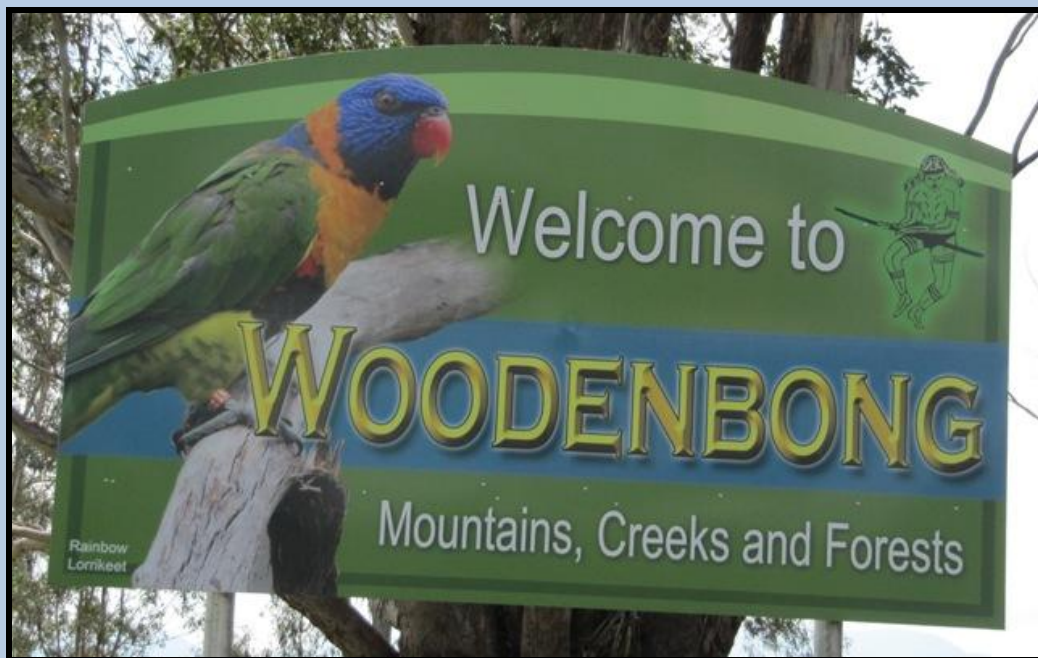


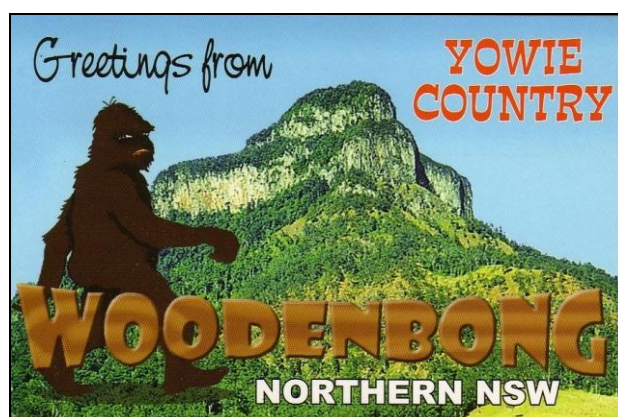
WOODENBONG



COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2010

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Woodenbong and Urbenville Community Action Plan funded by:
TAFE Casino Campus November 2010



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1. WOODENBONG OVERVIEW

Woodenbong is a very proud, small, village near Mt Lindesay in the MacPherson Range/Border Ranges of Northern NSW, 10 km south of the NSW/Queensland state border. It is situated at the north western border of the Kyogle Shire at the edge of the Tenterfield Shire. Woodenbong is 61 km from Kyogle and 143 km from Brisbane or the Gold Coast. The village population in the 1996 Census was 382, in the 2001 Census it dropped to 326 and in the 2006 Census it increased slightly to 332. Total district population including Muli Muli residents is 650. Almost 13% of the area's population is Aboriginal, which is much higher than the state average of 2.2%.

Woodenbong has close ties with the village of Urbenville and the Muli Muli Aboriginal community. Urbenville is situated 13 km south of Woodenbong in the Tenterfield Shire and has a population of 245 people. The village is nestled at the foot of the imposing volcanic plug of Coutts Crown Mountain and has a range of beautiful old buildings.

Woodenbong has strong links with Urbenville due to their location and proximity and shared community interests, for example the high school is located in Woodenbong and the hospital and ambulance service is located in Urbenville. However, there are some major challenges such as the involvement of two Councils, their remoteness and lack of power to lobby for issues such as road improvements, management of public lands, provision of infrastructure and economic development. In recent years tourism has emerged as an economic driver and both villages have looked for opportunities to capitalise on this industry.

The villages are situated in a very picturesque area nestled among mountain peaks and valleys, remnants of the Focal Peak volcano which has been extinct for 24 million years. They are in the proximity of a number of National Parks and World Heritage areas which include the Border Ranges National Park, Koreelah National Park, Toonumbar National Park and Mount Warning National Park in NSW. They are also accessible to the Lamington National Park, Mount Barney National Park and Springbrook National Park in Queensland. The surrounding rainforests are reputed to be the home of the Yowie and Woodenbong trades on the legend of this mythical creature and are known as "Yowie Country".

Muli Muli is situated midway between the two villages and has a population around 200. They are proud of their traditional links and much of their traditional oral history is still alive, including aspects of the Githabul language and use of traditional meats such as turtle, kangaroo, echidna, fish, goanna and bush turkey. Children attend the Woodenbong Preschool, Urbenville or Woodenbong Primary schools and the secondary department of Woodenbong Central School. Some adults also attend adult education classes. The Muli Muli Local Aboriginal Lands Council is active in the community, overseeing building projects and negotiating on issues such as water quality upgrades and sewerage. They have a Youth Club, Ladies Aboriginal Corporation, Gospel Church, Area Health Service, hall and a community bus.

Muli Muli is located on a north facing hill with beautiful views from every household and good infrastructure within the community. Woodenbong Central School has one of the highest levels of Aboriginal student achievement in the state, with many students going through to year 12. However, many young people are reluctant to leave their safe and comfortable existence and with the lack of job opportunities in the area, they 'drop out' and fail to achieve their potential.

Before white settlement, semi-nomadic Aborigines from the Githabul tribe inhabited the area, living as hunter gatherers. They were granted native title rights over some national parks with the signing of the Githabul Treaty at the Woodenbong Common in November 2007. The Githabul Native Title was the first time in NSW that a local Aboriginal tribe was able to prove that they still openly practiced their tribal laws and ancient culture.

Gold was found at Tooloom around 1858 and attracted many fossickers to the gold fields. By 1876 the gold was unattainable and many people drifted away, but some stayed and took up parcels of land in the Urbenville and Woodenbong areas, conducting dairying and farming on the rich soils. In the late 1890s Woodenbong was a small settlement situated on the crossroads as a thoroughfare between Tenterfield and Kyogle, servicing the teams that were driving pigs and cattle to market. Timber also became a main player at this time. It was officially declared a village in 1908 and celebrated its Centenary recently in 2008.

Woodenbong has a variety of businesses, services and a large number of community groups servicing the village such as the rural fire brigade, wildlife information and rescue, showground committee, joint SES, craft group, public hall committee, RSL sub-branch and women's auxiliary, CWA, and a proactive Progress Association that runs many of the village's projects, including maintaining the camping grounds. They raise funds for non profit groups through events and other activities and often committees and community members unite to take the best advantage of these fundraising opportunities. Woodenbong also has a swimming pool with a swimming club, recreation reserve and town common. There is a very scenic 9 hole Golf Club and a tennis club with court hire, campdraft and pony clubs and social groups. A home grown volunteer run movie theatre at the Woodenbong Public Hall is a regular attraction for the locals. Numerous churches cater to the residents, a mobile library services the village weekly and a council refuse tip is located on the edge of the village.

There is a preschool and an excellent central school going through from Kindergarten to year 12 that offers a high standard of education, particularly in agriculture and IT. The school has an excellent principal that is highly qualified with a doctorate in science. He and the teachers are well respected and the school has a very good reputation. They have always attended the Brisbane EKKa competing with steers, sheep and an agricultural display, so the students of this small village have always had contact with the larger outside world. The young people have a strong sense of belonging to the area and as a result, many would prefer to remain. At present however, options for employment of youth are very limited. The majority of young people are forced to leave the area to access further education and find paid work. However, there is very little unemployment in the rest of the community.

Woodenbong's business district is scattered along two main roads interspersed with residential houses. The main road in MacPherson Street is divided by a wide grassed section that could be landscaped with trees, shrubs, seating and shade and also used to delineate the central business area. Businesses include groceries, butcher, a community thrift shop, arts and crafts, Thrifty-T food market with take away foods, café, hair salon, picture framer, web designer, National Bank, post office, hotel with accommodation, Mitre 10 Hardware, Retrovision electrical store, garage with mechanical repairs, NRMA including a newsagency, mobile LPG and air conditioning specialist, panel shop, a chemist and a medical practice four afternoons a week, two steel fabrication engineering businesses, a manned Police Station and bus services. Trades include builders, carpenter, earthmoving, electricians, fencing contractors, harness maker, maintenance services, house painter, mobile massage and sports therapist including health and beauty services, healing therapist and physiotherapist.

Woodenbong has a rich community life. They don't particularly want more people to live there as they know everyone and are happy with their lifestyle, although they would like to service more visitors and develop employment opportunities. There is a noticeable lack of the usual town politics found in most communities, everyone gets on well together and they live in harmony.

On a map Woodenbong looks like it is isolated, but in reality it is reasonably close to several major centres, including shopping and agricultural links to Warwick, Killarney and Beaudesert. They have closer links with Kyogle than other villages in the Upper Clarence region. Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the beach are also within easy access of two hours. The village has attracted people from Brisbane to buy houses and there is some demand for small rural blocks.

Woodenbong has a lot of young families and some of the children who grew up in the village have managed to create jobs such as fencing or corn harvesting, though most of the gaps are now filled. The local farmers are pretty 'switched on' and know what they're doing, so agricultural opportunities will not increase as they are already doing everything they can to make the most of their rich soils. The village's median per capita income is slightly higher than Kyogle.

Woodenbong can benefit from tourism by increasing visitation to the village. The proximity to the Queensland border is a great opportunity, with road links via the Mt Lindesay Highway north to Beaudesert and Brisbane or west through to Warwick. The Mt Lindesay Highway is developing as a tourism route from South East Queensland. Legume Road, if it were upgraded, has the potential to create a tourism link from the Darling Downs.

Many people in the communities see the key to the future of the area, in terms of economic and job creation opportunities, as being linked to nature based tourism that complements and promotes their environment, unique scenic beauty and rural way of life. However, others see the public lands as a hazard to rural land management with weeds and fire control in publicly owned lands as areas of concern.

Woodenbong and Urbenville communities are currently grappling with a major issue of plantation developments. These developments originally started in the region in 1994 with State Forests, but a few years later they wound down their operations and allowed commercial operators to take over the development of plantations.

Forest Enterprises Australia (FEA) started buying properties in the area. They eventually stopped buying properties and took up leases on properties instead. Unfortunately for the remaining farmers land prices increased and so did rates, in some cases dramatically. Some predict a prolonged period of re-adjustment in rural land prices.

When Great Southern Plantations went bust in the Mallanganee area, people started having concerns about the plantations in the Woodenbong/Urbenville area. It came to light that the plantations were developed as a tax minimisation scheme with little thought for productivity and many argued that the plantation companies had planted the wrong species of trees in the wrong sites. The main species of white gum that is planted (60%) has no identified market. It grows quickly, uses up the site nutrients, becomes prone to insect attack and collapses.

The industry is blaming the global financial crises as there is less demand for people to minimise their tax liabilities. FEA has a large debt from purchasing land and the banks have foreclosed on them as they couldn't meet their repayments. However, the problem is complex. One company bought or leased the land and another company managed the plantations on behalf of individual investors. These investors owned the trees so they could say they were in forestry to minimise their tax burden.

The banks foreclosed on the company that owns the land and appointed receivers to the company that manages the trees. In the case of leased land, there is a land holder involved as well who is now not receiving any revenue for the leases – but they can't knock over the trees as they don't own them. There are currently many legal issues to be sorted out, but meanwhile arable land and incomes have been lost, which impacts on the community, the villages in the area and the survival of other businesses with a domino effect.

In order to reduce weed control and costs, plantation companies progressively increased the planting density from 1200 to 1800 per hectare. The plantings are so dense that good quality timber cannot be grown without thinning and there is now no money to do this, so the trees are only low value timber suitable for wood chipping. As the world-wide demand for wood chip is largely met, decisions need to be made about what to do with the estimated 900,000 tons of standing timber in the plantations. For example, a feasibility study could be conducted to see if the timber could be used to produce gas to power small scale electricity turbines and produce bio

char as an end product – a ‘biomass generator’ could maximise plantation products and possibly resolve power supply issues - or a factory could be built to produce reconstituted timber products such as MDF. Any suggestions that use the plantation timber should be investigated to utilise the resources and provide local employment opportunities.

Four wheel drive enthusiasts and bike riders have been attracted to the area for many years, especially from South East Queensland. The expansion of urban areas has lessened riding areas, so they have been ‘crossing the border’ to ride. A commercial operator was approached by local communities to establish an event for the dirt bike riders who visited the area. The Australian Dirt Bike Adventures holds four events throughout the year in conjunction with the Urbenville and Woodenbong communities. The events are professionally run and done well. The two communities feed and accommodate attendees of the events and have had excellent economic and social benefits from them, distributing profits amongst their community groups and services.

There may be a decrease in dirt bike riding upon the completion of facilities at Wyaralong, 48km southwest of Brisbane. A dam is being built and 1800 adjoining acres have been identified for a riding facility with \$1.6 million to be spent on off-road motor tracks, kid’s tracks and dual purpose trails for horse riding and mountain bikes, with bushwalking, camping, canoeing etc.

The road bikes have used the area for many years, especially the winding road over Mount Lindsay. They are a lucrative market for Woodenbong and Urbenville to target as many road bikers are middle aged executives who ride expensive machines for recreation on weekends, especially from South East Queensland. Production of a road bike touring map and brochure in conjunction with other towns in the region could generate more visitations from this market. For example, Woodenbong could position itself as a motor cycle friendly town and develop services for day visitors, such as a healthy cafe using local products, providing quality coffee, snacks and picnic hampers. If they produced the brochure they could coordinate the project and funding and ensure they are positioned on the map as a major stopping point with services listed. For example, one of the routes could show the map with a short loop through Bonalbo, Tabulam and the renowned winding road up the mountain from Drake to Tenterfield and back to Woodenbong up the Mt Lindsay Road. A longer loop could wind from Tenterfield to Stanthorpe and Warwick and either through Ipswich to Brisbane or Beaudesert to the Gold Coast. Seed funding can be used to establish the first brochure and these towns can be invited to participate in the production of the brochure for the on-going sustainability of the project.

Another excellent target market is grey nomads, caravans and RVs. As Woodenbong already has camping grounds and a grey water dump, they have the ability to become a designated RV friendly town with the subsequent signage and marketing opportunities to this market. It would be helpful to complete a tourism marketing plan to identify other appropriate target markets, product development and marketing opportunities. Increasing visitation to the village ensures the viability of current businesses and provides opportunities for new businesses and employment.

Woodenbong and Urbenville have historically had a strong alliance with the timber industry. Ford Timbers had mills in both villages and used to employ 99 people. When the timber industry declined, the Woodenbong milling section was closed and used for dry timber and planeing. The Urbenville mill was used for milling timber before passing it on to the Woodenbong mill. Employment levels were down to 25-30 people, however in recent weeks in November 2010 Ford Timbers went into liquidation. At the time of writing the impacts of this loss are unknown, but it will be a major blow to these communities. If more families are lost to the area, Urbenville’s school numbers could be threatened and other businesses will suffer from the loss of jobs and wages.

The villages have always been dependent on agriculture and like many other rural towns this sector has been in decline for many years. The area’s problems have been exacerbated by deregulation and government decisions that have decimated the dairy and timber industries.

Greedy investors established unsuitable tree plantations, taking over large tracts of arable land for schemes that were not focused on proper farming practices nor were they in the interests of local stakeholders. The end result is appalling, with the environment and local communities paying the price.

The towns and villages in the area – that include Bonalbo, Old Bonalbo, Urbenville and Woodenbong – need support by state and federal governments to turn the potential loss of the local mills and the threat of the plantations into an opportunity that will provide better environmental outcomes and employment opportunities for the locals. All efforts should be made towards developing a new industry to manage and utilise the plantation timbers into the future, with support from government to assist with vital economic development initiatives.



Woodenbong village



southern entry to the village



2. THE ROLE OF THE ACTION PLAN

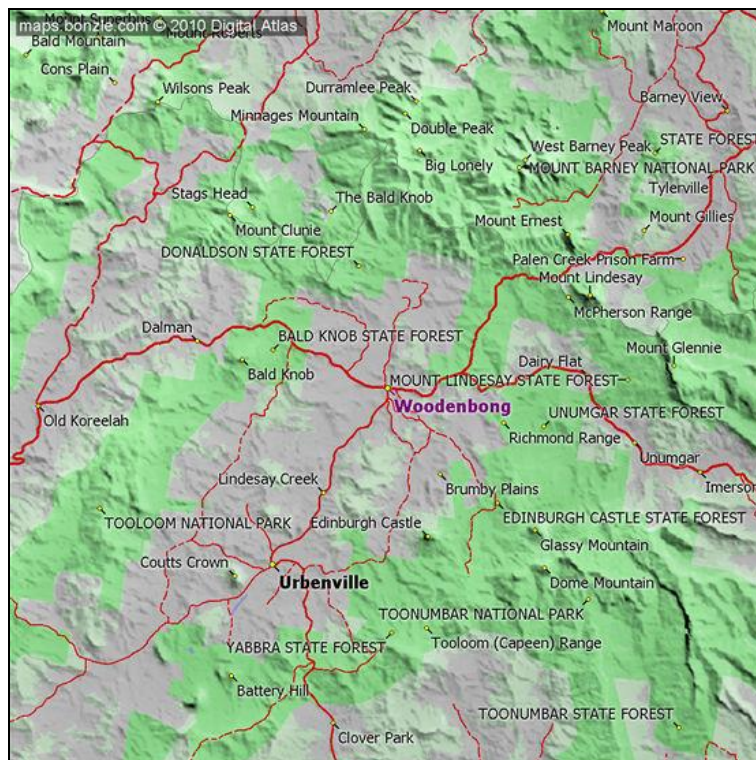
The role of this document is to:

- Act as a framework to direct the development of the community program
- Facilitate cooperative working relationships between the community, businesses, Council and other external partners
- Formalise the goals and objectives of the community in relation to its economic and social future

The plan is divided into the following three categories:

1. Where are we now?
 - Woodenbong Overview
 - SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)
 - Values Statement
2. Where do we want to go?
 - Vision and Mission Statements
3. How are we going to get there?
 - Key Result Areas
 - Issues
 - Projects

The Plan contains vision and mission statements and a set of strategic priorities and objectives that have been developed to guide the community program over the next 3-4 years.



3. COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS

As a small, isolated community, Woodenbong has always been resilient and self reliant and have always fundraised for local non-profit groups. Recent community achievements have included the following – note that actions of Woodenbong Progress Association are marked [WPA]

- Signature event with trail rides, fireworks, live bands, kid's entertainment, massages etc
- Catering to two annual bike riding events in Woodenbong (ie 1,500 people for the weekend)
- \$2650 raised for the Helicopter Rescue donation [WPA] + HOY ladies donations
- Show Ground upgrades - power, coldroom, fencing, building lining
- Training of RFS for traffic control- \$3700 (Twice) [WPA]
- Half basketball court installed [WPA]
- Woodenbong Pre-School - raised \$1000 for new toilets [WPA]
- Community water grants
- Purchased two Defibrillator units for community use plus training- \$5200 [WPA]
- Raised \$2000 for Woodenbong Central School for EKKA Promotion and Football State Finals trip for WCS students. [WPA]
- Many Locals involved in promoting whole region at Brisbane & Sydney shows
- Raised \$1000 to Woodenbong Swimming Club for lap top [WPA]
- Raised \$2000 to Cross Roads Ministry for matching funding to obtain grant to establish the Op Shop [WPA]
- Established the shelter area in Camping ground/Recreation Ground [WPA]
- Raised \$10,000 for the Woodenbong Golf club to remain open [WPA]
- Other events- Annual Show, Car Rally, Campdraft, Cutting.
- Designing and selling "Yowie" souvenirs and local books to promote the region [WPA]
- Donation of \$10,000 to Woodenbong Rural Fire Service for new training room [WPA]
- Ongoing operating and maintaining of the camping ground for visitors [WPA]
- Established start-up funding and developed the regular "Woodenbong Yowie Country Market"
- Designed and developed a Business Directory and Tourism Guide including map, printing and distribution [WPA]
- Magnet backed calendars designed, printed and distributed to advertise market events and village area accommodation
- Woodenbong Arts Group Inc. (WAG) established.
- WAG Exhibition in Roxy Gallery Kyogle in November 2010
- Establish a new roof for the RSL Hall
- Established the wooden Yowie cut out for photo opportunities at the rest stop at the Woodenbong Public Hall grounds.

4. SWOT

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low crime/safe • Good quality water and sewerage • Resources are readily available • Good social structure • Local creative arts and crafts • Good Council rep • Excellent breeder cattle country • Community is active • Make your own fun – cheap entertainment • Movies are volunteer run • Good ACE • Great schools • Central school - excellence in Agriculture and quality of teaching staff • Stadium & Community Room at school • Quality showground • Geographic location 2 hours from everywhere • Hard working volunteers • Stunning scenery • Great place to raise a family • Golf course, halls, bank, joint SES, fire brigades • Camping Grounds and swimming pool • Generous community – welcoming • Bus between local villages (Urbenville) • Policeman in each village • Proximity to Border Ranges/Rainforest Way • Existing stable local business • Innovative technical expertise – dynamic engineering – high skills level • Excellent work ethic • Churches • Youth quality and community minded • Generations work together to further community development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of employment • Roads and road safety eg Legume Road • Limited accommodation • Surrounded by boundaries – State / Shire • Borders are barriers eg get Qld TV news • Politically isolated – safe seat • Daylight saving • Tree plantations – <u>less</u> families, \$ in town, employment, farming diversification • Inconsistent power supply – brown outs • Lack of childcare under 3 years • Brain drain as youth leave to find work • No new land releases, so no room for any expansion opportunities • Ageing volunteer population • Lack of curb and guttering, lots of eroded open drains • Lack of walking/riding trails • Lack of houses for rent
THREATS	OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire • Sustainability – business succession • Abandoned plantation forests – what to do with timber, how to manage the land - no \$ • Rules/regulations to inhibit business growth • Youth leaving for employment • Withdrawal/loss of government services • Closure of the mill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise use of existing facilities • Promote Woodenbong to wider audience • Driver reviver tourism opportunity • Crown lands /NPWS/Community Business partnership • Work with partners to increase tourism - increase the number and yield from tourists • Promotion of town at shows eg EKKA • Value add to accommodation – quality home/farm stay training • Tourist drives • Expansion of industry / value adding • Increase the range of activities and sightseeing • Develop more infrastructure for tourism • Need a good coffee shop • No tourism signage • Develop community and partnerships/trust – team work to develop tourism opportunities • Street beautification • Road going through – create a sense of arrival and a reason to stop • Market to RV tours and road bikes, bus travel companies

5. VALUES, VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

5.1 Community Values Statement

A Community Values Statement defines the basic core values and beliefs that are honoured by the community. It identifies past and present values that need to be retained in a future vision.

“Woodenbong value their friendly, close and proactive community, their quality agricultural area, beautiful scenery and safe, rural lifestyle”

5.2 Community Vision Statement

A Community Vision Statement is a statement from the heart of how a community wishes their situation will become as an ‘ideal’ situation for the future. It is a simple statement that is easy to remember and is written in the present tense to encourage positive affirmation and motivation to make the vision a reality.

“Woodenbong has sustainable businesses, tourism, environment and ‘green’ energy; they have a close, supportive, proactive community, beautiful village and a safe and happy rural lifestyle”

5.3 Community Mission Statement

A Community Mission Statement states the community program’s purpose or role. It is an action statement of what needs to be done to reach the vision. The following statement was formed from the aims of each group:

To create employment by developing tourism, business, marketing and training;
Beautify the village and upgrade facilities, infrastructure and environment;
Develop opportunities for events, activities, aged care and youth

6. KEY RESULT AREAS AND ISSUES

The following key result area headings were used for the action plan:

- Business, Tourism and Training
- Physical Development
- Social Development

The following issues that affect the Woodenbong community were identified (in no specific order):

- Tourism Development
- Business Development
- Marketing
- Training
- Beautify the Village
- Community Facilities and Amenities
- Signage
- Upgrade Roads
- Upgrade and Maintain the Environment
- Events, Sport and Activities
- Community and Aged Care Services
- Youth

Achievable short, medium and long term community projects were planned to address each issue. Timeframes for projects to commence are identified approximately by the following:

- short = first year
- medium = second year
- long = third year or later



Muli Muli Health and Community Centre

7. PROJECT PLANNING

7.1 BUSINESS, TOURISM AND TRAINING

Aims:

To create employment by developing small business, tourism, marketing and training opportunities

Issues:

- Tourism Development
- Business Development
- Marketing
- Training

Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Tourism Development	EKKA murals	Use the EKKA displays as tourist attraction murals, adding new displays each year – coat with resin for longevity. Include Woodenbong Arts Group (WAG) and Youth Group from Urbenville	short
	Child Yowie	Establish a shorter Yowie beside the large one at the village rest stop to accommodate children	short
	Road bike trail	Develop a road bike trail with brochure and map with Woodenbong as the main stop for lunch, supplies or gifts and souvenirs. Seek initial seed funding and work with participating villages and towns on the route for on-going brochure development and distribution	short
	Upgrade Woodenbong campgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote use of the waste dump to RVs Beautify and landscape the camping grounds where required Develop cabins using 'green' energy and practices (refer to Boomi camping grounds west of Boggabilla – establish links). 	short - long
	Rest stop picnic areas	Develop picnic areas as rest stops with shade, tables and seating and easy parking for RVs and caravans	medium
	RV friendly town opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek accreditation from the CMCA (Campervan and Motor Club of Australia) as a Recreational Vehicle Friendly town (RVF) and establish appropriate signage leading to and in the village and caravan park Explore opportunities to work with other RVF towns in the wider regions and develop and promote touring routes with them Bid for caravan, campervan and motorhome rallies to be held in Woodenbong 	medium - long
	More accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a small motel or large B&B in Woodenbong or develop home stays 	long

Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Business Development	NAB eftpos machine	Lobby NAB to establish an eftpos ATM machine at the National Bank in Woodenbong	short
	Work for the Dole labour	Lobby to use Work for the Dole labour to assist with community projects	short
	Mill sites	If the mill sites close, seek funding and government assistance to determine the best use of the mill sites	short
	New industry	Seek funding with other villages in the area for a feasibility study to use the timber from plantations to establish a new industry and employment eg producing bio char or an MDF factory.	short-long
	Small business mentor program	Establish a panel of mentors (include financial and marketing skills) to encourage locals to establish new small or micro businesses at home or in the village. Investigate funding and other mentor programs.	medium - ongoing
	Develop youth employment	Develop opportunities to establish employment for local youth, eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote school-based or youth traineeships and apprenticeships – encourage local businesses and opportunities in Kyogle • establish a youth and retiree linking program where retirees mentor youth eg one afternoon per week to make products or mentor for business etc • encourage youth participation in the small business mentor program, where possible 	medium - ongoing
	'Green' energy model	Establish Woodenbong as a model 'green village' with solar and alternate energy – investigate Bingara and other towns establishing alternative energy models	medium - long
Marketing	Tourism marketing plan	Develop a tourism marketing plan for Woodenbong and Urbenville – seek funding from I&I NSW	short
	Image library	Establish an image library for Woodenbong and surrounding areas to use in all marketing materials eg from the annual photographic competition (refer to Events section) or attract university photography students as part of their course eg Queensland College of Arts, Griffith Gold Coast	on-going
	Marketing materials	Develop appropriate marketing materials eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tourism brochure with local activities and camping - promote to RV and road bike tours as an RV and bike friendly town, distribute through regional NSW and SE Queensland visitor information centres • Community, Business and Lifestyle brochure to attract 'tree change' residents and new businesses • other materials identified in the tourism plan 	short - long
	Camping listed on websites	Ensure the Woodenbong and Urbenville camping areas are listed on relevant camping websites and maintain with up to date information and good images: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full camping and facilities on a separate page on the Woodenbong website for both villages • Council website with link to Woodenbong website • appropriate regional tourism websites • RV and touring road bike websites 	medium

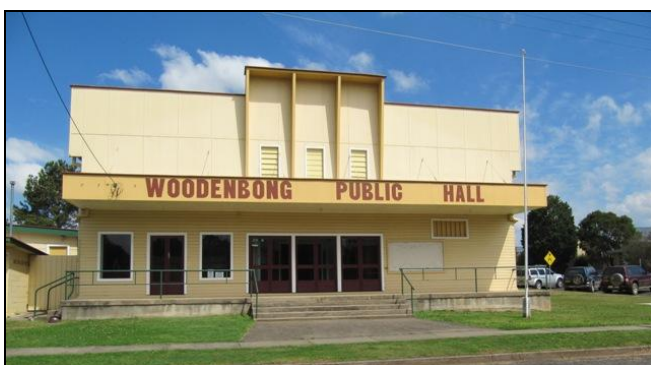
Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Training	Short training programs	Develop short training programs to encourage business development and employment in the village and region eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate statement of attainments in hospitality, customer service and food preparation • certificates for OH&S, first aid, RSA and RCG • entrepreneur/small business training • event management • conservation land management • 'green' training 	short - medium
	Community courses	Develop community courses at the hall, lobby TAFE for Outreach funding where appropriate eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • art and pottery • massage • yoga • dance classes • lobby to continue the driver training at the school and for Aboriginal learners 	short - medium



Visitors at information board, public toilets and rest stop



Yowie photo opportunity at the rest stop



Woodenbong Public Hall



Woodenbong camping grounds

7.2 PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Aims:

To beautify the village and upgrade community facilities and amenities, signage, tracks, roads and the environment

Issues:

- Beautify the Village
- Community Facilities and Amenities
- Signage
- Develop Walks and Tracks
- Upgrade Roads
- Upgrade and Maintain the Environment

Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Beautify the Village	Telegraph poles	Decorate the telegraph poles, involve youth, community and Muli Muli	short
	Upgrade village entries	Upgrade the gardens and landscaping at the three village entrances - include 'welcome to Githabul country' signage at the Queensland entry.	short
	Streetscape Plan	Establish a Streetscape Plan for the main street and a regular maintenance plan	short
	Main street beautification	Beautify the main street, especially the centre landscaping to include shade and seating in the section where the road divides. Lobby Council for a beautification budget.	medium - long
Community Facilities and Amenities	Upgrade the showground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade the showground floor and kitchen • Establish toilets and showers for bike events 	short – medium
	Fire Brigade room	Completion a training room for the Fire Brigade	short
	RSL hall upgrades	Upgrade the RSL Hall floor coverings and kitchen	short
	Access ramps	Establish accessibility ramps around the village and into venues for the elderly or disabled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an audit, identify and prioritise ramp requirements, including the hall and golf club • Investigate funding and establish ramps 	short – medium
	SES upgrades	Establish relevant equipment for the SES, including a laptop and training for SES staff	short - medium
	Community garden	Establish a community garden for vegetables and fruit in Woodenbong and in Muli Muli	medium
	Edible garden landscaping	Establish a village 'edible garden' of fruit trees on community common land	medium
	Public Hall upgrades	Replace the roof and upgrade the kitchen in the hall, disability ramps	medium
	New land release	Lobby local farmers to open up land for re-zoning (as per land identified in Council's recently completed strategy) to provide new land releases for expansion opportunities in and around the village	medium - long
	Golf Club upgrades	Assist the Golf Club to establish disabled toilet access and an upgraded kitchen	long
	Disabled pathways	Establish disabled pathways and access around the village	long

Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Signage	Business signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local businesses to upgrade the business signage at their premises, where appropriate Investigate the possibilities of establishing business signage on the village approaches to inform visitors of approaching available services 	medium
	Directional signage	Upgrade or establish more directional signage to public toilets, village amenities, camping etc	medium
Develop Walks and Tracks	Nature history walk	Develop a nature and history walk	medium
	Motor bike track	Develop a youth motor bike track	long
Upgrade Roads	Upgrade internal roads	Lobby Council in a submission to their yearly plan of management to bitumen the following internal roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lanes Back road to the golf Club 	short - medium
	Upgrade external roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review opportunities with other villages to establish Clarence Way as a state regional road. Lobby with other communities to upgrade from Woodenbong to Bonalbo, unsafe, rough surface, especially for the school bus route and tourism route Urbenville to Legume Road – steep drop offs, needs resurfacing for school bus route and potential tourism route 	medium
Upgrade and Maintain the Environment	Wetland repair	Develop appropriate wetland repair	short
	Conservation Land Management Training Centre	Establish a Conservation Land Management Training Centre for Urbenville and Woodenbong.	short
	Bush Regeneration Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a riparian nursery and trainees for bush regeneration. Include the construction and implementation of bat and bird boxes when planting trees Under the Plantation and Reafforestation approvals for plantations, growers are required to maintain retained areas for “conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of ecological integrity”. Lobby I&I to ensure compliance. 	short
	Environment Club	Establish an Environment Club with ‘green’ training and projects that can also tie in with local agriculture – investigate partnership with the school	medium



Entry to Woodenbong from the West



Divided main street shopping precinct

7.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Aims:

To develop opportunities for events, activities, aged care and youth

Issues:

- Events, Sport and Activities
- Community and Aged Care Services
- Youth

Issue	Projects	Key Tasks	Time frame
Events, Sport and Activities	Junior golf competition	Develop a competition for junior golfers at the Golf Club	short
	Photographic competition	Establish an annual photographic competition with different categories (kids, youth, adults) and focus each year – use images in all marketing materials. Refer to Brunswick Heads competition.	medium
	Flagship event	Develop a flagship event for Woodenbong	medium
	Touch football club	Start up a touch football club – preference to no out sport days on the last Saturday of every month to coincide with the markets	medium
	Cricket club	Establish a cricket club	long
Community and Aged Care Services	Family day care	Establish Family Day care for under 3 y o children at Woodenbong	short
	Self care aged care units	Establish self care aged care units under a body corporate to cater to local aged self care needs before moving onto aged care at Urbenville – investigate land next to pre-school. Prepare prospectus and call for expressions of interest.	medium
Youth	Youth action group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a youth survey and ask youth what they want • Establish a list of activities (eg regular movies, digital film project etc) and a Youth Action Group of interested youth – possibly run through the school • Establish adult mentors to assist youth to develop their own projects – match retirees with youth in a linking program where possible • Work with youth and teach them to seek funding for appropriate projects eg Indent for a youth music festival and event management training 	short
	Youth activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a bike and skate park • Develop a BMX bike track 	medium

8. SUMMARY OF PROJECTS

BUSINESS, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT		
Issue	Projects	Timeframe
Tourism Development	EKKA murals	short
	Child Yowie	short
	Road bike trail	short
	Upgrade Woodenbong campgrounds	short - long
	Rest stop picnic areas	medium
	RV friendly town opportunities	medium - long
	More accommodation	long
Business Development	NAB eftpos machine	short
	Work for the Dole labour	short
	Mill sites	short
	Small business mentor program	medium - ongoing
	Develop youth employment	medium - ongoing
	'Green' energy model	medium - long
Marketing	Tourism marketing plan	short
	Image library	on-going
	Marketing materials	short - long
	Camping listed on websites	medium
Training	Short training programs	short - medium
	Community courses	short - medium
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT		
Beautify the Village	Telegraph poles	short
	Upgrade village entries	short
	Streetscape Plan	short
	Main street beautification	medium - long
Community Facilities and Amenities	Upgrade the showground	short – medium
	Fire Brigade room	short
	RSL hall upgrades	short
	Access ramps	short – medium
	Disabled pathways	long
	SES upgrades	short - medium
	Community garden	medium
	Edible garden landscaping	medium
	New land release	medium - long
	Hall upgrades	long
	Golf Club upgrades	long
Signage	Business signage	medium
	Directional signage	medium
Develop Walks and Tracks	Nature history walk	medium
	Motor bike track	long
Upgrade Roads	Upgrade internal roads	short - medium
	Upgrade external roads	medium
Upgrade and Maintain the Environment	Wetland repair	short
	Conservation Land Management Training Centre	short
	Bush Regeneration Nursery	short
	Environment Club	medium

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT		
Issue	Projects	Timeframe
Events, Sport and Activities	Junior golf competition	short
	Photographic competition	medium
	Flagship event	medium
	Touch football club	medium
	Cricket club	long
Community and Aged Care Services	Family day care	short
	Self care aged care units	medium
Youth	Youth action group	short
	Youth activities	medium



Bike events



Yowie Markets

