

Advocacy

There are some improvements that we would like to see that will require community support to advocate for changes to be made.

By strengthening community networks, building our advocacy skills and working with other agencies to pursue the cause, we wish to see the following enhanced:

Road improvements

The community wishes to see significant improvements to the roads in and around Barjarg.

The Barjarg community has committed to work together and liaise with the relevant agencies to make sure the roads are safer for everyone to use.

Planning guidelines

High priority to people of Barjarg is maintaining an appropriate balance between protecting the highly valued rural quality of the area and allowing development to continue.

It is vital to the community that they be kept informed and consulted faithfully in matters relating to the local planning policy.

Telecommunications

Reliable phone and broadband services are a high priority for the Barjarg community. Ongoing support from local, state and federal government will be essential in efforts to realise this goal.

Lake Nillahcootie

The people of Barjarg would like to see agencies work together to better manage land on lakesides to deal with issues such as litter and trespass.

This plan is available in alternate formats by phoning Mansfield Shire Council on 5775 8555.



Background

Community planning is **future planning**. It's a process that brings a community together to identify what we love about our place, what we want to preserve and what we want to improve.

In early 2011, the Barjarg community was surveyed and worked together at a workshop held in April 2011 to identify the priority projects that would help create the Barjarg they would like to see in the future.

Drawing on the workshop and survey results, community members then decided which projects would be included in this plan. The draft plan was then sent out to everyone in the community for feedback. The plan was refined, finalised, launched by the community and tabled with Council.

This plan is a summary of our ideas that we think will help create the Barjarg we wish it to be in the future.

What next? Each of these projects will be overseen by Barjarg people who will work with Council and other agencies to bring our plan to life. Council will help where appropriate; and the community plan will be reviewed every two to three years to make sure it still reflects our priorities.

Want to get involved?

We'd love to hear from you! Everyone has something they can offer to ensure a bright future for their community. Call Mansfield Shire Council's community development team on 5775 8555.



Beautiful

Barjarg

Our Vision

Barjarg today

The name 'Barjarg' originated in Scotland and means 'fort on the red hill'.

Barjarg is characterised by a population that is passionate about protecting the beautiful, rural aspects of the area. The proximity to towns such as Mansfield and Benalla also make the area attractive.

Our people

Barjarg is a neighbourly mix of people, from those who have been in the area for generations, to newcomers and part-time locals and all say the same thing - we love Barjarg!

Our environment

Nestled against the Strathbogie ranges and the upper reaches of Lake Nillahcootie the area abounds with fabulous scenery, forests, creeks, water falls and indigenous wildlife.

Local happenings and groups

A number of Barjarg locals are involved in groups including the CFA, the Upper Broken River Landcare group, the Barjarg community Support Group, the Nillahcootie Sailing Club and an informal social group.

Local businesses

Barjarg is home to a few tourism accommodation providers and boasts a general store, a café, a car/boat mechanic and two school outdoor education camps.



Our Future

The following is a list of projects which the community believes will contribute to making Barjarg the place of our visions.

Project: Community Hub

Goal: To establish a place that the community can call their own

Why: Barjarg does not presently have a community space, either a place to meet or open space for recreation. We believe having an area to call our own would strengthen community spirit by fostering community based activities and provide a place to meet more regularly and display history and heritage memorabilia.

Project: Cycle and walking trails

Goal: Construct trails to allow cyclists and walkers to enjoy what Barjarg has to offer more safely.

Why: The busy Midland Highway which passes through Barjarg is not conducive to walking and cycling. The Barjarg community believes more physical activity is vital to community health and well being and establishing trails would be of great benefit to not only Barjarg residents but also those of other communities and visitors. The community would like to support development of trails both alongside the main roads and off the beaten track.

Project: Enhance community connections

Goal: Establish communication channels

Why: To strengthen the community, Barjarg residents recognise that reliable, regular communications are important to keep each other in touch.

Project: Preserve Barjarg's history

Goal: Protect and preserve Barjarg's history for future generations.

Why: The Barjarg Honour rolls are presently housed in a building that is not secure. The community would like to take steps to protect the rolls either through finding a new location or ensuring the present one is safe.

Project: Develop information brochures

Goal: Work with each other and Council to develop a brochure that details Barjarg's many attributes.

Why: There is a lot around Barjarg that even many of the locals are not aware of and it would be great to be able to share the information. The idea about creating information brochures may support local businesses through increased visitation may also result in development of walking trails, signage etc and more regular maintenance of local roads.

These projects are listed in no particular order.



Sandy Creek Falls