

MACCLESFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC STRATEGIC PLAN

2023 – 2025

MISSION:

Macclesfield is a small, friendly, growing community which fosters the inclusion of all residents. The Macclesfield Community Association (MCA) is committed to keeping the wellbeing of our community as our central focus of activity. We are an active, cooperative and accountable Association. We represent the interests of members and aim to be the central community group representing residents and other community groups in the Macclesfield area.



OBJECTIVES: (In Brief)

1. **FOSTER** community and business interests in the Macclesfield area.
2. **COMMUNICATE** with the Mount Barker District Council and other bodies regarding needs and projects within the area.
3. **PROVIDE** money and assistance where possible within the Macclesfield area.
4. **APPLY** for grants when needed.
5. **PROTECT**, manage, conserve and develop community facilities including open space.
6. **PRESERVE** and promote the history and heritage of the area including natural heritage.
7. **OPERATE** and promote events and activities that develop cultural life, community health, education and local economy for community benefit.
8. **ENCOURAGE** and support interest groups and individuals to undertake activities for community benefit.
9. **SUPPORT** and promote the activities of non-Association groups that provide community benefit.
10. **CONSERVE** and enhance the aesthetic appeal and attractiveness of Macclesfield and surrounding area for the community and visitors.
11. **ENCOURAGE** and promote sustainable initiatives.

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The **Strategic Plan** provides a focus on priority goals and their associated strategies and actions for the Macclesfield Community Association (MCA). It is underpinned by the Mission Statement and Objects of the Constitution, set out above, and together with the routine work of the MCA, it forms the standard agenda for regular MCA meetings.

The **MCA has overall responsibility** for the implementation of the Strategic Plan and will monitor and review progress to ensure goals are being met. It will also seek to hold Council to account for implementation of the Mount Barker District Council's Township Plan for Macclesfield. The routine business of the MCA will proceed alongside implementation of both plans.

SUMMARY of strategies and actions per objective:

1. FOSTER a community and business interest in the township and surrounding areas.

1.1. Strategy: Communicate this Strategic Plan to the community and inform the community on all significant aspirations, plans and outcomes

1.2. Actions:

1.2.1. Maintain a Macclesfield website.

1.2.2. Publish this Strategic Plan as a downloadable pdf from the Macclesfield website.

1.2.3. Publish regular reports on matters before the MCA in the Macclesfield community newsletter and on the Association's website

1.2.4. Continue to publish a Community Calendar and display on Notice boards. Delegate a MCA member to update regularly

1.2.5. Develop communication channels for Association members.

2. COMMUNICATE with the Mount Barker District Council, Members of Parliament, local groups and other organisations regarding needs and projects within the area.

2.1. Strategy: Improve communication with the community and coordinate information flow between Macclesfield community groups. Advocate for the interests and needs of Macclesfield.

2.2. Actions:

2.2.1. Maintain a register of all Macclesfield community groups together with their contact details.

2.2.2. Maintain open communication with the District Councillors, Members of Parliament and relevant community groups.

2.2.3. Ensure all activities are advertised in a timely manner using signage and electronic media.

2.2.4. Review at least annually the MBDC Township Plan for Macclesfield and regularly communicate with Council about progressing its implementation.

2.2.5. Collaborate with other Community Associations and relevant organisations outside of Macclesfield where appropriate.

3. PROVIDE money and assistance where possible within the Macclesfield area.

3.1. Strategy: Allocate money and assistance towards initiatives that provide community value within the constraints of the budget and subject to compliance with the objectives of the Constitution and Strategic Plan.

3.2. Actions:

3.2.1. Be open to requests for assistance and consider and respond promptly.

4. APPLY for appropriate grants when needed.

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4.1. Strategy: To keep a watching brief on all available Grants as and when they arise.

4.2. Actions:

4.2.1. Apply for grants that are applicable to our Objectives as stated herein.

5. PROTECT, manage, conserve and develop community facilities.

5.1. THE MACCLESFIELD INSTITUTE:

5.1.1. **Strategy:** Maintain, develop and manage the Macclesfield Institute Hall, Supper Room, Green Room and all associated facilities.

5.1.2. **Actions:** Work with and communicate with Council towards the following outcomes:

5.1.2.1. Promote as a venue for hire and seek to increase the level of use of the Hall and Supper room.

5.1.2.2. Establish an online booking system.

5.1.2.3. Painting the front of the institute including the Annex.

5.1.2.4. Check both rainwater tanks stability and fix the leaks

5.1.2.5. Upgrade stage. Wall cracks and paint.

5.1.2.6. Raise funds/apply for grant to get new supper room tables and vinyl chairs

5.1.2.7. Undertake the following improvements where feasible:

5.1.2.7.1.1. Upgrades to technology in the Institute

5.1.2.7.1.2. Replacing temporary fabric screen with a better system

5.2. CRYSTAL LAKE PARK/LORD ROBINSON PARK

5.2.1. **Strategy:** Work with Mount Barker District Council to further develop the reserve so as to promote its use for community, events, arts and culture, recreation, conservation and sustainability initiatives.

5.2.2. Actions:

5.2.2.1. Foster a coordinated approach to the park, including site planning with stakeholders, user groups and Council.

5.2.2.2. Facilitate and advocate for community input to the improvement of the park.

5.2.2.3. Actively seek or provide support for groups to apply for grants to undertake park improvements.

5.2.2.4. Improve access throughout the reserve, including disabled access to terrace and the lake.

5.3 DAVENPORT SQUARE:

5.3.1 Strategy: Continue developing Davenport Square for community use, consistent with the Davenport Square Master Plan, in partnership with MBDC and other groups in Macclesfield.

5.3.2 Actions:

5.3.2.1 Develop nature play opportunities.

5.3.2.2 With other community groups work on the biodiversity of riparian zones. Include nesting boxes/bat boxes/bee hotels.

5.3.2.3 Apply for grants to facilitate the above.

5.4 AGISTMENT AREAS:

5.4.1 Strategy: Maintain and operate the agistment areas in the Night Paddock, while there is a need for weed control and is not being used for another purpose as per Macclesfield Township Plan.

5.4.2 Actions:

5.4.2.1 The Agistment Manager to conduct routine agreements with agistees as needed and to manage the running of the agistment areas.

5.4.2.2 Conduct weed control as needed.

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6. PRESERVE and promote the history and heritage of the area including natural heritage.

6.1 HISTORY AND HERITAGE:

6.1.1 Strategy: Support the History Group to further develop and maintain the history archives of Macclesfield and to conduct open days and workshops on matters of historical interest.

6.1.2 Strategy: Work with the History Group to share information and to increase understanding of Peramangk history and culture in our area.

6.1.3 Actions:

6.1.3.1 Consult with the MCA and involve the community with projects.

6.1.3.2 Apply for grants and funding to support activities.

6.1.3.3 Organise events that encourage a knowledge of and appreciation of our history.

6.1.3.4 Involve Peramangk people to include cultural engagement in development of reserves and public spaces.

6.1.3.5 Foster reconciliation through educational events and cultural awareness.

6.2 NATURAL HERITAGE:

6.2.1 Strategy: Maintain, improve and develop for community use Lord Robinson Park, the Night Paddock Park, the Day Paddock, Reserve, Stone Reserve and the Gummy Track in consultation with Macclesfield Bushcare Group, Macclesfield community and Mount Barker District Council.

6.2.2 Actions:

6.2.2.1 Work with MBDC and Macclesfield Bushcare Group on weed control, fire prevention and enhancement of native flora and fauna within each park.

6.2.2.2 Support grant applications for improvements in Natural Heritage areas.

6.2.2.3 Advocate for and seek funding for improvements such as walking tracks, seating and signage.

7 OPERATE and promote events and activities that develop cultural life, community health, education and the local economy for community benefit.

7.1 Strategy: Continue to hold events and activities.

7.2 Actions:

7.2.1 Plan and hold community events.

7.2.2 Organise and hold the Macclesfield Market.

7.2.3 Apply for available grants to offset the cost of holding events.

7.2.4 Support the Arts Task Group to enhance creative expression and cultural life in the area.

7.2.5 Facilitate social activities including, but not limited to, the Men's Breakfast and Craft Group

7.2.6 Advertise events and activities on website, social media and notice boards.

8 ENCOURAGE and support interest groups and individuals to undertake activities for community benefit.

8.1 Strategy: Support activities and events organised by community members.

8.2 Actions:

8.2.1 Provide opportunities for the community members to operate under the MCA banner.

8.2.2 Support events and activities run by community members and interest groups.

8.2.3 Make facilities and equipment available for use.

8.2.4 Advertise events on website, social media and notice boards.

8.2.5 Continue the development of the Maccy Mates network.

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- 8.2.6 Work with the Macclesfield Resilience Group on the development and implementation of Disaster Response Action Plan.

9 SUPPORT and promote the activities of non-Association groups that provide community benefit.

9.1 Strategy: Support events organised by Macclesfield groups.

9.2 Actions:

- 9.2.1 Communicate with Macclesfield groups about events and activities they are running.
- 9.2.2 Support events and activities run by other Macclesfield groups.
- 9.2.3 Make facilities and equipment available for community use.
- 9.2.4 Add events to the community calendar.

10 CONSERVE and enhance the aesthetic appeal and attractiveness of Macclesfield and surrounding area for the community and for visitors.

10.1 Strategy: Encourage discussion and planning of community projects that conserve and enhance the aesthetic appeal and attractiveness of Macclesfield and to oppose any proposals that are likely to have negative effects.

10.2 Actions:

- 10.2.1 Participate in Clean up Australia Day.
- 10.2.2 Work with MBDC on short term actions in the Macclesfield Town Plan.
- 10.2.3 Work alongside Bushcare and other community groups on development of reserves.
- 10.2.4 Develop public art, including opportunities for local artists and community participation.

11 ENCOURAGE and promote sustainable initiatives.

11.1 Strategy: Support existing community groups working in this area and encourage the formation of other complementary groups.

11.2 Actions:

- 11.2.1 Provide support to Maccy Biochar as a Task Group of the MCA.
 - 11.2.2 Encourage local bush care and land care groups.
 - 11.2.3 Investigate potential improvements to the uptake of renewable energy including community energy schemes.
 - 11.2.4 Invite local opinion on ways to further improve sustainability.
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