



Alpine Shire and Alpine Resorts 2019 – 2020 Bushfires

Community Recovery Committee
Expression of Interest
Information Pack
(Bright & Surrounds and
Kiewa Valley Representatives)

- Part 1:** Expression of Interest Information
- Part 2:** Frequently Asked Questions
- Part 3:** Nomination Form

**Expressions of Interest close at
7.00 pm on Monday 22 February 2021**



Part 1: Expression of Interest Information

Introduction

As a result of the serious and widespread impacts of the recent bushfires, Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria have co-ordinated the formation of an Alpine Community Recovery Committee.

The Alpine Community Recovery Committee (the Committee) represents bushfire-affected communities across Alpine Shire, ensuring local knowledge and expertise are front and centre in long term recovery planning.

The establishment of a Community Recovery Committee is a critical ingredient in supporting community-led recovery, so that affected communities can lead and drive their own recovery processes.

This information pack describes what the Alpine Community Recovery Committee does and how it was formed. We are currently looking for representatives for Bright and surrounds and the Kiewa Valley. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, please complete the nomination form in Part 3 of this Information Pack.

What does the Alpine Community Recovery Committee do?

The role of the Committee is to give a voice to the broad views and recovery goals of affected communities in Alpine Shire and to provide a link between communities, Alpine Shire Council, Bushfire Recovery Victoria and other state government agencies to address each community's priorities.

Specifically, the Committee plans, coordinates and leads the recovery process and supports recovery efforts in all affected communities.

To achieve this, the Committee will:

- engage and consult with affected communities to better understand their recovery needs and listen to their ideas. This includes providing hard to reach groups with opportunities to express their views
- develop, implement and regularly update a Community Recovery Plan that addresses short, medium and long-term recovery priorities
- keep communities informed of recovery issues, plans and actions arising from the Committee's work and celebrate successes
- advise Alpine Shire, Bushfire Recovery Victoria and other funding bodies on the allocation and prioritisation of funding for community projects and initiatives
- advocate for community recovery needs with relevant agencies
- assist with proposals to attract funding and resources to support community recovery projects
- undertake, coordinate and monitor community recovery activities

- maintain effective two-way communication on the community recovery process with Alpine Shire Council (and the Municipal Recovery Committee), Bushfire Recovery Victoria and other important stakeholders
- share experiences and learning with other Community Recovery Committees around Victoria
- contribute to evaluation processes that will improve future disaster recovery efforts.

Who are the members of the Alpine Community Recovery Committee?

In order to ensure that the Committee represents a broad cross-section of interests and views from affected communities, the Committee includes two members from each of the five bushfire affected areas:

- **Myrtleford & Surrounds** (including and not limited to serving the communities of Myrtleford, Gapsted, Rosewhite, Ovens, Happy Valley, Buffalo River, Nug Nug, Abbeyard, Dandongadale)
- **Bright & Surrounds** (including and not limited to the communities of Bright, Porepunkah, Buckland, Wandiligong, Eurobin)
- **Harrietville & Surrounds** (including and not limited to the communities of Harrietville, Freeburgh, Smoko, Germantown)
- **Dinner Plain & Surrounds**
- **Kiewa Valley & Surrounds** (including and not limited to the communities of Mount Beauty, Tawonga, Tawonga South, Dederang, Gundowring, Gundowring Upper).

Membership also includes one person from each of the two Alpine Resorts (**Falls Creek** and **Mt Hotham**).

Committee members are required to demonstrate they have an understanding of and an interest in the local area. Ratepayers who live outside Alpine Shire Council area can nominate for the Committee.

Members will be appointed to the Committee as individuals, not as formal representatives of their community, community organisation or business interest.

Members of the Committee will choose the Chair from among the Committee membership.

Membership of the Committee is an unpaid, voluntary role.

Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria will provide support to the Committee, including attending meetings. Decision making will be by the Committee members.

How will members of the Alpine Community Recovery Committee be selected?

Where more than two nominations are received, a selection panel consisting of the CRC Chair and representatives of Alpine Shire Council will be formed to consider the nominations and make member appointment recommendations to the Council and the CRC.

Part 2: Frequently Asked Questions

1. How can I have my say if I don't want to be on the Alpine Community Recovery Committee?

The Committee engages and consults with community members and interest groups to understand the recovery needs. These opportunities are advertised locally.

Any community member can contact the Committee and give their details so they can participate in any consultation and engagement processes or provide information and suggestions based on their own personal experiences.

2. How can I have my say in the current social distancing situation?

In the current pandemic environment with restrictions on meetings and community gatherings, the Committee will use a range of old and new technologies and communication processes to allow the community to participate in the community recovery.

Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria will work closely with the Committee to determine the best ways of engaging with local communities to ensure all voices are heard. This may mean there will be video conferences, or telephone meetings; and/or online, phone or paper-based surveys. More information about this will be made available once the Committee is formed.

3. Will the Alpine Community Recovery Committee actually have any influence?

Community Recovery Committees (or less formal community recovery groups) are a recognised part of the Victorian disaster recovery system. Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria are committed to supporting a community-led recovery approach that allows communities lead and drive their own recovery processes, including the identification of local recovery needs and priorities. The Committee will have relationships with a number of other stakeholders and agencies where the community's recovery needs and priorities can be represented and asserted.

4. How much money will the Alpine Community Recovery Committee have to spend?

Community Recovery Committees provide an advisory and communication role. While they are not service providers and do not have funding for projects, they do provide input to inform project design and initiatives funded by governments, philanthropic organisations and community appeals and donations.

5. How often will the Alpine Community Recovery Committee meet?

The frequency of meetings is determined by the Committee. The frequency of meetings may vary depending on the issues and level of activity. Currently, meetings are fortnightly. This may decrease over time. There may be important areas from time-to-time which require more frequent meetings for short periods.

6. When will the Alpine Community Recovery Committee end?

The Committee will continue for as long as required. The length of time will depend on the impact of the bushfires and the needs within the community and might be 12 months or much longer.

Individual membership may also evolve over time as members move in and out of the Committee due to changing circumstances, committee needs or personal circumstances.

The Committee will advise Alpine Shire Council when it believes the Committee is no longer required.

7. Who does the Alpine Community Recovery Committee report to?

The Committee reports to Alpine Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria. The Committee will establish and maintain relationships/communication with other agencies it feels would be appropriate and useful for the community recovery.

8. Who is the Alpine Community Recovery Committee accountable to?

Ultimately the Committee is accountable to the communities it speaks on behalf of.

Part 3: Nomination Form

Alpine Community Recovery Committee

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Contact number: _____

Please select the Community you are nominating to represent:

- Bright & Surrounds** (including and not limited to the communities of Bright, Porepunkah, Buckland, Wandiligong, Eurobin)

- Kiewa Valley & Surrounds** (including and not limited to the communities of Mount Beauty, Tawonga, Tawonga South, Dederang, Gundowring, Gundowring Upper, St Albans).

1. Why are you interested in being a member of the Alpine Community Recovery Committee? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 50 words)

2. Have you been directly affected by the bushfires? Yes No

If yes, please describe how you have been affected (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 50 words)

3. What is your experience with membership of committees and your capacity to be an effective Alpine Community Recovery Committee member? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 50 words)

4. What personal or cultural perspectives would you bring to the role of Committee member? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 50 words)

5. Please indicate your area of interest/expertise:

- Broad community interest, people and wellbeing, natural environment
- Business and economic
- Both

If you indicated Broad community interest, people and wellbeing, natural environment, please complete questions 6, 7 and 8.

If you indicated Business and economic, please complete questions 9 and 10.

If you indicated both categories, please complete all questions.

Broad community interest, people and wellbeing, natural environment

6. What is your involvement and/or interest in your local community? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 100 words)

7. What community networks and relationships do you have that would allow you to identify community recovery needs and communicate information from the Alpine Community Recovery Committee back to your community? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 75 words)

8. What is your capacity to provide feedback on the needs of people who might experience increased vulnerability as a result of the fires, including people with a disability; people on low incomes; or people living in isolated areas? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 75 words)

Business and economic interest

9. What is your involvement or interest in the business sector or economy of your community? (Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 100 words)

10. What business sector networks do you have that would allow you to identify business recovery needs and communicate information from the Community Recovery Committee back to the business sector?
(Please try and limit your response to a maximum of 75 words)

11. Please nominate two Alpine Shire residents and/or ratepayers who would support your nomination to the Community Recovery Committee.

Referee name	Contact phone	Contact e-mail

Submitting your nomination:

To register your interest in being a member of the Alpine Community Recovery Committee return the completed Nomination Form:

By e-mail to info@alpinecrc.org.au

If you have any questions:

Should you have any questions or require additional information about the Alpine Community Recovery Committee or this Expression of Interest, please:

Visit: alpineshire.vic.gov.au

Email: info@alpinecrc.org.au

Call: 5755 0555

Privacy information

Please note that the information you provide will only be used for the purposes of this Expression of Interest.