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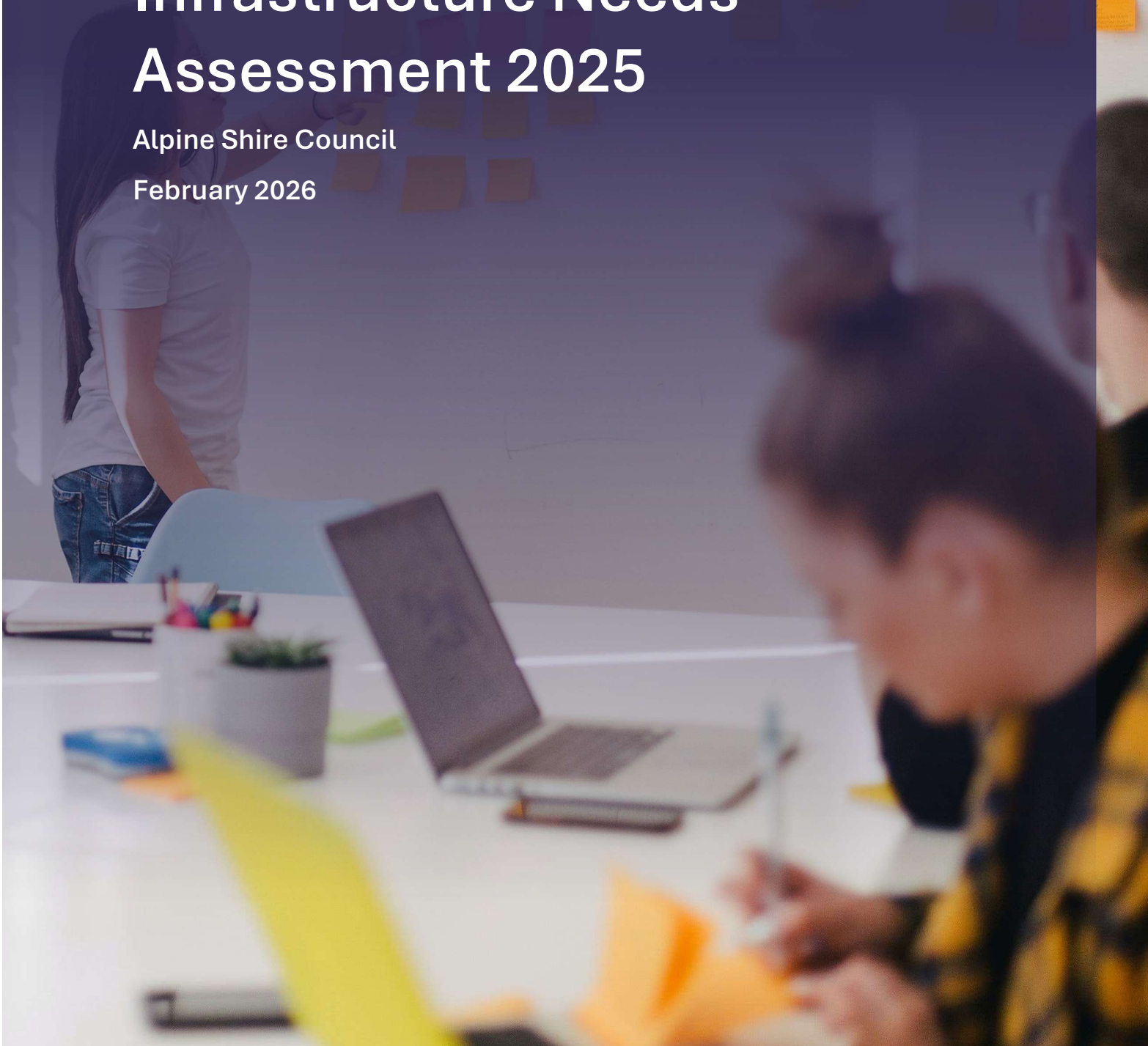
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Engagement Summary: Draft Alpine Shire Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2025

Alpine Shire Council

February 2026





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OFFICES IN CANBERRA, HOBART, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY ON THE COUNTRY OF THE NGAMBRI/NGUNNAWAL/NGARIGO, MUWININA/PALAWA, WURUNDJERI, AND GADIGAL PEOPLES.

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Alpine Shire CINA

Alpine Shire Council commissioned SGS Economics and Planning Pty Ltd to develop a Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment (CINA) to guide planning and delivery of community facilities and services over the long-term. The CINA explores whether current community infrastructure can meet future needs based on population forecasts, which include changes in both size and demographics. It highlights broad opportunities to address gaps or oversupply, and makes recommendations specific to infrastructure categories as well as to the key townships of Bright, Mount Beauty, Myrtleford, and Porepunkah.

1.2 Engagement activities and participation

A series of engagement activities were hosted in late 2025, offering a variety of opportunities for Alpine Shire residents to provide feedback on the Draft CINA. This included a survey (digital or hard copy), drop-in sessions, and interviews. Interested persons or groups could also make a written submission to Council via email/letter. Activities and participation levels are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Engagement activities

Activity	Details	Participation
Online survey	A survey seeking feedback on the Draft CINA was available on Council's Have Your Say page, and hard copies available at each library and other local community facilities, from November 2025 – January 2026.	76 responses
Drop-in sessions	Drop-in sessions were held at the Bright, Mount Beauty, and Myrtleford Libraries in November 2025 for anyone to attend, ask questions, and provide feedback.	75 attendees
Community organisation and user group interviews	Community user groups and organisations that provide services, programs, and activities in existing facilities were given the opportunity to speak directly to the project team in 1-on-1 interviews held at Council offices.	Representatives from 16 user groups/ organisations
Community submissions	Community members and stakeholders provided additional data, feedback and insights to the project team via emails, letters, and reports.	7 organisation-based and 3 individual

		submissions (10 total)
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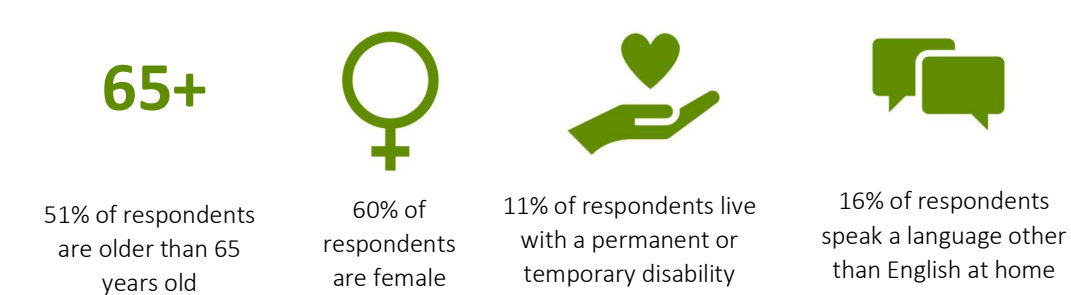
2. What we heard

Community and stakeholder feedback is summarised by activity in the following subsections. Additional detail for the community submission and community organisation interviews can be found in Appendix A.

2.1 Online survey

The community had an opportunity to engage with Council through an online survey through November 2025 to January 2026. In this time, 76 responses were received.

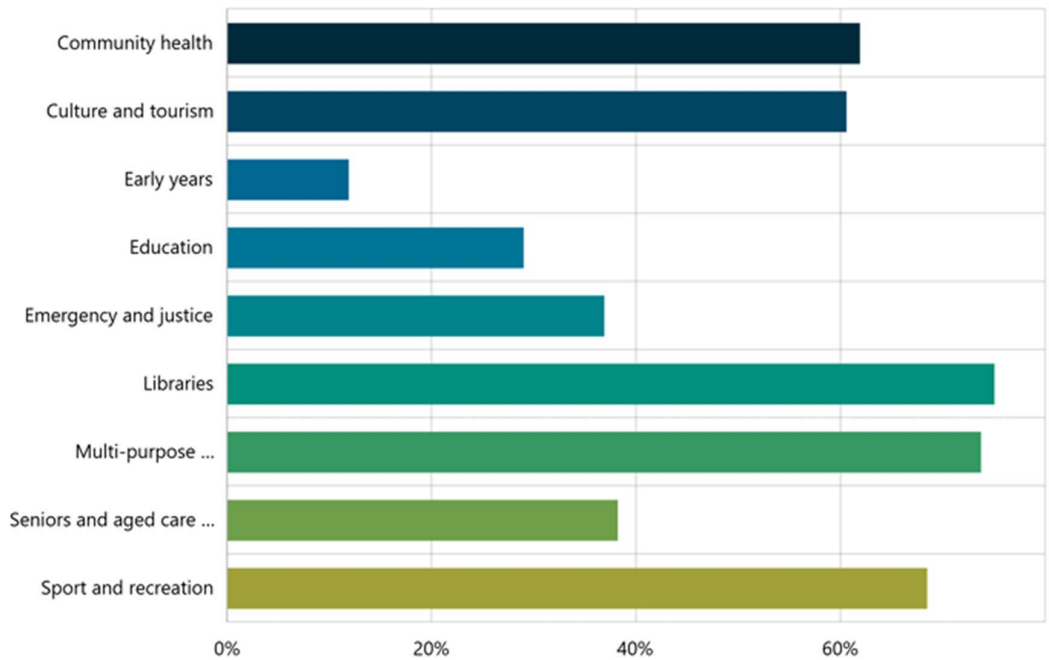
Respondent Profile



Summary of feedback

Feedback from the survey is summarised by question below.

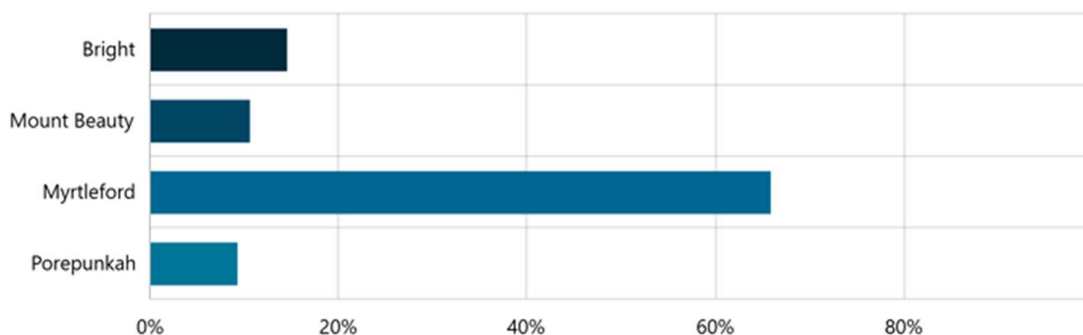
Figure 1: What types of facilities do you and/or your household currently use? Select as many as apply



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

Libraries and multipurpose community spaces are most often used by respondents while community health and culture and tourism services are also popular. Early years and education services are less commonly reported as used by respondents, which reflects the older age profile of respondents.

Figure 2: Out of the following Service Towns, where do you spend the most time?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

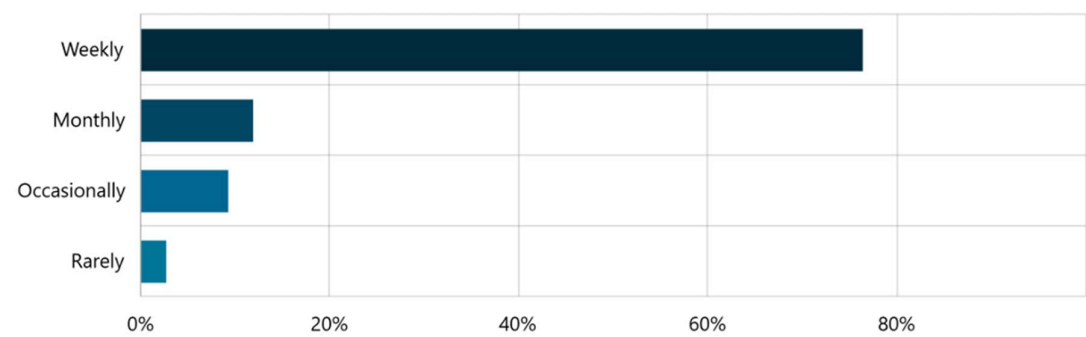
Respondents spent the most time in the Myrtleford Service Town area, with more than half of respondents selecting it from the four options.

Respondents were then asked to indicate the facilities they used most in their selected Service Town where the majority of community infrastructure is located (Bright, Mount Beauty, Myrtleford, and Porepunkah), with the ability to select multiple facilities.

The two most popular facilities for each town are listed below. Libraries were the most frequently visited service for all Service Towns except Porepunkah, which does not have a local library.

- **Bright:** for those respondents who selected Bright as their Service Town, the Library was used most (64% of respondents). The Alpine Visitor Information Centre, Bright Art Gallery, Mystic Bike Park and Sun Cinema were all used by 46% of respondents.
- **Mount Beauty:** for those respondents who selected Mount Beauty as their Service Town, the Library was used most (75% of respondents). Big Hill Mountain Bike Park had the second-highest visitation according to respondents, selected by 63%.
- **Myrtleford:** for those respondents who selected Myrtleford as their Service Town, the Myrtleford Library and Museum were used the most, by 86% and 84%, respectively. Myrtleford Showgrounds was also a popular among respondents with 72% of participants indicating they use the facility.
- **Porepunkah:** for those respondents who selected Porepunkah as their Service Town, 86% indicated that they use the Porepunkah Recreation Reserve, while 71% indicated that they use Porepunkah Hall.

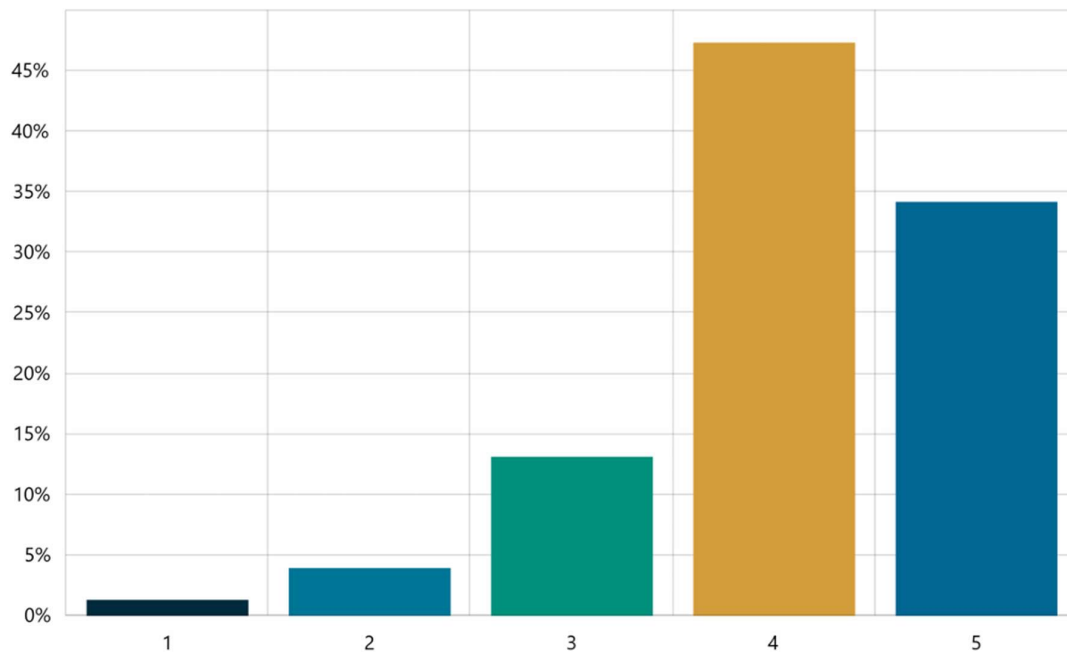
Figure 3: Generally, how often do you use these facilities?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

Almost 80% of respondents indicated that they use these facilities weekly. Just under 12% indicated monthly use, with less than 10% selecting ‘occasionally’ and only 2.6% selecting ‘rarely’. while the remaining frequency options were recorded by less than 12%.

Figure 4: Generally, how satisfied are you with the availability and quality of the facilities you have selected?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

Note: 1 corresponds to 'highly dissatisfied' and a rating of 5 is 'highly satisfied'.

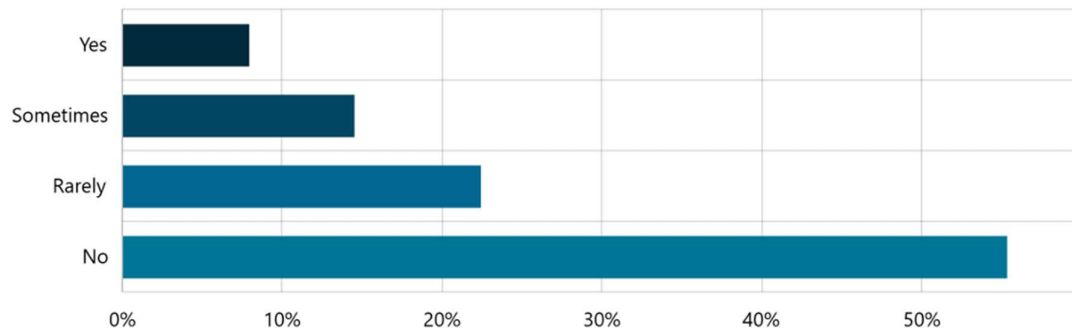
82% of respondents reported positive levels of satisfaction (a rating of 4 or 5). A rating of 4 was the most common response while 18% of respondents experienced lower levels of satisfaction or even dissatisfaction with the availability and quality of facilities.

Respondents were asked to explain their answer to the question above. Key themes include:

- Community facilities are valued community assets:
 - Libraries are stand-out performers: repeatedly praised for excellent staff, welcoming spaces, and diverse programming (music quizzes, holiday activities). People use them frequently and see them as vital for both residents and visitors.
 - Museums are cherished: Myrtleford Museum and the local historical society attract strong emotional support, seen as essential to community identity, tourism, research, and education.
 - Aquatic and sports facilities enable health and social connection: Where pools are operating well (e.g., Bright Sports Centre), users are highly satisfied (regular lap swimming, family use, splash park) and want services expanded rather than reduced.
 - Emergency services: Ambulance and fire station described as fit for purpose, with acknowledgement that some upgrades would help.
 - Community halls and green spaces: Valued for flexibility (events, dance, karate, markets, reunions) and daily wellbeing (dog walking, informal recreation).
- Availability & access—generally good, but constrained by hours and suitability:

- Opening hours: Requests to extend hours, particularly for the Visitor Information Centre and sometimes libraries (“if they could be more open that would increase [satisfaction] to 5/5”).
- Meeting rooms: Clear unmet need for more, smaller meeting rooms for community groups; lack of storage is also a common issue.
- Affordability: Hire fees described as “hefty” for some facilities, which may constrain community use.
- Many sites are serviceable but ageing:
 - Aquatic infrastructure is ageing: References to 20+ years without major investment; “not fit for purpose heated pools,” closures, and a desire for year-round use.
 - General maintenance gaps: Grounds (grass/weeds left too long), surfaces deteriorating (e.g., McNamara Reserve), asbestos concerns in some older buildings, and toilets in poor condition.
 - Basic comfort and usability: Requests for heating/cooling upgrades; acoustic issues in some halls (e.g., Bright Senior Citizens’ Centre).
 - Lighting: an important, simple enabler—needed for pickleball/tennis courts to extend hours of use.
 - Amenities for clubs: Need for toilets, changerooms, storage, lighting, fencing at sporting and canine club facilities.
- Early years and community hubs—support for purpose-built solutions over displacement:
 - Strong pushback against divesting in community halls: Multiple submissions (esp., Porepunkah Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Inc.) stress that repurposing the hall would displace numerous user groups and is not in the community’s best interest.
 - Call for purpose-built early childhood facilities: Preference for new facilities in growth areas (e.g., north-east Porepunkah) or on Council-owned land (e.g., Roberts Creek Rd) after due diligence (e.g., flood levels).
 - Lake View Children’s Centre: Recent reconfiguration has reduced suitability for community playgroups—less flexible, less welcoming signage, smaller usable space, and uncertainty about ongoing access.

Figure 5: Do you experience any barriers to accessing community infrastructure?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

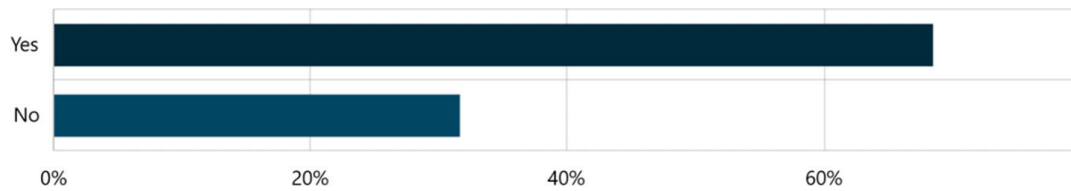
The majority of respondents (55%) do not experience barriers when accessing community infrastructure, but 8% report experiencing barriers to access more than occasionally.

Respondents were asked to explain their answer to the question above. There were seven types of barriers described in the feedback:

1. Opening hours
 - a. One of the most common issues.
 - b. People struggle with limited or inconvenient hours, particularly at pools, libraries, and some community facilities.
 - c. Seasonal closures (e.g., pool closed May–October) significantly limit use.
2. Physical accessibility
 - a. Barriers for people with disabilities:
 - b. Not enough or suitable parking, even with disability permits.
 - c. Challenges with stairs, narrow doorways and pathways.
 - d. For seniors: limited seating/rest points when walking into town.
3. Facility condition & suitability
 - a. Some facilities described as poor quality, “run down,” or in other terms conveying unsatisfactory condition.
 - b. Cold, poorly insulated buildings (e.g., Bright Community Centre) making winter use uncomfortable or impossible.
 - c. Overcrowded or inflexible spaces due to fixed furniture/ poor design
 - d. Loss of welcoming elements (e.g., removal of Hugo’s Memorial Garden) affecting sense of belonging.
4. Lack of local facilities

- a. Particularly acute in Porepunkah, where residents list entire categories missing: No library, health clinic, dentist, pool, stadium, aged-care facilities, youth centre, TAFE, arts facilities, etc.
- 5. Booking conflicts & availability
 - a. Regular users sometimes displaced by special events (funerals, elections).
 - b. Playgroups frequently lose access to rooms or find them too crowded.
 - c. Limited access to affordable, bookable meeting spaces.
- 6. Navigation & information barriers
 - a. Newcomers struggle to find services (e.g., Gateway Health, community garden).
 - b. Uncertainty about who to contact to book or use facilities.
- 7. Capacity pressures
 - a. Tourist peaks in Bright and elsewhere put pressure on services, parking, amenity availability, and space.
 - b. Rapid growth in sports like pickleball outstripping the number of available courts.

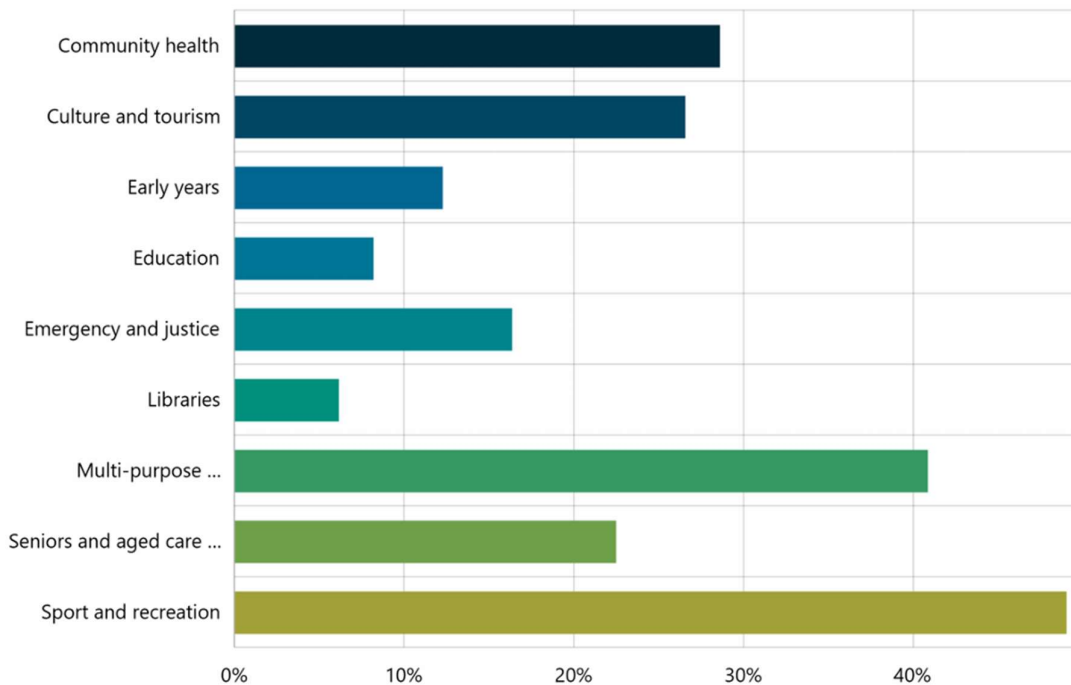
Figure 6: Are there any types of community infrastructure you feel are missing or insufficient in your chosen Service Town?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

While respondents reported generally high levels of satisfaction and access to community infrastructure in their local Service Town, 68% indicated that the current provision is insufficient or absent in some respect.

Figure 7: Which types do you feel are missing or insufficient?

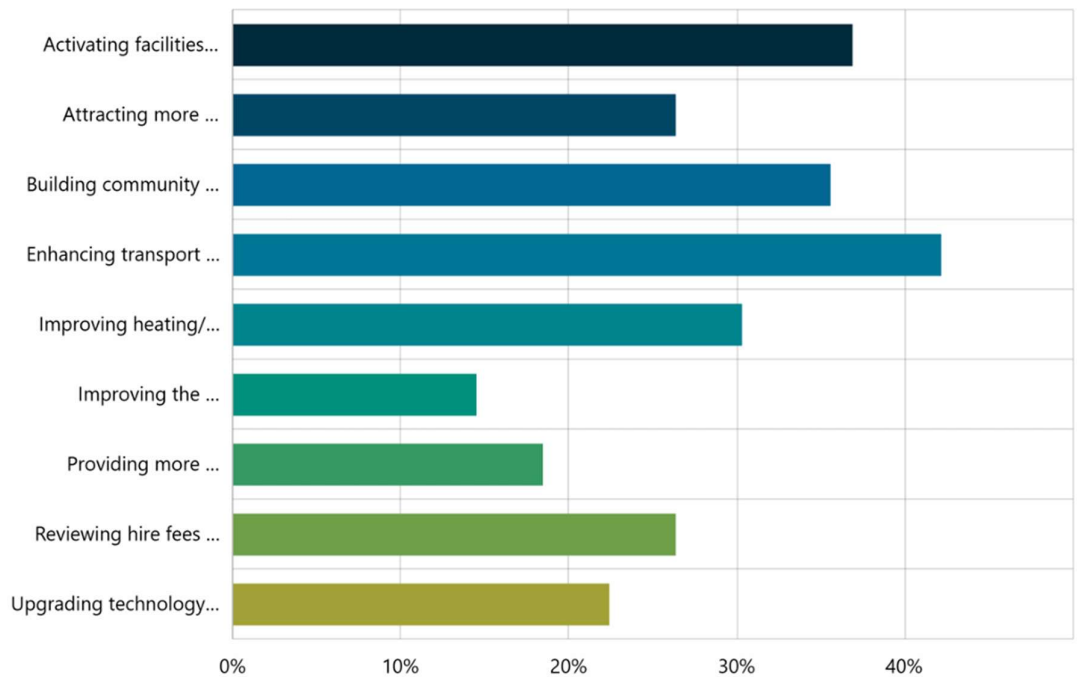


Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

Respondents were then asked to indicate the multiple community infrastructure types they felt were missing or insufficient. 49 of the total 76 respondents responded to this question, which is 94% of respondents who noted gaps in infrastructure in Figure 6.

Sport and recreation services were noted as insufficient or missing by 49% of respondents, followed by multipurpose community spaces (41% of respondents). Early years, education, emergency and justice and library services were less likely to be perceived as lacking.

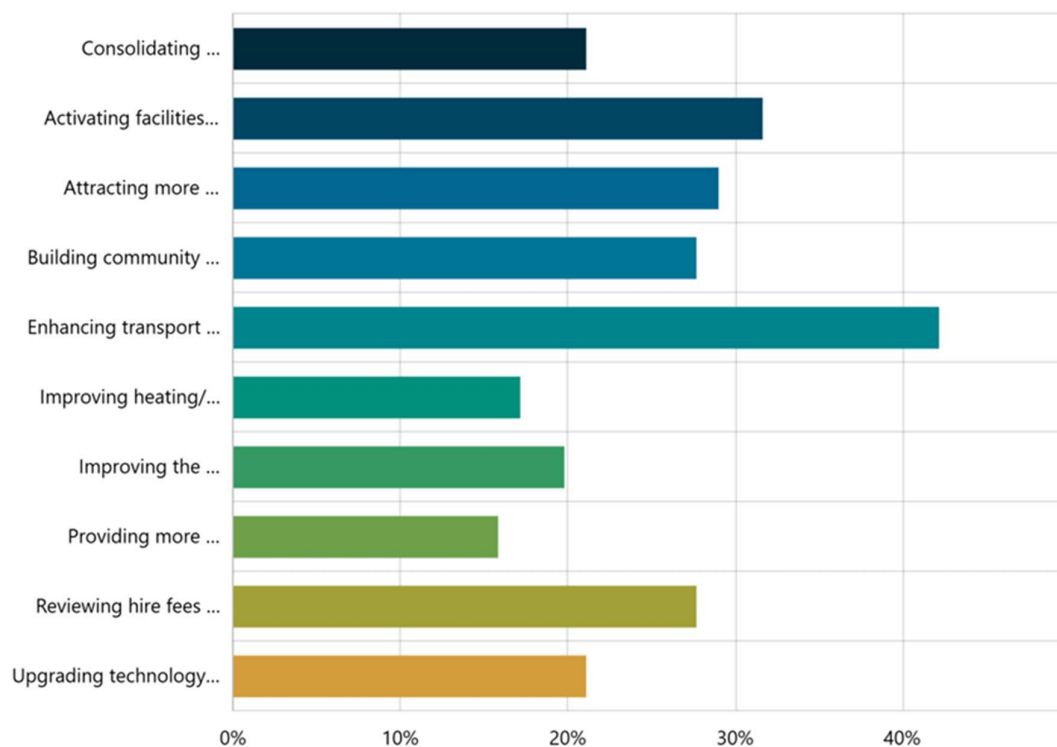
Figure 8: What do you believe that we should prioritise in the short term, within the next 5-10 years? Select up to three options.



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

In considering priorities for the next 5-10 years, ‘enhancing transport options to facilities’ was the most popular priority area by respondents (42%). This was closely followed by ‘activating facilities with more programs and activities’ and ‘building community capacity to manage facilities and run programs’ which suggests that respondents seek to have a sense of ownership of their community infrastructure spaces.

Figure 9: What do you believe that we should prioritise in the medium to long term, within the next 10-30 years?



Source: Social Pinpoint (2026)

Responses provided to priorities in the medium- to long-term are similar to those in the short-term, with respondents reflecting the same three priorities as important in Figure 9. However, these were closely followed by ‘attracting more non-Council services to Alpine Shire’ and ‘reviewing hire fees and/or providing more financial support to facility user groups.’

Finally, respondents were asked: ‘Is there anything else that you would like us to consider when planning community infrastructure?’ Responses varied widely, from ideas for specific facilities to general feedback on the draft CINA. Some key themes include:

- Improve consultation, communication and transparency — repeated calls for genuine engagement, better advertising of consultations, listening to locals, correcting inaccuracies in the CINA analysis, and avoiding over-reliance on external consultants.
- Protect and value assets of heritage significance — strong sentiment around preserving the Old School Museum in Myrtleford, recognising volunteers, and respecting donated collections.
- Early years’ services need strengthening — strong advocacy for Playgroup, MCH, Toy Library and for a dedicated early-years hub.

- Demand for recreation upgrades — heated/indoor pools, hydrotherapy, playground for Tawonga South, splash park for Mount Beauty, better courts (lighting, wind barriers, etc.), improved winter-suitable indoor activity spaces.
- Better support for user groups and volunteers — lower fees, help with maintenance, recognition of groups like RSL and sporting clubs, and ensuring facilities meet basic needs (storage, security, technology, etc.).
- Town-by-town planning, not one-size-fits-all — emphasis that each valley and town has distinct needs and people do not travel between valleys for services, apprehension for the hub model.
- Infrastructure and service gaps — calls for more transport (taxis, buses, etc.), improved footpaths, more trees, and reinstatement of removed assets (BBQs, Porepunkah jetty, etc.).
- Children and youth need more local activities — lack of indoor/winter options, gymnastics, dance, athletics, supervised play, creative activities, etc.
- Prioritise residents over tourists — requests to keep towns “country”, avoid over-commercialisation, manage congestion, and ensure decisions serve community needs first.

2.2 Community organisation and user group interviews

One-on-one interviews were conducted with 13 service providers/ community organisations in late 2025. Most of these were conducted at Council offices; two were held online.

Key recurring themes from these interviews were:

- Lack of modern amenities (storage, AV equipment, kitchen, accessible toilets, etc.)
- Common barriers to accessing infrastructure include physical access (non-DDA-compliant accessways or toilets) and hire fees that are not affordable
- A lack of public transport connectivity (especially in Myrtleford and Mount Beauty), and at some locations car parking availability, is also a key barrier to participation
- Improved signage and family-friendly features are needed to make facilities more inclusive and welcoming to different groups
- At times, poor communication with Council is leading to a lack of appreciation of community groups, missed opportunities for knowledge and resource sharing and unnecessary duplication of services/programs; there is growing interest in committee governance models
- Dwindling funding sources and difficulties accessing grants is impacting the viability of some services/programs; sustainable funding and proactive support from government is needed
- There is interest in transitioning to a community hub model, but also apprehension that this would lead to operational challenges and conflicts between user groups
- Community facilities must now also be equipped and supported to play a role in resilience, emergency response and recovery

2.3 Drop-in sessions

Bright

The Bright drop-in session, held on Tuesday, 18 November 2025 from 09:30am to 11:30am at the Bright Library, did not have any attendees.

Mount Beauty

The Mount Beauty drop-in session, held on Wednesday, 19 November 2025 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the Mount Beauty Library, had approximately 15 attendees. This included representatives from the Men's Shed, Tennis Club, Kiewa Valley Historical Society, St Alban's Hall, and the Neighbourhood Centre.

Feedback focussed primarily on perceived issues with the CINA analysis and recommendations for the facilities from which the representing groups operate. There are several suggestions to revise the CINA to better reflect current activities and future opportunities.

Myrtleford

The Myrtleford drop-in session, held on Monday, 24 November 2025 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Myrtleford Library, had approximately 60 attendees. Most of these were representing the Myrtleford & District Historical Society Inc. Overall, the meeting reflected:

- Strong pride in the museum's achievements and community service.
- Concern that the CINA undervalues the museum's role.
- Anxiety about the wording implying potential relocation or decommissioning of the museum.
- Clear evidence of significant community use, growth in visitation, and high historical value.
- A strong desire for meaningful involvement in any future discussions regarding community infrastructure planning.

2.4 Community submissions

Submissions were received from 3 individuals and on behalf of 7 organisations in the community. Most of these focus on one specific facility or service, but many also include general feedback or ideas for the CINA. Key recurring themes from these submissions were:

- Strong protection of museums and heritage assets — groups repeatedly rejected relocation, consolidation or repurposing of services, instead emphasising provenance, volunteer stewardship, and community identity.
- Significant concerns about accuracy and consultation in the draft CINA — groups highlighted errors, missing data, lack of site visits, and limited engagement with volunteers and user groups.
- Ageing, inadequate or not fit-for-purpose facilities — many groups identified poor building condition, lack of heating/cooling, poor accessibility, asbestos risks, and inadequate storage.
- Rapidly growing demand for community programs and spaces — especially among tennis, playgroup, early-years services, and volunteer-run activities, which often outstrip the capacity of current facilities.
- Desire for purpose-built or upgraded facilities — including early-years hubs, museum-standard storage, new or shared clubrooms, and upgraded recreation precincts.
- Opposition to poorly targeted consolidation or “hub” models — groups supported co-location only when designed around actual operational needs, and not imposed in ways that displace or dilute identity.
- Need for improved clarity around governance — including leases, committee of management structures, heritage governance, and long-term security for volunteer-run organisations.
- Stronger recognition and support for volunteers — groups contribute substantial labour, fundraising and community value, and wanted this reflected in Council planning and investment.
- High value placed on social connection roles — submissions emphasised that many facilities (e.g., croquet club, airfield, sports clubs, etc.) play an important role in reducing isolation, especially for older residents.

3. Next steps

3.1 Finalising the CINA

The community and organisational feedback summarised in this Engagement Summary Report relates to all of the infrastructure categories in the CINA. It has highlighted where there is a need to refine the CINA to ensure that the assessed quality, quantity and experience of infrastructure is reflective of community experience. It has also emphasised that it is very important to the community of Alpine Shire that the CINA is sensitive to the specific local context and communities of the shire. Edits are required to make analysis, discussion, and recommendations both stronger and more responsive to this feedback, as well as incorporate some of the community's new ideas for infrastructure planning, delivery, and management.

The CINA will be updated on this basis and presented to Council in mid-2026 for consideration.

Appendix A. Detailed feedback

Community organisation interviews

Mount Beauty U3A Community Asset Committee (CAC)

- **Operations & issues:** Space and storage shortages; conflicts over hall use; high hire fees.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Support for a consolidated site with dedicated spaces for major user groups, low/no fees, and ample storage. The reserve site is preferred.

Alpine Cycling Club

- **Operations & issues:** Large membership; limited and costly access to facilities; lack of accessible toilets, storage, and AV equipment; reduced community access due to commercialisation of Mystic Bike Park.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Desire for a shared facility at Pioneer Park with accessible amenities, tiered hire rates, and potential to become a national competition/training hub. Need for more infrastructure and collaboration with commercial ventures.

Bright U3A (Senior Citizens' Centre CAC)

- **Operations & issues:** Growing membership; successful building management model; diverse activities; issues with heating and insulation.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Support for a community hub with a CAC model; would want any new/upgraded facility to include AV equipment, storage, and have more parking and improved transport options (e.g. community bus).

Bright Pony Club & Alpine Adult Riding Club

- **Operations & issues:** Multiple arenas but some get little use; insufficient storage; need for kitchen; safety concerns with other user groups (paragliders and bikes).
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Preference to remain at Pioneer Park; improved facilities are desired but difficult to share because they must be close to the arenas; desire for retention of local arenas in Bright (Myrtleford showgrounds don't have suitable pony arenas), but can reduce from 4 arenas to 2.

Myrtleford Toy Library

- **Operations & issues:** Limited opening hours; storage and accessibility challenges; low visibility due to locating within other facilities and lack of signage.

- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Open to relocation to childcare centres or community centres; need for better accessibility, signage, more volunteers, and family-friendly facilities (e.g. baby change tables).

Myrtleford U3A (Senior Citizens' Centre)

- **Operations & issues:** Diverse programming; well-located; volunteer-run; poor acoustics; limited collaboration.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Rename as community centre; fix acoustics; improve accessibility (incl. appropriate parking and access ways, automatic opening doors, etc.); support for a multipurpose community hub in the long-term – ideally this would have meeting rooms, a large hall, kitchen, accessible toilets, outdoor space with pickleball courts, AV equipment and internet, and plenty of storage.

The Lighthouse (Council Youth Space at Bright Community Centre)

- **Operations & issues:** High demand; insufficient space; accessibility issues.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Expanding into other spaces on the ground floor of the community centre; flexible outreach spaces in Myrtleford and Mount Beauty; more storage; improved accessibility.

Myrtleford Neighbourhood Centre

- **Operations & issues:** Growing demand; staff/volunteer constraints; well-located but lack of transport options; parking issues; limited funding.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Need for more space, staff, and modern facilities – namely, room dividers; support for a community hub longer-term, with consideration for diverse demographic groups, storage, a range of room sizes, kitchen, AV equipment, and accessible toilets; greater coordination with Council to avoid duplication of services (e.g., food relief).

Alpine Health Seniors' Activity Groups

- **Operations & issues:** Small groups of seniors across three locations, with a social support focus; staffing shortages; time-consuming set up and pack down at shared spaces; hire fees for the Bright church hall; wait times for the health assessment to access the service.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Program review planned for next year; need for coordination with other providers to avoid duplication, namely the neighbourhood centres; need for more varied sessions that cater to different needs (e.g. dementia), and larger spaces for larger groups.

Mount Beauty Neighbourhood Centre & Alex McCullough Hall

- **Operations & issues:** High service demand; space and facility limitations; staff and volunteer limitations; funding challenges; lack of council support.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Desire for hall replacement; renaming the community centre as the Town Hall, and keeping this as the Neighbourhood Centre; preference for independent

operation over a hub model; interest in a local Mount Beauty advisory committee for better coordination between different services/sites.

Bright Scouts

- **Operations & issues:** The only surviving scout group in the region; unclear lease arrangements; limited use of their facility; storage issues; facility shortcomings (heating, cooling, accessible toilets).
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Keen to play more of a role in community resilience and wellbeing; need for clarity on lease; desire for refurbishment of the current building rather than relocating into a multipurpose hub, but still open to sharing with other groups.

Bright, Mount Beauty and Myrtleford Historical Societies

- **Operations & issues:**
 - High and growing visitation (1,438 visitors/year), including schools, bus tours and events.
 - Building maintenance largely undertaken through volunteer fundraising; limited heating/cooling reduces comfort and FFP.
 - Significant collection volume (archives, storage, family histories, sensitive items) not well understood externally.
 - Strong sentiment that the draft CINA undervalues usage and misrepresents condition and ownership.
 - Concerns about inadequate consultation, and the inaccuracy of COM/committee descriptions.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:**
 - Maintain both museums at the current heritage sites to preserve provenance and cultural narrative.
 - Opportunities for improved storage, digital interpretation (QR codes), and more display infrastructure.
 - Desire for better Council understanding through site visits and improved engagement pathways.
 - Interest in joining a shire-wide heritage network, if re-established.

Community submissions

Bright Croquet Club

- **Operations & issues:** The club has 27 active senior members and operates primarily for social recreation (“hit and giggle” events), with regular weekly sessions across most days. It also hosts visitors, tourists, and private groups for social events (with fees) and plays an important social-connection role for older residents. A former long-term secretary expressed concern at any suggestion of relocating the club, emphasising that the current site is walkable for elderly members and provides a culturally important, attractive setting under mature trees. There is also scepticism

toward perceived under-utilisation of the nearby community centre, which some see as a “white elephant”.

- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Club representatives are open to further conversations with Council. The club wants its contribution to senior wellbeing recognised, and seeks continuity at its current location.

Submission – Museum Feedback

- **Operations & issues:** The submission expresses concern about rumours that Bright and Myrtleford museums might be turned into cafés. It argues strongly that museums are important community and visitor assets deserving enhancement, not repurposing, and that Alpine Shire’s history “needs a place to live”.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Proposes exploring grant funding to transform museums into interpretive centres with entry fees (e.g., Echuca model) to improve visitor experience and financial sustainability.

Mount Beauty Playgroup (Playgroup / Early Years)

- **Operations & issues:** Playgroup leaders challenge the CINA projection showing reduced future demand for playgroup, MCH, and toy library services. They note this conflicts with growing participation, increased births locally, and the Best Start, Best Life reforms which should increase—not reduce—early-years demand. Current use of the Lakeview space is uncertain due to kindergarten expansion needs, making the site less suitable long-term.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Strong support for a dedicated early childhood hub with secure, child-safe spaces. Short-term: formalise an agreement ensuring Playgroup can remain at Lakeview for 2–5 years. Strong endorsement for exploring year-round pool operation for child swimming and family wellbeing.

Myrtleford Museum – Usage Summary

- **Operations & issues:** Museum has a long history (founded 1984; in Old School building since 1988) and operates with a strong volunteer base. It provides exhibitions, research support, tourism interpretation, community programs, and school partnerships. Open twice weekly and by appointment, plus heavy use during festivals, history month and major events.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Long-term plans include improving storage, upgrading displays, completing floor coverings, developing digitised interpretation, expanding community programs, engaging university students, and continuing market activities.

Bright & District Historical Society (Bright Museum)

- **Operations & issues:** The Society disputes the CINA’s claims of underutilisation or low fitness-for-purpose. The submission argues the museum serves as a heritage-based cultural asset with tours, school programs, research services, and community events. They note SGS did not visit the museum or request data, resulting in inaccurate assessments. They strongly oppose any suggestion of relocating artefacts or converting the building for commercial hospitality use, citing risk to provenance, donor trust, and heritage integrity.

- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Support for enhanced educational programs, walking tours, digitisation, improved accessibility, and re-establishing an Alpine Shire Heritage Network. Request corrections to the CINA and clearer governance/lease arrangements.

Submission – Mount Beauty

- **Operations & issues:** Submission focuses on Kiewa Valley non-sporting assets. A key proposal is creating a Kiewa Valley Infrastructure Fund using proceeds from asset sales. Identifies constraints of Mount Beauty Senior Citizens' Centre (small site, limited expansion, ageing facility, etc.) and suggests land/building exchanges with Alpine Health to create a more functional service campus. Strong criticism of Mount Beauty Community Centre as an underperforming facility needing major re-design and user-led planning. Highlights diverse groups needing tailored spaces (e.g., Men's Shed, Art Group, RSL, etc.).
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Advocates for multi-group consultation, precinct-based planning, flexible hall redesign, potential relocation of VIC to AGL building, and transparent timelines for asset rationalisation.

Porepunkah Airfield Association (PAA)

- **Operations & issues:** The PAA notes disappointment that airfields are excluded from the CINA. The submission emphasises the Porepunkah Airfield as a strategic community asset supporting recreation aviation, tourism, and emergency services (regular air ambulance use). It highlights its strong social-connection role, particularly for retirees, comparing it to the value of a Men's Shed.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Request inclusion of airfields in infrastructure planning and exploration of facility upgrades to support current and future aviation and community use.

Kiewa Valley Historical Society (KVHS)

- **Operations & issues:** KVHS operates across two sites: a storage shed (suitable for large artefacts) and an office/museum within the Mount Beauty VIC. They value the partnership with VIC staff who help present the collection. They have well-developed permanent displays across four themes, plus rotating exhibitions. Key issue: inadequate storage standards and lack of mention in CINA (e.g., missing from p.53).
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Seek museum-standard storage, a building for large artefacts, improved digital connectivity, and continued co-location with a fully staffed VIC.

Mount Beauty Tennis Club

- **Operations & issues:** The Club agrees with the CINA assessment of building condition (poor; asbestos risk, deteriorated structure, blocked plumbing, etc.). Facilities lack accessibility, adequate storage, weather-appropriate shelter, showers, and sufficient internal space. Despite facility challenges, tennis participation has grown by over 200% in three years, with very high utilisation: coaching five nights/week, competitions expanding, and widespread community engagement across ages 4–78. They seek clarity on how CINA data was used and note consultation gaps.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Support consolidation via a new multi-purpose facility at the Recreation Reserve—provided tennis-specific needs are designed in (e.g., clubhouse beside courts,

secure storage, access to amenities, shade, BBQ, etc.). They identify urgent interim fixes: disability access improvements, plumbing repairs, and temporary storage solutions.

Geoff Wiling – Myrtleford Museum

- **Operations & issues:** Submission strongly defends the Myrtleford Museum as a cultural, agricultural and multicultural heritage asset. Opposes any dispersion of artefacts. Raises concerns about consultant suitability and perceived undervaluing of the museum in the draft CINA.
- **Future outlook & opportunities:** Recommends upgrading the building (heating/cooling) and employing marketing expertise to position the museum as a major tourism draw.

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