



The MADCAP (MARSH and DISTRICT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN) Process

Creating and Delivering the Deans Marsh and District Community Action Plan

Facilitated by Peter Kenyon from the Bank of Ideas

MADCAP is about creating a community generated action plan that inclusively generates a vision for Deans Marsh and District, bringing together our community's wealth of knowledge and know-how to identify ways we can realise our aspirations.

The focus will be upon finding out what we care about and our priorities for the community and its future: What we want to Retain, Regain, Change and Start.

The Deans Marsh and surrounding District is a strong and vibrant community with a self-determining attitude and there are many examples of what has been achieved through individual and community contributions.

MADCAP is about building upon what is strong in our community and continuing to make things happen.

The MADCAP process is designed to be fun and provide opportunities for us to creatively explore what is important to us, dream what could be and work out how we can make it happen.

The MADCAP process will delve deeply into the things that matter to us most and provide a space for us to consider complex issues including subdivision flexibility and land use, future population growth, climate change adaptation and mitigation, local food security, our local economy, housing options and an age friendly community for all.

MADCAP is about advocating on the community's behalf to local, state and federal governments about our priorities and attracting opportunities that assist our aspirations to be realised. It is about providing a clear statement about who we are and our priorities.

The MADCAP process will generate a lot of big and little ideas – and some of us will have passion and energies for the same thing. Some ideas will take a lot of work and mean attracting external help. Other ideas will happen just because they were voiced and can be realised with the resources we already have.

MADCAP is not about creating a strategy to sit on a shelf – it is about creating a community generated action plan that will be a roadmap for our community. The implementation of the identified priorities and monitoring of the plan will form and inform the ongoing activities of The Cottage in the community.

An information session for MADCAP Volunteers will be held on Wednesday the 6th of November at 6pm at the Deans Marsh Community Cottage

If you would like to volunteer with MADCAP through assisting to distribute and collect postcards and surveys in your road or local group, hosting a conversation, sharing ideas in a focus group or being involved in research for the project please contact The Cottage.

MADCAP Elements - beginning Nov 11th

'Community planning is developing a shared vision of the future, then determining the best way to make this vision occur. A process where the people (i.e. the community) arrive at group vision, priorities and actions to achieve positive change that will enhance the physical, social and economic wellbeing of the community.

It is a dynamic, interactive and participatory process intended to make the quality of life better for all members of the community' -Peter Kenyon

The My Big Idea Postcard

We want to hear your Big Ideas for Deans Marsh and District: What Deans Marsh and District needs to look like, be like and feel like in the future... and the best actions to make it a reality.

Your Big Ideas are about creating an exciting vision of your community's future.

Community Asset Mapping

Community Asset Mapping is a process to identify, connect and mobilise capacities, resources and strengths (individual and organisational) in a community.

A series of surveys will be sent to all parts of the community; residents, businesses, associations and other bodies. The critical asset that is discovered is what people care about and are willing to act upon, and who else cares about it.

MADCAP Conversations

The most useful community building tool - conversation and its role in this process is to understand not 'what's the matter?' but 'what matters to people?'

Become a MADCAP Mad Hatter and host a Mad Hatters Tea Party with a group of 6-10 people.

Tea party conversation prompts will be provided.

To go in the draw to win a hamper of local produce, everyone wear a hat to the Tea Party and share a photo to the Deans Marsh Cottage Facebook page/Instagram or send us a photo.

This is a great chance to fill in a postcard, complete the surveys and have a chat.

Gatherings can be held at The Store, in your home or in the top paddock.

A \$50 contribution to catering is available.

Please contact the Cottage by the 15th of November to register your interest.

If you are not into hats you are still encouraged to talk with friends, neighbours and introduce yourself to people you have never met and share your thoughts and aspirations with others

A great opportunity to learn what type of community we ALL want, collectively. The broader the community engagement, the better the result. Tony H

I am excited by the opportunity to tackle climate and sustainability issues at the community level. Lucy Q

Focus Groups

Get together with others in the community who share your passion or interest.

Please note that maximum numbers for each group will be 12.

Depending on interest in each theme, further sessions can be scheduled.

Themes identified so far include:

Students and Young People
Agribusiness/Tourism
Cultural Connections
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption
Renewables
Age Friendly Communities
Local Food Systems
Community Infrastructure and Land Use
Arts and Culture
Community Connectors

Contact the Cottage to register your interest in attending a focus group discussion or to suggest a topic not yet featured.

Community Board Games Night

6pm - 9pm

Wednesday December 11th.

Deans Marsh Community Hall

A family games night utilising cooperative-style games to help generate ideas. Exploring a range of themes and an opportunity to play.

The Mighty MADCAP Conversation Cafe

Friday December 13th 6pm.

Deans Marsh Community Hall

The MADCAP process will build to a large community meal and gathering on Friday 13 December. We will run a cafe conversation with a number of tables each with 5 or 6 people.

The groups will explore four questions; 'What we would like to retain', 'What we want to regain', 'What we want to change and What we want to start up in Deans Marsh'. Participants will get to vote for what they would like to see prioritised.

There is a new generation of thinking - small scale regenerative farming which brings interest, diversity, economic growth and social connectedness. Andrew S

'What interests me most about the possibilities of the MADCAP process is discovering just what things others in the community are interested in building on to achieve - most of all I am curious about what will be uncovered from us all. Deb C

'Creating positive change begins simply with conversation.

It is the way that human beings have always connected, thought together, and initiated action'

Peter Kenyon

DRAFT PLAN WRITING

January - March

Making it Happen

Asset Based Community Development Workshops

late January

The workshop program will assist people/groups leading priorities/projects to get them up and running.

FINAL PLAN - will be formulated after community comment

I would love to see a thriving hive of a community hub with a rich array of earth and community based workshops and events and a space for trading and selling local produce, art and craft. I would also love to find a way to open land up to young families and other people keen to be a part of our magical community, whether this is through tiny home living or re-zoning land.

Michelle S

In a time of uncertainty a community plan will help protect and improve the things we love about Deans Marsh

James M.

Monitoring and Evaluation

A monitoring and evaluation framework will be developed concurrently utilising a methodology that responds to the questions 'Did we do what we said we were going to do (how much of it did we do and how well did we do it)?' and 'Is anyone better off?'

I'm really looking forward to getting together with the rest of the community to articulate all our great ideas and aspirations for the future. This project gives us a unique opportunity to work in this space with support from the experts! Developing a strategic community led plan will give us real benefits when advocating or seeking to gain support and money from agencies and other funders.

Mandy B

For further information about the
Deans Marsh and District Community Action Plan
please contact

Lisa on 52 363 388/0456086786

or any of the Cottage Management Committee members listed:

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Lucy Quarterman 0423 771 262

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**DEANS MARSH
COMMUNITY
COTTAGE**

