed and accessible for recreational pursuits (e.g. recreation access to water catchments, public access to recreational land).
4. The Industry must actively engage to ensure sport and recreation interests are integrated within existing and new planning frameworks at the local government (e.g. community planning – infrastructure and services, land use planning, asset plans), regional and broader urban planning levels.

High Performance

1. Western Australia must optimise support for our elite and talented athletes within a newly operationalised federal and state intergovernmental partnership (National Institutes System Intergovernmental Agreement).
2. Robust policy scrutiny must be applied to the sustainability of national league teams and competitions in order to manage the implications on athlete pathways, sport profiles and effective use of resources.
3. Partnerships must be secured to build a compelling sport and recreation events calendar that delivers benefits for the community, tourism, sport and state development.

DSR Facility Planning Guide – Sport and Recreation Facilities (2007)

Document summary:

This paper provides an overview of the facility planning process for a specific sport or recreation facility. It identifies the stages involved in the facility planning process, the key principles of facility provision, highlights the benefits of joint and shared facilities, identifies sources of capital funding and references various facility planning resources.

Joint Provision/Shared Use Facilities

There are many benefits to joint provision and shared use of sport and recreation facilities including:

- Less duplication and maximum use of community facilities and services
- Creation of a community hub—a focal point for community activity
- Shared capital costs, services, resources and expertise
- Improved relationships between organisations
- Reduced operating costs
- Increased community ownership of facilities
- Access to a broader range of services and expertise
- Reduced vandalism

Potential partners for sport and recreation facilities include:

- Schools, colleges and universities
- Sport association headquarters
- Senior citizen centres
- Neighbourhood and community centres
- Churches
- Community and child health centres
- Health and fitness clubs
- Art and entertainment venues
- Local government authority
- The private sector

The basis of shared provision and use is to broaden access, maximise usage and rationalise costs in order to get the best possible value from the facility. However, if shared facilities are to be successful, all parties need to think through their specific needs for access and use, and be assured that an opportunity for compatibility exists before planning advances to the design phase. Management agreements for shared use facilities should be comprehensive, detailing arrangements for location, funding, management risk allocation and use. However, if the sharing arrangement is to be successful, their application requires flexibility, trust, open communication and co-operation.

Where appropriate co-location, joint provision and shared use of sport and recreation facilities can result in the best outcome for your sport, club, school or community. These options should be explored at length with various government agencies, State Sporting Associations, commercial operators, neighbouring local governments and sport and recreation clubs before any decisions are made to extend or build a new facility.

Bencubbin Recreation Complex Needs Assessment - Shire of Mt Marshall & Bencubbin Community Recreation Council (2014)

The purpose of this assessment was to determine if there is a need to upgrade existing facilities at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex.

Content of interest:

- In regards to the Mt. Marshall Pool – *“The facility will require an upgrade or relocation in upcoming years due to its age. The Shire will be looking into a possible relocation of the pool to the recreation grounds, creating a smaller pool to make it more sustainable. There is ample room at the recreation grounds for it to be relocated.”*
- In regards to identified issues at the Bencubbin Recreation centre – *“After reviewing the existing facilities, consulting with the sports clubs and meeting with a building surveyor, the pavilion building and lack of function space were identified as priority areas requiring attention.”*
- In regards to the condition of the Pavilion – *“The Building Surveyor review states that the building is at its end of serviceable life, the condition of the foundation and brickwork is in a state of disrepair meaning any upgrade to the building in its current state is not recommended. This demonstrates that while the building is in need of restoration, the advised approach is to demolish the building and start again.”*

Development Proposal:

The existing standard of recreation and leisure facilities in Bencubbin are now at a stage that require significant upgrade and/or replacement in the immediate future. After discussion and consolidation of information from sporting clubs, assessment of current facilities and analysis of Australian Sport & Recreation documentation it is recommended that;

- The Pavilion building is demolished within the next 12-24 months.
- The facilities in the Pavilion building are rebuilt within the recreation grounds precinct - new changing room and community gymnasium.
- A function area accommodating 150 people and commercial kitchen is developed within the recreation grounds precinct.
- All developments to meet the needs of the disabled or wheelchairs.
- Any developments to the facility meet or exceed energy efficient and water use standards.
- The CRC work on development proposals and provide the Council monthly updates .
- Developments are assessed by a quantity surveyor to ensure they are within the Councils allocated budget.

Shire of Mt Marshall Local Recreation Plan Summary of Findings (2003)

The findings of the Study highlight a number of key issues, trends and opportunities to assist the Shire of Mt Marshall with future sport and recreation planning. The aim of this Strategy is to assist the Council to plan for the respective populations whilst providing for integrated recreation services in the Shire.

Bencubbin Recreation Ground

- The following infrastructure changes need to occur at the Bencubbin Recreation Ground; removal of the old playground, upgrade the visitors change room, replace the ovens and flooring in the kitchen, develop new outdoor seating, provision of a new water fountain; develop a small multipurpose room to accommodate dance/yoga/weights/gym; provision of shade over the playground equipment; resurfacing of the hard courts and ensure that the line marking are multipurpose.

Mt Marshall Swimming Pool

- The Mt Marshall Swimming Pool, based in Bencubbin, has had a number of reports completed on its structural state. As the clay has moved and has caused structural cracking and leaking. The pool was relined in 1999. The depth of the pool does not make it suitable for teaching the full spectrum of swimming lessons. 50% of the Beacon school children cannot swim. An additional pool is wanted in Beacon. These issues can be considered as part of a feasibility study.
- The Mt Marshall swimming pool statistics for 1999/2000 – 2001/2002 indicate fluctuating attendances to the pool with a total of 6,932 attending in 1999/2000; 11,131 attending in 2000/2001 and 7,993 attending in 2001/2002.

The following information has been gained on the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool: -

- There needs to either be major maintenance work on the swimming pool or the building of a new structure as the pool is cracking and losing large volumes of water per day. Council is considering which option is more sustainable and viable.
- The kiosk has large cracks appearing in floor.
- More shade for pool next year.
- New chairs and tables in the next two years.
- Installation of new playground next four years.

Previous Studies

GHD. 29 April 2002, Mt Marshall Swimming Pool Aquatics Audit.

- Buildings – minor serviceability concerns.
- Compound – minor trip hazards to concourse should be monitored.
- Misc – creepy krawly reportedly in poor condition.
- Pools – render and tiling starting to deteriorate.
- Shade structure – minor corrosion at base of some posts.
- Water treatment – water treatment equipment visibly in good condition.

Mt Marshall Shire Council. Prepared by Berry Consultancy. October 2002, *Mt Marshall Shire Council Aquatic Centre, Bencubbin, Report and Recommendations to the Shire Council on the Status of the Swimming Pool Structure.*

- The main pool is in a poor structural condition resulting from inadequate construction techniques. It is not considered worthwhile attempting to repair the structure for long-term use. A vinyl liner and an upgrade of the cracked concourse would be the cheapest option for upgrading the facility and this would cost about \$100,000 and provide a life of ten years.
- The recommended course of action is to make temporary repairs to the fibreglass only at a cost of about \$6000, which may provide two years usage of the pool and provide some time to prepare plans for its replacement.

Recommended action:

- Conduct a feasibility study on the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool to validate or confirm the recent reports that have been developed, specifically consult with the community, identify the operational subsidies per year; whether to heat the pool; and location and redevelopment options. This feasibility study could also incorporate the potential redevelopment of the Beacon gymnasium.

Appendix 2: Facility Hierarchy Criteria

Ranking	Features	Guide for allocating hierarchy	Related level of primary use	Development principles
Regional	<p>Regional facilities can be large in size, high quality, unique, in a high profile location, is well connected to trails and road networks and caters for higher level sport/ recreation activities and events</p> <p>Regional facilities have the capacity to attract or benefit people from across and beyond local population centres</p>	<p>Large site or facility, high profile and accessible location, multi-functional (caters for a range of users or community members), facility is generally of high quality, is located at or near a transport node or commercial centre, supports regional level activities</p>	<p>Higher grade sports teams (e.g. A Grade, top division) with a particular focus on higher level and/or regional competitions /events</p> <p>Focus on supporting spectator based sports and activities</p> <p>May have the potential to cater for State competitions and events</p>	<p>Regional facilities should consider opportunities for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an overarching sporting body to represent all user groups (if multiple user groups are represented) • Hub facility development (multi-functional) • Shared and multi-use (meets diverse community needs) • Connected facilities and services (physical and social) <p>Regional facilities should be developed and maintained to a high standard and should meet all user group requirements</p>
District	<p>District facilities can vary from large to small in size, are of good quality, may provide some unique aspects, may be connected to trails and road networks and caters for general sport/recreation activities and events.</p> <p>District facilities have the capacity to attract or benefit people from within the local township/area as well as nearby townships</p>	<p>Medium site or facility, accessible location, multi-functional (caters for a range of users or community members), facility is generally of good quality, may be located at or near a transport node or commercial centre</p>	<p>All level of sports teams (e.g. A Grade through to juniors)</p> <p>Focus on supporting spectator based sports and activities. May provide facilities for some niche or less popular sports/ recreation activities</p>	<p>District facilities should consider opportunities for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an overarching sporting body to represent all user groups • Shared and multi-use (meets diverse community needs) • Connected facilities and services (physical and social) <p>District facilities should be developed and maintained to a good standard</p>
Local	<p>Local facilities can vary from medium to small in size, are of functional quality and are able to cater for some (possibly only one) sport/recreation activities and events. In terms of usage local facilities have the capacity to attract local residents</p>	<p>Medium to small site or facility, accessible location (for local residents) and the facility is functional for its intended sport/use</p>	<p>Community level sport/recreation (e.g. Social competition)</p> <p>Focus on supporting community level sports and activities. May also provide facilities for some niche or less popular sports/ recreation activities</p>	<p>Local facilities should consider opportunities for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared and multi-use (meets diverse community needs) • Connected facilities and services (physical and social) <p>Local facilities should be developed and maintained to a functional standard</p>

Appendix 3: Best Practice Shared Use Facility Case Studies

The best practice review provides opportunity to research examples (local, interstate and/or international) of shared use facilities that provide a range of benefits to local communities.

Nungarin Recreation Complex - WA



The Nungarin Recreation Complex is located approximately 70km from Bencubbin and has been identified as a best practice facility example based on its success as a multi-functional sporting hub/event space and its appropriate capacity/size. The following points summarise the key features of the facility.

- 3 fully glazed elevations providing excellent views to multiple playing surfaces
- Multi-purpose space of around 350m² (2 points of entry)
- Bar facility (approximately 25m²)
- Commercial grade kitchen
- Direct access to both kitchen and bar from function space
- Children's activity room (with viewing with from kitchen)
- Complex is centrally located on site
- Direct proximity to football oval, bowling green, natural tennis courts, netball court, hockey pitch, car parking, outdoor function space/shade, outdoor kitchen (inclusive of pizza oven) playground and two changerooms
- Serves a Shire population of 230 people
- The only negative of the facility is that it lacks appropriate storage

Parndana Sports Club Inc. – Kangaroo Island



The Parndana Sports Club Inc. provides an excellent regional example of a sporting hub that incorporates facilities utilised by football, netball, basketball, softball, cricket and tennis. Facilities include a large multipurpose clubroom, 3x multipurpose courts, 1x oval (AFL, cricket, softball) and recreation spaces (playgrounds and bike track). Although initially constructed sometime ago, this facility has been gradually improved and developed overtime to suit the needs of various user groups and the wider community, with further developments planned.

Central Oval Community and Sporting Hub - Pt. Augusta, SA



With an official opening date set for March 2015 the Central Oval Community and Sporting Hub will consist of a multi-use stadium (with three indoor courts), new changeroom facilities, office space for sporting groups, canteen/café, function/community spaces and viewing of the realigned oval, new outdoor plaza and the adjacent tennis/netball courts. Once completed, this facility will provide one large community area for people to gather and to play/watch a range of sports in a central precinct.

This facility has been selected as a best practice example based on the design's ability to incorporate the needs of multiple sporting groups/associations within a modern sporting hub environment. The facility also provides opportunity for functions, social events and community gatherings enhancing its flexibility as a community space.

Copper Coast Sports and Leisure Centre - Kadina, SA



In 2013 the Copper Coast Sports and Leisure Centre completed a site master plan for the redevelopment of the current centre into a community sporting hub. If constructed as designed, the Copper Coast Sports and Leisure Centre will provide a local (South Australian) best practice example of a modern and highly functional sporting hub.

The proposed master plan includes an indoor program pool, numerous multi-use courts (indoor & outdoor), gymnastics facilities, café, crèche, gym/fitness facilities, meeting rooms and administration facilities. The centre is also located directly next to the Kadina Community Library, Kadina cricket/football clubrooms and the Kadina Memorial School which further encourages the community aspect of the proposed hub concept.

Appendix 4: Community Workshop SWOT Analysis

During the consultation process two community workshops were held in the Shire of Mt Marshall. One was held at the Beacon Recreation Complex the other was held at Bencubbin Recreation Complex. During the community workshops 3 main exercises were conducted with attendees. This exercise (exercise 2) placed attendees into groups and challenged them to identify key strengths/opportunities and weaknesses/threats for the following 6 categories, the table below provides a summary of the responses received during the 2 workshops.

KEY THEMES	Strengths / Opportunities	Weaknesses / Threats
Community Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership Partnerships Consultation Community / Volunteer Involvement Regional Cooperation 	Beacon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent community/volunteer involvement 	Beacon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declining population putting pressure on leaders and volunteers
	Bencubbin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong leaders in the community Great volunteer pool Strong regional collaboration 	Bencubbin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declining population Small group of volunteers doing everything – burnout of these people is an issue Neighbouring town rivalry
Programs & Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness & Promotion Participation 	Beacon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness & promotion is adequate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong participation 	Beacon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance to travel sometimes a problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of funding

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding • Education • Training & Development 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire development officer which is a great asset for gaining grant funding • Good promotion of events through social media & local papers • Training of personal trainer by Shire was great • People of varied ages playing sports together • Need enhanced access to online education/training programs 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of people sometimes makes courses/training not viable • Declining population
<p>Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Development • Employment Opportunities • Tourism • Special Events • Funding 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driven by locals 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor mobile phone coverage an issue • Limited local employment opportunities • Lack of localised special events
	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerous special events (all which provide injection of money to town) 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment opportunities are minimal • Younger generation leaving for Perth and not returning • Limited facilities to support tourists and guests
<p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport • Recreation • Open Spaces and Parks 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current facilities are adequate 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population decline an issue • Facilities are ageing and require maintenance • No local trails

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails • Amenities • Schools 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation centre is adequate for population – opportunity to upgrade various aspects (Multipurpose room that can double as a children's crèche, improved bar / function space) • Opportunity to improve family friendly areas • New bowling green at recreation centre is a positive • Heritage trail is good 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor pool condition • Recreation centre design/layout and current condition • Facility access is limited
<p>Rec and Sport Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Volunteers • Membership • participation 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent local volunteers • Strong club membership and participation for the population 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of population • Management and volunteers exhausted - burnout of volunteers is an issue
	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation levels are strong • Club membership is strong • Equal opportunities for all • Volunteers 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of population • Cost of membership is increasing • Lack of new volunteer recruits
<p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Cost • Roads / paths • Disability / Special need groups 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good roads and footpaths in the shire 	<p>Beacon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transport is non – existent • Disability/special needs groups not catered for
	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads in good condition • Cheap to play sports 	<p>Bencubbin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public transport • Limited paths/ramps to and from facilities for aged/disability

Appendix 5: Online Community Survey Findings Report

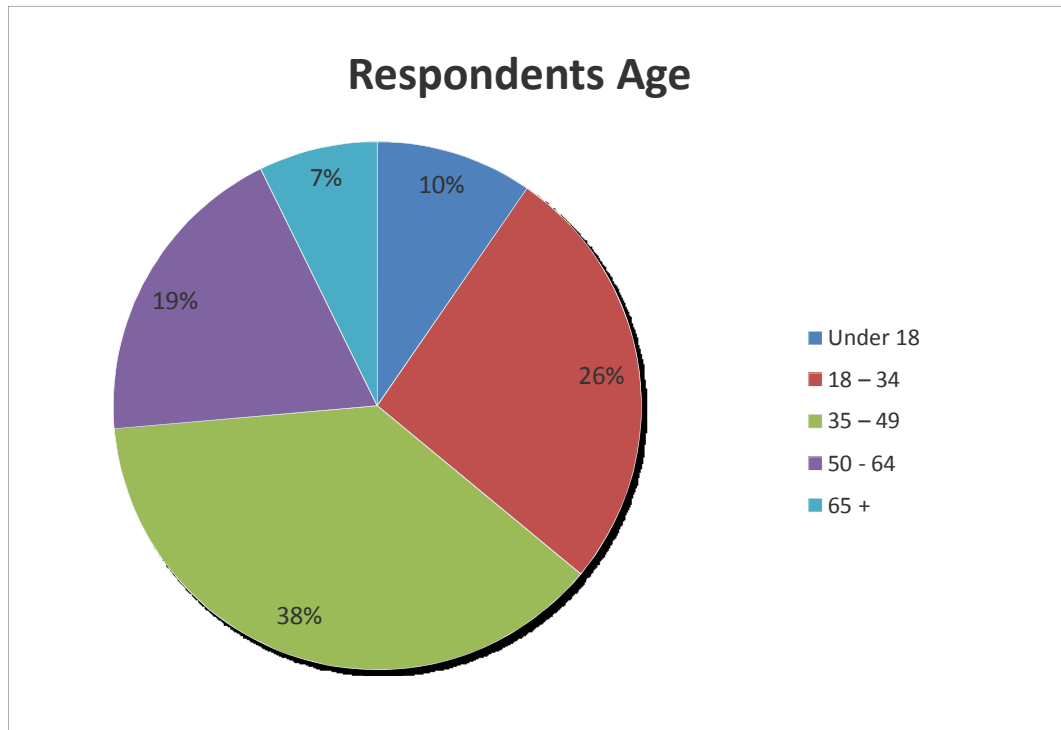
Introduction

A key component of the consultation process for the Mount Marshall Sport and Recreation Master Plan was to consult with local communities and sporting/recreation clubs. This was done to ensure that club goals and aspirations could be separated from individual opinions.

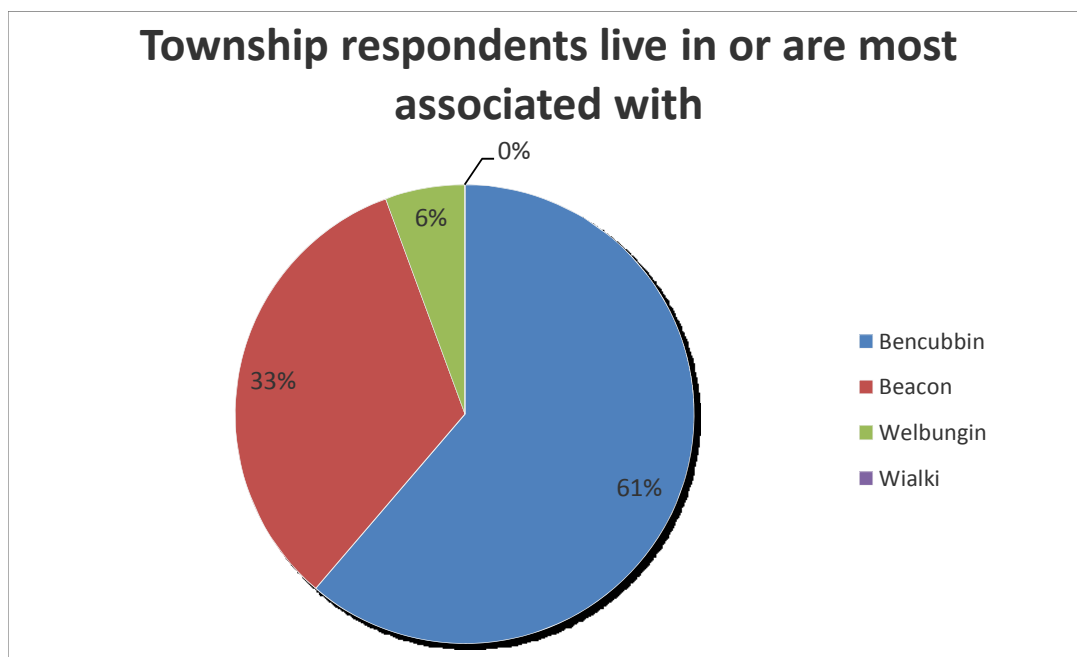
This document provides a survey summary of the online survey targeted towards the general COMMUNITY and was intended to capture their views, opinions, ideas and issues in regards to the provision of sport and recreation in Mount Marshall.

The survey was conducted over a period of 4 weeks during the month of March 2015. The survey asked 11 questions both quantitative and qualitative. The following is a summary of the key findings of the survey.

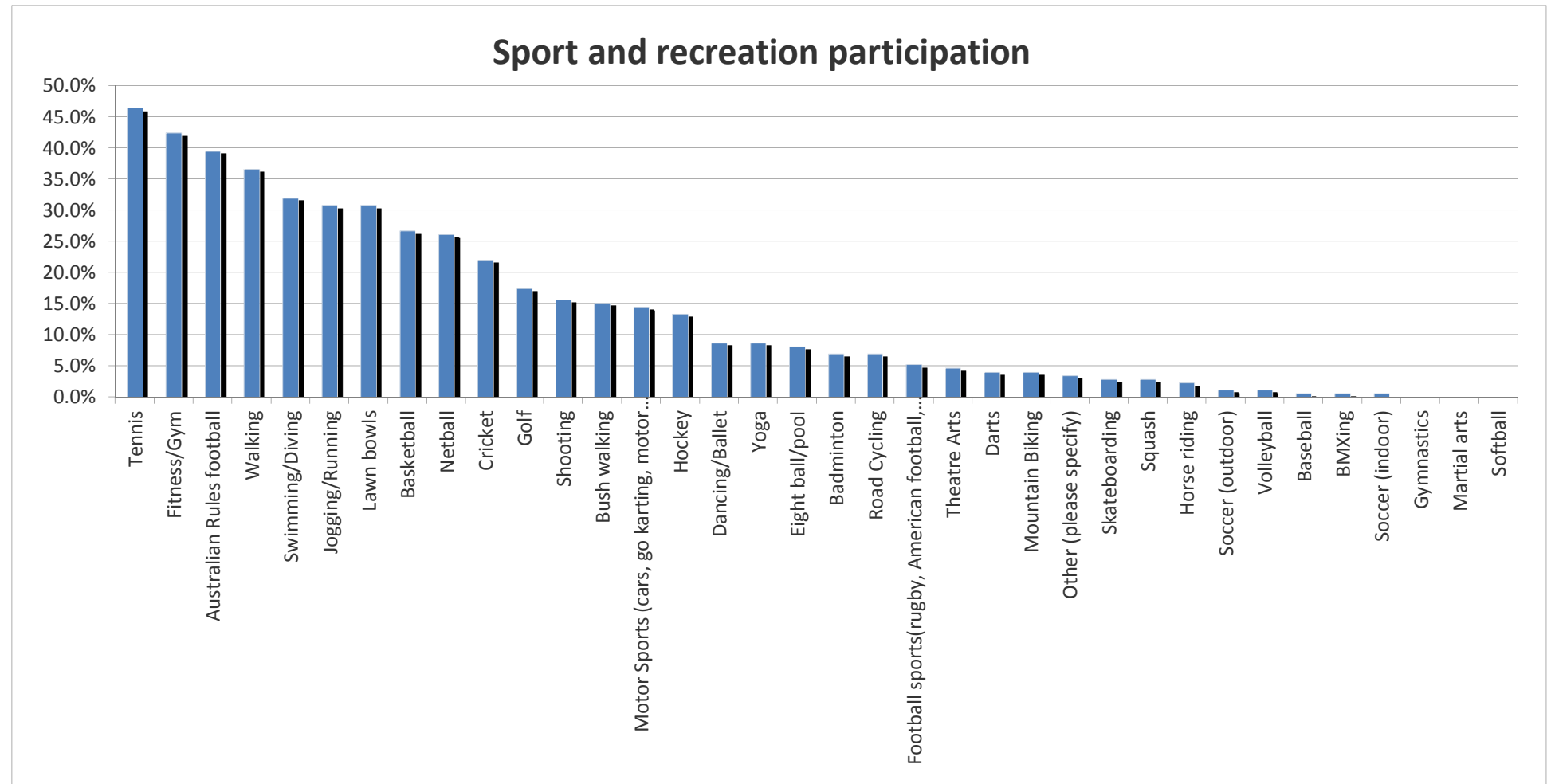
In total 182 individuals responded to the online survey. General demographic information was collected from all respondents. From this information we have learnt that 50% of the respondents were male and 50% were female. The best represented demographic in terms of age was those between the ages of 35 and 49 years, this age group represented 38% of all survey respondents.



Respondents also indicated the township that they live in (or are most associated with). This produced the following graph, which indicates that the majority of survey respondents (61%) were from Bencubbin:



Question: What sport and recreation activities do you regularly take part in? (Regularly is at least once a month - multiple activities can be selected)

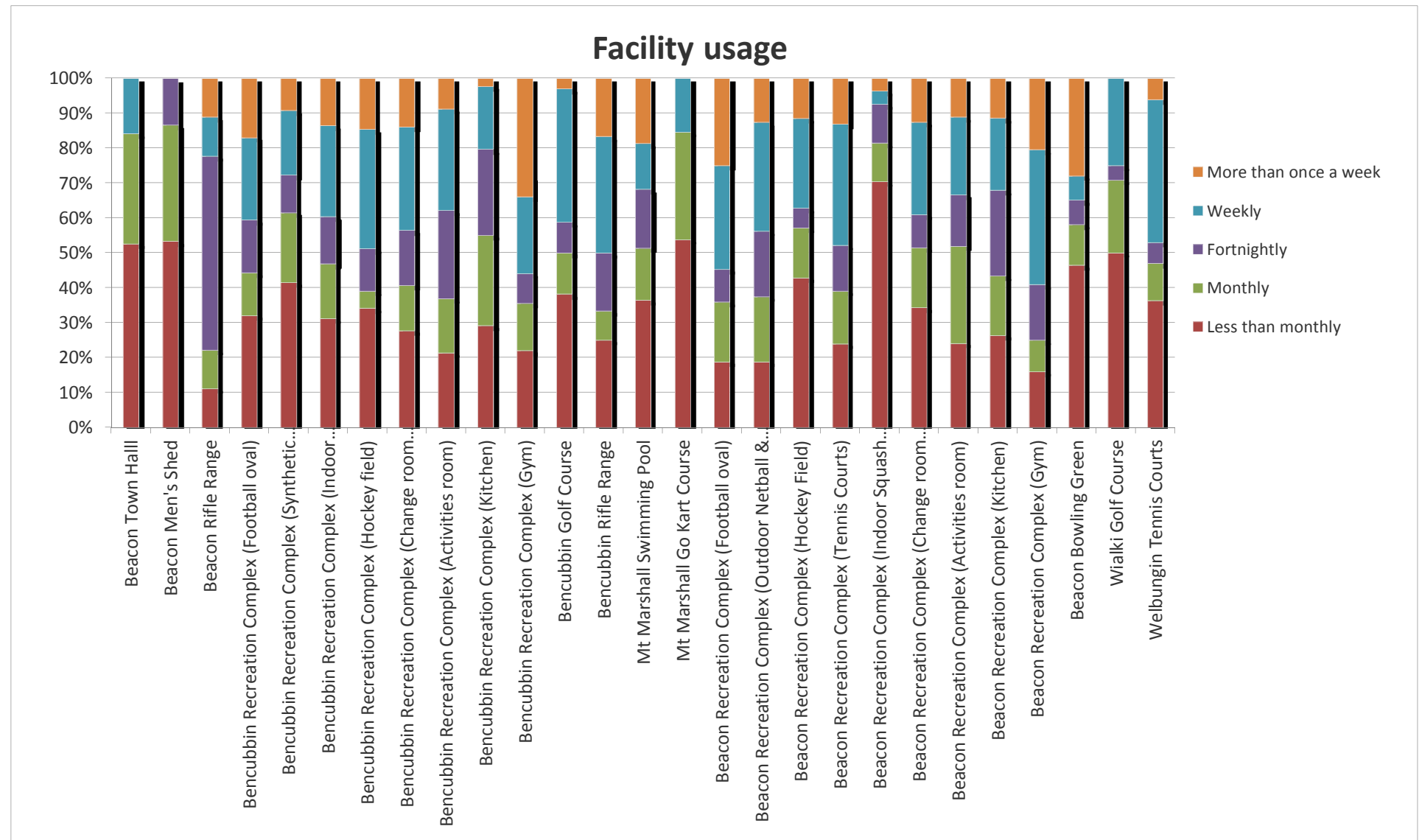


This question gave survey respondents the opportunity to select “other” as an option. From this option the men’s shed was highlighted as a recreation activity that wasn’t listed as such in the online survey.

From this graph we can see that the most popular sport and recreation activity amongst survey respondents is tennis. Tennis received more than 45% of survey respondents suggesting they participate in the sport at least once per month. Fitness/gym was second most popular with a monthly participation rate of 42.4%, this was followed by Australian rules football (39.5%), walking (36.6%) and swimming/diving (32%) to round out the top 5.

The least popular sport/recreation activities were softball, martial arts and gymnastics, all of which received 0% of survey respondents identifying them as activities they participate in on at least a monthly basis. Of sport/recreation activities that did receive response from survey participants the 5 least popular were indoor soccer (0.6%), BMX (0.6%), baseball (0.6%), Volleyball (1.2%) and outdoor soccer (1.2%).

Question) How often do you use the following sporting/recreation facilities?



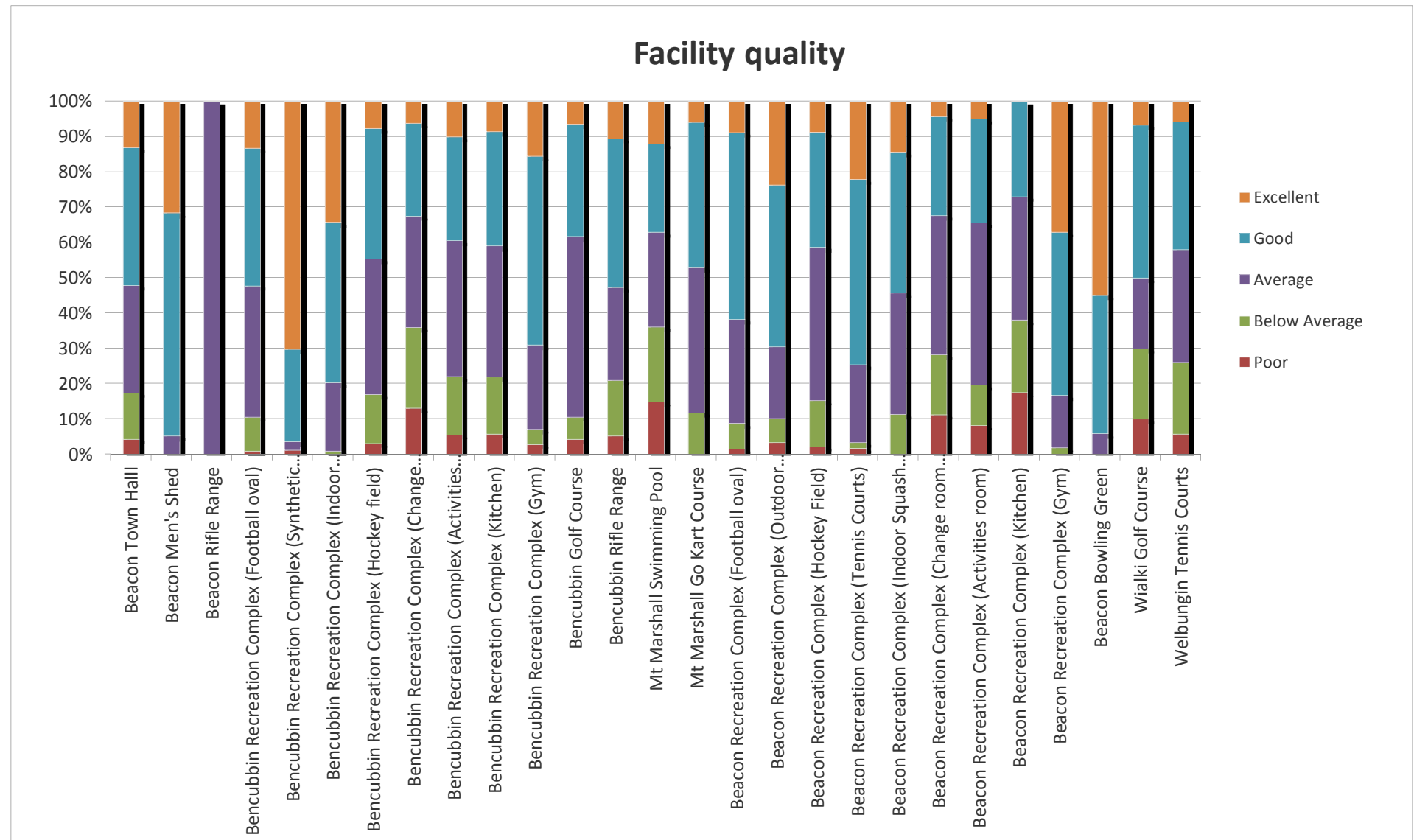
There are 4 facilities where greater than 20% of users suggested they use the facility more than once per week. These facilities are the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, Beacon bowling green, football oval at Beacon Recreation Complex and the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex. The Mt Marshall Swimming Pool just missed out on this list with roughly 19% of users suggesting they use the facility more than once per week. There are also 4 facilities where no users suggested that they use the given facility more than once per week. These facilities include Beacon Town Hall, Beacon Men's Shed, Mount Marshall Go Kart Course and Wialki Golf Course. All other facilities receive at least some form of weekly use from facility users.

On a weekly basis the most frequently utilised facilities (by users – not the general public) are the gyms at both the Beacon and Bencubbin Recreation complexes. Other facilities used by more than 50% of its users on at least a weekly basis include the Bencubbin Rifle Range and the football oval at Beacon Recreation Complex. The Hockey field at the Bencubbin Recreation complex also receives a high number of users visiting on a weekly basis (roughly 49%).

It is interesting to note that the majority of the Beacon Rifle Range users do so on a fortnightly basis; this is the only facility that is most commonly used on such a schedule. When facility users that utilise their facilities on a fortnightly or monthly basis are considered the most utilised facilities are the Beacon Rifle Range, the football oval at Beacon Recreation Complex, the outdoor netball and basketball courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex and the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex. All of which greater than 80% of users utilise the facility at least monthly.

Facilities that have a high number of users utilising the facility on a less than monthly basis include the squash courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mount Marshall Go Kart course, Beacon Men's shed, the Beacon Town Hall and the Wialki Golf Course. All of which have at least 50% of users utilising the facility less than monthly.

Question) *Of the facilities that you do use, how would you rate their overall quality?*



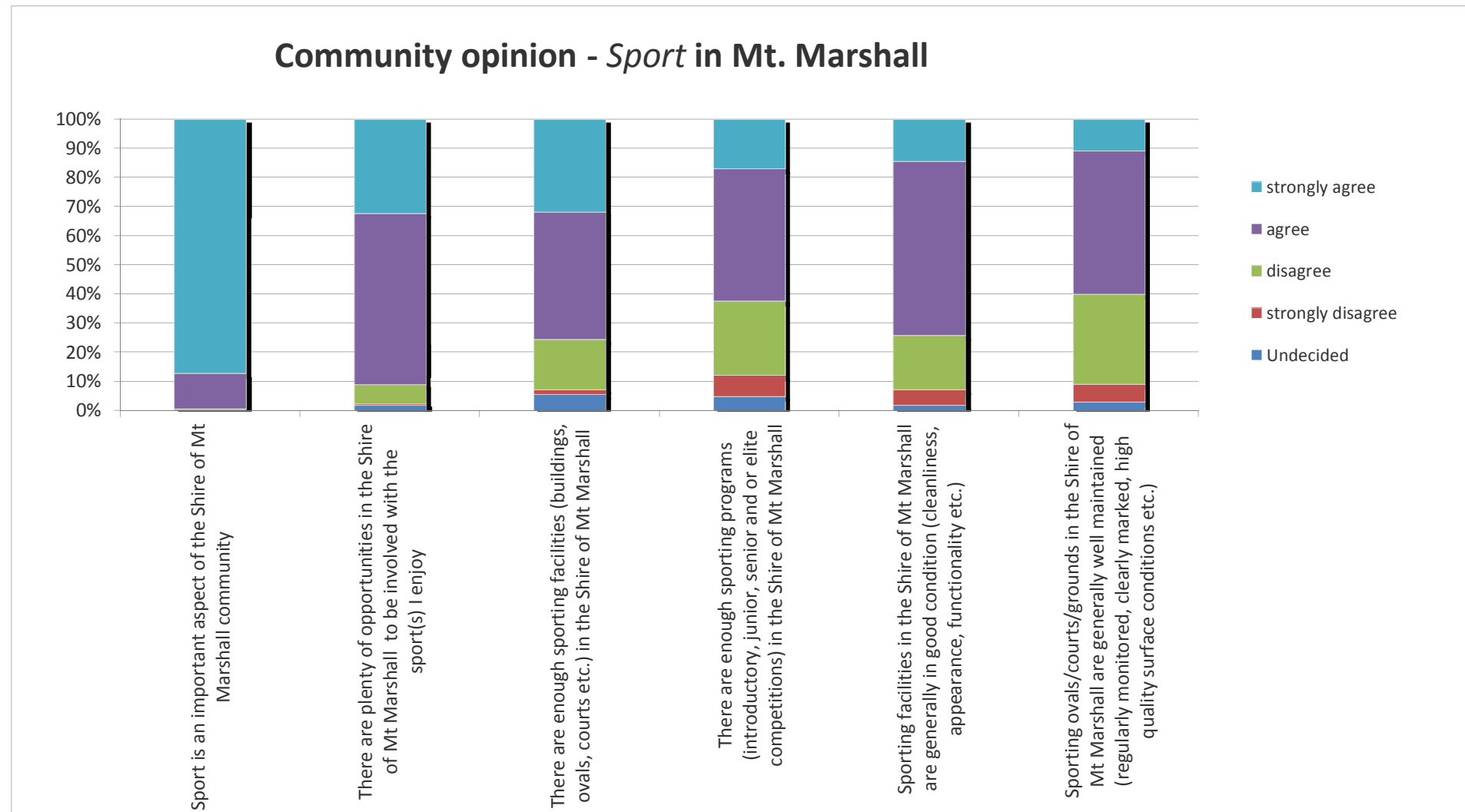
There were only 2 facilities that were rated by over 50% of users as excellent in terms of quality. The facilities were the two bowling clubs in Bencubbin and Beacon. Other facilities that received a high number (>25%) of excellent facility ratings are the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the indoor netball/basketball court at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the Beacon Men's Shed.

When considering facilities that were rated by users as either good or excellent in terms of quality the highest rating facilities are the two bowling clubs of Bencubbin and Beacon plus the Beacon's Men's shed. All of which over 90% of facility users rated as being of good or excellent in terms of overall quality. Other facilities that received a high number (>60%) of good or excellent ratings include the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the indoor netball/basketball court at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, the tennis courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the outdoor netball/basketball courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the football oval at the Beacon Recreation Complex.

In terms of facilities that received average overall facility ratings the Beacon Rifle Range was rated by 100% of facility users of this as average. The other facility that ranks high in terms of average facility ratings is the Bencubbin Golf course which roughly 50% of users rated as average.

It is interesting to note that no single facility was rated by the majority of its users as either below average or poor in terms of overall quality. The highest number of below average or poor facility rankings was received by the kitchen in the Beacon Recreation Complex, with nearly 40% of users rating this facility as either below average or poor. A similar percentage of below average to poor facility rating were received for the Mount Marshall Swimming Pool and the changerooms at the Bencubbin Recreation Centre.

Question) Please indicate the level to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about SPORT in the Shire of Mt Marshall (sport refers to organised activities such as football, netball, tennis, basketball, gymnastics etc.



It is interesting to note that the majority (>50%) of survey respondents agree with all 6 of the following statements in regards to *SPORT* in the Shire of Mt. Marshall:

1) Sport is an important aspect of the Shire of Mt Marshall Community:

- 100% of survey respondents agree (including roughly 90% that strongly agree)

2) There are plenty of opportunities in the Shire of Mt Marshall to be involved with the sport(s) I enjoy:

- 91% of survey population agree (including roughly 30% that strongly agree)
- 9% of the survey population either disagree or are undecided

3) There are enough sporting facilities (buildings, ovals, courts etc.) in the Shire of Mt Marshall:

- 76% of survey population agree (including roughly 30% that strongly agree)
- 19% of survey population disagree (including roughly 1% that strongly disagree)
- 5% of the survey population are undecided

4) There are enough sporting programs (introductory, junior, senior and or elite competitions) in the Shire of Mt Marshall:

- 62% of survey population agree (including roughly 18% that strongly agree)
- 33% of survey population disagree (including roughly 6% that strongly disagree)
- 5% of the survey population are undecided

5) Sporting facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall are generally in good condition (cleanliness, appearance, functionality etc.):

- 73% of survey population agree (including 15% that strongly agree)
- 26% of survey population disagree (including roughly 5% that strongly disagree)
- 1% of the survey population are undecided

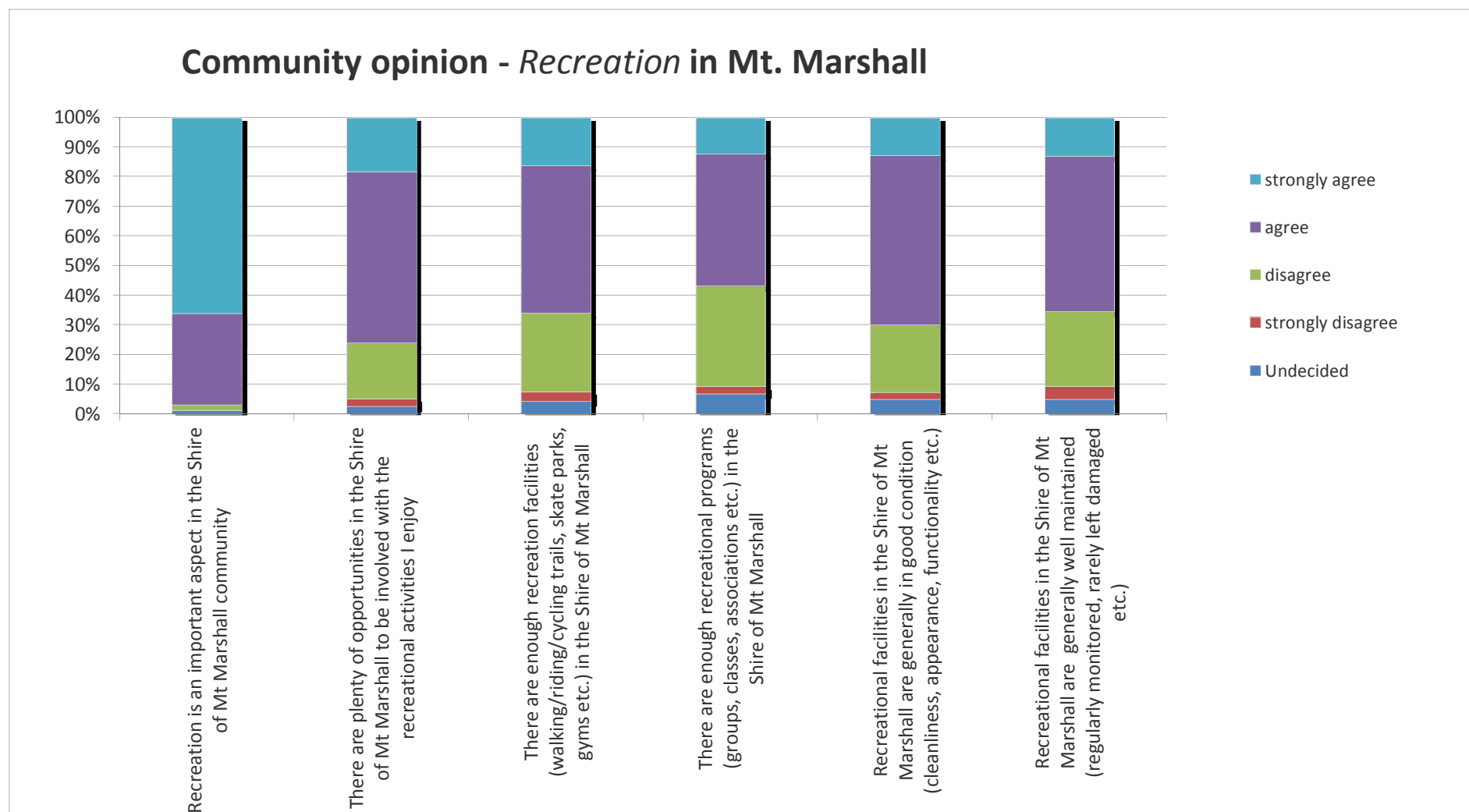
6) Sporting ovals/courts/grounds in the Shire of Mt Marshall are generally well maintained (regularly monitored, clearly marked, high quality surface conditions etc.):

- 60% of survey population agree (including just over 10% that strongly agree)
- 37% of survey population disagree (including roughly 6% that strongly disagree)
- 3% of the survey population are undecided

There are several key messages to take away from the analysis of this question. The following dot points provide a good overall summary of the above results:

- **The people of Mt. Marshall believe sport is an important aspect of their community**
- **The people of Mt. Marshall believe there is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the sports they enjoy**
- **Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall population believe there are enough existing sporting facilities in the Shire**
- **Just under two thirds of the Mt. Marshall population believe there are enough sporting programs in the Shire**
- **Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall population believe sporting facilities are in good condition generally**
- **40% of the Mt. Marshall population either disagree or are undecided on the quality of sporting facility maintenance in the Shire**

- **Question)** Please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statements about RECREATION in the Shire of Mt Marshall (recreation includes activities such as walking, running, cycling, water skiing, skateboarding, gym, yoga, tai-chi, dance etc.)



Again, the majority (>50%) of survey respondents agree with all 6 of the following statements in regards to *RECREATION* in the Shire of Mt. Marshall:

1) Recreation is an important aspect of the Shire of Mt Marshall Community:

- 97% of the survey population agree (including just over 65% that strongly agree)
- 2% of the survey population disagree
- 1% of the survey population are undecided

2) There are plenty of opportunities in the Shire of Mt Marshall to be involved with the recreational activities I enjoy:

- 76% of survey population agree (including just under 20% that strongly agree)
- 21% of the survey population disagree (including 2% that strongly disagree)
- 3% of the survey population are undecided

3) There are enough recreational facilities (walking/riding/cycling trails, skate parks , gyms etc.) in the Shire of Mt Marshall:

- 67% of survey population agree (including just over 15% that strongly agree)
- 29% of survey population disagree (including 3% that strongly disagree)
- 4% of the survey population are undecided

4) There are enough recreational programs (groups, classes, associations etc.) in the Shire of Mt Marshall:

- 57% of survey population agree (including 12% that strongly agree)
- 35% of survey population disagree (including 2% that strongly disagree)
- 8% of the survey population are undecided

5) Recreational facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall are generally in good condition (cleanliness, appearance, functionality etc.)

- 70% of survey population agree (including 12% that strongly agree)
- 25% of survey population disagree (including 2% that strongly disagree)

- 5% of the survey population are undecided

6) Recreational facilities in the Shire of Mt Marshall are generally well maintained (regularly monitored, rarely left damaged etc.)

- 65% of survey population agree (including 12% that strongly agree)
- 30% of survey population disagree (including 5% that strongly disagree)
- 5% of the survey population are undecided

There are several key messages to take away from the analysis of this question. The following dot points provide a good overall summary of the above results:

- **The vast majority of people of Mt. Marshall believe recreation is an important aspect of their community**
- **Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall believe there is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the recreational activities they enjoy**
- **Two thirds of people believe there are enough existing recreational facilities in the Shire of Mt. Marshall**
- **Over 40% of the Mt. Marshall population do not believe that there are enough recreational programs in the Shire**
- **The majority of the Mt. Marshall population believe that existing recreational facilities are in good condition generally**
- **Two thirds of the Mt. Marshall population believe that recreational facilities in the shire are well maintained**

Question) *In 5 years' time what (if anything) would you like to see change in the Shire of Mt Marshall to ensure that the communities sport and recreation facility needs are met?*

Generally the pool upgrade was supported by both townships within these comments, with the Beacon population petitioning for it to be moved to their town if it were to be redeveloped in a new location. Improved maintenance of existing facilities and growth of the existing population were common themes in the responses collected from both towns.

Key Themes within comments *(in order of prevalence)*

Bencubbin:

- Bencubbin Pool upgrade - (repair, improve, move to rec centre)
- Development of a sporting/community hub (all sports together)
- Ongoing commitment (annual budget allocation) to general maintenance and modernisation of all sport infrastructure to ensure our facilities don't require a total rebuild at great expense
- Resurface the Welbungin tennis courts - new lighting
- Upgrade of Bencubbin recreation complex - (bar area, kitchen, change rooms/toilet area, extend communal/ function space, children's indoor play space/room, Be the main sports facility for the 4 surrounding towns (within 40km))
- Enhanced consultation and collaboration between council and the communities/interest groups of Beacon and Bencubbin
- Increased activities for seniors - fitness sessions, aqua aerobics, social events like darts and bingo, shopping, day trips
- population does not decrease any further - needs to grow
- Sport remains a pillar of the community
- More outdoor, easily accessible and free kids activities e.g. basketball rings, good skate parks, BMX tracks

Beacon:

- Improved maintenance of existing facilities
- Build a pool in Beacon
- Equal money spent on Beacon facilities and Bencubbin facilities
- Upgrade beacon sport complex - (roof, interior - carpets-paint-fix leaks, changerooms, toilets/septic system, kitchen, get solar and rainwater tanks, upgraded power supply, Cricket nets shifted to side of oval, improved water supply, upgrade oval, upgrade hockey pitch, more function space)
- More people, more jobs
- No more new facilities

Question) *If only one major project was able to be carried out by the Shire in the next 10 years, the priority project that would receive my vote would be;*

Votes received on this question were as follows:

- **Redevelopment of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex**
(56 people = 31% of entire survey pop.)
- **Modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre**
(35 people = 19% of entire survey population)
- **Other/comment**
(73 responses provided)

Respondents were asked to vote for a priority sport and recreation based project for the Shire, with two projects specifically identified; the redevelopment of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. The opportunity to nominate an alternative priority project was also provided. In response 56 individuals (31% of survey respondents) prioritised redevelopment of the Bencubbin Rec Complex and 35 individuals (19% of survey respondents) prioritised modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. Of the other 73 responses received respondents favoured a variety of alternative projects, generally targeting upgrading existing infrastructure and/or addressing significant maintenance issues. Of these alternative projects (where nominated by more than 5 survey respondents):

- 11 respondents proposed the development /relocation of the pool to Beacon
- 7 respondents proposed upgrading the Beacon Recreation Complex
- 6 respondents proposed improved maintenance of all current facilities across the Shire
- 21 respondents specifically did not support the upgrade of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex Redevelopment nor the modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre (and did not propose alternative sport and recreation based priority projects for the Shire)

Key Themes within comments *(in order of prevalence)*

Bencubbin:

- The Bencubbin pool needs to be fixed
- New visitors change rooms required in the Bencubbin Recreation Complex
- The Shire of Mt. Marshall are in a great position to be of service to our surrounding communities and be host to many different groups, associations, meetings, functions and this would definitely benefit us as a whole
- Modernisation of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex is required
- Both facilities (pool & rec complex) are more than adequate for our population

Beacon:

- Neither of the proposed projects are required, instead maintain current facilities
- Develop new swimming pool in Beacon, drive to Bencubbin is too long for Beacon residents
- Upgrade Beacon Recreation Complex
- Develop an indoor netball court like Bencubbin's in Beacon
- Lack of phone signal
- Concern about rate increase as a result of new projects
- Concern that both projects are in Bencubbin
- Declining population - existing facilities are adequate for population
- Concern that Beacon residents won't get adequate use from either project
- Bencubbin facilities do not need to be further upgraded
- General lack of confidence in Council to cater for Beacon resident needs
- Upgrading the Bencubbin pool may at least benefit the whole shire - not just Bencubbin

Question) *Please add any additional comments you may have.*

Very little new information was presented in the collected responses to this question; instead it was used by respondents as an opportunity to reiterate points that had been made previously in their survey response.

There were very few common themes shared between responses collected from the residents of Beacon and the responses collected from the residents of Bencubbin. Bencubbin residents seemed to focus on the need to develop the Bencubbin Recreation centre into a more centralised 'sporting hub' type facility (including the pool) and there was also concern about access to sporting facilities for the elderly/disabled. Prevalent themes within the Beacon responses included the need for smaller facility upgrades and improved maintenance on existing facilities, concern over the effects of population decline and the need for the Shire to support both towns equally. Beacon respondents suggested that facilities in Beacon require more attention (in terms of facility maintenance) than those in Bencubbin.

Key Themes within comments *(in order of prevalence)*

Bencubbin:

- Move towards sport hub model
- Increase focus on improving facilities for the elderly - aging population
- Move the pool to Bencubbin recreation complex
- Thank you Mt Marshall Shire for the opportunity to comment

Beacon:

- Small facility upgrades and improved maintenance on existing facilities are required, not the development of new facilities
- Proposed facility developments in this survey will only benefit Bencubbin residents, the Shire needs to support both towns equally
- Population decline is the biggest threat to the local community
- Current facilities are adequate for population size
- Pool should be redeveloped in Beacon
- There is no need to upgrade Bencubbin's sporting facilities
- More Shire money should be allocated to the Beacon Complex (watering lawns, electricity subsidies, general upgrades)
- Funding for projects in Bencubbin projects should come from Bencubbin residents, not the entire shire
- Beacon Complex needs more money spent on it than Bencubbin Complex

Survey Summary:

- In total 182 individuals responded to the online survey
- 50% of the respondents were male and 50% were female
- 35 to 49 years was the best represented age bracket amongst respondents (38%)
- The majority of survey respondents (61%) were from Bencubbin, 33% were from Beacon
- The 5 most popular sport and recreation activities in terms of participation amongst survey respondents (most popular listed first) were tennis, fitness/gym, Australian rules football, walking and swimming/diving
- The 5 least popular sport and recreation activities in terms of participation amongst survey respondents (least popular listed first) were indoor soccer, BMX, baseball, Volleyball and outdoor soccer
- The 5 most used sport and recreation facilities in the area (most used listed first) are the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, the Beacon Bowling Green, the football oval at Beacon Recreation Complex, the Gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex and the Mt Marshall Swimming Pool
- The 5 least used sport and recreation facilities in the area (least used listed first) are the squash courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mount Marshall Go Kart course, Beacon Men's shed, the Beacon Town Hall and the Wialki Golf Course
- The Bencubbin and Beacon bowling clubs were the only two facilities that the majority of users ranked as excellent in terms of quality
- Other facilities that >60% of facility users rated as being of good or excellent include the Beacon's Men's shed, the gym at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the indoor netball/basketball court at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex, the tennis courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the outdoor netball/basketball courts at the Beacon Recreation Complex, the gym at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex and the football oval at the Beacon Recreation Complex
- No single facility was rated by the majority of its users as below average or poor in terms of overall quality. However, the lowest ranked facilities were the kitchen in the Beacon Recreation Complex, the Mount Marshall Swimming Pool and the changerooms at the Bencubbin Recreation Centre
- Community opinion on sport in Mt. Marshall
 - Sport is an important aspect of their community
 - There is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the sports they enjoy
 - Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall population believe there are enough existing sporting facilities in the Shire
 - Just under two thirds of the Mt. Marshall population believe there are enough sporting programs in the Shire
 - Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall population believe sporting facilities are in good condition generally

- A significant proportion of the population (40%) either disagree or are undecided on the quality of sporting facility maintenance within the Shire
- Community opinion on recreation in Mt. Marshall
 - The vast majority of people of Mt. Marshall believe recreation is an important aspect of their community
 - Three quarters of the Mt. Marshall believe there is enough opportunity for them to be involved in the recreational activities they enjoy
 - Two thirds of people believe there are enough existing recreational facilities in the Shire of Mt. Marshall
 - Over 40% of the Mt. Marshall population do not believe that there are enough recreational programs in the Shire
 - The majority of the Mt. Marshall population believe that existing recreational facilities are in good condition generally
 - Two thirds of the Mt. Marshall population believe that recreational facilities in the shire are well maintained
- When asked what they would like to see in the shire in the next 5 years responses received show that generally the pool upgrade was supported by both townships, with the Beacon population petitioning for it to be moved to their town if it were to be redeveloped in a new location. Improved maintenance of existing facilities and growth of the existing population were common themes in the responses collected from both towns
- Respondents were asked to vote for either the redevelopment of the Bencubbin Recreation Complex or the modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre as a priority for the Shire. In response 56 individuals (31% of survey respondents) prioritised redevelopment of the Bencubbin Rec Complex and 35 individuals (19% of survey respondents) prioritised modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre. Of the other 73 responses received for this question upgrading existing infrastructure and/or addressing significant maintenance issues. Of these responses:
 - 11 individuals mentioned development of a pool in Beacon
 - 7 individuals mentioned upgrade the Beacon Recreation Complex
 - 6 individuals mentioned improve maintenance of current facilities across the Shire should be a priority
 - 21 individuals specifically did not support either identified project (Bencubbin Recreation Complex Redevelopment & Modernisation of the Mt Marshall Aquatic Centre) and did not offer an alternative sport and recreation based priority project for the Shire
- To complete the survey respondents were provided with the chance for open comment. Within the collected comments there were very few common themes shared between responses collected from the residents of Beacon and the responses collected from the residents of Bencubbin.
 - Bencubbin residents seemed to focus on the need to develop the Bencubbin Recreation centre into a more centralised 'sporting hub'

type facility (including the pool) and there was also concern about access to sporting facilities for the elderly/disabled.

- Prevalent themes within the Beacon responses included the need for smaller facility upgrades and improved maintenance on existing facilities, concern over the effects of population decline and the need for the Shire to support both towns equally. Beacon respondents suggested that facilities in Beacon require more attention (in terms of facility maintenance) than those in Bencubbin.

Appendix 6: Online Club Survey Findings Report

Introduction

A key component of the consultation process for the Mount Marshall Sport and Recreation Master Plan was to consult with both local communities and local sporting/recreation clubs. This was done to ensure that club goals and aspirations could be separated from individual opinions.

This document provides a summary of the online survey targeted towards local sporting/recreation CLUBS and was intended to capture their views, opinions, ideas and issues in regards to the provision of sport and recreation in Mount Marshall.

The survey was conducted over a period of 4 weeks during the month of March in 2015. Specific information captured in the online survey includes information in relation to current activities, membership, facilities, issues and needs. The survey asked 14 questions both quantitative and qualitative. The following is a summary of the key findings of the survey.

In total 16 sport and/or recreation clubs responded to the online survey. Below is a table of the 16 Clubs that responded.

Club name:
Beacon Football Club
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.
Beacon Hockey Club
Beacon Junior Basketball
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club
Beacon Netball Club
Beacon Tennis Club
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.
Bencubbin Football Club
Bencubbin Hockey Club
Bencubbin Netball Club
Bencubbin Playgroup
Bencubbin Rifle Club
Dance Club
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)

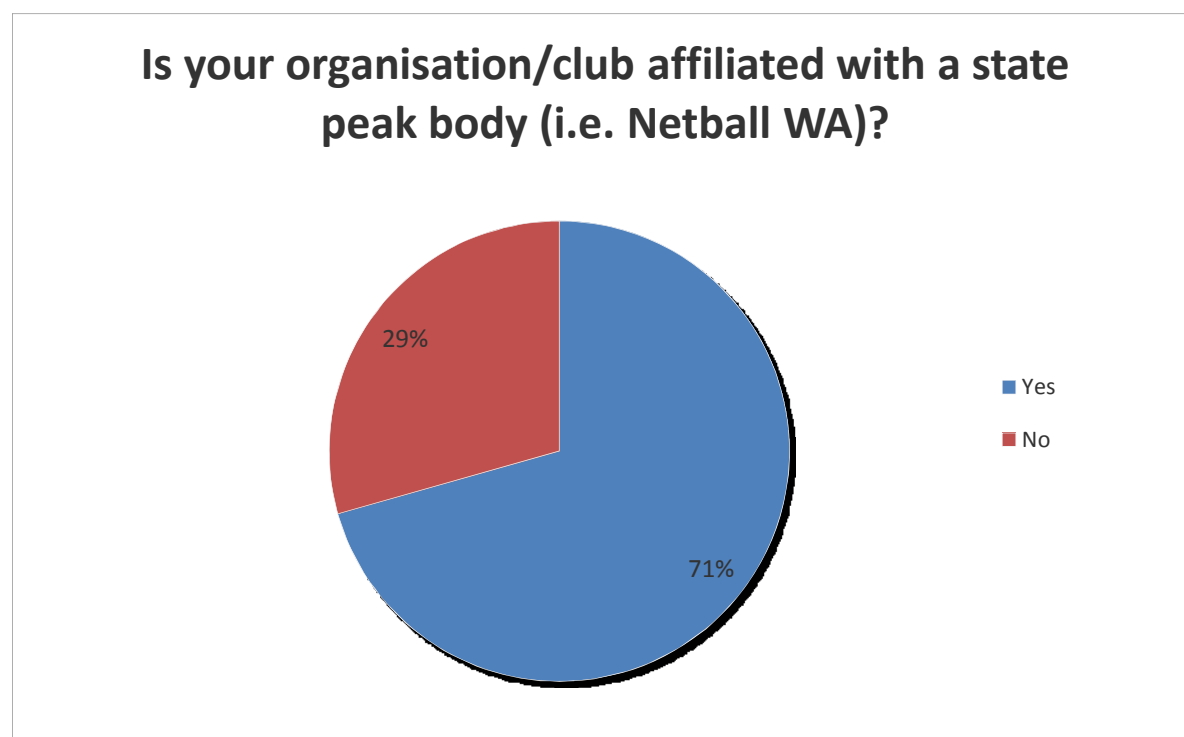
Q2) What programs and activities does your club/organisation conduct?

Club	Brief description of programs/activities
Beacon Football Club	Australian Rules Football -junior & Senior
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Sporting Shooting Club, (Rifle, Shotgun, Handgun High power, Low power, Clays, silhouette, target).
Beacon Hockey Club	Hockey training and games throughout the hockey season, as well as fundraising in this time.
Beacon Junior Basketball	We play 13 weeks of basketball per season, six games in Feb/March and seven including finals in October/ November. We play on Tuesday night from 7.00 to 8.00 pm. We have four teams of 7or 8 players per team. They are ages 7 to 13. We also have coaching for 5 and 6 year old "pivots" on the third court to prepare them to join the main competition. There are currently 30 players and 6 "pivots".
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	Pennant bowls, Social bowls, League events, Children's coaching
Beacon Netball Club	Senior and junior netball
Beacon Tennis Club	We play tennis on the w/e including junior coaching, plus we play pennant tennis against CWTA teams every 2nd Friday night during summer. We have also made the facilities available to the beacon primary school to conduct there tennis program.
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	Staging of 2 nights of 'Theatre Restaurant' on a bi-annual basis - includes 2 months of rehearsals. Support Junior Theatre Programs in Cooperation with the Primary school.
Bencubbin Football Club	We have one junior team and one senior team that play weekly in the Central Wheatbelt Football League.
Bencubbin Hockey Club	Junior Hockey co-ordination with the primary school. Senior ladies hockey training and games.
Bencubbin Netball Club	We have a Junior & Senior Netball team which plays in the Central Wheatbelt Netball association.
Bencubbin Playgroup	Early years children's activities.
Bencubbin Rifle Club	Target shooting
Dance Club	Dance classes
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	Go Kart Race Meetings, generally 5 or 6 per year between March & October.

Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	<p>We have social tennis every Sunday including visits to and from other clubs - Trayning & Mukinbudin during the tennis season (Oct-April). The Bencubbin School are invited to use the tennis facilities every year. The tennis club supplies all equipment and a couple of members to help out on the day. The club participates in Pennant Tennis on Friday nights with Beacon and Mukinbudin (and usually Westonia but they did not field a team this year). Each year the club takes part in all CWTA (Central Wheatbelt Tennis Ass) events - TC Doubles Day, Mallee Shield and Singles. As a club we hold our singles championship. The club has an active Facebook page with 35 members. Welbungin Christmas tree is an annual event which attracted over 80 people last year.</p>
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Organised sport/recreation activities currently organised within the Shire include football, shooting, hockey, basketball, bowling, netball, tennis, theatre, playgroup, dance, go-karting and gym/fitness activities.

Q3) Is your organisation/club affiliated with a state peak body (i.e. Netball WA)?



Club	Peak body association
Beacon Football Club	WA Country Football League
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	SSAA - Sporting Shooter Association Australia
Beacon Hockey Club	Hockey WA
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	Bowls WA
Beacon Netball Club	Netball WA
Bencubbin Football Club	CWFL
Bencubbin Hockey Club	Hockey WA
Bencubbin Netball Club	Netball WA
Bencubbin Playgroup	Playgroup WA
Bencubbin Rifle Club	West Australian rifle association
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	Wheatbelt Dirt Kart Association

Of the 16 clubs that responded to the survey, 71% are affiliated with their respective peak bodies/associations.

Q4) What is the main facility utilised by your club/organisation in the Shire of Mt. Marshall (Facilities can include built structures, ovals, parks, trails etc.)?

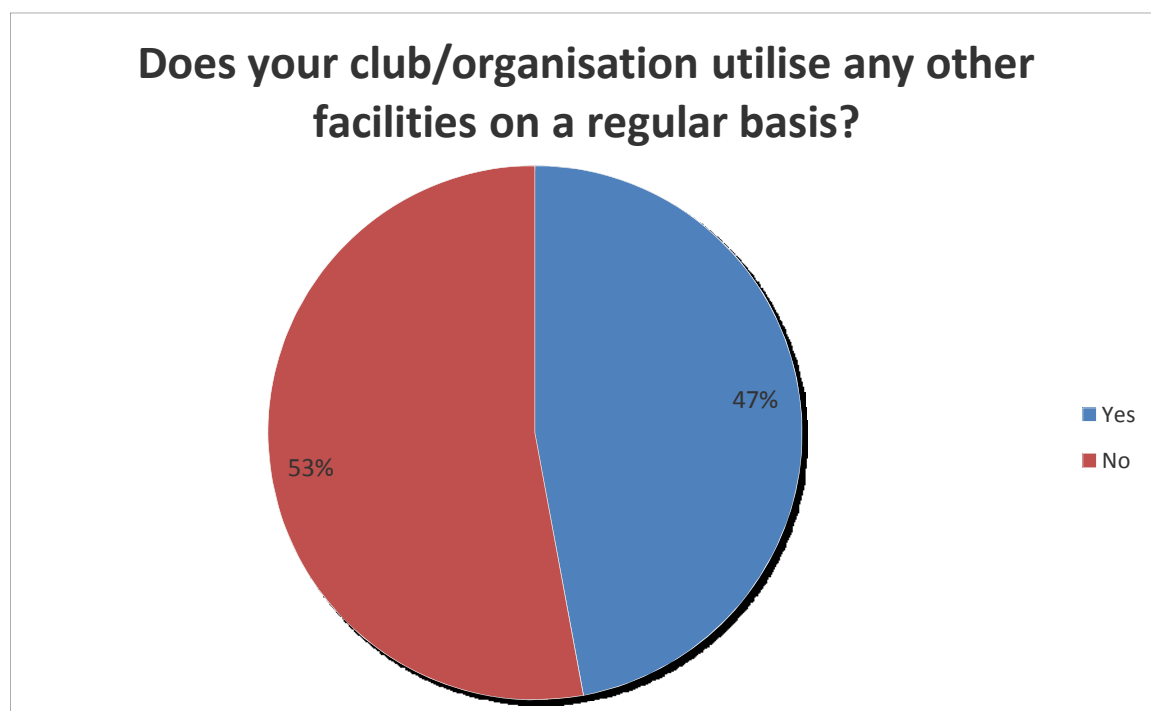
Club	Facility name	Brief description of how your club uses the facility	Facility address
Beacon Football Club	Beacon Recreation Facility, football oval & gym	To play the game & fitness	Burakin - Beacon Rd, Beacon
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Range - Club shed, Generator shed, Tower 1 clay thrower, bunkers, rifle lean-to	Shooting competitions between members, open to non- members to shoot as well	3888 Beacon Rock Road Beacon WA 6472
Beacon Hockey Club	Beacon hockey oval	For training and games	Beacon Rec centre
Beacon Junior Basketball	Beacon sports complex	We use all three courts. We also use the toilets.	Shipway drive, Beacon.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	Beacon bowling green	To play bowls on	Lucas street. Beacon
Beacon Netball Club	Netball courts at the Beacon Recreation Ground	We use the netball courts for training once a week and games every second week	Beacon Recreational Ground
Beacon Tennis Club	Beacon tennis club rooms and tennis courts		
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	Beacon Town Hall	Stage shows, rehearse shows, store costumes and props	Hamilton Street, Beacon
Bencubbin Football Club	Bencubbin Recreation Complex & Oval	Training twice weekly, home games on average are fortnightly and catering is done using the kitchen and activities room	
Bencubbin Hockey Club	Bencubbin Recreation Ground	Play and train on dirt hockey field, use of storage unit for hockey gear.	
Bencubbin Netball Club	Bencubbin Recreation Complex	We use the facility for training during	Marsh Street

		weekdays and it is our home court for weekend games	
Bencubbin Playgroup	Sturt Pea House	Weekly sessions are held at the building. Building also used for crèche	Cnr Monger & Weyman street. Bencubbin
Bencubbin Rifle Club	Bencubbin rifle range	Shooting at targets	Korda bullfinch rd.
Dance Club	Bencubbin recreation centre Activities Room	Dance classes in the small carpeted activities room for children from Bencubbin, Beacon and Mukinbudin	Bencubbin
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	Mt Marshall & Districts Go Kart Track	We race karts on the track	500m South of town site on east side of bitumen
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	Welbungin Tennis Courts, Hall, Bump board, children's playground	Equipment storage, catering, playing tennis	Welbungin-Wialki Road, Welbungin

From the survey response we can infer that the main facilities utilised in Beacon are the Beacon Recreation Complex (football oval, gym, hockey oval, basketball, netball and tennis courts), shooting range, bowling green and town hall. The main facilities utilised in Bencubbin are the Bencubbin Recreation Complex (football oval, hockey oval, netball/basketball courts, and gym), Sturt Pea House, rifle range and recreation centre.

Beyond Beacon and Bencubbin other facilities utilised include the Mount Marshall Districts Go-Kart Track and the tennis courts, hall and playground at Welbungin.

Q5) Does your club/organisation utilise any other facilities on a regular basis?



Club	Further detail provided
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Beacon Country Club - meetings/meals
Beacon Hockey Club	Beacon recreation centre facilities such as gym, toilets, kitchen and oval. Sometime the tennis courts depending on the state of our field.
Beacon Junior basketball	We use the facilities for 13 weeks over the summer months, as stated above.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	Beacon Country Club. This is a community owned Club which is adjacent to the bowling green and is used for our Club rooms
Beacon Netball Club	We use the football oval regularly for warm up/fitness purposes and also the Beacon Gym if it's wet weather outside
Beacon Tennis Club	we use the toilets at the beacon sporting complex and the kitchen on tournament days
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	Caravan park units are hired for karters' staying overnight. Fuel facilities. Café & Bennymart - all drinks etc. are brought through the local shop

Other facilities in the Shire utilised occasionally by some of the clubs include the Beacon Country Club (meetings/meals/clubrooms) and the caravan park units (hired by Go-Karters for overnight stays).

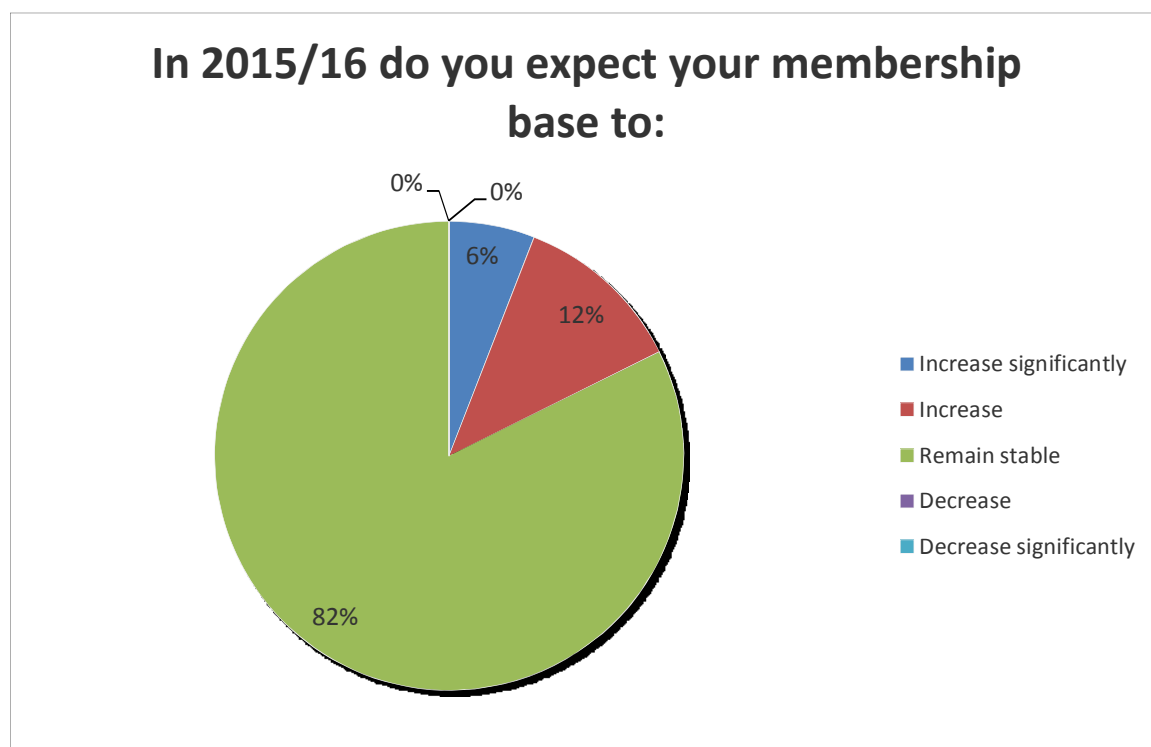
Q6) Please provide your club/organisations membership details

Club	Total membership 2012	Total membership 2013
Beacon Netball Club	26	26
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	15	21
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	25	20
Beacon Hockey Club	28	29
Beacon Tennis Club	33	64
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	12	16
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	40	57
Bencubbin Hockey Club	20	21
Bencubbin Netball Club	26	25
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	27	28
Bencubbin Rifle Club	14	10
Beacon Junior Basketball	36	37
Beacon Football Club	70	68
Dance Club	0	0
Bencubbin Playgroup	22	24
AVERAGES	26.27	29.73

Q7) Please provide the following details for your membership base in 2014

Club	Senior Male members	Senior Female members	Junior members (male and female)	Social/ Other members	Total members
Beacon Football Club	50	18	15		68
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	20	3	2		25
Beacon Hockey Club	0	20		2	22
Beacon Junior Basketball	0	0	36	0	36
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	18	10		2	30
Beacon Netball Club	0	11	11	1	23
Beacon Tennis Club	7	10	10		27
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	8	12		2	22
Bencubbin Hockey Club		22		3	25
Bencubbin Netball Club		14	16	2	30
Bencubbin Playgroup	0	10	16		26
Bencubbin Rifle Club	10	1		2	14
Dance Club			28		28
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	11	3	6	2	21
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	27	19	7	5	58
AVERAGES	19	12	15	2	31

Q8) What do you expect membership numbers to do in 2015/16?

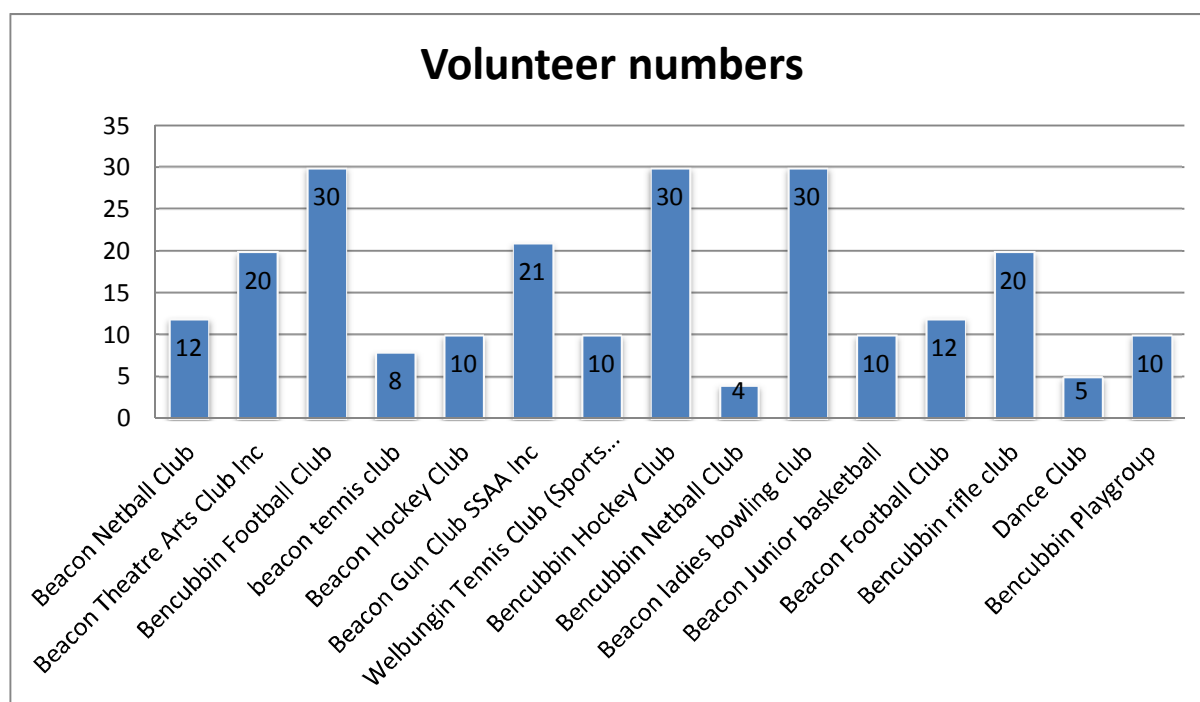


Club	Reason for expected membership trend?
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Increase significantly due to ongoing competition shooting and availability of new disciplines, such as a new skeet range planned and electronic targets planning.
Beacon Hockey Club	Remain stable, As we are having the same difficulties as last year finding players.
Beacon Junior Basketball	Our current numbers are the same as 2014 and we have young children preparing to play in coming years.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	Remain stable as most that are playing will stay around for a while and usually as someone leaves, someone else joins the club
Beacon Netball Club	We will remain fairly stable as our numbers are already very similar to 2014. Our senior and junior players are fairly consistent.
Beacon Tennis Club	the 2013/14 season we had students from the primary school doing tennis as sport during school time which transferred to better numbers on the w/e
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	This year is proposed to be an 'active' year in which a show will be worked on
Bencubbin Football Club	Generally we have the same base of players and supporters.
Bencubbin Hockey Club	The membership base will remain stable because hockey is only one of two sports available for women in Bencubbin to play; we are a really solid group of girls locally.

Bencubbin Netball Club	Over the last 5 years the numbers have remained pretty stable, fluctuating between 25-30 members. They've slightly increased over the last 2 years as we've had a few new senior players come to town however this year we've seen a decrease with Junior numbers as now our Year 7's have left so it means the teams are a lot younger.
Dance Club	Dance lessons are non-existent within a 140 km radius. We started the dance club concept this year with great success. Dance classes are in demand and as word spreads I envisage membership from children in Korda and Trayning too, plus more children from neighbouring towns
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	It has remained at the same level for about 10 years. All of our members are volunteers
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	In 2015/16 we expect our membership to increase as it has for the last 2 years. The indications are that nobody is leaving and the members say that there are other people in the district interested in playing tennis.

The majority of clubs are anticipating overall membership to remain stable over the next year, reflecting recent and medium term stability trends in club membership numbers. Exceptions to this include the recently established Dance Club, which is anticipating an increase in demand and membership numbers as the club establishes itself, and the Beacon Gun Club that offers ongoing competition shooting and is introducing new shooting disciplines. Welbungin Tennis Club is also expecting membership to increase with increased interest shown in the club from the wider community.

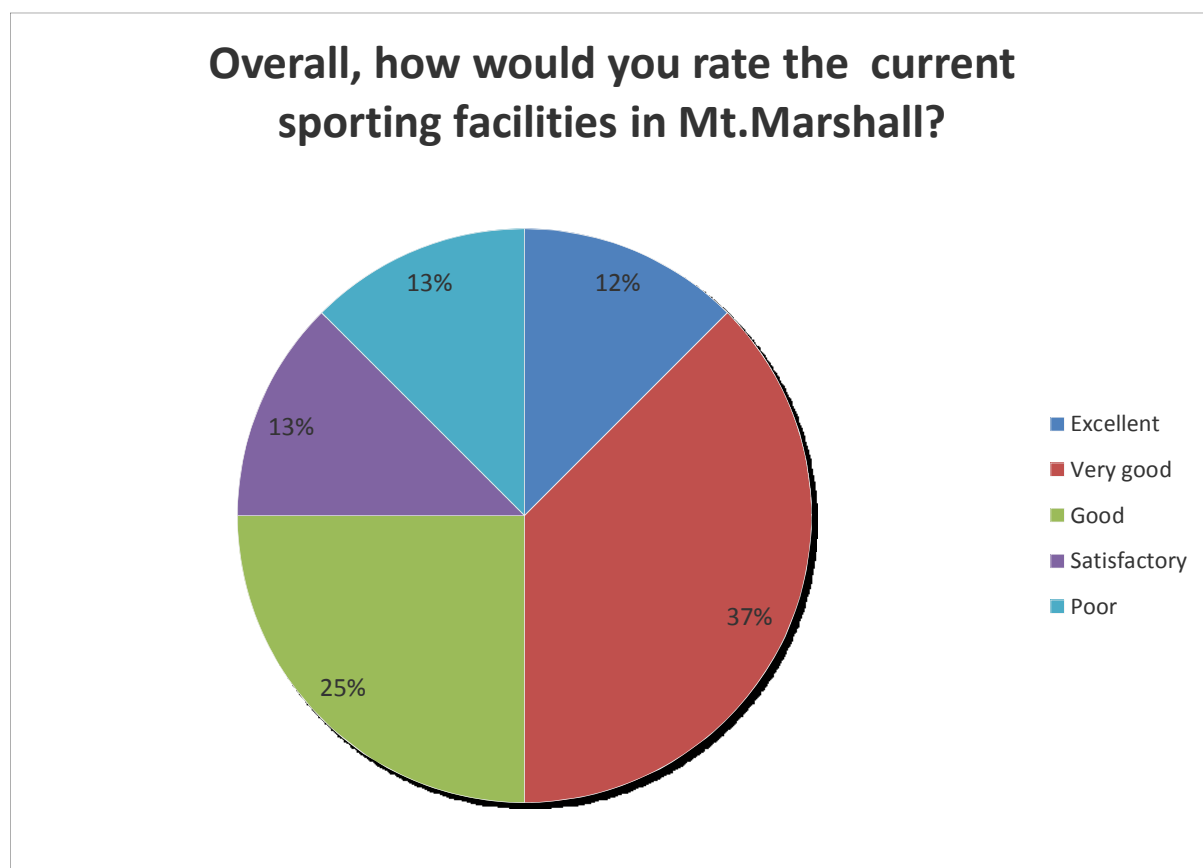
Q9) *How many volunteers are involved with your club/organisation on a regular basis?*



Club	Number of volunteers
Beacon Netball Club	12
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	20
Bencubbin Football Club	30
Beacon Tennis Club	8
Beacon Hockey Club	10
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	21
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	10
Bencubbin Hockey Club	30
Bencubbin Netball Club	4
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	30
Beacon Junior Basketball	10
Beacon Football Club	12
Bencubbin Rifle Club	20
Dance Club	5
Bencubbin Playgroup	10
AVERAGE	15

On average each club has 15 volunteers that are regularly involved in the running of the club.

Q10) Overall, how would you rate the current sporting facilities in Mt. Marshall?



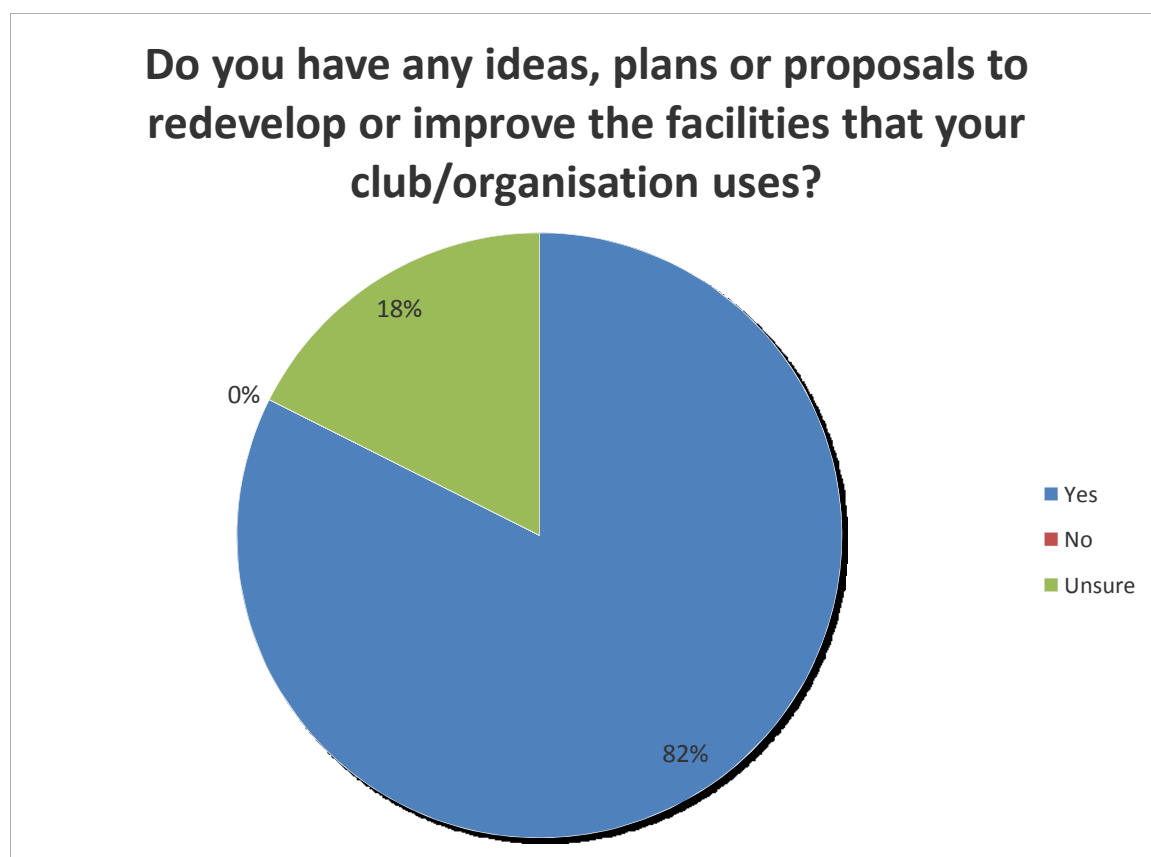
Club	Comment
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Lack of maintenance to our facilities limits the vision of going forward and being competition of attracting families to our lovely shire.
Beacon Hockey Club	Facilities are a bit run down, mainly in beacon. For the number of people and the amount of work we do we have amazing facilities.
Beacon Junior Basketball	We have adequate facilities for our current population. Maintenance is the key.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	The Mt Marshall shire has a good variety of sporting facilities, both shire and community owned and they all need to be maintained
Beacon Netball Club	With recent sporting developments at both Beacon and Bencubbin we feel we are very lucky to have our sporting facilities at such a high standard. We were very lucky recently in 2013 for our new netball courts to be finished and Bencubbin with recent extensions for spectators.
Bencubbin Football Club	The visitors change rooms should be condemned The toilets in the males changerooms are unsuitable

Bencubbin Netball Club	<p>The indoor netball court in Bencubbin is a huge asset to our community; we really enjoy the court and are lucky as we are the only town within an 80km radius that has one.</p> <p>The activities area is less to be desired as we find that there is not enough space in there during functions, so people filter out onto the netball court. Drinks and food spillage, table and chair scratching's all damage our court. We have to sand and seal it once a year before every season which takes about 10 hours and 10-12 volunteers to complete, it's a long day but the court is so much better for it after it's done. The girls also mop and use the auto-washer before and after every game, so a lot of volunteer hours go into looking after it but it's defiantly worthwhile.</p>
Bencubbin Playgroup	Some areas need work
Dance Club	<p>The actual spaces that the main sports are being carried out on - e.g. football oval, netball court and hockey oval are satisfactory but the buildings that exist around them to support excellent sporting and recreational functions are poor, outdated and insufficient.</p> <p>Poor heating and cooling, insufficient space in function room which doubles as an activity space. As an activity space it needs to be bigger to support a range of indoor activities such as dance.</p> <p>Poor spectator space around netball courts.</p> <p>The complex's functionality and visual aspect are poor. It lacks a clear and proud front entrance.</p> <p>The whole complex are not family and child friendly. The children's playground is dangerous and not within parents view during functions or sporting activities. There is no safe children's area indoors for parents to utilise during sporting events and social functions. As a result children are not catered for and it makes the centre unappealing to families.</p> <p>Other town sports facilities such as the pool are in dire need of updating. The golf club is separate to the main sporting complex which isolates this community group.</p>
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	This rating is in relation to the karting facilities. Only as our club does not access the normal sporting facilities by its nature as a motorsport.
Welbungin Tennis Club	Most sports are catered for within the Shire of Mt Marshall

Broadly speaking, existing sporting facilities are valued and considered to be fit for purpose (particularly the sports playing surfaces e.g. ovals, courts, pitches), with 74% rating current facilities either excellent, very good or good. However,

supporting infrastructure, such as changerooms, spectator areas, children's playgrounds and the overall functionality of sporting complexes are identified as being in need of attention. The swimming pool is also identified as a facility requiring refurbishment. Ongoing maintenance of existing facilities is also noted as a key issue to be addressed.

Q11) Do you have any ideas, plans or proposals to redevelop or improve the facilities that your club/organisation uses?



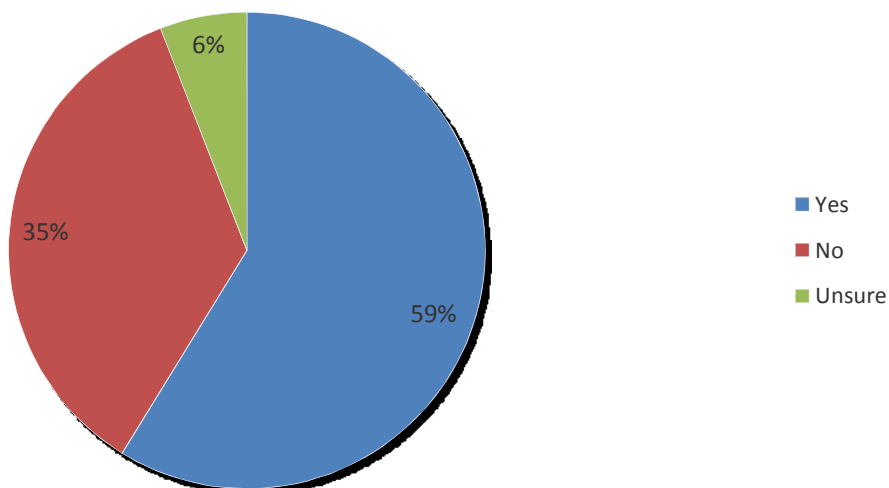
Club	If yes, please describe briefly below
Beacon Football Club	Ongoing maintenance to keep the standard of the facilities good, e.g. fix plumbing issues, retile, recarpet, repaint etc.
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	To Upgrade the Gun Club in Beacon will attract attention from other towns from near and far, as the word passes around, opening up opportunity for our club and the facilities we offer in the shire to benefit from people/tourists to come and visit, and maybe stay. We are receiving good feedback and are currently have 15 members from other shires attending our club.
Beacon Junior Basketball	We need a light under the shed so as the scorers can see. We currently have plans to fill the cracks and paint court 2.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	We need better shade and paving between our club rooms and the new bowling green for spectators to watch bowls from. Need to landscape outside the fence of the new green particularly the south side
Beacon Netball Club	Updating our scoring bench. Seating facilities for both players and spectators need updating.
Beacon Tennis Club	The lights at our tennis courts might need updating in the future

Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	Extend behind stage and add a 'Green room' adjoining change rooms. Calvin Potter has plans for this in his possession.
Bencubbin Football Club	The visitor's changerooms have bare concrete floors that are very slippery when wet. There is broken asbestos that is a huge health risk. The building needs to be condemned. The toilets need to be separated from the change rooms in the complex. At half time when the players are in there, members of the public want to use the toilets. The current activities room is not big enough for functions/dinners after home games. People are forced to sit on the netball court to eat and drink, which damages the courts surface.
Bencubbin Hockey Club	Turf field. More spectator seating, improved sideline sheds and a new fence. There also needs to be a facility for parents to use.
Bencubbin Netball Club	The club is supportive of the CRC's plans to extend and develop the complex but everyone has their own individual opinion so it's a bit hard to have an overall 'Netball club' opinion on the matter.
Bencubbin Playgroup	More shade on exterior of building & new flooring
Bencubbin rifle club	Construct an 800 yard mound. Extensions on our club house. Put up a fence around the boundary.
Dance Club	If the recreation centre was redeveloped, a sufficiently sized activities area could be included in the building. This space could double as a great space for dance as well as other sporting or recreational activities. It could also be a multipurpose space and work as a safe children's space whilst functions are on. If a new building had this space adjacent to a main function room with a bar it would prove to be a valuable addition increasing the overall potential of the facility and the appeal as a great space for other recreational groups and families. Families are the future of our communities and I feel that making their concerns a priority in any new development is paramount.
Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	We have purchased the old ablution block from the caravan park and are intending to install it after seeding at our track. We are also re-aligning our in/out grid in the near future.
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	We do plan to resurface the courts of the Welbungin Tennis Club in the near future.

A number of clubs have ideas for new/enhanced facilities and ongoing maintenance issues, and other clubs raise concerns relating to health/safety and functionality issues with existing facilities.

Q12) Are there any emerging trends, issues or unmet demands that are likely to affect your club/organisation (positive or negative) in the near future?

Are there any emerging trends, issues or unmet demands that are likely to effect your club/organisation (positive or negative) in the near future?



Club	Comment
Beacon Football Club	Declining player base is a real concern, all towns are experiencing this.
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Lack of funds to support growth of our club.
Beacon Junior Basketball	Because there is no senior basketball, our upcoming parents have not learnt to umpire. Umpires are becoming harder to find.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	As the council is reluctant to spend money on facilities that are not shire owned we hope we will not be disadvantaged in regards to future requests as our facilities are community owned and managed by volunteers.
Beacon Hockey Club	Yes we are all getting older and very few young people are coming back to the area.
Beacon Netball Club	Decreasing population makes it hard to find and keep players. Raising funds to keep up with new uniforms and basic equipment costs in order for our club to continue to run effectively.
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	Loss of population

Bencubbin Hockey Club	We have a lot of young families involved but there is nowhere for parents to change, feed and keep their kids safe without disturbing other patrons. With population stabilising volunteers for certain jobs become harder to entice.
Bencubbin Netball Club	The Netball club operates efficiently with the facilities that we have. We do put a lot of our own time into making sure they're kept up to scratch but as we are the prime users of them we do see it as our own responsibility.
Dance Club	<p>There is a real threat of Families leaving our communities due to lack of facilities, opportunities and services. Fewer families mean fewer children attending the class.</p> <p>A positive trend is that has been no private dance lessons offered in our region for the good part of a decade. There is a great demand for dance classes for our children. We have just introduced our concept and have been met with great support and enthusiasm.</p>
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	As stated before the trend for membership may increase, this is a very big positive for the Shire.

Overall, there are concerns raised by several club representatives relating to the impact of the Shire's declining population, loss of families and younger people, resulting in declining club membership and volunteers willing to help support the clubs.

Q13) What (if any) assistance does your club/organisation need to remain viable into the future?

Club	Comment
Beacon Football Club	We need our current facilities to be maintained to a standard that will enable the sport to continue.
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	Funding would be of great assistance to our club. Our club plans to always stay one step in front to remain sustainable.
Beacon Hockey Club	Maintenance work, possibly financial assistance. More young people and may need to cart more surface sand to resurface field. And the boundary fencing is getting old and rusty.
Beacon Junior Basketball	Assistance in maintaining the courts.
Beacon Ladies Bowling Club	We need our club rooms at the Beacon Country Club to be maintained
Beacon Netball Club	Due to decreasing numbers and businesses within our communities fundraising and donations can become quite difficult. Offering more grants for clubs to access would help this.
Beacon Tennis Club	We would like to organise a coach for both senior and junior members. We would like this to include a program for the school as their involvement highly impacts on our social members. We would like to complete the lighting upgrade - the lights on each end have been replaced, but the centre lights also need to be replaced.
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	We appreciate the funding supplied to us in the past by the Shire to assist with expenses of staging our shows and hope this will be ongoing
Bencubbin Football Club	The Football club is self-supporting. We do have some sponsorship and the club plants a crop each year to cover costs.
Bencubbin Netball Club	Sponsorship from our local businesses.
Bencubbin Playgroup	Mainly the maintenance of the building.
Bencubbin Rifle Club	Need to attract new members it the club. Need for all the members and shooters to all help out with the volunteer work, maintenance and running of the Bencubbin rifle club.
Dance Club	Little assistance just parent volunteers.

Mt Marshall & Districts Go-Kart Club	Availability of Shire grader occasionally for track maintenance.
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	The Welbungin Tennis Club will require assistance with the funding of the new playing surface in the near future.

Q14) Additional comments

Club	Additional comment
Beacon Football Club	With safety an ever present concern, the maintenance of the playing surface (oval) is really important, and our facilities need to be kept at a reasonable standard. Across the shire the facilities are more than adequate for our declining population to facilitate our sporting interests.
Beacon Gun Club SSAA Inc.	<p>Electronic targets were installed at the Bencubbin Rifle Club some time ago and would be a great asset to our club, apparently the shire funded this project and we would like to enquire how this was achieved.</p> <p>Thank you for including our Beacon Gun Club on this survey, as we believe that our club will benefit the shire immensely by bringing new people and competition to the shire on a regular basis.</p>
Beacon Junior Basketball	We would like to have a coaching and umpiring clinic to improve our volunteer's skills.
Beacon Tennis Club	We are proud of our facilities and are grateful for the Shire's assistance in the past to assist with the upgrade of the Club Room, Court Surface and Lights. We are also happy to maintain our facilities at this high standard.
Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	The activity of creating and performing theatre arts is a good exercise in teamwork and application. It is good for the physical and mental health of both the performers and the audience.
Bencubbin Football Club	The visitors change rooms require urgent attention. They are unsafe and are viewed very poorly from visiting football sides.
Bencubbin Netball Club	Our fees are the highest of hockey, football and bowls as we have to pay Netball WA and CWNA and our own club affiliations. They've already increased substantially so we are hoping this does not increase.
Dance Club	<p>Whilst I represent the dance club, I also represent an important sector of our community, the mothers, families and children. A good majority of activity that occurs at the recreation centre, both sporting and social functions, are both organised and attended by the women of our community.</p> <p>While sporting activity and social functions are on, women have children present, such as during fitness class or during sports training, during games and during functions. As it stands there is very little in the way of facilities for these children. For instance during dance class, mothers have to sit on the netball court while they wait with their other children. If we were to redevelop I envisage a far more family friendly situation whereby mothers would have a separate space such as in a separate function space where they can get a coffee perhaps and where other children can play safely. A children's playground could be built directly off this function area so viewing of the children is possible, comfortably. During other sporting training and events, the activities room can double as a children's activity area, possibly with a glass wall so parents can</p>

	<p>easily view children. Additionally this space can be used during social functions and other functions such as conferences as a crèche space.</p> <p>Overall our sporting facility is in need of a sufficient function area and separate well sized activities space which will make our function centre not only recreationally friendly but also family friendly and increase the potential and appeal for our building</p>
Welbungin Tennis Club (Sports & Progress)	<p>Welbungin tennis club Est. 1953. The reason that the tennis club is going against the trend of reducing numbers appears to be that we cater for tennis players of all ages. With the little playground the very young see the adults playing on the courts, so at a very young age they carry tennis rackets and try to hit balls. This starts tennis in the very young and continues through the years. The other reason for success at Welbungin is we always have a BBQ tea after tennis and this brings a very social atmosphere. A lot of this is due to the location.</p>

Summary

In total 16 sport and/or recreation clubs responded to the online survey.

Programs and activities conducted in the Shire include football, shooting, hockey, basketball, bowling, netball, tennis, theatre, playgroup, dance, go-karting and gym/fitness.

Of the 16 clubs that responded to the survey, 71% are affiliated with their respective peak bodies/associations.

The main facilities utilised in Beacon are the Beacon Recreation Complex (football oval, gym, hockey oval, basketball, netball and tennis courts), shooting range, bowling green and town hall. The main facilities utilised in Bencubbin are the Bencubbin Recreation Complex (football oval, hockey oval, netball courts and gym), Sturt Pea House, rifle range and recreation centre.

Beyond Beacon and Bencubbin other facilities utilised include the Mount Marshall Districts Go-Kart Track and the tennis courts, hall and playground at Welbungin.

Other facilities in the Shire utilised occasionally by some of the clubs include the Beacon Country Club (meetings/meals/clubrooms) and the caravan park units (hired by Go-Karters for overnight stays).

The majority of clubs are anticipating overall membership to remain fairly stable over the next year, reflecting recent and medium term stability trends in club membership numbers. Exceptions to this include the recently established Dance Club, which is anticipating an increase in demand and membership numbers as the club establishes itself, and the Beacon Gun Club that offers ongoing competition shooting and is introducing new shooting disciplines. Welbungin Tennis Club is also expecting membership to increase with increased interest shown in the club from the wider community.

On average each club has 15 volunteers that are regularly involved in the running of the club.

Broadly speaking, existing sporting facilities are valued and considered to be fit for purpose (particularly the sports playing surfaces e.g. ovals, courts, pitches), with 74% rating current facilities either excellent, very good or good. However, supporting infrastructure, such as changerooms, spectator areas, children's playgrounds and the overall functionality of sporting complexes are identified as being in need of attention. The swimming pool is also identified as a facility requiring refurbishment. Ongoing maintenance of existing facilities is also noted as a key issue to be addressed.

A number of clubs have ideas for new/enhanced facilities and ongoing maintenance issues, and other clubs raise concerns relating to health/safety and functionality issues with existing facilities.

Overall, there are concerns raised by several club representatives relating to the impact of the Shire's declining population, loss of families and younger people, resulting in declining club membership and volunteers willing to help support the clubs.

Other topics raised within the survey include:

- Certain clubs acknowledge and thank the Shire for their support in enhancing their facilities
- Support requested for understanding the process for applying for funding to upgrade existing facilities
- Support requested for conducting coaching/umpiring clinics (upskilling club members)
- Some facilities require urgent attention to address health/safety concerns
- There are a lack of facilities/function area/supporting infrastructure for women and children at the recreation centres – not a family friendly environment.

Appendix 7: Sport & Recreation Clubs–Facility Upgrade Requests

The following table provides a summary of the specific requests that have been made during the consultation process. Identified issues and opportunities have been separated into comments from the community and comments from specific clubs that utilise the specific facility.

Table 1: Facility specific requests

Facility	Source of request	Request
Beacon Bowling Green	Community	Landscaping required for surrounds
		Improved spectator areas (shade/shelter/veranda)
	Beacon Bowling Club	Better shade and paving required between our club rooms and bowling green for spectators
		Landscaping required outside the fence of green (particularly the south side)
		Club room maintenance
Beacon Country Club	Community	Additional support from council to fund required maintenance works
Beacon Gun Club	Community	Facilities upgrade
	Beacon Gun Club	Electronic targets
		New skeet range
		General upgrades/ maintenance required
		Increase funding to support club growth
Beacon Men's Shed	Community	Extend current facility

Facility	Source of request	Request
Beacon Recreation Complex	Community	More money allocated to facility maintenance
		Beacons complex needs to be brought into alignment with the quality Bencubbin has
		Improve general cleanliness of centre
		Fix leaking roof (& associated water damage)
		Paint roof
		Resurface existing outdoor courts
		Improved power supply/transformer
		Plumbing/septic issues (associated with changerooms/toilets)
		Additional assistance in maintaining hockey pitch, oval and lawn areas
		Install hand wash dispensers (toilet and kitchens)
		Replace door locks
		Kitchen redevelopment (additional storage space, new appliances)
		Changeroom/toilets redevelopment
		Improve storage room/space
		Extend centre to accommodate more indoor sports
		Increase activities area/function space

Facility	Source of request	Request
		Develop indoor netball/basketball courts to replace squash courts
		Install solar power
		Install rainwater tanks
		Install lighting for hockey pitch
		Develop cricket nets and area
	Beacon Football Club	Current facilities to be maintained to a standard that will enable the sport to continue (e.g. fix plumbing issues, retile recarpet, repaint etc.)
	Beacon Hockey Club	Maintenance work
		Financial assistance
		Additional surface sand needed to resurface field
		Boundary fencing needs replacement
	Beacon Junior Basketball Association	A light under the shed so the scorers can see
		Currently have plans to fill cracks and paint court 2
		Assistance in maintaining the courts
	Beacon Netball Club	Update our scoring bench and seating facilities for both players and spectators
	Beacon Tennis Club	Complete the lighting upgrade - the lights on each end have been replaced but the centre lights also need to be replaced
Beacon Town Hall	Community	Increased assistance with maintenance
		Painting required
		Polish floors required
		Additional storage/changerooms

Facility	Source of request	Request
	Beacon Theatre Arts Club Inc.	Extend behind stage and add a 'Green room' adjoining change rooms
Bencubbin Golf Course	Community	Upgrade the golf course
Bencubbin Recreation Complex	Community	Improve general cleanliness of centre
		Assistance required with hockey pitch maintenance
		Football oval (uneven, dangerous, poor water management)
		Fix the hill behind the goals
		Changerooms (separate toilets and change facilities, plumbing/hot water, aesthetics)
		Improved kitchen (new appliances, cool room etc.)
		Bigger/more versatile function room/bar space
		Improved public access to basketball/netball courts
		Gym lacks shower facility
		Move kitchen and bar to other end of complex to cater for new bowling facility
		Move pool to recreation complex
		Move caravan park to recreation grounds

Facility	Source of request	Request
		Rationalise existing sporting facilities into rec centre complex (community hub)
		Employ a paid grounds person/centre manager to maintain facility
		Install multi-use synthetic hockey pitch
		Install solar panels
		Provide indoor play area for children
		Install public toilets (open 24hrs)
	Bencubbin Football Club	Visitors change rooms should be condemned (slippery bare concrete floors, asbestos issues)
		The toilets in the males change rooms are unsuitable and should be separate from the change facilities
		Activities room not big enough for functions/ dinners after home games
	Bencubbin Hockey Club	Develop a turf pitch
		More spectator seating
		Improved sideline sheds
		New fence
		Develop a facility for parents to change, feed and keep their kids safe without disturbing other patrons
	Bencubbin Netball Club	The activities area (in rec centre) not adequate. People spill onto the netball court and cause damage to surface increasing maintenance requirements.

Facility	Source of request	Request
	Dance club	Insufficient space in function room /activity space/ children's room
		Redevelop recreation centre to include a sufficiently sized activities area adjacent to a main function room (to double as multi-purpose space for dance and children's space)
		Poor spectator space around netball courts
		Upgrade and relocate children's playground (is dangerous and not within parents view during functions or sporting activities)
		The complex's functionality and visual aesthetics are poor
		Poor heating and cooling
		Develop a clear/proud front entrance to centre
Bencubbin Rifle Club	Bencubbin Rifle Club	Construct 800 yard mound
		Extend our club house
		Put up a fence around site boundary
		General maintenance
Bencubbin Sports Club	Bencubbin Sports Club	Potential to turn the now disused bowling green into some form of golf practice facility (i.e. driving nets and a putting green)
Mt Marshall & Districts Go Kart Club	Mt Marshall & Districts Go Kart Club	We have purchased the old ablution block from the caravan park and are intending to install it after seeding at our track
		Re-alignment of our in/out grid in the near future
		Use of Shire grader occasionally for track maintenance
Mt Marshall Swimming	Community	General upgrades required

Facility	Source of request	Request
Pool		Repair leaks
		Improve water quality
		Replace 50m pool with 25m pool and two smaller program pools
		Install diving board
		Change entrance to northern end of pool
		Redevelop kiosk
		Update the pool
Sturt Pea House	Bencubbin Playgroup	Provide additional shade on exterior of building & new flooring
		Council to assist with general maintenance on building
Welbungin Tennis Courts	Community	Resurface existing courts
		Upgrade court lighting
	Welbungin Tennis Club	Resurface courts (assistance required in funding this)
OTHER	Bencubbin Community	Extend the existing park to incorporate a skate park, youth play equipment and half-court basketball
		Provide tennis courts at the Bencubbin Recreation Complex
		Improve signage for heritage trail, also install seats/benches along trail to assist elderly who would like to walk it
		Develop bush walking paths
		Develop off road cycling paths
		Develop motorbike track

Facility	Source of request	Request
		Develop BMX track
		Develop water sport facilities
		Increased disability access to facilities
	Beacon Community	Develop a swimming pool in beacon
		Improve the skate park (more features)
		Increased disability access to facilities