

Meeting notes

Yan Yean Road Upgrade – Stage 2 Community Reference Group

Date: 30 / 6 / 25

Time: 6pm

Location: Rivers of Yarrambat

Chair: Bruce Turner

Minute taker: Joshua Lim

Meeting number: 2

Attendees

Attendees (Name/Organisation)	
Barbara Marshall	Pamela Kalms
Bill Papanestoros	Angela Vorng (MRPV)
Bronwynne McPherson	Charlotte Claney (MRPV)
Claire McMorron	Daniel Kollmorgen (MRPV)
Evan Woolnough	Helena Woolums (MRPV)
Felicity Gordon	Joshua Lim (MRPV)
Joanne Jamieson	Leigh Crump (MRPV)
John Huitt	Paul Reeves (MRPV)
John Yeomans	Bruce Turner (Phoenix Facilitation)

Apologies (Name/Organisation)	
Aimee Dima	Arthur Tsoutsoulis (City of Whittlesea)

Apologies (Name/Organisation)	
Tony Field (CFA)	Liz Lambropoulos (Nillumbik Shire Council)

Key discussion points

Who	Item
Bruce Turner	<p>Welcome and apologies</p> <p>Bruce welcomed the group, noted apologies and confirmed the agenda for the meeting.</p>
All	<p>Group introductions</p> <p>For the benefit of members attending for the first time, the group went around the table to briefly introduce themselves and those who were absent from the previous meeting were invited to more fully introduce themselves to the group.</p>
<p>Leigh Crump, Angela Vorng, Daniel Kollmorgen and Helena Wollums lead</p> <p>All participate</p>	<p>Project overview</p> <p>Leigh presented a project overview map and outlined the project scope.</p> <p>Northern section update</p> <p>Angela reported that procurement for the northern section concluded two weeks ago, and the project has moved into design refinement. Key focuses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refining the intersection design, particularly the Doctors Gully Road tie-in retaining trees, especially River Red Gums at 900 Yan Yean Road collaborating with Nillumbik Council to potentially extend the Doctors Gully Road path to Doreen Primary School, which is outside the project area. <p>Angela shared three new artist impressions showing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Inn, Yan Yean and Doctors Gully roads intersection (aerial) Activity Way and Yan Yean Road intersection direct Yan Yean Road access to the Doreen Business Precinct north of Activity Way. <p>Bruce asked about vegetation maturity in the renders. Charlotte confirmed landscaping shown in the renders was at expected maturity 10 years after completion of the project.</p> <p>Felicity enquired about business parking near the southeast corner of Yan Yean and Doctors Gully roads. Daniel advised that the project is looking to provide on-street parking in the old Yan Yean Road service lane, beside the café/gelato shop and bike shop.</p> <p>Pamela questioned the size of the jug handle design (P-turn) on Doctors Gully Road. Daniel said it allows U-turns for large vehicles based on swept path analysis. Pamela noted existing safety concerns turning out of her driveway due to the road crest in that area. Angela confirmed the design details in this location are still being worked through and the team will consider this feedback.</p>

Who	Item
	<p>Action 2.1: MRPV to provide a design update for the Doctors Gully Road tie-in when available.</p> <p>Angela outlined the construction approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mostly offline works • prioritising minimal disruption, business access, and safety with the majority of works to take place behind barriers • construction to start November 2025. <p>Bill asked if a pedestrian path would be maintained during construction. Angela said a gravel path exists and efforts will be made to maintain safe access and look to provide safe access where none currently exists during construction, if possible.</p> <p>Pamela enquired about impacts on the Doreen Recreation Reserve. Daniel noted that under Whittlesea Council's 2014 masterplan, the reserve wasn't intended for competitive sport due to its small size. While some land will be acquired, it remains suitable for leisure use.</p> <p>John H suggested acquiring private land north of Yan Yean Road to compensate. Daniel said this isn't being considered but the team is working closely with Council on the reserve's future use.</p> <p>John H also asked about the Laurimar sewer line status. MRPV took the question on notice and will follow up.</p> <p>Action 2.2: MRPV to investigate and confirm the status of the Laurimar sewer line.</p> <p>Felicity supported extending the Doctors Gully Road path to the primary school. Leigh confirmed discussions with Council and the school are underway but noted that Council would need to construct the out-of-scope section.</p> <p>Southern section update</p> <p>Daniel reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agreement reached with Yarra Valley Water to relocate the pump station near Ironbark Road. Detailed design now underway. • Council approval obtained for works near the golf course. Detailed design for the 10th hole progressing with specialist consultants. • site investigations and service proving began last week with traffic management in place. Works may extend into school holidays to reduce disruption. Non-Destructive Digging is being used to precisely locate underground utilities. The southern section is likely to begin construction around mid-2026. <p>Claire asked about a 2020 artist impression that shows a large fence at Yarrambat Park Golf Course. Charlotte clarified it was from the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process and remains online as all EES documents and supplementary documents are required to stay online for the duration of the project. Claire asked who approved the EES and Charlotte confirmed it was the Minister for Planning. Helena explained that fence height restrictions stem from Federal Government protections for the endangered Swift Parrot, which is vulnerable to mesh fence collisions. Fences must not exceed 2.5m. Daniel added the team is redesigning the 10th hole with Nillumbik Shire Council and Belgravia Leisure to direct play away from the road, with bunkers to be added as an extra deterrent.</p>

Who	Item
	<p>Joanne asked about realigning Bannons Lane near the golf course. Daniel said project approvals require investigation of safe golf course access from the north. Design and traffic analysis is underway to explore feasible options, which may take several months.</p> <p>John H said a councillor mentioned a potential study into a 4-way intersection at Bannons Lane. Daniel responded that the project design wouldn't prevent a future fourth leg being added. John H also questioned the need for the jug handle at Jorgensen Avenue. Daniel said it will be essential for large vehicles accessing properties. Even with a future 4-way intersection, the jug handle would still be necessary for large vehicles to perform a U-turn which cannot be undertaken at typical traffic lights due to space constraints.</p> <p>Joanne noted the jug handle will be signalised, allowing safe U-turns for vehicles like horse floats exiting Yarrambat Park.</p>
	<p>Environment</p> <p>Helena provided an overview of the Environmental Management Framework (EMF), which was developed through and as a result of the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process. The EES involved technical experts, stakeholder and community feedback, and shaped how the project is assessed and managed. Rather than requiring separate approvals for each component, the EMF acts as a rulebook guiding the entire project, not just environmental aspects but also traffic, access and business considerations.</p> <p>Helena explained that the EMF outlines key requirements for the project. For example, as previously mentioned, the original design included a tall fence along the golf course, but it was removed due to potential impacts on the critically endangered Swift Parrot. Many micro-level decisions like whether specific trees can be retained aren't made until the detailed design stage, when underground services and exact alignments are known.</p> <p>The EMF includes 48 Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs), covering all project elements. Helena highlighted that the EMF governs two phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed design – for example where specific design decisions are made e.g. retaining a tree. • construction – for example where impacts such as dust, noise, vibration and water runoff must be managed. <p>During construction, Management Plans are prepared by the contractor to address these impacts. These plans are independently audited, and audits are made publicly available to confirm both compliance with the design and construction components of the EMF and related management plans.</p> <p>Evan asked about the location of the site compound. Daniel advised that options are being explored, but no decision has been made yet. The final location will be determined by the contractor once appointed.</p>
	<p>Communications and stakeholder engagement update</p> <p>Paul noted that some members had heard about site investigations through non-MRPV channels. He asked if anyone had received an MRPV email update. A few confirmed they had. Paul explained that email alerts are the project's primary way of notifying the community about upcoming disruptions and sought group consent to subscribe all CRG members to updates. All agreed.</p>

Who	Item
	<p>Paul highlighted that the Big Build Contact Centre is the main point of contact, directing enquiries to the relevant project team members.</p> <p>Paul outlined the main communication tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Update newsletters – broad project overviews for the coming months • works notifications – distributed to letterboxes near upcoming works with more specific information • doorknocks – used for residents directly impacted by works. <p>MRPV also uses existing community channels, such as school newsletters, and is open to other suggestions. Pamela recommended reaching local seniors' groups and provided the Doreen Seniors Club email to Charlotte for inclusion in the mailing list.</p> <p>Joanne asked if multiple contractors would be involved. Paul confirmed one contractor for the northern section and at least one contractor for the southern section. Daniel clarified that while Decmil is the preferred contractor for the north, the contract is not yet awarded.</p> <p>Paul advised that community information sessions will be held at Yarrambat Park Golf Course and Yarrambat Primary School in late July, with plans to run regular drop-in sessions at the golf course going forward.</p>
Bruce Turner	<p>Close</p> <p>Bruce invited the absent members from the previous meeting to sign on to the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Bruce confirmed the next meeting will be held online on Monday 28 July 2025.</p>