

Exeter Park

Plan of Management

Final September 2010



Making the Shire a better place in which to live

Disclaimer

This document may only be used for the purposes for which it was commissioned in accordance with the scope of services described in agreement between Micris Management Services and Wingecarribee Shire Council.

This document relies upon data, surveys and site inspections results taken at or under the particular time and/or conditions specified herein.

Any representation, statement, opinion or advice, expressed or implied in this publication is made in good faith however on the basis that Micris Management Services, its agents and employees are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of any representation, statement, or advice referred to above.

Changes to available information, legislation and schedules are made on an ongoing basis and readers should obtain up to date information.

Any finding, conclusion or recommendations only apply to the aforementioned circumstances and no greater reliance should be assumed or drawn by the client.

Micris Management Services Pty Ltd accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for or in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report and its supporting material by any other parties.

Unauthorised use of this report in any format is prohibited.

© Micris Management Services Pty Ltd, 2010

Document Status							
Issue	Rev	Issued To	Qty	Date	Reviewer	Approved for Issue	
						Name	Date
Draft	0.0	Wingecarribee Shire Council	4	3/05/2010	Peter Byrne	Peter Bowmer	11/05/2010
Final	0.0	Wingecarribee Shire Council	2	27/08/2010	Peter Bowmer	Peter Bowmer	31/08/2010

Printed	3 rd September 2010
Author	Michael Di Ramio
Client	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Project Name	Exeter Park Plan of Management
Document Name	Plan of Management
Document Version	Final

Exeter Park

Plan of Management

Final September 2010



Micris Management Services Pty Ltd

PO Box 338, Campsie NSW 2096

Phone: (02) 9037 4835

Fax: (02) 9591 6932

Email: info@micris-mgt.com

Web: www.micris-mgt.com

Adopted by Council 8th December 2011

Minute No. OC 259/10

Making the Shire a better place in which to live

Foreword

The Local Government Act requires that Council have in place a Plan of Management for all Community Land. Community Land generally includes Parks and Reserves, Bushland and Community Facilities such as Community Centres, where the land is owned by Council or under Council's care and control.

This Plan of Management has been prepared to comply with the Local Government Act 1993, as amended and the Local Government (General) Regulation which commenced on 1st January 1999. This plan has been prepared to reflect the needs of:

- Council as managers of the land;
- All user groups;
- Local residents as users and neighbours of the land;
- Visitors and tourists; and
- The local community as custodians of the community assets.

Community input into the Plans of Management

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that all plans of management be placed on public display for a minimum period of 28 days. A minimum period of 42 days after the draft is placed on exhibition is allowed for written submissions to be made to Council.

Submissions provide an opportunity for the community and other stakeholders, to express opinions, provide information and suggest alternatives to the proposed Management Strategies for Community Land within the Shire. On closure of the period of public comment, and after consideration of submissions received, Council may decide to amend the draft Plan of Management, or adopt it without further amendment. If a Council adopts an amended plan without public exhibition of the amended draft plan, it must give public notice of that adoption and of the terms of the amended Plan of Management, as soon as practicable after the adoption.

Public Hearing Land Categorisation

In accordance with Section 40A of the Local Government Act 1999, a public hearing was held on 3rd October 2007, in respect to the categorisation of the land.

Acknowledgements

This Plan of Management has been prepared by Micris Management Services Pty Ltd for Wingecarribee Shire Council's Parks and Property Branch, with contributions from Council's Information Technology and Strategic Planning Branches.

This plan has been prepared following consultation with user groups, key stakeholders and the local community. A community workshop was held 5th September 2007.

Numerous individuals and groups have contributed valuable ideas and information in the preparation of this plan and their efforts are gratefully acknowledged. In particular the contribution of those individuals who were involved in the preparation of the plan is sincerely appreciated. This includes:

Wingecarribee Shire Council

Peter Bowmer, Peter Byrne, Karen Allison and Chris Richmond

Exeter Park Management Committee

Lloyd Bruce

Exeter Village Association

Peter Grigg

Highlands District Cricket Association Inc

Terry Loader

Exeter Soccer Club

Sean Elphick and Steven Granger

Exeter Park Tennis Club

RL Whitbreao and David Hanes

Exeter Park Croquet Club

Nan Saint – John and Murray Loane

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This Plan of Management provides the framework for managing Exeter Park. Designated as a Significant Area by Wingecarribee Shire Council, this Reserve is highly valued by the local community and visitors alike. Exeter Park is an outstanding resource of in terms of its scenic, environmental, social and passive recreational values. It plays a vital role in Wingecarribee's open space system. This Plan of Management provides a comprehensive framework for management of all activities within the Park.

This Plan takes a value based approach to land planning and management, identifying the Parks key values, role and purpose so that these assets may be protected and enhanced. The Parks unique qualities, its environmental sensitivity and susceptibility to changing uses are all defining criteria for the way in which this land must be managed. Issues will come and go but the values which make Exeter Park unique are more enduring. However, these values can be easily lost, damaged or diminished so it is important to ensure their protection for the enjoyment of this generation as well as for generations to come. The issues currently or potentially threatening these values are therefore central to the Plan of Management.

Wingecarribee Shire Council's approach in facilitating this process and providing opportunities for extensive consultation has significantly improved understanding of these values and issues amongst stakeholders and the broader community. The following issues were discussed during the public discussions:

Access and Parking

- Improved access to the Exeter Park
- Formalisation of a car park area and provision of additional car parking spaces
- Limit vehicle access to car park area only
- Segregate vehicles from park users (children), with the exception of emergency vehicles
- Informal circulation access throughout the park

Development

- Enhance the identification of the park for visitors to the area
- Improvements to the park infrastructure based on the masterplan accompanying this PoM
- Improved sporting facilities and passive open space
- Improve the public amenity
- Improvements to the community hall and tennis facility
- Additional amenities are required for the other sporting codes

During the development of this Plan of Management, a public amenities building was identified as a high priority to all stakeholders however the location and concept design of the building has been the subject of constant discussion and to date has not been resolved.

Maintenance and Facilities

- All future landscape improvements should be designed to enhance vistas and views
- Maintenance programs developed for the site shall be prepared to improve the standard of the open space, sporting facilities and community facilities
- Ensure future facilities or upgrades comply with the needs of the community

Safety

- Conflict between cars and park users
- Insufficient flood lighting (within the oval) for training

Park Character

The main issue that was consistent with all stakeholders and user groups was to ensure that any improvements or upgrade would not adversely affect the character of Exeter Park. That is Exeter Park is commonly known both locally and regionally for its English style character which forms part of the Exeter Village.

Any improvements to the park weather landscape or built environment should be consistent with the character of the park.

Basis for Management

Reflecting community values expressed through community consultation, the Plan defines the Parks values, its role and purpose in the context of being a Significant Area and Community Reserve. The following key values were identified as part of the development of this Plan of Management:

- Health Values
- Recreational Values
- Social Values
- Natural Values

These values are affected, and in some cases potentially threatened, by a broad range of uses, actions, management practices, development and lease proposals. Some of these threats, opportunities and constraints are current while others may not yet exist. The Plan seeks to address all of these current and potential issues within an appropriate planning framework which will ensure the protection of the Park's identified values, role and purpose.

The vision statement for Exeter Park encapsulates these values, provides guiding principles and addresses the fundamental expectations of the community as follows:

To recognise Exeter Park as a “significant place” in Wingecarribee Shire Council’s open space system, ensuring protection and conservation of identified values through appropriate management, in a way which best meets the environmental, recreational, educational and social needs of the present community and future generations.

Management Principles

In accordance with this vision statement, the Plan has established a set of management principles which will determine the direction Wingecarribee Shire Council as the Land Owners and the Reserve Trust Managers will follow in implementing the specific strategies, and are summarised as follows:

- Recognise, protect and enhance the understanding, protection and restoration of the natural landscape and ecological values of the Park;
- Permit a wide range of recreational opportunities compatible with the natural/physical, scenic and cultural features of the Park, in response to community needs;
- Encourage community “ownership” and use of the park
- Encourage and promote public use by providing a range of high quality, safe, accessible and enjoyable recreational and leisure facilities;
- Adopt Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and Safer by Design principles in managing the park to minimise vandalism and increase personal safety in the park.
- Protect and enhance the visual and social values of the Park;
- Provide opportunities for informal recreation and social interaction.
- Ensure continued free public access.

Action Plan

The above principles were used in the development of the management strategies or desired outcomes form the basis by which the Parks values can be managed and protected on a sustainable basis. Performance measures and priorities for action have been assigned accordingly. The masterplan identifies the physical locations and relationships of proposed actions within the Park.

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	iii
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Community Land.....	1
1.2 What is a Plan of Management	1
1.3 Definition of a Plan of Management	2
1.4 Role of a Plan of Management	2
1.5 Land to which this Plan of Management Applies	3
1.6 Purpose of this Plan of Management	4
1.7 Process of Preparing this Plan of Management.....	5
1.7.1 The Planning Process	5
1.7.2 Local Government Act	5
1.7.3 Community Consultation.....	7
1.7.4 Methods of Communication	7
1.7.5 Management Issues	8
1.7.5.1 Access and Parking.....	8
1.7.5.2 Development	8
1.7.5.3 Maintenance and Facilities	9
1.7.5.4 Safety.....	9
1.7.5.5 Park Character	9
1.8 What is included in this Plan of Management	9
2.0 DESCRIPTION OF EXETER PARK.....	11
2.1 Location and Context.....	11
2.2 Significance of Exeter Park	13
2.3 Park Name.....	14
2.4 Land Ownership	14
2.4.1 Introduction.....	14
2.4.2 Community Land	15
2.4.3 Leases and Licences in Exeter Park.....	15
2.4.4 Key Stakeholders in Exeter Park.....	16
2.4.5 Zoning Plan.....	16
2.5 History of the Area	18
2.6 Heritage Significance for Exeter School of Arts Hall	22
2.7 Physical Characteristics	24
2.7.1 Climate.....	24
2.7.2 Landform, Soil and Drainage	25
Geology and Soil.....	25
Topography	27
Drainage	28
2.7.3 Flora and Fauna	29
2.7.4 Visual Assessment	30
Character	31
2.8 Access and Circulation	32
2.8.1 Access to the Park	32
2.8.2 Circulation within the Park	33

2.9	Current Facilities	34
2.10	Use of Exeter Park	39
2.10.1	<i>Introduction</i>	39
2.10.2	<i>Informal Activities</i>	40
2.10.3	<i>Organised Use</i>	40
2.10.5	<i>Prohibited Uses</i>	40
3.0	LEGISLATIVE AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS	41
3.1	Principles of Community Land Management	41
3.2	Council Dealings with Community Land	42
3.3	Leases or Licences on Community Land.....	42
3.3.1	<i>Granting a Lease or Licence on Community Land</i>	42
3.3.2	<i>Conditions of Granting a Lease or Licence</i>	42
3.3.3	<i>Events Exempt from Lease or Licence</i>	43
3.4	Strategic Documents used in the Preparation of this Plan	43
3.5	Other Relevant legislation and Policies	43
4.0	LEGISLATION RELATING TO EXETER PARK.....	44
4.1	Councils role in managing Exeter Park	44
4.2	Categories of Community Land	44
4.2.1	<i>General Community Use</i>	44
4.2.2	<i>Park</i>	44
4.2.3	<i>Sportsground</i>	44
4.2.4	<i>An Area of Cultural Significance</i>	45
4.2.5	<i>Natural Area</i>	45
4.3	Categorisation of Land within Exeter Park.....	46
4.3.1	<i>Land Categorisation</i>	46
4.4	Core Objectives	47
4.4.1	<i>General community use objectives</i>	47
4.4.2	<i>Park objectives</i>	47
4.4.3	<i>Sportsground objectives</i>	47
4.5	Express Authorisation of Lease / Licences	48
4.6	Easements	48
4.7	Authorised Development	48
5.0	BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT	49
5.1	Council's Management Goals	49
5.2	Council's Strategic Direction.....	50
5.3	Community Values	51
5.3.1	<i>Health Values</i>	51
5.3.2	<i>Recreational Values</i>	51
5.3.3	<i>Social Values</i>	51
5.3.4	<i>Natural Values</i>	52
5.4	Roles of the Area.....	52
5.5	Vision and Objectives for the Park.....	52
5.5.1	<i>Vision for Management</i>	52
5.5.2	<i>Management Principles</i>	53

6.0	STRATEGIES and ACTION PLANS.....	54
6.1	Passive and Sports facilities	55
6.1.1	<i>Amenities and Facilities</i>	55
6.1.2	<i>Access</i>	57
6.1.3	<i>Erosion and Stormwater</i>	58
6.1.4	<i>Management</i>	59
6.2	Community facilities	60
6.2.1	<i>Exeter Hall</i>	60
7.0	MASTER PLAN	61
8.0	IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW	63
8.1	Implementation of this Plan of Management	63
8.2	Review of this Plan of Management	63
9.0	APPENDIX.....	64
9.1	Funding and Grant Sources.....	64
9.1.1	<i>Council Funding</i>	64
9.1.2	<i>Grant Funding</i>	65
9.2	Statutory Provisions.....	67
9.3	References.....	75
	ATTACHMENT A – Australian Climate Classification Groups	77
	ATTACHMENT B – Exeter Park Community Questionnaire Results	79

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	The extent of Exeter Park that is covered by this Plan of Mgt
Figure 2	Plan of Management Process
Figure 3	Location Map of Exeter within the Southern Highlands
Figure 4	Location and context of Exeter Park
Figure 5	Exeter Park as covered by this Plan of Management
Figure 6	Land Ownership Plan in Exeter Park
Figure 7	Heritage Plan of Exeter Park and surrounding areas
Figure 8	Zoning Plan for Exeter Park and Surrounding Land
Figure 9	Part of Sutton Forest Parish Map
Figure 10	A mud map of Exeter Park drawn by the 52 nd Division Ordinance Workshop Corps in April 1942
Figure 11	Typical Soil Profile
Figure 12	1:25,000 Topographical Map showing Indigo Creek
Figure 13	Accesses and Circulation Plan for Exeter Park
Figure 14	Key facilities in Exeter Park
Figure 15	Exeter Park Categorisation Plan
Figure 16	Exeter Park Masterplan

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	Stakeholder and Community Workshops
Table 2	Structure of this Plan of Management
Table 3	Contents of a Plan of Management for community land
Table 4	Overview of Exeter Park
Table 5	Key Stakeholders in Exeter Park
Table 6	Average climate conditions by seasons
Table 7	Average climate conditions by months
Table 8	Exeter Soil Profile
Table 9	Exeter Park soil report
Table 10	Condition Assessment
Table 11	Lease and licences consent levels
Table 12	Proposed action plan for Amenities & Facilities
Table 13	Proposed action plan for access
Table 14	Proposed action plan for Erosion and Stormwater
Table 15	Proposed action plan for Management
Table 16	Proposed action plan for Exeter Hall

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Community Land*

Local Government councils own and manage a variety of land. All the land that councils own or manage, with five exceptions is called ‘public land’ under the Local Government Act, 1993.

The five types of land that are not included in councils’ collection of public land are:

- A public road;
- Land to which the Crown Lands Act 1989 applies;
- A common;
- Land subject to the Trustees of Schools of Arts Enabling Act 1902; and
- A regional park under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Public land must be classified as one of two forms of public land, either as ‘community land’, or as ‘operational land’. Operational is land that Councils may deal with in a relatively unfettered manner – it can be leased or licensed, managed or even sold without the restrictions that apply to community land. Operational land is land that council may regard as a temporary asset or as an investment, or intends to use in a way that will significantly restrict the community’s use or access to the land. Council works depots or administrative buildings are good examples of operational land uses.

Community land is land for which Councils must prepare a ‘Plan of Management’; to set out the directions and practices Council intends to follow to manage the land. Councils may not sell community land, unless it is re-classified as operational land, and Councils are not allow to enter into any leases, or licences (other than for certain short-term casual uses) unless the Plan of Management authorises the agreement. Councils adopt a community land Plan of Management to give the Plan of Management force under the Local Government Act, 1993.

The Plan of Management also ‘categorises’ the community land to help define the suitable uses and development. Guidelines are provided in the Local Government (General) Regulation, 1999, to help Councils categorise the community land, and ‘core objectives’ are provided in the Local Government Act, 1993, to provide the basic planning, development and management framework for Council and community use of community land.

1.2 *What is a Plan of Management*

A Plan of Management is a document that identifies issues affecting public open space, and outlines how that open space is intended to be used, improved and managed in the future. A Plan of Management is typically accompanied by a Masterplan that shows proposed on-the-ground changes to that open space.

1.3 Definition of a Plan of Management

The Local Government Act 1993, as amended and the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998 requires that all public land owned by Council be classified as either community land or operational land. Generally speaking, community land refers to any property which is retained for use by the general public, whilst operational land need not be retained for public use. Local Government must prepare a Plan of Management for all Community Land, to ensure that an endorsed framework guides the operation and development of these community resources.

Plans of Management are public documents, and as such require stakeholders to be involved in their formation. A process of research and community consultation provides opportunities for community participation and involvement, establishing a sense of ownership in stakeholders and contributing to the ongoing success of the plans.

Until a Plan of Management for Community Land is adopted, the nature and use of the land cannot be changed and Council cannot carry out new development or improvements to the land.

Plans of Management assist Council to budget and source funds for the future maintenance, improvement and development of community land. Each plan provides Council with a current survey of its resources, a guideline for expenditure and plans for the development of the site.

This Plan of Management has been prepared in order to achieve a balanced, responsible and sustainable use of the land and to ensure that it addresses the needs of local user groups and the broader community. It identifies appropriate outcomes for the site and provides a way of achieving these outcomes through a series of clear management objectives and supporting strategies and actions.

This Plan of Management supersedes any other Plan of Management prepared for this site.

1.4 Role of a Plan of Management

A Plan of Management fulfils a number of functions. It sets out planning and design opportunities and constraints through the categorisation of the community land, the inclusion of core and other objectives, the development of performance targets, identification of the means to achieve the targets (the action), and the methods used to assess the success of the performance targets.

The Plan of Management is a council commitment to the use and management of the land. It provides direction for both Council and community in the planning and management of the land. The Plan of Management is placed on public exhibition and the community has the opportunity to make submissions and comments on the draft Plan of Management.

This Plan of Management will also enable a master plan, and proposals for development and conservation of the lands, to be considered by the community, and approved by Wingecarribee Shire Council's adoption of the Plan of Management.

A Plan of Management also authorises certain uses and activities on the community land. When community land is categorised, each category and its objectives will generally define the suitable uses of the land, and any proposed developments and agreements, such as leases and licences need to be consistent with the objectives of the category.

1.5 Land to which this Plan of Management Applies

This Plan of Management applies to the Exeter Park, which is approximately 6.7 hectares in area. The land within Exeter Park is owned by Wingecarribee Shire Council. Exeter Park is one of the key sporting and leisure facilities within the southern side of the Shire. Consequently, this Plan of Management has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Key features of Exeter Park include:

- Its prominent location within the Exeter Township;
- Four different sporting codes;
- Sporting fields and amenities building;
- Public Reserve for informal recreation;
- Children's play area;
- Exeter Community Centre;
- Mature planting in a pleasantly landscaped setting;



Figure 1 – The plan above shows the extent of Exeter Park that is covered by this Plan of Management

1.6 Purpose of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management has been prepared by Wingecarribee Shire Council under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as amended which requires Councils to prepare Plans of Management for all land under Council ownership or control classified as community land.

This Plan of Management aims to provide a clear, concise and practical framework for the management of Exeter Park. It aims to be performance oriented in order to contribute towards Council achieving its strategic goals, vision, mission and outcomes. As a means of achieving these aims, the plan uses a values-based approach to land planning and management. This approach facilitates strategies which will protect and enhance values, whilst identifying the issues which may pose a threat to these values. It ensures the longer-term objectives of sustainable management.

The primary purpose of this plan is to provide the community, users and Wingecarribee Shire Council with a clear statement on the future use and management of Exeter Park. The efficient and appropriate management of this land is essential if its value to the community is to be maintained and enhanced.

The Plan of Management will be consistent with Council's other policies and plans, ensuring a strategic vision and approach to open space across the Wingecarribee LGA.

The plan will comply with the Local Government Act 1993, as amended and the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998 and other relevant legislation in relation to the preparation of Plans of Management.

This Plan of Management will cover the development and management actions of the land for community purposes, over the life of this plan.

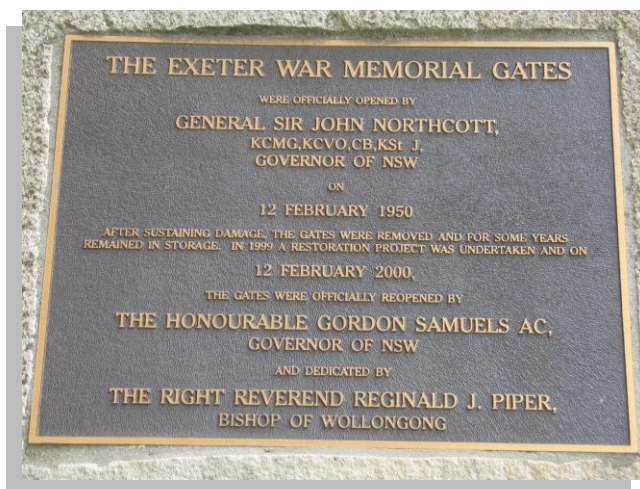


Photo2- Main entrance to Exeter Park.

Photo 1- Plaque for front gates to Exeter Park



1.7 Process of Preparing this Plan of Management

1.7.1 The Planning Process

The planning process for this Plan of Management is based on a number of principles. These are:

- Using community values as a basis for management;
- Adopting a consultative approach, incorporating input from stakeholders; including Council officers, government authorities and the local community to ensure the plan reflects the visions and values of all;
- Providing site specific analysis information to add value;
- Providing practical recommendations which are achievable in the short term; and
- Incorporating the Landscape Master Plan.

The process undertaken to prepare this Plan of Management follows the guidelines as set out in “Public Land Management” – Department of Local Government, 2000.

1.7.2 Local Government Act

Division 2 – Use and Management of Community Land; within the Local Government Act 1993 outlines the requirements involved in developing a Draft Plan of Management. Once a Plan of Management is in Draft format, the Plan is placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days, with a further 14 days allowed for written comments.

The development of this Plan of Management for Exeter Park may be divided into four phases.

The ***first phase*** - understanding the site, this phase includes reviewing the background of the site incorporating all reports, historical information and correspondence relating to the site, a detailed site analysis including a site survey.

The ***second phase*** covers all consultation and workshops with all major stakeholders, user groups including any Government Agency with an interest in the site.

The ***third phase*** covers the preparation and review of the Plan of Management and masterplan.

The ***final phase*** covers the exhibition, review of public submissions and Council adoption of the plan.

A detailed process of the steps involved in the development of this Plan of Management is shown in Figure 2.

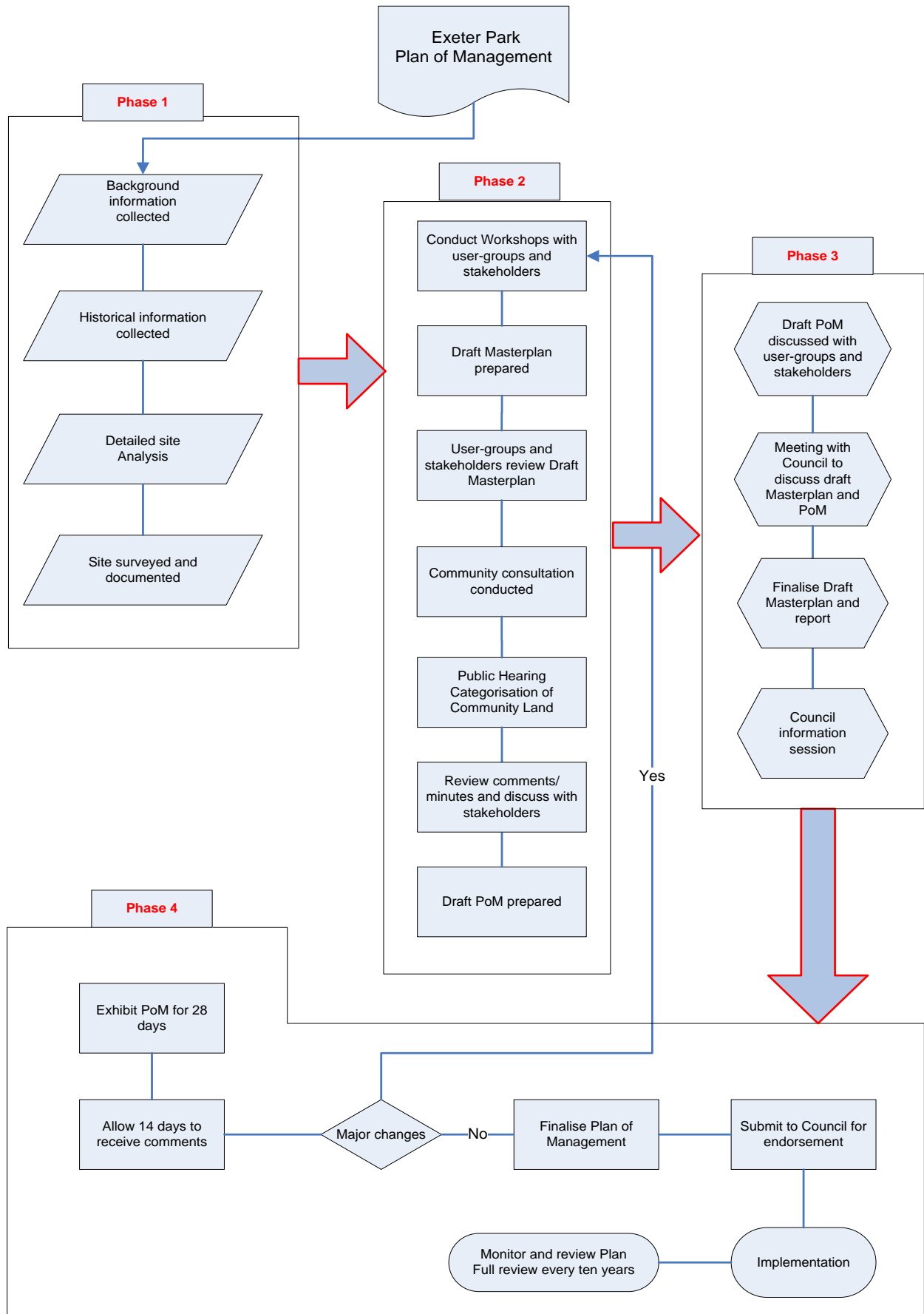


Figure 2 –Plan of Management Process

1.7.3 Community Consultation

Wingecarribee Shire Council actively seeks the involvement of the community in the preparation of its Plans of Management to ensure the plans address community desires, values and needs and to ensure they comply with the Local Government Act, 1993, and the 1998 amendments. The main advantages of involving the community in the process are that it:

- Creates a sense of ownership with the Reserve;
- Taps into the large amount of local knowledge about the site, and;
- Advises and keeps the community informed.

Community consultation is a vital component in the preparation of this Plan of Management as well as in the Public Exhibition/ submission period following release of the Draft. The purpose of this community consultation is to identify the values attached to this Community Land being Public Reserve and to provide a forum in which to collect and understand related community issues.

1.7.4 Methods of Communication

A number of workshops with key stakeholders were conducted. The workshops were designed to allow stakeholders to have an active involvement in the development of the Plan of Management and Masterplan. A list of the workshops held is shown in *Table 1*

The proposed changes to Exeter Park were presented to the community via a community workshop. The workshop was advertised by distributing 300 flyers via Post Office Boxes at Exeter Post Office (as Exeter residences do not have letter boxes at the front of their properties) and advertising the workshop in the Southern Highland News on 22nd and 29th August 2007. The community workshop was held at Wingecarribee Shire Council on the 5th September 2007.

Comments from the general community were invited on the day, and via the community questionnaire. Participants were encouraged to complete a questionnaire outlining their values, issues and thoughts regarding the site. 38 of the questionnaire sheets were completed and returned to Council. A summary of the questionnaire results may be found in Attachment B.

A preliminary draft Plan of Management was developed based on the consultation undertaken with stakeholders and the community incorporating the results of the community and user group questionnaires.

The draft Plan of Management was exhibited for public comment for a period of six (6) weeks between 17th May 2010 and the 16th June 2010. Five submissions resulting from the public exhibition of the Draft Plan of Management were received during this period. Comments were considered, presented to Council and incorporated into the final Plan of Management as appropriate.

A final draft of the Plan of Management was prepared taking into account the issues raised during the exhibition period, as well as any comments received from the proposed categorisation of community land report.

Table 1 Stakeholder and Community Workshops

<i>Workshop/meetings</i>	<i>Date</i>
Initial meeting with Council	13 th April 2007
Workshop with Council	12 th July 2007
Workshop with Exeter Village Association	17 th July 2007
Workshop with Soccer and Cricket Club	17 th July 2007
Workshop with Croquet Club	25 th July 2007
Workshop with Tennis Club	25 th July 2007
Workshop with Exeter Park Mgt Committee	15 th August 2007
Meeting with Council	21 st August 2007
Workshop with Schools	25 th August 2007
Workshop with Rural Fire Services - Exeter	31 st August 2007
Workshop with Exeter Park Mgt Committee	03 rd September 2007
Community workshop	05 th September 2007
Meeting with Council	07 th September 2007
Meeting with Council	19 th February 2008
Meeting with Council	24 th July 2009

1.7.5 Management Issues

Issues have the potential to challenge the core objectives and community values that form the basis of how Exeter Park should be managed. Based on workshops conducted and community feedback the following issues have been identified.

1.7.5.1 Access and Parking

- Improved access to the Exeter Park
- Formalisation of a car park area and provision of additional car parking spaces
- Limit vehicle access to car park area only
- Segregate vehicles from park users (children), with the exception of emergency vehicles
- Informal circulation access throughout the park

1.7.5.2 Development

- Enhance the identification of the park for visitors to the area
- Improvements to the park infrastructure based on the masterplan accompanying this PoM
- Improved sporting facilities and passive open space
- Improve the public amenity
- Improvements to the community hall and tennis facility
- Additional amenities are required for the other sporting codes

During the development of this Plan of Management, a public amenities building was identified as a high priority to all stakeholders however the location and concept design of the building has been the subject of constant discussion and to date has not been resolved. The final position of the amenities building will be subject to Councils LUA conditions, further stakeholder consultation, budget restrictions and any other items that will have an impact on the proposed building.

1.7.5.3 Maintenance and Facilities

- All future landscape improvements should be designed to enhance vistas and views
- Maintenance programs developed for the site shall be prepared to improve the standard of the open space, sporting facilities and community facilities
- Ensure future facilities or upgrades comply with the needs of the community

1.7.5.4 Safety

- Conflict between cars and park users
- Insufficient flood lighting (within the oval) for training

1.7.5.5 Park Character

The main issue that was consistent with all stakeholders and user groups was to ensure that any improvements or upgrade would not adversely affect the character of Exeter Park. That is Exeter Park is commonly known both locally and regionally for its English style character which forms part of the Exeter Village.

Any improvements to the park weather landscape or built environment should be consistent with the character of the park.

1.8 What is included in this Plan of Management

This Plan of management is divided into the following sections, as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2 – Structure of this Plan of Management

Section	What is covered
1. Introduction	Background to the Plan of Management, community consultation, and management issues relating to the Park.
2. Description of Exeter Park	History, facilities, uses, physical description.
3. Legislative and Statutory Requirements	State Government planning legislation, local planning context.
4. Legislation Relating to Exeter Park	Land categorisation, core objectives, leases and licences.
5. Basis for Management	Council's strategic direction, community values, role of the area, vision for the Park, management objectives for the Park.
6. Strategies and Action Plans	Strategies and actions to resolve management issues identified.

Table 2 – Structure of this Plan of Management (continued)

Section	What is covered
7. Masterplan	Concept Masterplan developed as a result of community consultation.
8. Implementation and Review	Implementation review and monitoring of the Plan of Management.
9. Appendix	Funding and statutory provisions.

Requirements of the Local Government Act for the contents of a Plan of Management, and where they can be found in this Plan, are listed in Table 3.

Table 3 - Contents of a Plan of Management for community land

Requirement of the Local Government Act	How this plan satisfies the Act
The category of community land.	Section 4
The objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land.	Section 6
A means for assessing the achievement of the plans objectives and performance targets.	Section 6
A description of the condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land as at the date of adoption of the Plan of Management.	Section 2
A description of the use of the land and any such buildings or improvements as at the date of adoption of the Plan of Management.	Section 2
The purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used.	Sections 2, 3
The purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise.	Sections 3, 4
A description of the scale and intensity of any such permitted use or development.	Section 2
The core objectives for management of community land for the category nominated.	Section 4
Public hearing in relation to proposed plans of management.	Section 4
Leases, licences or other estates in respect of community land.	Section 4

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF EXETER PARK

2.1 Location and Context

Exeter Park is located in the township of Exeter within the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. The Southern Highlands lies within one and a half hour drive of Sydney and Canberra, and two and a half hour's from the South Coast (Batemans Bay).

Exeter Park is located approximately 30.5km south southwest of Mittagong, 20.5km from Bowral and 9km from Moss Vale. The Southern Highlands is a rural area mixed with larger towns and small historic villages. Exeter village is located halfway between Sutton Forest and Bundanoon.

Exeter Park is located at the north western entrance to the village, off Exeter Road, with the south eastern side of the Park bounded by Badgery Way, and private property surrounding the north and western side of the site. Exeter Park is positioned adjacent to the historic Anglican Church with the Railway and original cottages (now the local shops and a holiday accommodation) in close proximity.

The majority of the land surrounding Exeter Park is residential and special purpose (Railway). The catchment area is made up of a variety of different land uses including residential / rural areas, business and community land. Figure 3 shows the location of Exeter within the Southern Highlands while Figure 4 shows the location and context of Exeter Park.

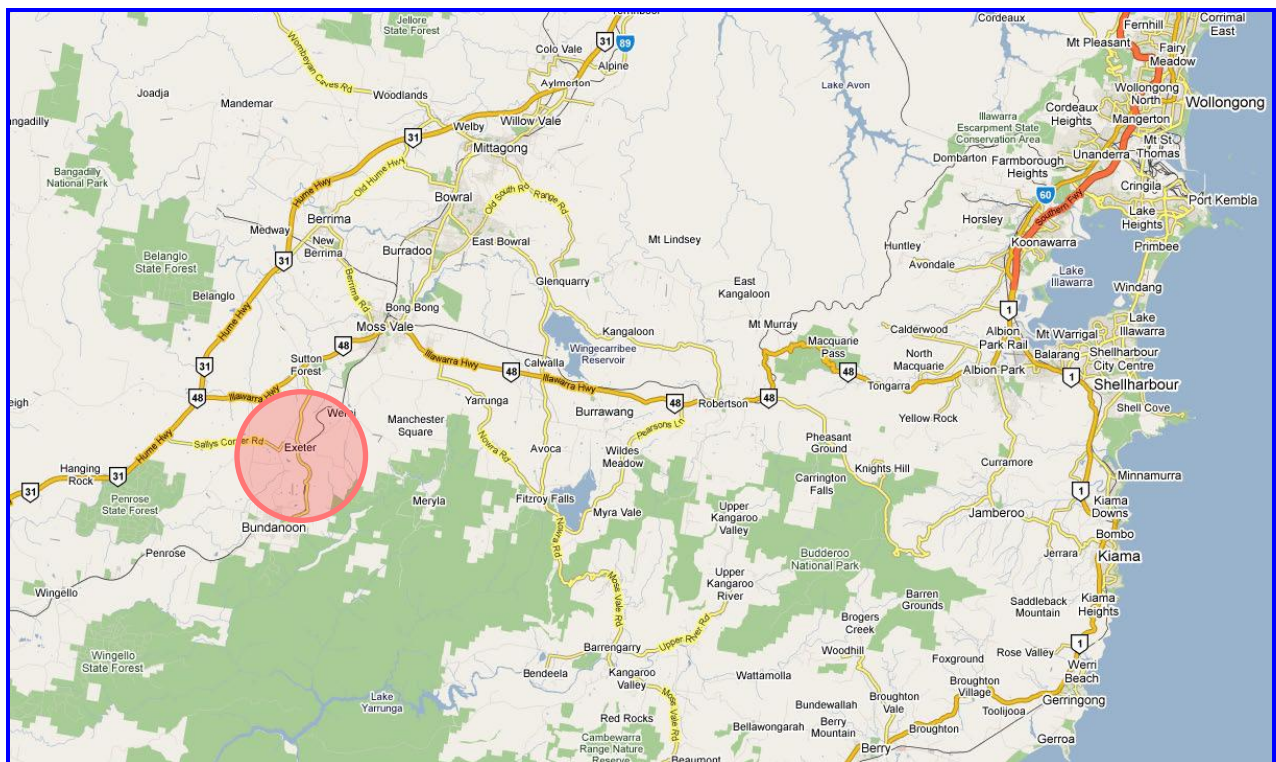


Figure 3 - Location Map of Exeter within the Southern Highlands



Figure 4 - Location and context of Exeter Park

Exeter is a small village towards the southern edge of the Southern Highlands region, in-between Sutton Forest and Bundanoon, with Meryla State Forest to the east and Penrose State Forest to the west.

Exeter personifies an ‘Old English Village’, It’s leafy streets and lanes, its clipped hedges and grand rows of trees give the impression of an age-old village.

Exeter has two main public reserves located within the village, Exeter Park and Jensen Park. Exeter Park is located at the northern entrance to the village and is the main focal point for passive and structural (sporting) recreation. Jensen Park is a small Passive Park located towards the western boundary of Exeter village.

This Plan of Management establishes the long-term management framework to protect and enhance the passive and sporting values of the reserve, flora, fauna and cultural values of the reserve and create quality visitor experiences.

The site covered by this Plan of Management is shown in Figure 5.



Figure 5 –Exeter Park as covered by this Plan of Management

2.2 Significance of Exeter Park

Exeter Park contributes substantially to the beauty, character and charm of the local area, and reflects the tranquil surroundings experienced by the local residents and visitors to the village.

Exeter Park is located at the north western entrance to the village and is the focal point for public recreation for the area. The reserve and surrounding areas is known for its ‘English style’ attractive scenery and country village atmosphere.

Exeter Park provides passive and sporting recreational activities in a natural setting. The reserve provides an opportunity to develop a significant local recreational resource.

Exeter Park is significant because it:

- Of its location with the Village of Exeter;
- Is an area greater than 5 hectares
- Offers visitors a unique and diverse number of recreational opportunities ranging from structured field and court sports to more private areas for family picnics and children’s play.
- Is the main sporting and recreational park in Exeter. As such, the park is heavily used.
- Is a popular and suitable venue for community functions.

2.3 *Park Name*

Exeter Park was officially named by the Geographical Naming Board on 19th December 1969.

2.4 *Land Ownership*

2.4.1 *Introduction*

The ownership of the four parcels of land that comprise Exeter Park are shown in Figure 6 and detailed in Table 4.

The parcels of land subject to this Plan of Management are owned by Wingecarribee Shire Council.

The total area of Exeter Park is 6.7 hectares



Figure 6 –Land Ownership Plan in Exeter Park

Table 4 - Overview of Exeter Park

	Lot 1 DP 924532	Part Lot 2 Section C DP 3170	Part Lot 3 Section C DP 3170	Part Lot 4 Section C DP 3170
Features	Regeneration Area	Tennis Facility & Soccer Field	Part of a Soccer Field	Hall, Access Road, Part of the Regeneration Area and Part of the Soccer & Cricket Field
Area (ha)	1.4	0.3	0.5	4.5
Area Total (ha)	6.7 hectares			
Owner	Wingecarribee Shire Council			
Zoning	RE 1Public Recreation under Wingecarribee Local Environmental plan 2010			
Categorisation				
Leases	No	No	No	No
Licences				

2.4.2 Community Land

Exeter Park is land owned in fee simple by Wingecarribee Shire Council, and is classified as Community Land under the Local Government Act 1993. All land classified as Community Land must be managed in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. Wingecarribee Shire Council manages Community Land in the Wingecarribee Shire Local Government Area.

2.4.3 Leases and Licences in Exeter Park

The sporting fields in Exeter Park and associated facilities are used by a range of sporting clubs subject to seasonal hire agreements. These facilities are available for use by the community at other times. Sporting clubs currently using Exeter Park include Exeter Soccer Club, Highlands District Cricket Association, Exeter Tennis Club and Southern Highlands Croquet Club. A number of local schools use the park's sporting and recreational facilities as well.

2.4.4 Key Stakeholders in Exeter Park

Table 5 - Key Stakeholders in Exeter Park

Organisation	Responsibilities
Wingecarribee Shire Council	Land owner; Management; Consent Authority; Bookings; Maintenance.
Exeter Park Mgt Committee	Site management.
Exeter Village Association	Community related functions
Sporting Groups	Meet the requirements of leases, licences, user agreements as appropriate.

2.4.5 Zoning Plan

The current Local Environment Plan for Wingecarribee Shire Council is ‘Wingecarribee LEP 2010’ under this LEP the zoning applied to Exeter Park is as shown in Figure 8 on the following page.

- RE1 - Public Recreation

The 2010 LEP acknowledges the Environmental Heritage significance of the site with majority of the site listed as Heritage Item (General).



Figure 7 –Heritage Plan of Exeter Park and surrounding areas

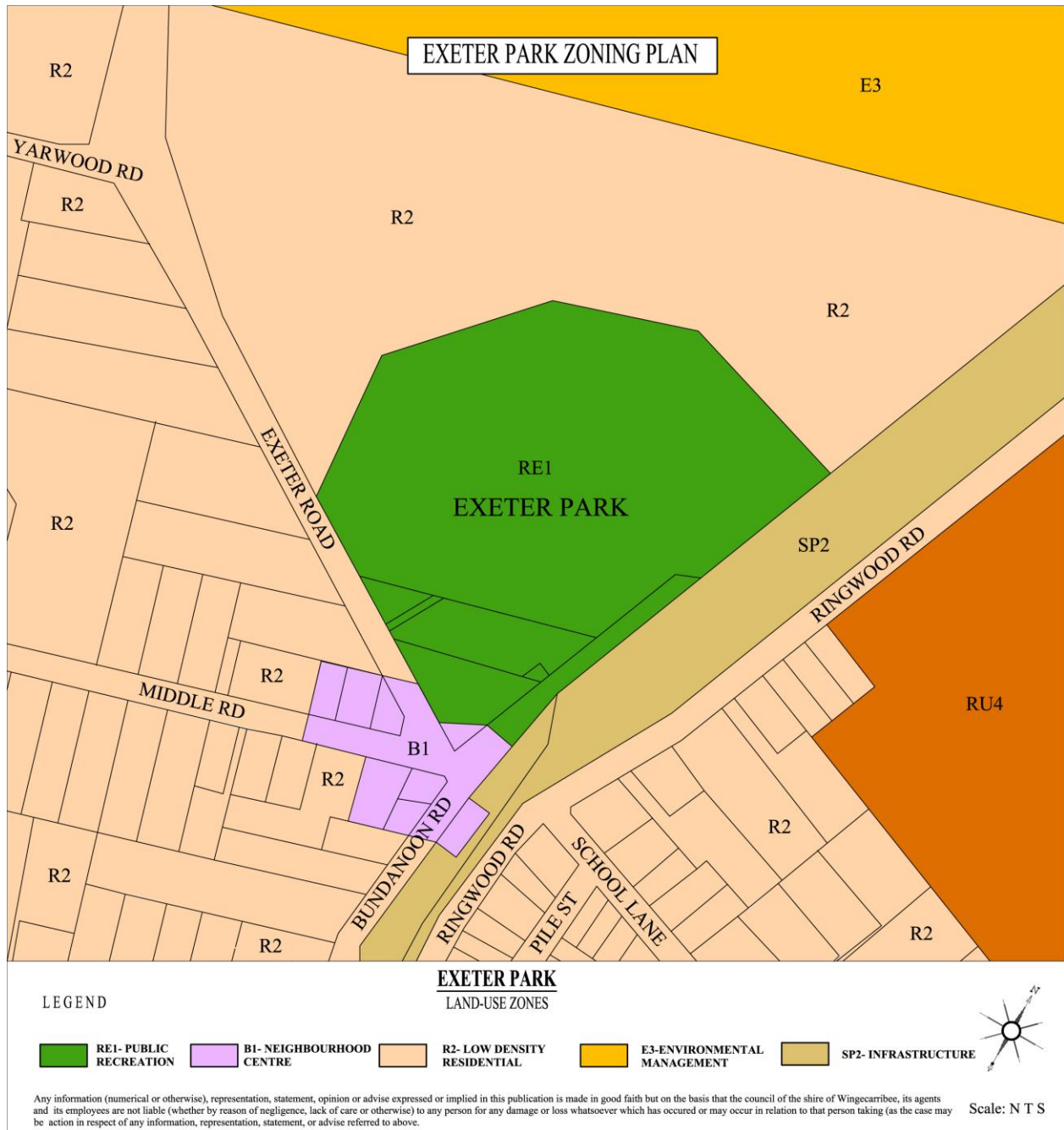


Figure 8 - Zoning Plan for Exeter Park and surrounding land

2.5 History of the Area

Exeter Village

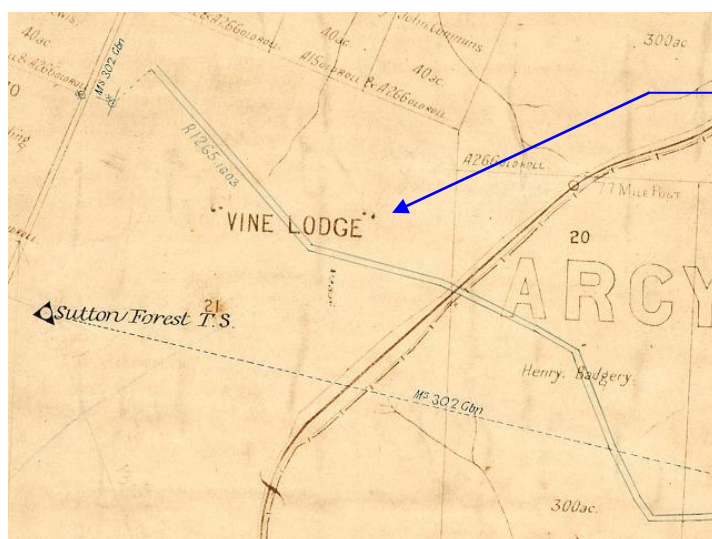
The original land grant for the Exeter area was for 500 acres to James Badgery, with the area being surveyed in 1821 and the deed being issued in 1822. This was to allow Badgery to expand his sheep and cattle grazing concerns. Later, Henry Badgery was granted 201 acres in the Exeter area in 1834 and later a consolidated grant for 1,920 acres and named “Vine Lodge”. It was upon a portion of this land that Exeter was settled.

The development of the village of Exeter began in 1889. In November 1891 a large section of the “Vine Lodge” property was subdivided and sold, as either town lots or farm lots. Some of the farm lots were bought by Arthur Yates, who then established a nursery in Exeter. Several cottages were already built and a post office opened.

It was noted in 1891 that Exeter was going ahead. Land sold two years earlier had already trebled in value and several cottages were already being built, as well as houses for the station staff. A brick store was erected in 1894 and a bakery established in the following year.

Exeter Public School was opened in 1891 with a new building erected in 1907 (for the opening, pictures of Exeter in England were sent and hung on the walls as well as a Union Jack, all was unveiled by Frank Badgery).

Source: ‘A History of the Berrima District 1798 - 1973’
By James Jervis
1st Edition, 1962



Land granted to Henry Badgery in 1834 and named ‘Vine Lodge’. A portion of this land in 1889, was developed into Exeter Village as known today

Figure 9 – Part of Sutton Forest Parish Map (PMapGN05) from Department of Lands.

School of Arts Hall

A half an acre block of land was purchased for the School of Arts by respected local citizens (Arthur Yates, Frank Nelson Yarwood and Frank Badgery) for £7.10.0 on 20th April 1901. The School of Arts Committee engaged Sydney Architects Slatyer & Cosh to design a suitable building. Tenders were called in March 1902, with a local Moss Vale building company being engaged to construct the School of Arts. The School of Arts was officially opened on the 19th December 1902 and was celebrated with a concert.

The School of Arts has been used for community activities ever since. Balls, concerts, celebrations and farewell parties were regular events and the focus on community life. For a short period of time during the Second World War the School of Arts was used by the Australian Army (52nd Division Ordnance Corps) for a workshop and as a recovery depot.



Photo 3 – Bike race at the Exeter Sports Oval c.1910, the School of Arts in the background

Source: 'Exeter School of Arts Hall 1902 - 2002'
By Linda Emery, 2002

Exeter Park

The land surrounding the School of Arts Hall became part of a wider vision used as a park and venue for social and sporting activities. In 1895, Frank Yarwood, Arthur Yates and Thomas Knox purchased 4.5 hectares of land for £180.0.0 which surrounded the School of Arts building. This land was certainly used for public recreation quite early on. By 1904, with some boundary adjustments that increased the size of the park to 5.3 hectares, Exeter Park had more or less gained its present shape.

The transformation of the land from a bare paddock to a landscaped park began in 1910, when Exeter residents started a fund to raise money for the creation of a park. In November 1911, the 13 acres of land was sold to the Minister of Lands by Yarwood, Yates and Knox for £350 and on 1st May 1912, Exeter Park was gazetted as a public park. Tree planting began and an oval and public tennis courts were constructed within the park.

The park became the focus of many community activities. During the 1920's the Anniversary Day Sports Carnival was held there each year on 26th January. More than 20 races were run, as well as foot races and events for horses, there was an Old Buffer's Race (for men over 40 years), throwing a wicket and Tossing the Sheaf. A dance in the School of Arts in the evening was the finale to a day of fun and fundraising with the profits from admission being equally divided between the School of Arts and the Berrima District Hospital. Competitive gymkhanas were held regularly and Exeter also fielded excellent cricket and hockey teams.

In 1948, Sir Cecil and Lady Dorothy Hoskins of Invergowrie arranged and funded the upgrading of the oval and park. The oval became a first grade sporting field and many more trees planted around the perimeter of the park. Subsequent land purchases have increased the park area to 16 acres with the addition of the croquet fields.

Source: 'Exploring Exeter'
By Linda Emery, 2003

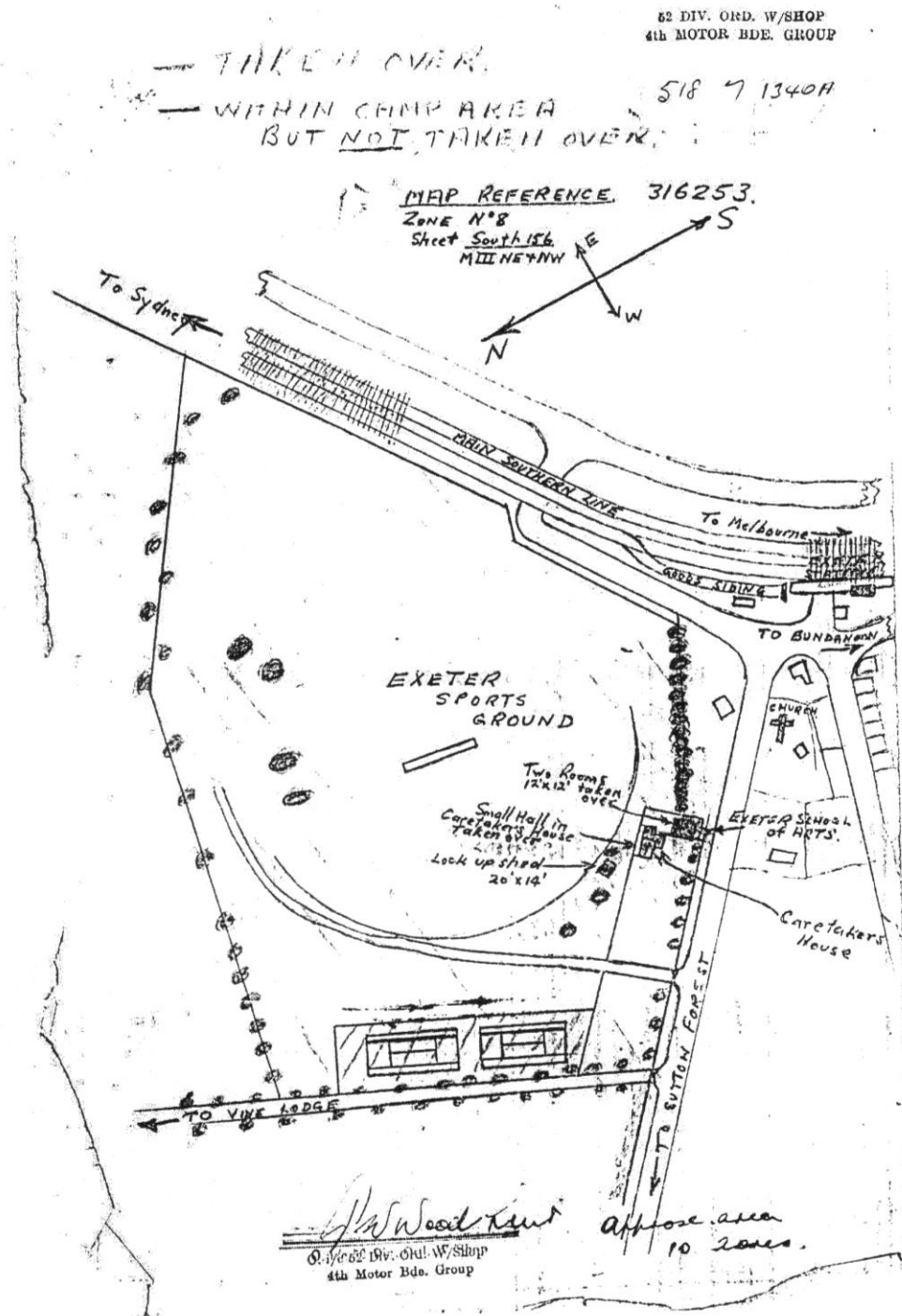


Figure 10 –A mud map of Exeter Park drawn by the 52nd Division Ordinance Workshop Corps in April 1942

2.6 Heritage Significance for Exeter School of Arts Hall

Exeter School of Arts Hall also known as Exeter Hall is considered to be of high heritage significance as the Hall has a direct relationship with Exeter Park and the establishment and development of the local community, establishment and development of Exeter Village and formed part of formal and casual celebrations.

Statements of significance:

Item	Exeter School of Arts Hall
Item Type	Built
Group	Community Facility
Category	School of Arts
Significance	Local
Statements of significance	Exeter Hall is significant on a number of levels: associations with community life and activity; through its strong associations with the history of the village; important contribution to the streetscape and visual character of Exeter; and interesting construction design and technical qualities.
Physical Description	<p>Located within Exeter Park and opposite St. Aidan's Church. Exeter citizens, Arthur Yates of The Headlands (now Invergowrie), Frank Nelson Yarwood of Apolima and Frank Badgery of Vine Lodge became joint tenants of a half-acre block of land on which the School of Arts was to be built. Sydney Architects Slatyer & Cosh designed the building but due to lack of funds, only the small hall was built as part of the original design. The Builder was William Jones of Moss Vale. The official opening of the Exeter School of Arts was 19 December, 1902. It has been used for community activities including balls, concerts, celebrations and farewell parties. Methodist Church services were also held in the hall from the late 1930s.</p> <p>A Federation style hall of brick construction with stuccoed exterior walls. It has a pitched tiles roof with gables which have a Tudor style decorative treatment. The upper sash of the windows are divided into small panes. There is an entrance porch with a flat roof, projecting rafters and shingles.</p> <p>1930s building with Federation period influences. Queen Anne detailing in roof, including Marseilles-pattern tiles. Main hall has Arts and Crafts references in roof, with polychromatic brickwork laid in English bond. Front of the building has been pebble dashed. Small porch at front with a flat roof. Panelled, framed entry door with diagonal boards in panels. Coloured glass in windows, double hung windows have 12 panes in upper sash, single sheet of obscure glass in lower sash.</p>
Designer	Sydney Architects Slatyer & Cosh
Maker / Builder	William Jones of Moss Vale
Year Started	1910
Circa	Yes

Item	Exeter Park
Item Type	Landscape
Group	Parks, Gardens and Trees
Category	Other – Parks, Gardens
Significance	Local
Statements of significance	<p>Adjacent to the Vine Lodge homestead, the park has been a focus of community activity in Exeter since 1912 when the land was purchased by a local committee.</p> <p>The exotic plantings begun at that time contribute to the high aesthetic appeal of the park. Frank Nelson Yarwood of Apolima and Sir Cecil Hoskins of Invergowrie were both benefactors of the park. (WSC)</p>
Physical Description	Large park with mature trees, oval, playground, stone War Memorial gates and stone Badgery Memorial.
Designer	
Maker / Builder	
Year Started	
Circa	No

Source: Wingecarribee Shire Council - Heritage Inventory

2.7 Physical Characteristics

2.7.1 Climate

Under the Modified Köppen classification system provided by the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, the climate at Exeter would be described as no dry season (warm summer) Temperate, BoM (2009). Refer to Attachment A for details.

The summary statistics in table 6 and 7 was supplied by the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, data was collected from Moss Vale weather station on Hoskins Street.

Climate Averages by Season

Month	Max Temp	Min Temp	Average Rainfall	Average wind speeds	Average Humidity
Summer	25°C	12°C	87mm	12 km/h	69%
Autumn	19°C	7°C	85mm	12 km/h	81%
Winter	12°C	2°C	80mm	15 km/h	78%
Spring	19°C	6°C	69mm	14 km/h	63%

Table 6 - provides the average climate conditions by seasons.

Climate Averages by Month

Month	Max Temp	Min Temp	Average Rainfall	Average wind speeds	Average Humidity
January	25°C	12°C	89mm	12 km/h	70%
February	25°C	12°C	95mm	11 km/h	75%
March	23°C	10°C	90mm	11 km/h	81%
April	19°C	7°C	81mm	12 km/h	80%
May	15°C	4°C	85mm	14 km/h	82%
June	12°C	2°C	100mm	13 km/h	81%
July	11°C	1°C	76mm	16 km/h	79%
August	13°C	2°C	64mm	15 km/h	73%
September	16°C	4°C	60mm	15 km/h	66%
October	19°C	6°C	75mm	14 km/h	64%
November	22°C	8°C	73mm	14 km/h	60%
December	25°C	11°C	76mm	12 km/h	62%

Table 7- provides the average climate conditions by months.

Exeter has moderate year-round temperatures with average maximum summer temperature of 25.0 degrees. The average winter daytime temperature is 12.0 degrees, dropping to an average 1.0 degree at night.

The annual median rainfall was found to be 964mm with the highest rain fall being experienced in June. The average annual humidity was found to be 73%, with the maximum average humidity being experienced in the same period (June).

The annual average wind speed was found to be 13 km/h, with the maximum average wind speed recorded in July to September.

2.7.2 Landform, Soil and Drainage

Geology and Soil

Soils developed on the Robertson and Sutton Forest volcanics are krasnozems, which have developed under rainforest and related vegetation on basaltic rocks that are typically dark in colour, fine-grained and strongly bedded. Under conditions of moderate to high rainfalls these rocks have weathered to soils that typically are reddish in colour, clayey in texture with clearly defined horizons, deep (around a metre) and with neutral soil chemical reactions (ie pHs of 6.0 to 7.0).

The predominant soil type present within Exeter is typically derived from basalt (red and brown krasnozems and red earths) and shale (red and brown podzolics and brown earths). Krasnozem soils are considered to be fertile, promoting vigorous growth and are free-draining; this will be an important attribute in the success of establishing any new vegetation within Exeter Park.

The soil profile for Exeter is summarised below:

Table 8 - Exeter Soil Profile

Site Location	Exeter – Batter at Church
Physiography	Crest on hillcrest on basalt lithology with nil rock outcrop; slop 2% (estimated) run-on is none, run-off is low
Soil Hydrology	Profile is well drained
Soil Type	Red Ferrosol (ASC), Chocolate Soil (GSG)
Lithology	
Solum PM	Basalt (Substrate: basalt m)
Rock Outcrop	Nil
Substrate Strength	Weak
Weathering & Alteration	Highly weathered rock m
Discontinuities	5
Fragment Amount	50 – 75%
Soil Description	
Layer 1 00.00 - 00.40 m A Horizon	Brown sandy clay loam with moderate pedality (crumb 2 - 5 mm , roughfaced peds) , field pH is 6.5 ; smooth clear (20-50 mm)
Layer 2 00.40 - 01.00 m B Horizon	Red clay with strong pedality (polyhedral 5 - 10 mm , smooth-faced peds) , field pH is 6.5 ; smooth gradual (50-100 mm)
Layer 3 01.00 - 01.10 m C Horizon	Yellow clay with massive structure (earthy)
Layer 99	Weak highly weathered rock basalt

Source: NSW Soil & Land Information System –NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change)

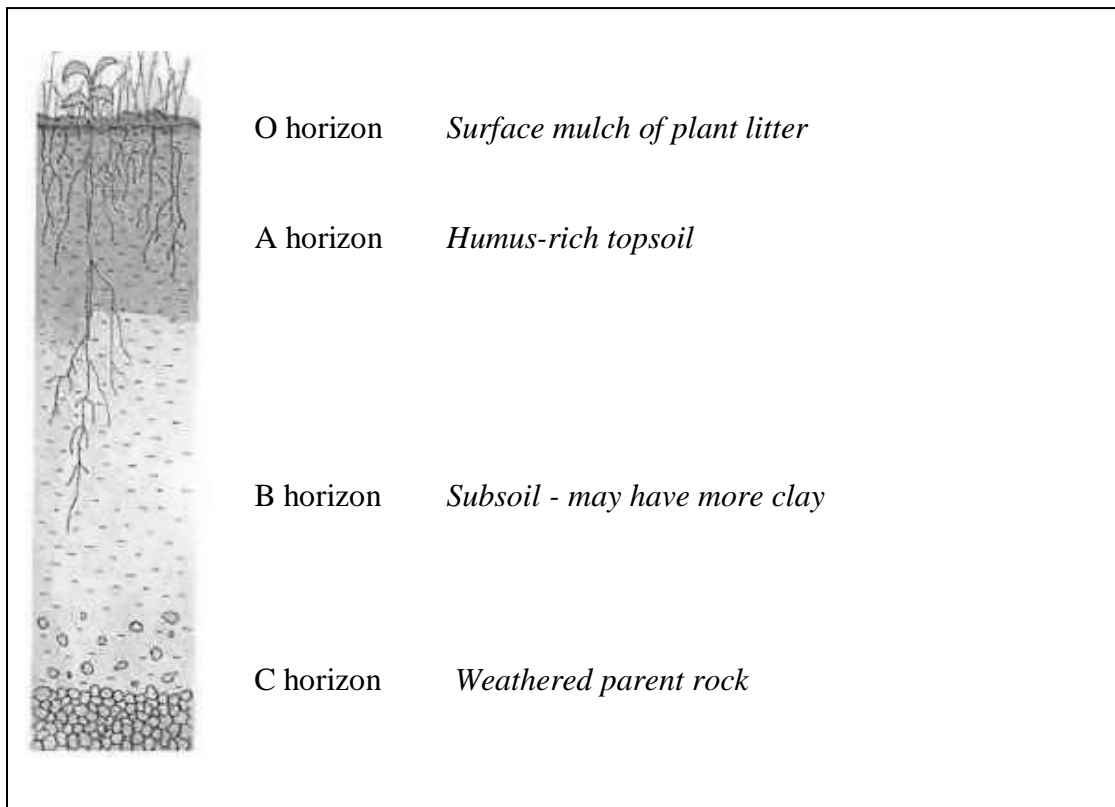


Figure 11 – Typical Soil Profile

Exeter Park

The predominant soil type present within Exeter Park is Krasnozem soils, the soil profile may be described as a well-drained, friable clay loam to clay soils high in iron with red or brown subsoils which form natural aggregates (peds) when disturbed. This soil type is known for its fertile properties and typically used for horticultural practices.

A geotechnical investigation was undertaken for the proposed amenities building in September 2008, the test hole was located some 200 metres north east behind the community hall, the test results of the investigation demonstrate the soil type present on site.

A log of the test hole is as follows:

Table 9 - Exeter Park soil report

Depth	Description
300 mm	Silt topsoil (dk. brown) Occ. stones to 150mm Ø Moist
300 mm 600 mm	V. silty clay (dk. brown / orange) 20% gravels / stones to 30mm Ø Moist, firm
600 mm 900 mm	V. clayey silt (dr. brown / orange) 20% gravels / stones to 30mm Ø V. moist, firm
900 mm 1200 mm	Sl. sandy, clayey silt (dk. brown / lt. brown) Occ. stones to 50mm Ø Moist, firm
1200 mm 1600 mm	Fine sl. clayey, sandy silt (lt. brown) Occ. Gravels / stones Sl. moist

Source: wastewater site report, prepared by Civil and Structural Engineering, March 2009

Topography

Exeter Park lies approximately 710 metres above sea level, frosts are common in the area and can occur in any month except for January and February. Due to its low topography and sparse vegetative cover the reserve experiences strong winds in both winter and summer.

Indigo Creek is located at the rear boundary of the site flowing from south west to north east with a natural dam located at the north eastern corner of the site. A tributary of Indigo Creek dissects the site at the south eastern corner (in-between the Croquet Field and the Rural Fire Station) and flows along the eastern boundary to the natural dam.

The southern side of the site (off Exeter Road) is the highest part of the park with the contours entirely falling north towards the rear of the site. There is a large level difference between the Croquet Field and the northern part of the site (near the Rural Fire Shed and the playing field), with the Croquet Field enjoying an elevated position. The open space within the northern side of the site including the sports oval appears relatively flat and gently slopes towards the north eastern corner of the site (Indigo Creek and the natural dam).

Drainage

Indigo Creek flows through the north eastern side of Exeter and forms part of Stonequary Creek and Bundanoon Creek. The 1:25,000 topographical map provided by Department of Lands shows indigo Creek in relation to Exeter Park.

Indigo Creek is located at the rear boundary of the site flowing from south west to north east with a natural dam located at the north eastern corner of the site. A tributary of Indigo Creek dissects the site at the south eastern corner (in-between the Croquet Field and the Rural Fire Station) and flows along the eastern boundary to the natural dam.

The profile and formation of Indigo Creek within Exeter Park has been altered and influenced by human intervention over the years and resembles a stormwater channel rather than a natural creek, however this waterway is part of Indigo Creek and management strategies for the site should reflect this asset.

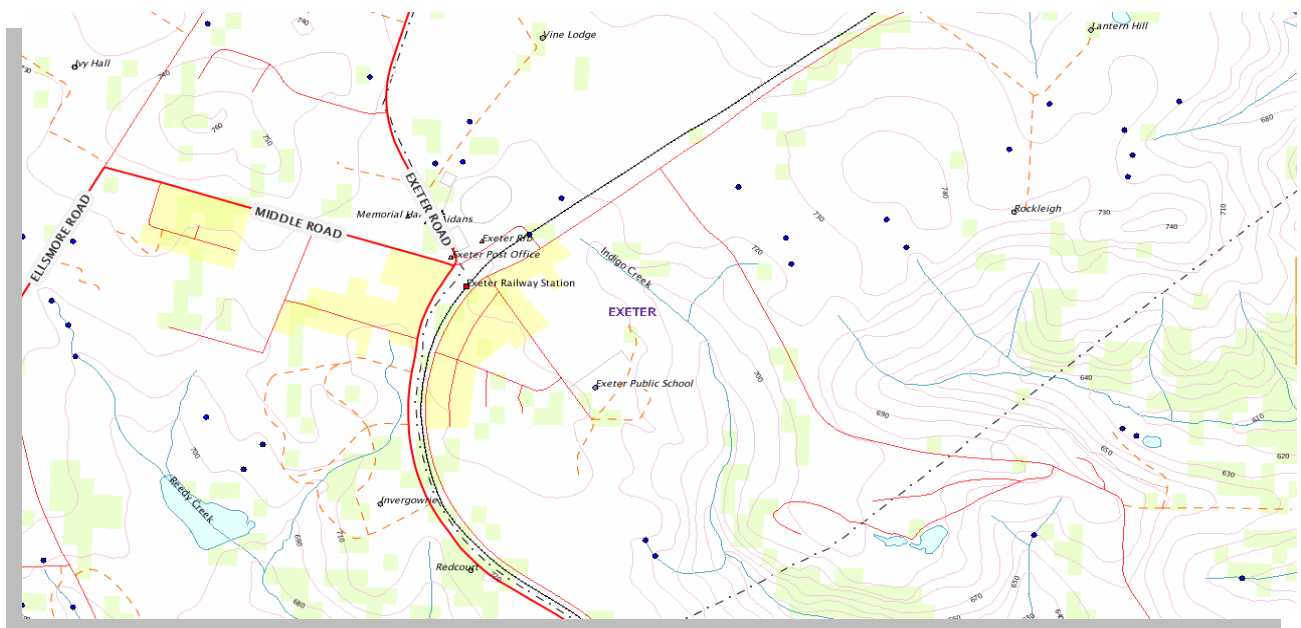


Figure 12 – 1:25,000 Topographical Map showing Indigo Creek

Source: NSW Department of Lands – www.six.nsw.gov.au



Photo4 – Indigo Creek along the north western boundary of Exeter Park



Photo5 – Indigo Creek along the northern boundary of Exeter Park

2.7.3 Flora and Fauna

Flora

While no formal survey of flora was carried out within Exeter Park for this Plan of Management the following is a visual observation and a summary based on information reviewed.

Exeter Park and majority of Exeter was once covered by Robertson Basalt Tall Open-forest which is listed under the TSC Act as an endangered ecological community, which has been extensively cleared for agriculture and rural development with approximately 400 ha or less than 15% of the original extent remaining within the Sydney basin.



Photo6 – *Quercus robur* English Oaks



Photo7 – *Cedrus deodara* Deodar Cedars

The site consists of a wide variety of mainly mature exotic trees with the vast majority being of Northern Hemisphere origin.

The dominant canopy species throughout the community's range include *Quercus robur* English Oaks, *Pinus radiata* Radiata Pines, *Cedrus deodara* Deodar Cedars, *Populus nigra* "Italica" Italian Poplars, *Ulmus procera* English Elms, *Ulmus Glabra* Golden Elms, *Acer negundo* Box Elders, *Quercus ilex* Holm Oak and *Cedrus atlantica* "Glauca" Blue Atlas Cedars.

Additional to the mature trees located within the site there are a number of younger planting within the reserve such as *Quercus robur* English Oaks and *Ulmum glabra* 'Exoniensis' Exeter Elms. The Exeter Elms have been planted as a memorial to personnel who gave their lives in the wars.

Fauna

While no formal survey of fauna was carried out for this Plan of Management, within the district there are a wide variety of fauna.

During site visits a variety of different native birds were seen within the site, some of the bird population that frequents the area were observed to be Sulphur Crested Cockatoos; Galahs, Parrots, Pigeons, Magpies, etc.

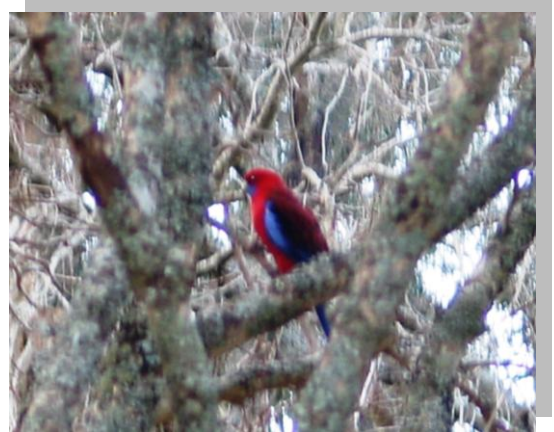


Photo8 – a parrot resting in one of the trees in the neighbouring property

2.7.4 Visual Assessment

Views and Vista

Exeter Park occupies a prominent position in Exeter. Due to its location, Exeter Park is visible from the surrounding areas, and offers views of high scenic quality in a tranquil setting within a rural environment.

Exeter Park rates as one of the more scenic sports fields / public reserves in the Southern Highlands. There are stands of mature trees around the park and recently planted trees with large open grassed areas for spectators surrounding the oval.

Due to the nature of the topography, clear views exist across the majority of the site, The park provides an important visual amenity to the surrounding residences and visitors to the Park. The existing vegetation and proposed landscape improvements will enhance the parks vista.



Photo9 – views extending north from the rear of Exeter Hall of the sports oval

Character

Exeter Park is a rural green space of great significance for Exeter and the Southern Highlands as a whole. The park has evolved from a bare paddock to a significant open space offering social opportunities to local and regional communities as well as a diverse range of sporting activities – from soccer, cricket, and tennis to croquet. The park is very well served by public transport and is the recreational focal point of the village.

The essential character of Exeter Park is reminiscent of a traditional *‘English Village Green’*, the landscape contains a richness of cultural features such as - long vistas, colonial built architecture and carefully selected trees which are laid out to articulate an English country side.



Photo10 – photos of Exeter Park showing English style landscape character from the selection of park furniture used to tree selection and location to open views and vistas to architecture of the built environment of Exeter Hall.

2.8 Access and Circulation

In accordance with Council's obligation to ensure equality, the site and its facilities will be accessible to all members of the community, regardless of age, sex, socio-economic status or mobility.

Please refer to Figure 13 for access routes and circulation within the Park.

2.8.1 Access to the Park

The Park is easily accessible by foot, bicycle, private and authorised vehicles and buses.

Pedestrian

Entry points to the Park for pedestrians are via Exeter Road and Badgery Way. There are three main pedestrian entry points to Exeter Park the first is off Exeter Road via the War Memorial Gates (this is the main entrance to the site), the second park entrance is also off Exeter Road adjacent to the Croquet Field used mainly by the Croquet Club, with the third entrance to the park off Badgery Way west of the Rural Fire Services Facility. There is also an additional entry points that may be described as informal via a timber pedestrian bridge near the railway underpass.

There is no formal entrance statement identifying the park. The existing park signage located on the street front is of poor quality could be redesigned to reflect the charm and character of the park.

Vehicle

Access for vehicles is via the main gate entry of Exeter Road (War Memorial Gates) with an additional maintenance access provided near the Rural Fire Shed off Badgery Way.

There is no direct formal public access to the majority of the site, except for the provision of access for maintenance or emergency vehicles.

There is no established need for the provision of unsupervised vehicle access throughout the Park, the recreational purpose of Exeter Park is not anticipated to change from its existing use and function.

2.8.2 Circulation within the Park

Pedestrian

The existing pedestrian access and movement through the Park is via informal pedestrian paths and desire lines.

The proposed masterplan will continue to provide pedestrian movement through the Park via informal pedestrian paths and desire lines, to maintain the character and function of the Park and ensure the significance of the Park is not altered.

Disabled Access

With the exception of Exeter Hall the site does not currently provide adequate disabled access. The landform severely limits the potential to provide access to the park for all levels of mobility. The proposed masterplan will provide disabled users access to the site by either car or mini-bus (parking spaces are reserved specifically for this user group).



Figure 13 - Access and Circulation Plan for Exeter Park

2.9 Current Facilities

Exeter Park is a multi-purpose reserve incorporating facilities and features for active and passive recreation. Around 38% of the Park is used for structured recreation/sportsgrounds. There is limited scope for provision of additional active recreation facilities. The remaining 62% of the Park is open space, and is used for unstructured recreation.

The existing facilities in Exeter Park, and their use and conditions are set out in Table 10 and shown in Figure 14.



Photo11 – Internal photo of Exeter Hall



Photo12 – Front photo of Exeter Hall



Photo13 – Tennis Clubhouse



Photo14 – Existing public amenities for the Park

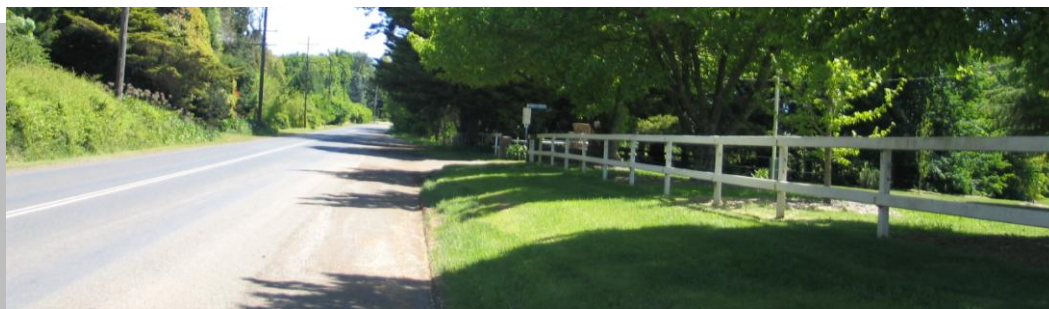


Photo15 – Front boundary



Photo16 - Cricket practice nets



Photo17 – Tennis courts



Photo18 – Soccer / Cricket field



Photo19 – Croquet field



Photo20 – Picnic facilities



Photo21 – Children's playground area

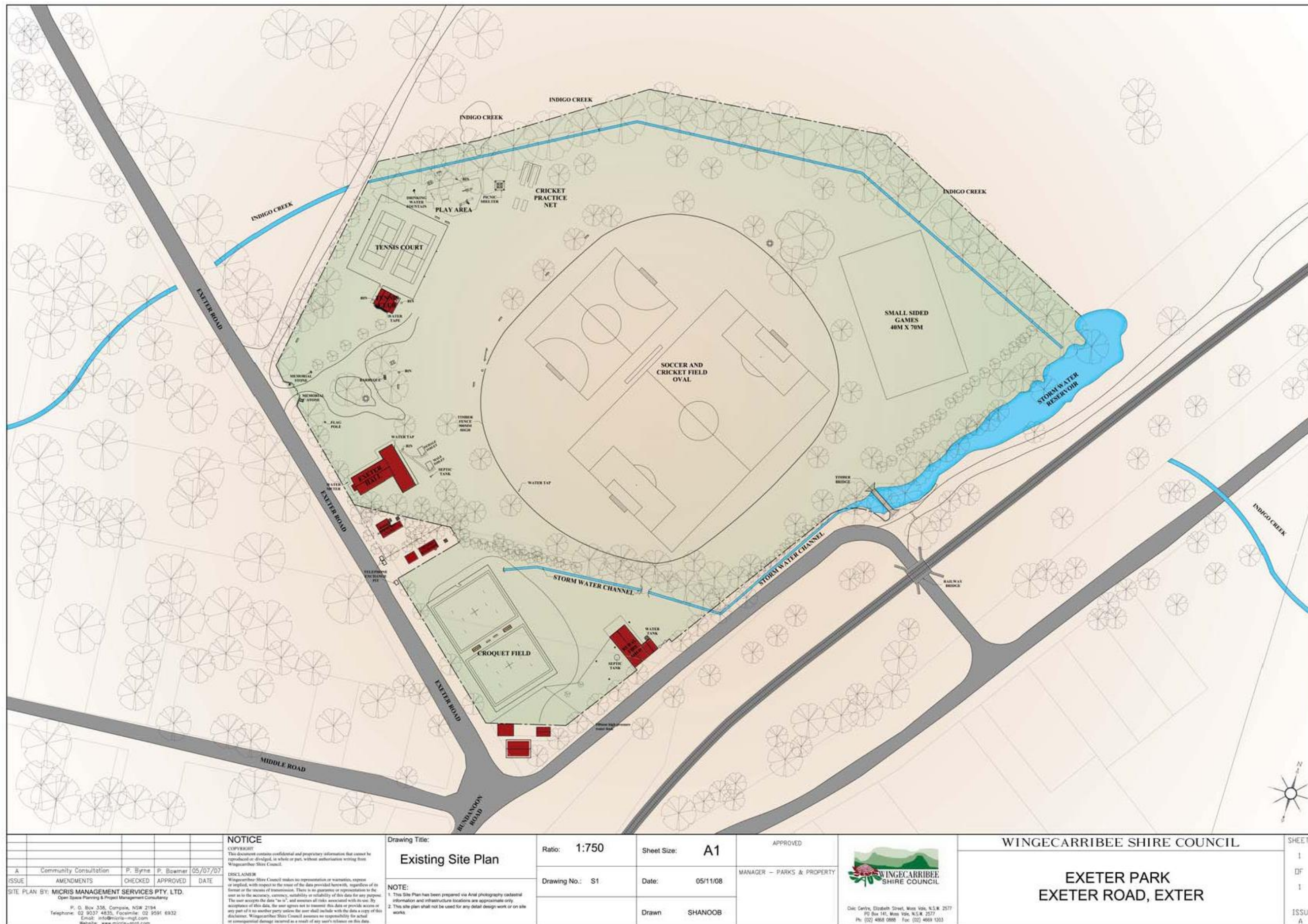


Figure 14 - Key facilities in Exeter Park

Table 10 - Condition Assessment

Area Description	Facility	Condition
Memorial gates & sandstone fence	Main entrance to the site consisting of wrought iron fabricated gates and sandstone fence.	Good
Access Road	The access road is an unsealed road, accessed via the main gate which flows down towards the Tennis Club House and circles the mature Blue Atlas Cedar trees.	Poor
Informal car-park	There are three areas designated as an informal car park, the first is accessed via the main gate at the front of the park located in-between the Hall and the mature Blue Atlas Cedar trees. The second is located to the west of the Tennis Club House in front of the Tennis Courts. The third is located to the west of the croquet field adjacent to the Telstra exchange facility. Both car parks are accessed off Exeter Road from the front of the site.	Poor
Children's playground	A playground is located adjacent to the rear of the Tennis Courts along the north western boundary next to Indigo Creek.	Fair
Practice cricket net	A concrete double cricket practice pitch with a wire mesh fence and synthetic cover is located on the north western side of the park adjacent to the playground..	Fair
Tennis Club House	A small weatherboard tennis clubhouse is located on the western side of the site in front of the tennis.	Fair
Tennis courts and flood lights	There is a set of two concrete tennis courts with four metal flood light poles holding a single floodlight unit and associated fencing.	Fair
Exeter Hall	A masonry constructed community hall is located along the front boundary of the site, off Exeter Road, adjacent to the informal car park.	Good
Public Amenities	Two masonry male and female public amenities buildings are located directly to the rear of the community hall.	Poor
Boundary fence	A timber post and rail fence surrounds majority of the site with a treated pine fence located along the eastern side of the site.	Fair
Pedestrian timber bridge	A timber pedestrian bridge is located across the a section of Indigo Creek on the eastern side of the site.	Fair
Sports oval fencing	A timber post and rail fence is located around the perimeter of the oval.	Fair
Cricket Pitch	A synthetic cricket pitch is located in between the two soccer fields in the centre of the oval.	Good
Playing fields	There is one senior and one junior playing field within the boundary of the oval fencing with an additional junior playing field located on the north eastern side of the site.	Good

Table 10 - Condition Assessment (Cont)

Area Description	Facility	Condition
Croquet field	A fenced croquet field is located on the south eastern corner of the site along Exeter Road.	Excellent
Picnic furniture	There are bench seats located on the western side of the oval, a picnic shelter with a table and seats located adjacent to the playground, a BBQ picnic table and seats located under the mature Blue Atlas Cedar trees at the front of the site.	Fair
Vegetation	Over the years the park has undergone (probably a number) of landscape improvement programs, with a majority of the trees within the site being of the Northern Hemisphere origin.	Good ¹

Interpretation of building/site condition

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>these assets are in 'as new' condition and require little maintenance or upgrade.</i>
<i>Good</i>	<i>these assets are well maintained for their age but require on-going maintenance.</i>
<i>Fair</i>	<i>these assets are suitable for their current use but need repairs, renovations or upgrade.</i>
<i>Poor</i>	<i>these assets are in poor condition and require maintenance to make serviceable.</i>

2.10 Use of Exeter Park

2.10.1 Introduction

Exeter Park is a multi-purpose reserve incorporating facilities and features for active and passive recreation. Users of Exeter Park participate in a variety of informal and organised recreation and social activities.

The ‘*Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs Study*’ prepared by Parsons Brinckerhoff in 2004 suggests that Exeter Park may be defined as a ‘*Neighbourhood Park*’. The study describes a Neighbourhood Park as a park that may attract users from surrounding suburbs/areas, but are still generally within walking or cycling distance. The larger neighbourhood parks similar to Exeter Park generally have play equipment, more significant landscape features (e.g. views and vegetation), unstructured open space areas (for activities such as kicking a ball, frizbees, kite flying etc.),

Exeter Park provides a variety of passive and sporting recreational activities, social and community facilities.

It is envisaged that the main users of Exeter Park will be formal and informal organisations such as social groups, interest groups, organised sporting clubs, social sporting clubs, schools and local residents living within the surrounding area of the site, residents and community groups throughout the Shire and visitors/community groups/sporting clubs from outside of the area (throughout the NSW basin).

The open space and associated facilities will cater for both active and passive recreation. The users of the sporting facilities will be only organised competitors such as schools and sporting clubs for competition and training. The Reserve will also cater for casual or informal users such as ball games, walking etc.



Photo22 – Soccer training at Exeter Park



Photo23 –Exeter Park Tennis court

The community facility is able to cater for formal and informal functions, events, business meeting and social gatherings etc. The hall has the added advantage to overflow onto the reserve and benefit from the public open space.

The provision, accessibility and quality of open space is one factor that guides and influences people's choice in participating in recreational activities. Exeter Park provides a variety of structured and unstructured recreation opportunities. Councils aim is to promote a healthy and progressive lifestyle for the community of Wingecarribee by fostering and providing sporting and recreational services for the people of the region.

2.10.2 Informal Activities

Informal uses of the Park include:

- ☐ Picnics and barbecues;
- ☐ Informal games within the grassed area;
- ☐ Walking, cycling, jogging, walking the dog (on a leash);
- ☐ Social activities (such as sports, group functions etc);
- ☐ Children's play and informal games in the playground in the Park and on grassed areas;
- ☐ Sitting and relaxing;
- ☐ Family functions;
- ☐ Etc.

2.10.3 Organised Use

Organised sporting uses in Exeter Park for which seasonal user agreements are made are Cricket, Soccer, Tennis and Croquet. Sporting groups and local schools participate in organised sport. The fields are available for casual sporting games outside pre-booked times.

Exeter Park may be used for a range of activities for which a formal user group application is required. These activities include:

- ☐ Community events (such as carols in the Park, formal community celebrations etc);
- ☐ School functions and carnivals;
- ☐ Filming, photography etc;
- ☐ Corporate functions;
- ☐ Educational events;
- ☐ Private functions (such as weddings);

2.10.5 Prohibited Uses

Prohibited activities in the Park include open fires, camping, flying model aeroplanes, motor bikes, horses, cars, golf practice, off-leash dog exercise and shooting firearms.

3.0 LEGISLATIVE AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

This Plan of Management consists of Community Land and must therefore satisfy the:

- Local Government Act, 1993, as amended; and
- Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act, 1998.

3.1 *Principles of Community Land Management*

Under legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, as amended and the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act, 1998, s36 (a) – (n), Councils must prepare and adopt Plans of Management for all Community Land. A plan may apply to one or more areas of Community Land, providing all the Act's requirements are fulfilled.

The Act states that the Plan must identify the following:

- (a) The category of land;
- (b) The objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land;
- (c) The means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets;
- (d) The manner in which Council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets.

As this is a Plan of Management that applies to just one area of community land it must also:

- (a) Include a description of:
 - i. The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements as at the date of adoption of the Plan of Management; and
 - ii. The use of the land and any such buildings or improvements as at that date, and
- (b) must:
 - i. Specify the purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used, and
 - ii. Specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise, and
 - iii. Describe the scale and intensity of any such permitted use or development.

3.2 Council Dealings with Community Land

- (a) Council has no power to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of Community Land, except for the purpose of enabling that land to become, or to be added to, a Crown Reserve or land reserved or dedicated under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974;
- (b) Council may grant a lease or licence on Community Land, but only in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, as amended;
- (c) A Council may grant any other estate in Community Land to the extent permitted by the Local Government Act 1993, as amended

3.3 Leases or Licences on Community Land

3.3.1 Granting a Lease or Licence on Community Land

Leases and licenses are a method of formalising the use of Community Land and facilities. Leases or licences can be held by groups such as sporting clubs, schools, commercial organisations or individuals providing facilities and/or services for public use.

The Local Government Act 1993, as amended allows Council to grant leases or licences over all or part of Community Land. The use of land under a lease or licence must be compatible with the Local Environment Plan or Council requirements and provide benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land. Terms and conditions of a lease should reflect the interests of Council and the public and ensure proper management and maintenance.

3.3.2 Conditions of Granting a Lease or Licence

The following conditions must be met when granting a lease or licence over Community Land:

- The lease or licence must not be granted for a period exceeding 21 years;
- A lease or licence for a period greater than five years may only be granted by tender, unless it is granted to a non-profit organisation; and
- The Plan of Management must expressly authorise a lease or licence.

Council must:

- Give public notice of the proposal;
- Exhibit notice of the proposal on the land to which the proposal relates;
- Give notice of the proposal to such persons who appear to own or occupy land adjoining the Community Land; and
- Give notice of the proposal to any other person (owner or occupier of land in the vicinity of the Community Land), if in the opinion of the Council the subject to the proposal is likely to form the primary focus of the person's enjoyment of Community Land.

3.3.3 Events Exempt from Lease or Licence

Casual Uses

Casual uses of a public reserve for events of no more than three consecutive days will not be required to arrange a formal lease or licence with Council, provided that:

- The activity is permissible under the objectives identified for that land category,
- No significant damage to the reserve is anticipated as a result of the proposed activity,
- There is no anticipated disruption to adjacent properties as a result of the activity or event,
- The use or occupation does not involve the erection of any permanent buildings or structures,
- There is no interference with other users,
- Council obtains proof of suitable insurances,
- The organisers, in consultation with Council, make arrangements for the provision of extra toilets, waste collection, traffic management, security, and any other requirements deemed necessary by Council.

3.4 Strategic Documents used in the Preparation of this Plan

The following Council documents have been used to assist and guide the strategic outcomes of this Plan, ensuring consistency in values, principles and policies:

- Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 1989;
- Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs Study, 2004;
- Wingecarribee Management Plan 2009 – 2012;
- Wingecarribee Shire Council Open Space and Recreation Facilities Section 94 contributions plans (July 1993);
- Wingecarribee Social Plan – 2005 – 2010;
- State of the Environment Report 2008-2009;
- Wingecarribee Biodiversity Strategy 2003

3.5 Other Relevant legislation and Policies

The Plan must also be in accordance with the provisions contained within relevant legislation and policy guidelines refer to Section 9.2 for a complete listing.

4.0 LEGISLATION RELATING TO EXETER PARK

4.1 *Councils role in managing Exeter Park*

Exeter Park is classified as “Community Land”. All public land must be managed in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, including the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998. The Act requires that Councils must classify public land as “operational” or “community” and that Plans of Management must be prepared for Community Land. The ways in which Community Land can be used and managed are strictly governed in accordance with an adopted Plan of Management and any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land.

4.2 *Categories of Community Land*

Community Land must be categorised in accordance with the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998. A category describes the land and each category has a set of core objectives. All current and intended uses of the land must comply with the core objectives and the objectives are defined and addressed within the Action Plan (Section 6).

The Local Government (General) Regulation 1999 provides guidelines for each of the categories, as described below:

4.2.1 *General Community Use*

Land should be categorised as general community use if the land:

- May be made available for use for any purpose for which Community Land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public; and
- Is not required to be categorised as a natural area, or does not satisfy the guidelines for categorisation as a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.

4.2.2 *Park*

Land that is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities for use mainly for recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

4.2.3 *Sportsground*

Land that is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

4.2.4 An Area of Cultural Significance

Land described as an area of Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical or research, or social significance.

4.2.5 Natural Area

Land which, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore. Community Land that has been declared critical habitat or which is directly affected by a recovery plan or threat abatement plan under the Threatened Species Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994 must be categorised as a natural area.

Natural Area: Bushland

Land that contains primarily native vegetation and that vegetation is:

- The natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of that land; or
- Are still representative of the structure and/or floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality.

Natural area: Wetland

Land that includes marshes, mangroves, backwaters, billabongs, swamps, sedgelands, wet meadows or wet heathlands that form a water body that is inundated cyclically, intermittently or permanently with fresh, brackish or salt water, whether slow moving or stationary.

Natural area: Watercourse

Land described as:

- Any perennial or intermittent stream, flowing in a natural, artificially improved or rediverted channel; or
- Associated riparian land or vegetation, including land which is protected under the relevant legislation.

Natural area: Foreshore

Land that is situated on the water's edge and forms a transition zone between the aquatic and terrestrial environment.

Natural area: Escarpment

Land that includes features such as a long cliff-like ridge or rock and includes significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities.

4.3 Categorisation of Land within Exeter Park

The Local Government Act requires Community Land to be categorised. A combination of categories may be used for the one parcel of land. Accordingly this Plan of Management has identified the following categories:

Under Section 36 (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Exeter Park is categorised as follows:

- General Community Use
- Park
- Sportsground

4.3.1 Land Categorisation

A Public Hearing on the categorisation of the site was held at Wingecarribee Shire Council on Wednesday 3rd October 2007.

The notice of the Public Hearing was advertised in the Southern Highland News on 12th and 19th September 2007. Micris Management Services were commissioned to chair the meeting. A subsequent report was prepared and presented to Council to adopt the recommendations.



Figure 15 –Exeter Park Categorisation plan

4.4 Core Objectives

The following Section outlines Council's objectives for the future management of Exeter Park Robertson. These form the basis for the strategies developed in this Plan of Management. These strategies combine the objectives as outlined in the Local Government Act with those of the Council and the Community.

The Local Government Act (1993) and the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998 establishes a set of core objectives for each category. These objectives are significant in ensuring any activities and uses of the site are consistent with the desired activities and uses for that category of land. Wingecarribee Shire Council has the responsibility to manage and develop the land in accordance with these core objectives.

4.4.1 General community use objectives

The core objectives for community land categorised for general community use are:

To promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:

- (a) In relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and;
- (b) In relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

4.4.2 Park objectives

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:

- (a) To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities;
- (b) To provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and;
- (c) To improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

4.4.3 Sportsground objectives

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are:

- (a) To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and;
- (b) To ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

4.5 Express Authorisation of Lease / Licences

This Plan of Management expressly authorises Council to enter into a lease, licence or other estate with an appropriate organisation of its choice to manage the following facilities of Exeter Park.

Table 11 - Lease and licences consent levels

Facility	Activity	Purpose	Agreement	Maximum Permissible Term	Advertise
Public Open Space (including sporting ovals)	Organised and informal passive activates or other community use	Public recreation and ancillary activities	Licence agreement	21 years	Yes
Exeter Hall (current and in the future)	General community, cultural and social activities	Hire and/or use of community space for community based activities and ancillary services	Licence agreement	21 years	Yes
Tennis Clubhouse and tennis courts (current and in the future)	Organised and informal passive activates or other community use	Public recreation and ancillary activities	Licence agreement	21 years	Yes

4.6 Easements

This Plan of Management expressly authorises the granting of easements over the land that is **not** affected by endangered communities for the purpose of providing pipes, conduit or other connections under the surface of the ground. This is limited to easements that connect premises adjoining Community Land to existing water, sewer, drainage or electricity facility of Council or other public utility provider that is situated on Community Land where there is no reasonable alternative.

The granting of easements above, on or under the surface of Community Land or to land that is not Community Land is not within the authority of this Plan of Management. This includes but is not limited to:

- Piping to a natural watercourse,
- Piping to a facility through Community Land to a facility on land under private ownership,
- Private access, vehicular or pedestrian.

4.7 Authorised Development

In accordance with the Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998 the Plan of Management must expressly authorise any proposed developments on the land. This authorisation in a Plan of Management gives ‘in principle’ support for an activity to proceed to the development assessment stage. This plan does not grant consent. Any proposed developments that are consistent with the plan are still subject to the normal development consent processes of Council.

5.0 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

For the effective ongoing management of community land, Council needs to consider its characteristics, current condition and use. This helps identify the community values for the land and management issues that have the potential to impact upon these values. Identification and understanding of these influencing factors will form the basis for Council's future management for Exeter Park.

In addition to the community values and management issues associated with Community Land, effective management of Exeter Park requires the consideration and incorporation of a multitude of legislative and policy requirements for community land. In managing Exeter Park, Council must comply with the core objectives for General Community Use, Park and Sportsground (refer to Section 4.4 - Core Objectives) and as specified in the Act, as well as various Federal, State and local level legislation and policy. The main aspects of this current legislation and policy affecting the management of community land are outlined in Section 9.2 Statutory Provisions.

5.1 Council's Management Goals

Wingecarribee Shire Council recognises that strategic planning provides a management framework to meet the challenges of today and the future. Council's Management Plan 2009-2012 outlines Council's vision and mission statements.

Wingecarribee Shire Council's **Mission** statement is:

"To augment the economic, environmental and social quality of life in the Wingecarribee Shire by serving the community well"

Wingecarribee Shire Council's **Vision** statements are a long term set of strategies which underpins the future direction of the Shire. It represents the combined Community and Council view on the desired future for Wingecarribee Shire. The vision for Wingecarribee Shire contains five vision statements which include:

- ***Enhance transparency and accountability in all decision making processes and outcomes***
- ***Gain the trust and confidence of the community by keeping the communities informed and respect their input***
- ***Enhance the services and civic and natural assets of the Shire for this and future generations***
- ***Promote a live locally, work locally sustainability focus***
- ***Support and encourage the Shire's tourism industry and character***

5.2 Council's Strategic Direction

Wingecarribee Shire Council's 2009-2012 Management Plan is structured around four specific priorities. Within each priority are activities that ensure Council's Strategic Direction is delivered.

The purpose of having these priorities is to create focus areas of importance to the community, and to help the organisation plan and think in terms of high level outcomes for the community.

Wingecarribee Shire Council's 2009-2012 Management Plan provides the link between the strategic direction of the organisation and the operational plans that detail the services and projects that will be provided over the period. Each project and service that is provided in the organisation will have a clear 'line of sight' to one or more of the Priority's strategic aims.

The priority areas identified to be addressed within and by organisation over the next few years are:

Governance

- *Attracting and retaining a motivated workforce to achieve council's plans*
- *Improving procedures and processes for improved efficiency and effectiveness*
- *Adopting communication methods between council's staff and Councillors that promote clarity and trust*
- *Improving transparency and accountability of Council's finances*

Economic

- *Facilitating the growth of new business within the Shire that provides local jobs across a wide range of skills and professions*
- *Supporting the Moss Vale Enterprise Zone and the tourism industry to develop sustainable environmentally responsible business development.*

Environmental

- *Reaffirming council's commitment to preserving and improving our natural environment*
- *Retaining rural, village and town character with appropriate planning controls*

Social

- *Adjusting service provision to community priorities with particular emphasis on the projected aging of our community*
- *Increasing support services to members of the community*

This Plan of Management aims to meet these strategic objectives through actions for the future development and management of Exeter Park.

5.3 *Community Values*

To effectively manage community land and meet community needs, Council needs to consider the values of the community. Community values tend to be broad in nature and remain constant for a considerable length of time. They can be defined as “what is important about a place” (Department of Land and Water Conservation & Manidis Roberts Consultants (1996). *Succeeding with Plans of Management*).. These community values provide a framework to underpin the way in which Council manages Community Land.

This Plan of Management incorporates this values-based approach to ensure best practice management of Community Land.

Based upon previous research, consultation and ongoing interaction with the community, the following values have been identified:

5.3.1 *Health Values*

Recent research shows that many of society’s health related conditions (physical and mental) could be lessened through increasing levels of physical activity and relaxation.

Regular participation in these activities allows individuals to improve their overall health and wellbeing through development of mental alertness, stress management, coordination, balance and other functions. Passive and sporting recreational areas as well as natural areas have enormous restorative powers that have profound positive impacts on human behaviour and function, and help recovery from mental fatigue and stress.

5.3.2 *Recreational Values*

The community is increasingly realising the health and wellbeing benefits of recreation in enhancing their quality of life. Exeter Park provides many opportunities for passive, sporting, outdoor based recreational activities. Active pursuits such as organised and casual sport, walking as well as an extensive variety of passive activities such as photography, painting, bird watching and picnicking are popular in public open space areas. Many recreational areas link to other areas of open space greatly increasing their recreational value to the community.

5.3.3 *Social Values*

Exeter Park provides a unique opportunity by combining an indoor venue with the added attraction of providing an outdoor space that is aesthetic and tranquil. This combination is becoming increasingly important to the community and is valued as social venues.

The community has developed a strong sense of ownership of this site with the desire to protect and enhance its sporting and passive recreational values, the site also provides a level of social interaction across all sporting codes.

The passive open space with Exeter Park provides an ideal atmosphere for community interaction and socialising, which increases social capital and improves the health and wellbeing of the community.

5.3.4 Natural Values

Exeter Park provides contains a balance of natural, built and recreational environment and is characteristic of the previous era. Any future development should consider this natural value.

5.4 Roles of the Area

The main ‘role’ of Exeter Park is to provide a popular local and district sporting and passive recreational resource.

A secondary role for Exeter Park is the opportunity for social interaction, particularly for the residents of the surrounding area.

Exeter Park is considered of district significance because of its ability to hold quality events and the opportunity of offering a variety of sporting activities and passive recreation.

Exeter Park plays a significant role for competitive sports within Wingecarribee Shire. The park is a well used site for weekend competition and weekly training. Local school groups utilise this facility for regular competitions.

5.5 Vision and Objectives for the Park

A vision and objectives for management have been identified to guide and direct the management of the Park. These can also be considered as ‘guiding principles’ or ‘desired outcomes’ which define the expectations and directions for decision making in relation to the management and use of Exeter Park.

5.5.1 Vision for Management

The vision for Exeter Park ‘sits above’ the management objectives, providing the overall direction for the Plan of Management. It defines where Council and the community would like Exeter Park to be in the future, and the direction that management activities (through the implementation of the Plan of Management) should take.

Management Vision

To recognise Exeter Park as a “significant place” in Wingecarribee Shire Council’s open space system, ensuring protection and conservation of identified values through appropriate management, in a way which best meets the environmental, recreational, educational and social needs of the present community and future generations.

5.5.2 *Management Principles*

The following principles establish the direction the Wingecarribee Shire Council as the Land Owners will follow in implementing specific strategies to achieve the vision:

- Recognise, protect and enhance the understanding, protection and restoration of the natural landscape and ecological values of the Park;
- Permit a wide range of recreational opportunities compatible with the natural/physical, scenic and cultural features of the Park, in response to community needs;
- Encourage community “ownership” and use of the park
- Encourage and promote public use by providing a range of high quality, safe, accessible and enjoyable recreational and leisure facilities;
- Adopt Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and Safer by Design principles in managing the park to minimise vandalism and increase personal safety in the park.
- Protect and enhance the visual and social values of the Park;
- Provide opportunities for informal recreation and social interaction.
- Ensure continued free public access.

6.0 STRATEGIES and ACTION PLANS

The strategies to resolve the management issues consistent with the Community Values from Section 5 and to implement the Masterplan are presented in the following tables. The tables have the following objectives:

- To formulate performance targets;
- To ensure consistency with core objectives for community land categories;
- To develop actions that will define the way that Council will achieve its performance targets;
- To provide a means of assessment, which is the way that Council measures its performance; and
- To assign priorities for each of the performance targets.

The responsibilities abbreviations are as follows:

WSC	Wingecarribee Shire Council
EPMC	Exeter Park Management Committee
ESC	Exeter Soccer Club
HDCA	Highlands District Cricket Association
ETC	Exeter Tennis Club
SHCC	Southern Highlands Croquet Club

Within this action plan, each has been given a priority, which can be linked to the following time frame:

- **High** – commenced within the next 3-4 years
- **Medium** – commenced in 4 – 7 years
- **Low** – commenced after 7 + years
- **Ongoing** – throughout time as the Plan of Management is in operation

It should be recognised however that the commencement and completion of the actions would be dependent on the available resources and funds.

6.1 Passive and Sports facilities

6.1.1 Amenities and Facilities

Table 12 - Proposed action plan for Amenities & Facilities

No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1	Provide quality active and passive recreational facilities	Prepare construction drawings and detail plans for facility improvements to Exeter Park as proposed in the Masterplan. All future works to be designed with regard to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. Eg. Maintain sightlines, passive surveillance, signage etc.	High	Drawings and detail plans completed. Any work and/or future plans to comply with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.	WSC & EPMC
2		Demolish existing public toilets, design and construct a stand alone public amenities building incorporating change rooms etc.	High	Public toilets demolished and a new public amenities building constructed.	WSC & EPMC
5		Design and construct a main formal car park incorporating lighting, fencing, drainage, landscaping etc.	High	Car park designed all works completed and car park operational.	WSC & EPMC
8		Design and construct formal car park adjacent to the croquet field incorporating lighting, fencing, drainage, landscaping, etc.	High	Car park designed all works completed and car park operational.	WSC, EPMC & SHCC
7		Design and install an entrance statement (eg signage) that compliments the memorial gates that identifies the site.	High	Entrance statement implemented and all works completed	WSC & EPMC
9		Design and construct an entrance statement to the croquet entrance.	High	Entrance statements for the three entrances design and work completed.	WSC, EPMC & SHCC

Amenities and Facilities (continued)

No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
11		Upgrade and replace park furniture, picnic seating, bench seating, drinking fountain and BBQ as shown on the Masterplan.	High	Park furniture replaced.	WSC & EPMC
3		Upgrade and replace oval boundary fence.	Medium	Oval fence replaced.	WSC, EPMC, ESC & HDCA
4		Provide new sports floodlighting to the oval - lighting level should be suitable for soccer and cricket.	Medium	Floodlighting to the oval installed and operational.	WSC, ESC & HDCA,
6		Upgrade and renew cricket practice nets.	Medium	Existing cricket practise net demolished and a double practise net constructed.	WSC & HDCA
10		Design and construct a new playground suitable for all ages adjacent to the tennis court	Medium	Playground redesigned and construction completed.	WSC & EPMC
12		Construct landscape areas and tree planting as shown on the masterplan.	Medium	Landscape improvements and tree planning completed.	WSC & EPMC
13		Construct and install cricket sight screens at either end of the oval.	Low	Sight screens installed and ready to use.	EPMC & HDCA
14		Construct player seating with suitable fencing on the eastern side of the oval.	Low	Seating and fencing completed and ready to use.	WSC, EPMC, HDCA & ESC
15		Design and construct a building for the croquet club.	Low	Building design and construction of the building completed and fully operational.	WSC,EPMC & SHCC

6.1.2 Access

Table 13 - Proposed action plan for access

No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1	Provide opportunities to encourage sustainable community access and enjoyment.	a. Promotion of access to Exeter Park facilities for all groups within the community. b. Ensure all permitted organised events comply with Council's policies and relevant legislation.	High	Increased number of visitors to Exeter Park. All events comply with Council policies and Legislation.	WSC & EPMC
2	Provide improved infrastructure.	Design and upgrade existing timber pedestrian bridge (across Indigo Creek).	Medium	Pedestrian bridge replaced.	WSC & EPMC
3	Provide opportunities for people with disabilities to access Exeter Park	a. Identify and provide wheelchair and disabled access in where it is feasible. b. Incorporate the requirements of Council's' equal access policy into future facility improvements (where applicable)	Medium	Increase in the number of people with disabilities visiting Exeter Park Future improvements comply with the equal access policy.	WSC & EPMC

6.1.3 Erosion and Stormwater

Table 14 - Proposed action plan for Erosion and Stormwater

No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1	Reduce the impacts of storm water on the environment	Ensure that any new developments adjoining Exeter Park are in accordance with Council's Development Control Plans for Environmental Protection zoning.	High	All future development applications adjoining Exeter Park incorporate appropriate environmental controls.	WSC
2		Provide control systems at storm water pipe outlets to reduce erosion, nutrients, sediment and pollution inputs. Refer to Masterplan.	Medium	Number of end of pipe solutions implemented and improvement in water quality.	WSC
3		Rehabilitation of Indigo Creek and adjoining creek to improve water quality.	Low	Improved water quality within Indigo Creek and other adjoin streams.	WSC

6.1.4 Management

Table 15 - Proposed action plan for Management

No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1	Improved promotion of the site and facilities available.	Develop and prepare a management plan for the Park.	High	management plan developed and implemented.	WSC& EPMC
2		Develop an asset management plan for the site.	High	Asset management plan developed and implemented.	WSC & EPMC

6.2 Community facilities

6.2.1 Exeter Hall

Table 16 - Proposed action plan for Exeter Hall

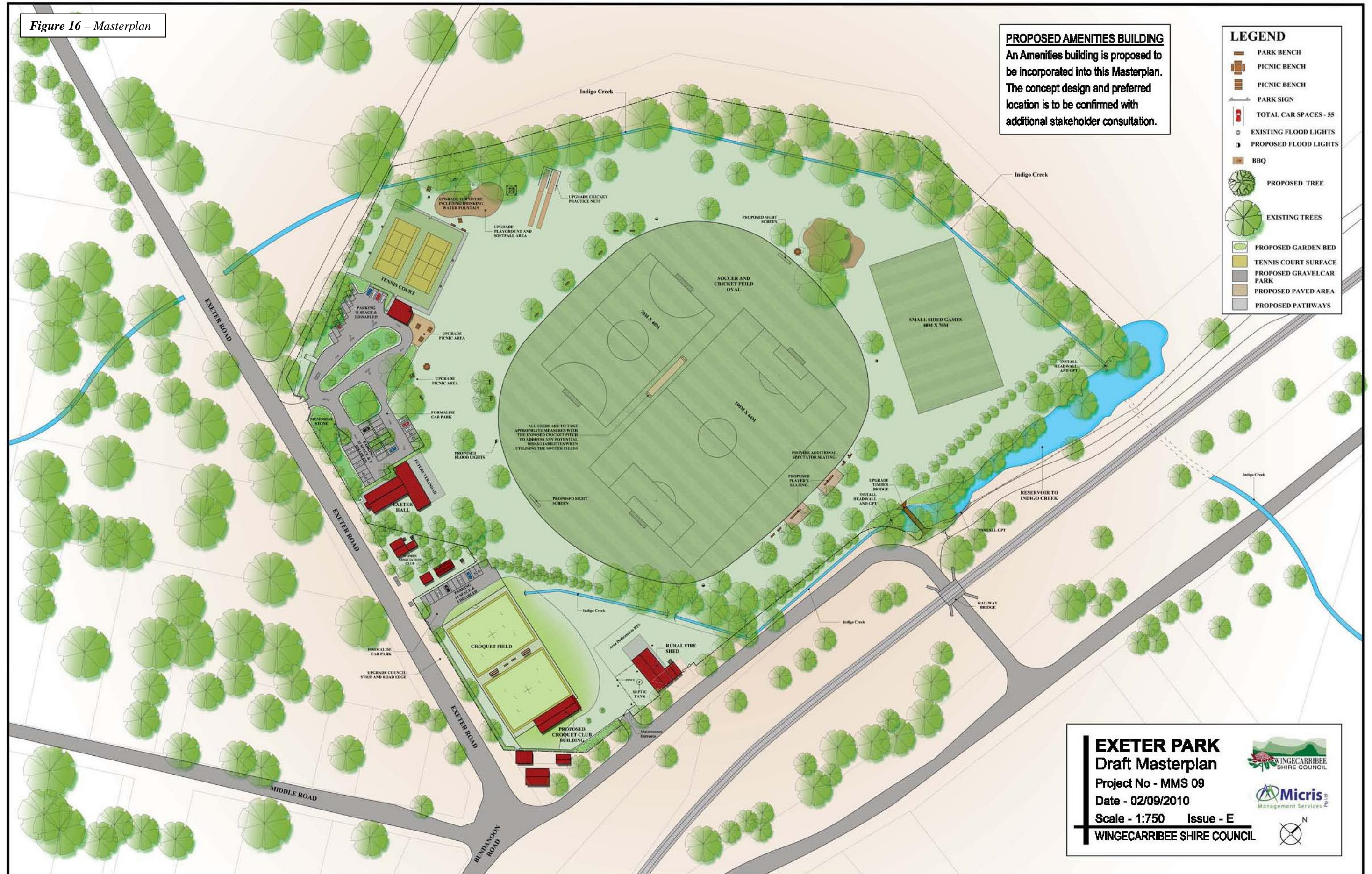
No.	Performance Target	Means to Achieve (Action)	Priority	Performance Assessment	Responsibility
1	Provide quality community facilities	Renovate the kitchen and provide a suitable facility for community and social functions.	High	Kitchen renovation completed.	WSC & EPMC
2		Upgrade and provide additional toilets and storage rooms within the hall that may be used for community and social events, any changes to the facade shall compliment the design features of the hall.	High	Extension to hall designed and all construction works completed and operational.	WSC & EPMC
3		Design and construct a rear veranda facing the oval which complements the hall.	High	Construction of rear veranda completed and ready for use.	WSC & EPMC
4		Update and renew the rear roof and rear facade of the hall which complements the character of the hall.	High	All construction works for rear roof and rear external wall completed.	WSC & EPMC
5		Conduct an internal and external disability access audit for the Hall. Develop an action plan from the audit and implement recommendations.	Medium	Audit completed and implementation action plan programmed.	WSC & EPMC
6	Conservation management plan	Develop a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the Hall.	Low	Conservation Management Plan developed.	WSC & EPMC

7.0 MASTER PLAN

The Masterplan for Exeter Park has been developed as a result of community consultation and identifies numerous issues within the Reserve. Refer to Masterplan attached.

Components of the Masterplan may not occur for some years depending on funding. This Plan of Management recommends staging of the works, however the staging is dependent on availability of funding, demand and use of the facilities and review of the needs assessment for the community and user groups of the park.

Figure 16 – Masterplan



8.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

8.1 Implementation of this Plan of Management

Implementation of the Plan will be monitored annually with the preparation of annual performance standards and capital works programs. Performance standards and works programs for administration and upgrading works are revised each year to meet allocated budgets and works priorities determined in Council's Management Plan.

Funding for management of the Reserve will be sought from a range of government, Council, corporate and community sources on an ongoing basis.

8.2 Review of this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management is intended to be reviewed and updated within ten years (by 2020). It should be updated to reflect changing community and Council priorities and issues, incorporating changes in grants and funding, legislation or Council directions, and to recognise completed actions.

Review of this Plan of Management should also consider outcomes of periodic reviews of Council's strategic and operational plans. The Action Plan tables should be reviewed and revised annually in accordance with Council's budget, Capital Works Program and changing priorities.

9.0 APPENDIX

9.1 *Funding and Grant Sources*

Introduction

There are a number of strategies used by Council to fund the implementation of this Plan of Management. Council generally utilises a number of funding sources to implement the proposed action plan.

9.1.1 *Council Funding*

General

Funding for construction of new facilities and upgrade of existing facilities is generally via the annual budgeting process, however projects (if the funding criteria is met) may be partly funded through State and Federal Government grant allocations, which may involve matching funding from Council.

Staging of works will need to occur because Council cannot meet the cost of every single item of work proposed at one time, due to other financial commitments throughout the Shire. Actions listed in the action plans have been prioritised which will assist in developing works programs and annual budgets.

Environmental levy

Funds raised from Council's environmental levy may be used for environmental open space projects.

Partnerships

An opportunity exists to develop partnerships with community groups and interested people in relation to park improvements and ongoing management, such as regeneration of bushland areas.

Wingecarribee Shire Council's Section 94 Plan

Council's Section 94 plan for its established areas, allow for Council to collect funds from new developments to be spent on embellishing local and district open space and community facilities.

9.1.2 Grant Funding

A number of Commonwealth and State Government grants are available to assist with capital works. While not exhaustive, the following gives an indication of the range of available grant programs through which improvements to the park consistent with its size, catchment and intended uses could be funded.

Commonwealth Government

Natural Heritage Trust Grants

The Commonwealth Government funds environmental and natural resource management programs, and particularly supports projects run in partnership between landholders, community groups and Government.

Australia Council for the Arts Grants

The Australia Council is an arts advisory and funding body to the Commonwealth Government. It offers a diverse range of grants to individuals and organisations, through which it seeks to promote excellence in the arts and encourage cultural expression. Projects that are successful in achieving grants usually have a strong community focus in their aims and implementation.

Community, Environment, Art and Design Fund (CEAD)

CEAD supporting one off projects between communities, artists and designers in the planning and design of public open space.

Public Art Program

The NSW Government offers financial assistance for arts and cultural activities through Arts NSW. Grants of up to \$4,000 are available to assist in the commissioning of concept proposals by artists. Matching grants of up to \$20,000 are available for commissioning public art.

Water for the Future Funding

Offers grants in order to assist local community organisations to save, recycle or improve the health of the local water resources. Grants are available for projects related to water saving and efficiency, water recycling, and water treatment to improve surface and groundwater health.

State Government

Environmental Trust Grants

The Environmental Trust is a State Government Trust established to support exceptional environmental projects. It is governed by the Environmental Trust Act 1998, and has been formed to provide grants and supervise their expenditure. A particular requirement of the Trust's program is to encourage community involvement and input, making their purpose twofold - providing both educational and environmental benefits.

The Environmental Education Program

Provides resources to increase environmental awareness amongst individuals, communities and special interest groups.

The Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Program

This program funds projects which restore, protect, enhance and prevent further environmental degradation in natural environments. It requires applicants to include community involvement, cost efficiency, involve qualified people to achieve the restoration and must broadly benefit the environment of NSW.

NSW Department of Sport and Recreation

The Department of Sport and Recreation offers two levels of grants to local Councils known as:

- Capital Assistance Program;
- Regional Sports Facilities Program;
- International Sporting Events Program; and
- Sports Development Program.

These programs provide funding for recreational infrastructure – both indoor and outdoor. In the past it has funded schemes as diverse as floodlighting, turf resurfacing, building upgrades and provision of other such sports facilities.

NSW Community Relations Commission

- Community Development Grants Program

The Community Development Grant Program provides funding for long term benefits for the Community. Projects may include the promotion of cultural expression, enhancement of community development or capital based projects, development of community networks and structures and projects addressing critical issues relating to cultural diversity at a local level.

Metropolitan Greenspace Program

Planning NSW provides funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program to assist Council's plan and develop regionally significant open space areas. Improvements may include paths, interpretive signage, educational programs and natural heritage conservation works, including bush regeneration.

9.2 Statutory Provisions

In addition to the legislation and policy outlined within this Plan of Management, there are a number of local, regional, state and national legislative documents, plans and policies that relate to the management and protection of Exeter Park. The main aspects of current legislation, plans and policy affecting the management and protection of Exeter Park are outlined below.

Commonwealth Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC)

The EPBC Act introduces an assessment and approvals system for actions that have a significant impact on matters of “national environmental significance” (NES), which includes nationally threatened species and ecological communities. The Act has the potential to capture a wide range of activities, including land clearing activities, irrigation developments, water infrastructure projects (e.g. weirs and dams), certain urban developments, mineral exploration activities and many marine activities.

Endangered Ecological Communities in NSW affected by this legislation include Southern Highlands Shale Woodland (found within the Wingecarribee LGA), however the EPBC Act may list ecological communities not listed under the TSC Act.

State Legislation

Local Government Act 1993

The Local Government Act 1993 includes a range of requirements on the management and use of public land. Council owned land must be classified as either community or operational land.

Section 35 of the Act requires that community land is used and managed in accordance with the following:

- The Plan of Management applying to the land
- Any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land
- This Division

Section 38 of the Act requires that Council give public notice of a draft Plan of Management. The plan must be exhibited for at least 28 days with a submission period totalling 42 days. Any relevant supplementary material must also be exhibited.

A public hearing is only required if the Plan of Management proposes that community land be re-categorised or categorised for the first time. Section 45 of the Act dictates what dealings a Council can have with community land, as follows:

- i. A Council has no power to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of community land
- ii. A Council may grant a lease or licence of community land, but only in accordance with this Division
- iii. A Council may grant any other estate in community land to the extent permitted by this Division or under the provisions of another Act

This section does not prevent a Council from selling, exchanging or otherwise disposing of Community Land for the purpose of enabling that land to become, or be added to, a Crown Reserve or to become, or be added to, land that is reserved or dedicated under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Sections 46 and 47 of the Act provide clear guidelines for Council with respect to the granting of leases, licences and other estates on community land. This includes permissible uses, means of granting leases, licences and other estates, timeframes and subleases, development and dedication of community land as public road.

The Local Government Act 1993 also considers acts of vandalism in public places (eg. Injuring plants and animals or defacing property) and gives Councils the power to establish and enforce alcohol free zones.

Environmental Planning & Assessment (EP & A) Act 1979

This planning instrument applies to development and use of all land within Wingecarribee LGA. Under this instrument, any use or development proposed for an area must be consistent with the applicable zoning as outlined in this plan for that area.

In relation to Natural Areas, the Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP & A) Act aims to encourage the proper management, development and conservation of natural resources for the purpose of promoting the social and economic welfare of the community and a better environment. It also plans for the protection of the environment, including the protection and conservation of native animals and plants, including threatened species, populations and ecological communities and their habitats.

Environment Assessments must be carried out for any proposed activity or development. Any change in the use of a land area requires a development application (DA) and environmental assessment of the proposed activity under Part 4 of the EP&A Act forms part of the DA. A review of environmental factors (REF) under Part 5 of the EP&A Act must also be written for those proposed activities that do not require development consent.

Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997

This legislation replaces the Clean Air Act 1961, Clean Waters Act 1970, Pollution Control Act 1970, Noise Control Act 1975, and the Environmental Offences and Penalties Act 1989. It is an offence for a person to discharge pollutants to waters unless they hold an environment protection license.

Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003

This legislation establishes catchment management authorities and has the following objectives:

- To establish authorities for the purpose of devolving operational, investment and decision-making natural resource functions to catchment levels;
- To provide for proper natural resource planning at a catchment level;
- To ensure that decisions about natural resources take into account appropriate catchment issues;
- To require decisions taken at a catchment level to take into account State-wide standards and to involve the Natural Resources Commission in catchment planning where appropriate;
- To involve communities in each catchment in decision making and to make best use of catchment knowledge and expertise;
- To ensure the proper management of natural resources in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State;
- To apply sound scientific knowledge to achieve a fully functioning and productive landscape; and
- To provide a framework for financial assistance and incentives to landholders in connection with natural resource management.

Fisheries Management Act 1994

The primary purpose of this Act is to conserve, develop and share the fishery resources of the State for the benefit of present and future generations, with the following objectives:

- To conserve fish stocks and key fish habitats;
- To conserve threatened species, populations and ecological communities of fish and marine vegetation;
- To promote ecologically sustainable development, including the conservation of
- To promote viable commercial fishing and aquaculture industries;
- To promote quality recreational fishing opportunities;
- To appropriately share fishery resources between the users of those resources;
- To provide social and economic benefits for the wider community of New South Wales.

Noxious Weeds Act 1993

Local Government is responsible for the application of the Noxious Weed Act administered by the Department of Primary Industries. Council is required to enforce the control of State and locally declared noxious weeds on both private and public lands, and therefore

- Must control declared noxious weeds on Council managed lands;
- Must inspect and enforce control of declared noxious weeds on private land; and
- Must be a member of a regional weed committee and produce regional plans to ensure funding from Department of Primary Industries

Rural Fires Act 1997

The objects of this Act are to provide for:

- The prevention, mitigation and suppression of bush and other fires in local government areas (or parts of areas) and other parts of the State constituted as rural fire districts;
- The co-ordination of bush fire fighting and bush fire prevention throughout the State;
- The protection of persons from injury or death, and property from damage, arising from fires; and
- The protection of the environment by requiring certain activities referred to in the above paragraphs to be carried out having regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

This Act applies to both community and Crown land. Its protection and conservation principles in this Act are consistent with the core objectives for Natural Areas. It also aims to foster public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of nature and cultural heritage and their conservation. It provides protection and conservation powers for:

- Habitat, ecosystems and ecosystem processes;
- Biological diversity at the community, species and genetic levels;
- Landforms of significance, including geological features and processes;
- Landscapes and natural features of significance including wilderness and wild rivers
- Places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people;
- Places of social value to the people of New South Wales; and
- Places of historic, architectural or scientific significance.

Water Management Act 2001

The purpose of this Act is to provide for the sustainable and integrated management of the water sources for the benefit of both present and future generations. This is achieved through:

- Applying the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- Protecting, enhancing and restoring water sources, their associated ecosystems, ecological processes and biological diversity and their water quality;
- Recognising and fostering the significant social and economic benefits to the State that result from the sustainable and efficient use of water, including:
 - i. benefits to the environment;
 - ii. benefits to urban communities, agriculture, fisheries, industry and recreation;
 - iii. benefits to culture and heritage;
 - iv. benefits to the Indigenous community in relation to their spiritual, social, customary and economic use of land and water.

- Recognising the role of the community, as a partner with Government, in resolving issues relating to the management of water sources;
- Providing for the orderly, efficient and equitable sharing of water from water sources;
- Integrating the management of water sources with the management of other aspects of the environment, including the land, its soil, its native vegetation and its native fauna;
- Encouraging the sharing of responsibility for the sustainable and efficient use of water between the Government and water users; and
- Encouraging best practice in the management and use of water.

Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995 (TSC Act)

This Act aims to assist with the protection and recovery of threatened native flora and fauna species, populations and communities, as well as their habitats within NSW. It has significant implications for Council in relation to the management of native vegetation.

NSW Biodiversity Strategy 1999

The core objectives of the NSW Biodiversity Strategy are to:

- Ensure the survival and evolutionary development of species, populations and communities of plants, animals and microorganisms native to NSW;
- Strengthen management of biodiversity on a bioregional basis while using existing catchment level networks to focus on specific actions, including the integration of biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- Identify, prevent or attack at-source the threats to biodiversity through timely implementation of targeted actions;
- Build on the success of existing initiatives to develop a coordinated and cost-effective biodiversity conservation program involving the community, industry and all levels of government and ensure that the rights, knowledge and values of local and Aboriginal communities are properly recognised and reflected;
- Strengthen actions to inform, motivate and achieve the support of the community including local and Indigenous communities, industry, State Government agencies and Local Government, in conserving biodiversity; and
- Increase our understanding of the ecological systems and processes required to conserve biodiversity through scientific research, survey and monitoring, taking into account the knowledge and values of Aboriginal and local communities.

NSW Heritage Act 1977

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 aims to conserve the environmental and cultural heritage of NSW. Proposed changes affecting sites on the State Heritage Register, and the management of archaeological and maritime archaeological sites, are covered by this Act. The Heritage Act also applies in managing excavation that may affect archaeological relics.

Local Plans and Policies

Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2010

The Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2010 provides planning and land use controls to encourage ecologically sustainable development for all land in the LGA. These controls provide for protection and enhancement of the natural environment, particularly remnant bushland. Under this instrument, any use or development proposed for an area must be consistent with the applicable zoning as designated for that area.

Natural Areas are zoned as either:

- RE1 Public Recreation;
- RE2 Private Recreation;
- E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves;
- E2 Environmental Conservation; and
- E3 Environmental Management.

Development in areas with either of these zonings must be in accordance with a Plan of Management adopted under the Local Government Act 1993. However, areas with Environmental Protection Zoning have harsher development controls than Public Recreation Zoning.

Land Zoned RE1 Public Recreation

The objectives for land zoned **RE1** are:

- (a) To enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes;
- (b) To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses;
- (c) To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes; and
- (d) To enable ancillary development that will encourage the enjoyment of land zoned for open space.

Land Zoned RE2 Private Recreation

The objectives for land zoned **RE2** are:

- (a) To enable land to be used for private open space or recreational purposes;
- (b) To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses; and
- (c) To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.

Land Zoned E1 National Parks and Nature Reserve

The objectives for land zoned **E1** are:

- (a) To enable the management and appropriate use of land that is reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* or that is acquired under Part 11 of that Act.
- (b) To enable uses authorised under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- (c) To identify land that is to be reserved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* and to protect the environmental significance of that land.

Land Zoned E2 Environmental Conservation

The objectives for land zoned **E2** are:

- (a) To protect, manage and restore areas of high ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values.
- (b) To prevent development that could destroy, damage or otherwise have an adverse effect on those values.

Land Zoned E3 Environmental Management

The objectives for land zoned **E3** are:

- (a) To protect, manage and restore areas with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values;
- (b) To provide for a limited range of development that does not have an adverse effect on those values;
- (c) To encourage the retention of the remaining evidence of significant historic and social values expressed in existing landscape and land use patterns;
- (d) To minimise the proliferation of buildings and other structures in these sensitive landscape areas;
- (e) To provide for a restricted range of development and land use activities that provide for rural settlement, sustainable agriculture, other types of economic and employment development, recreation and community amenity in identified drinking water catchment areas; and
- (f) To protect significant agricultural resources (soil, water and vegetation) in recognition of their value to Wingecarribee's longer term economic sustainability

Wingecarribee Biodiversity Strategy Phase 1 2003

This Plan of Management is to be implemented in conjunction with the Wingecarribee Biodiversity Strategy Phase 1 2003, which provides guidelines to direct Council's management of biodiversity. The overall aim is to:

‘To establish and implement measures to effectively conserve, protect, enhance and rehabilitate the biodiversity with the Shire’.

Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs - Study 2004 and Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs - Study and Strategy – Review (November 2009)

The plan provides a framework to guide the planning, development and management of Wingecarribee's open space systems in line with Council's strategic outcomes.

The overall purpose of Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Needs Study is:

- To properly identify the existing and likely future community needs for open space, recreation, cultural and community facilities in Wingecarribee;
- To identify a strategic planning and management direction for an integrated and corporate approach to the provision of recreation, cultural and community activity opportunities, through public facilities and open space; and
- To develop a policy framework for Council to provide quality recreation, cultural and community activity opportunities and environments that meets the needs of the Wingecarribee community.

9.3 References

Wingecarribee Shire Council Open Space and Recreation Facilities Section 94 Contributions plans (July 1993)

Wingecarribee Social Plan – 2005 – 2010

Wingecarribee Shire Council Parks, Gardens & Reserves Management Plans (July 1995)

Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs Study, September, 2004

Wingecarribee Open Space, Recreation, Cultural and Community Facilities Needs - Study and Strategy – Review (November 2009)

Wingecarribee our Future – Strategic Plan, October 2002

Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2010

State of the Environment Report 2008-2009

Wingecarribee Shire Council's Management Plan 2009-2012

Riparian Management Guidelines for the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Rivers, 2002

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Local Government Act 1993, as amended

Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act 1998

Disability Discrimination Act 1992

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995

Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997

Recreation and sport planning and design, Jim Daly, 2000

Outdoor Recreation and Open Space, Planning Guidelines for Local Government, prepared by Manidis Roberts Consultants, 1992

Department of Land and Water Conservation & Manidis Roberts Consultants. *Succeeding with Plans of Management*. 1996

Wingecarribee Biodiversity Strategy 2003

Exeter Park Plan of Management prepared by Marc Chapman (WSC Parks and Property), 2002.

A History of the Berrima District 1798 – 1973, By James Jervis, 1st Edition, 1962

Exeter School of Arts Hall 1902 – 2002, By Linda Emery, 2002

Exploring Exeter, By Linda Emery, 2003

NSW Soil & Land Information System –NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change), www.nratlas.nsw.gov.au, August 2009.

Australian Soil Resource Information System, www.asris.csiro.au, August 2009.

Wastewater site report, prepared by Civil and Structural Engineering, March 2009

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology – www.bom.gov.au, July 2009.

NSW Department of Lands – www.six.nsw.gov.au, August 2009

NSW Department of Lands - Sutton Forest Parish Map (PMapGN05), www.lands.nsw.gov.au, June 2009.

Geographical Names Board, www.gnb.nsw.gov.au, June 2009

ATTACHMENT A – Australian Climate Classification Groups

Köppen's scheme to classify world climates was devised in 1918 by Dr Wladimir Köppen of the University of Graz in Austria (Köppen 1931, Köppen and Geiger 1928, Köppen and Geiger 1930-39).

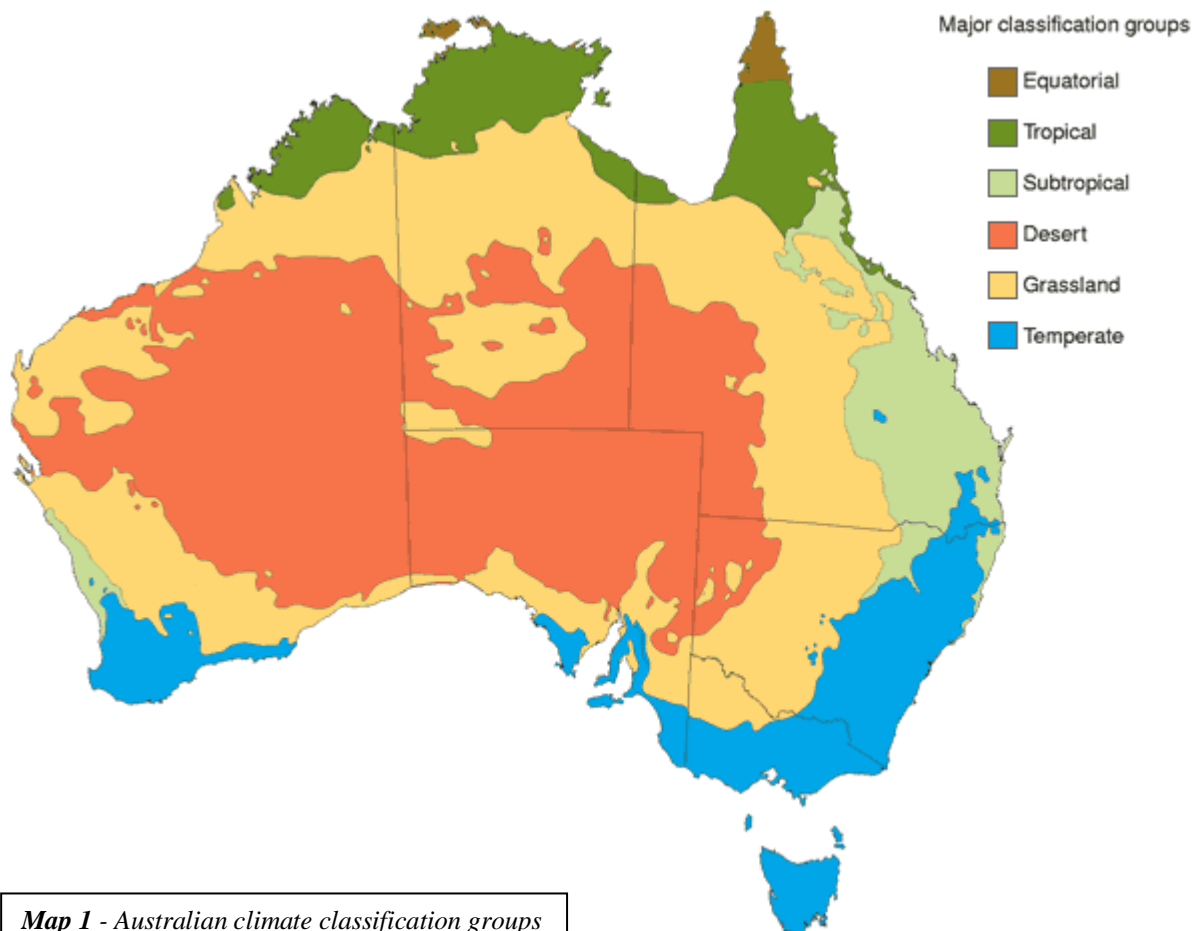
The Köppen classification is based on the concept that native vegetation is the best expression of climate, climate zone boundaries having been selected with vegetation limits in mind.

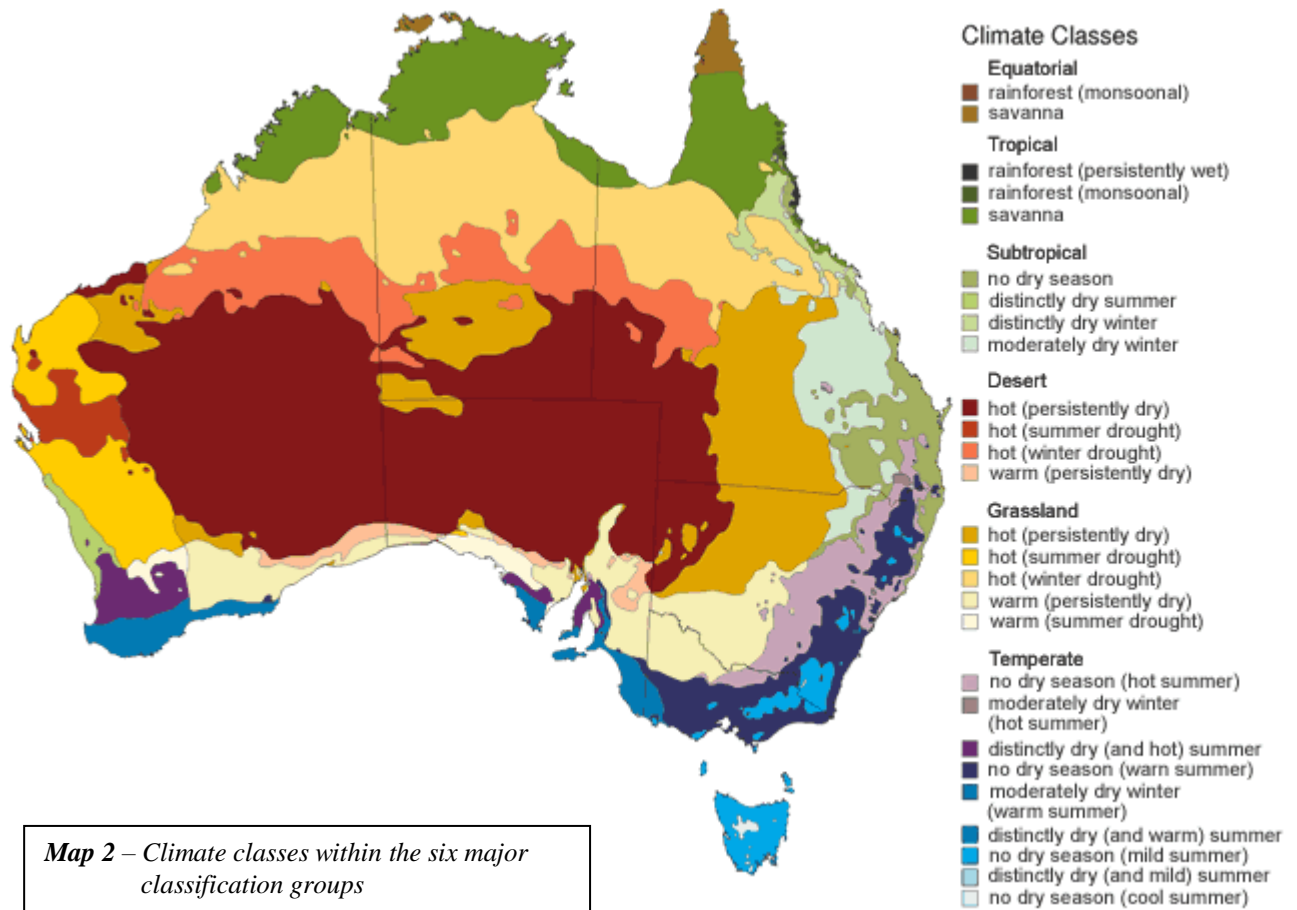
Köppen recognises five principal groups of world climates that are intended to correspond with five principal vegetation groups. These five climatic groups may be described as tropical rainy, dry, temperate rainy, cold snowy forest, and polar.

Each of these climates is further divided into sub-divisions based upon differences in the seasonal distribution of temperature and precipitation.

Under the Modified Köppen classification system provided by the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, the climate at Robertson would be described as no dry season (warm summer) Temperate, BoM (2009).

The first of the two maps below shows the six major Australian climate classification groups. The second map shows all the classes within the six major classification groups





Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology – www.bom.gov.au, April 2010.

ATTACHMENT B – Exeter Park Community Questionnaire Results

Wingecarribee Shire Council

**Community Questionnaire
Plan of Management
Exeter Park**

**Questionnaire Results
September 2007**

Prepared by



Overview

As part of Exeter Park Plan of Management a community questionnaire was developed to obtain the local communities thoughts and issues regarding Exeter Park and Exeter Hall.

Methodology

The questionnaire was located on the reverse side of the community workshop advertisement leaflet. The leaflet was distributed to all post office boxes located in the local post office at Exeter as Exeter residences do not have letter boxes at the front of their properties.

Participants were encouraged to complete a questionnaire and mail the questionnaire to council or hand it in at the community workshop

Number of questionnaires issued	300
Number of submissions received	38
Date Questionnaire issued	22 nd August 2007
Date questionnaire closed	12 th September 2007

Public Open Space & Sports Facilities Questionnaire Summary

No.	Question	Results
1	Have you or your family/household ever visited Exeter Park? Yes (Continue) No (Go to question 7)	38
2	What is the main form of transport you use to get to Exeter Park? Walk Car Bicycle Bus Train Motor bike Other (Please Specify)	21 23 2 -- -- -- --
3	Who do you go to Exeter Park with? Alone With family and/ or Friends Part of a commercial tour Part of a club or organisation Part of a school group Others (Please Specify)	10 38 -- 12 6 --
4	What activities do you & your family usually do at Exeter Park? Walking Jogging Lunch/picnic/BBQ Playground Tennis Cricket Soccer Croquet Passive recreation Other (Specify)	26 3 16 17 11 3 11 2 12
5	How long do you usually stay in the Park? Less than 30 min 31-60 min (hour) 61-90 min 91-120 min (2 hrs) 120-150 min (2.5 hrs) Longer than 2.5 hrs	2 24 9 2 3 5

No.	Question	Results
6	How often do you visit Exeter Park? Every day About once a week Several times a week On weekends only About once a fortnight About once a month On public holidays On special events only About 2-6 times a year About once a year Not sure/ don't know/ irregular Please go to question 8	 3 8 13 -- 2 3 1 3 3 -- 3 --
7	Why don't you use Exeter Park? Not interested Too busy Go to other parks Poor condition of the park Poor picnic facilities Family/work commitments Don't know where it is Other (please specify) ...	 -- -- -- -- -- 1 -- --
8	See table below	
9	See table below	
10	See table below	
11	Typically how many people from your party use Exeter Park? 1 to 2 3 to 4 5 to 6 Other (please specify) No Response	 11 18 4 -- 4
12	What age group of people from your family/household use Exeter Park? 0 to 8 Years 9 to 14 years 15 to 21 years 22 to 35 years 36 to 64 years 65 years +	 15 5 3 1 30 11

No.	Question	Results			
8	How important are the following items for Exeter Park?	High	Medium	Low	No Response
	Grassed areas (passive open space)	35	--	--	2
	Landscape areas/ trees	30	4	--	4
	Children's playground	23	2	5	9
	Sports fields	24	3	4	8
	Picnic facilities	25	5	1	6
	Spectator and passive sitting areas	19	9	2	8
	Public toilets	27	3	2	6
	Cleanliness/park maintenance	31	3	--	4

No.	Question	Results
9	How would you rate the general quality & condition of the open space in Exeter Park?	
	Excellent	8
	Very good	17
	Good	9
	Fair	2
	Poor	1
	Don't know	--

10	Are there any additional recreational facilities or improvements to current facilities that you would like to see occur at Exeter Park?				
	Additional Recreation Facilities	Artificial grass surface on at least one tennis court.	1) Pavilion for Croquet Club. 2) Improvement to the Cricket Pitch	A Second full sized soccer pitch, changing facilities	Covered picnic shelter & viewing platform.
		1) Locker room. 2) Dinking Bubblers out from under the trees.	Areas for dog walking	More playground facilities. Large Covered BBQ area similar to Fitzroy Fall	Build appropriate toilets and change rooms
		More Shade Trees for spectators around oval	Another covered picnic area near play equipments. Widening back verandah of hall to provide a viewing platform to watch sports.	Relocate the unsightly toilets	Entrance to Exeter Park after rain is shocking. Badly needs re tarring and filling in potholes it is dangerous.
		Construction of changing rooms	Skateboard ramp	Increase the frequency of the mobile skateboard ramps	
	Improvements to existing park	1)Covered walkway between toilet and hall. 2)Better kitchen facilities	When the Croquet Lawn was built some years ago we were promised landscaping to hide the ugly wire fence surrounding the base (never green) lawn. But this has never happened and it spoils the drive in to the village. No. 1 Priority	The new public toilet is not to obstruct the view of the oval from the Hall. A composting toilet is one suggestion that may be used for the new facility.	Off- Leash dog-walking allowed between specified hours; say 4pm to 8am. Dedicated dog-mess bin with disposable bags (as at Bong Bong track).
		Construction of new public amenities, toilet facilities are in extremely poor condition	1) Regular patrol by rangers to ensure that dog owners have dogs on leashes. 2) More benches and picnic tables N.S. whilst retaining current ambience- not anything out of keeping.	Off leash times for dog e.g. from 4pm to 8am (these times are similar to beach usage for dogs and owners around Jervis Bay	Replace bin with a more suitable type
		Covered walkway to toilets from hall.	More bins, better toilets	Catering and entrance	Improvement/ additional toilet facilities
		Upgrade of toilets and change areas	Resurface tennis courts and upgrade toilet facilities.	Kitchen in the hall. More toilets within the hall & improved access.	

Community Hall Questionnaire

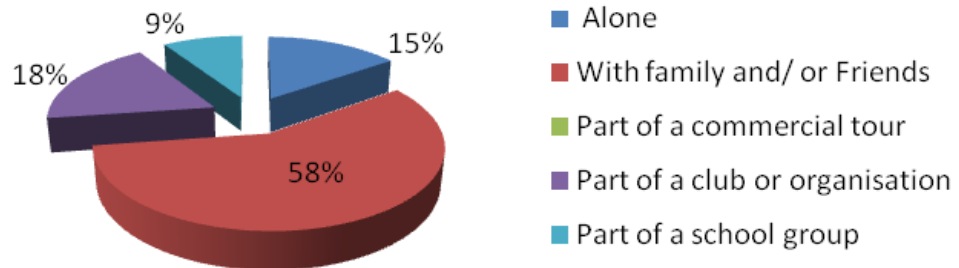
Questionnaire Summary

No.	Question	Results
1	Have you or your family/household ever used the Community Hall at Exeter Park? Yes (Continue) No (Go To question 4)	37 1
2	What activities have you used/ attended in the Community Hall at Exeter Park? Public meeting Club meeting Family get-togethers Special ceremonies Exhibitions Public day celebrations Other (Specify)	34 11 4 14 14 10 --
3	How would you rate the general quality & facilities of the Community hall at Exeter Park? Excellent Very good Good Fair Poor Don't know	3 9 6 7 8 2
4	Why don't you use the Community Hall at Exeter Park? (Please tick multiple if necessary) Not interested Too busy Go to other Community Hall Poor condition of the facilities Don't know where it is Other (Specify)	-- -- -- 6 -- --

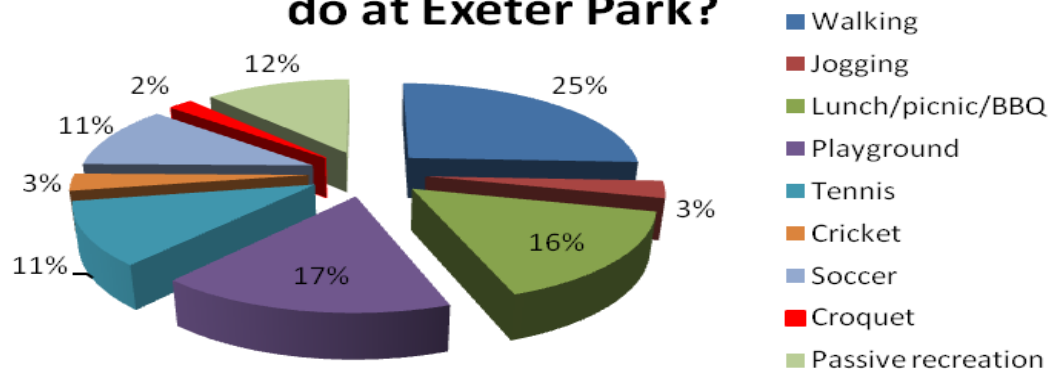
5	Are there any improvements to the Community Hall that you would like to see?		
	Upgrade kitchen and toilets	Happy with current condition.	Install air conditioning
	Wheel Chair Access	Updated and Cleaned Kitchen Facilities	Upgrade kitchen & toilets cleanliness
	1) Kitchen- needs to be cleaned regularly, needs to be bigger. Needs equipments- cutlery, crockery, glasses.	No- quite content with the way Exeter is- not interested in huge amounts of money being spent. ⇒ higher rates.	1)Update light switches. 2)The facilities in the kitchen are terrible and some things could be done about the rodents in the kitchen.
	Improve kitchen facilities / amenities	Toilet facilities (But apparently that's already in train).	Install heating within the hall
	Update kitchen area	Revamped Kitchen	Refit kitchen.
	Upgrade kitchen facilities. Address hygiene and vermin issues.	Upgrade kitchen and renew floor covering back area	Catering facilities are poor. A commercial business would not be allowed to operate. New kitchen should be top priority. Entrance-should be between road and gate.

Public Open Space & Sports Facilities Questionnaire Summary

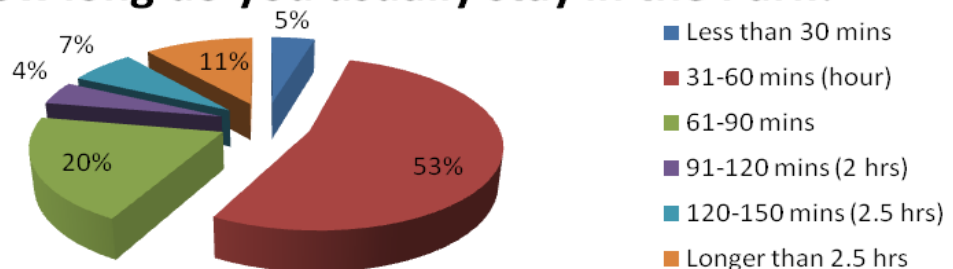
Who do you go to Exeter Park with?

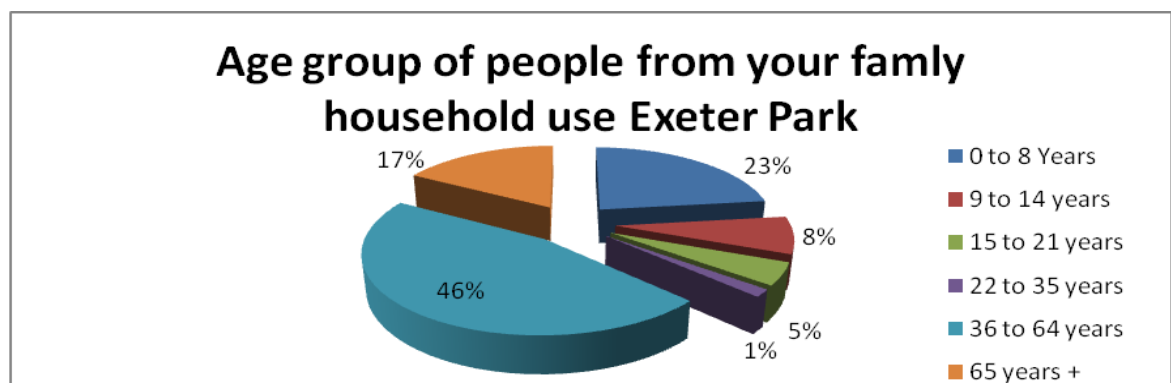
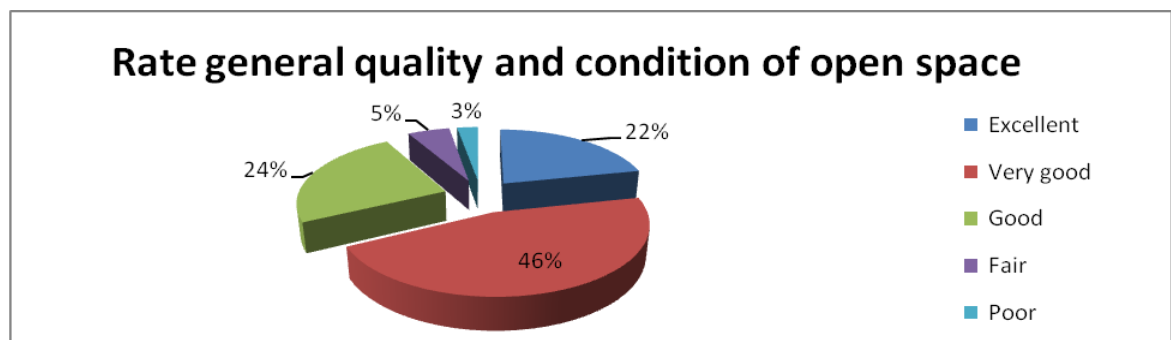
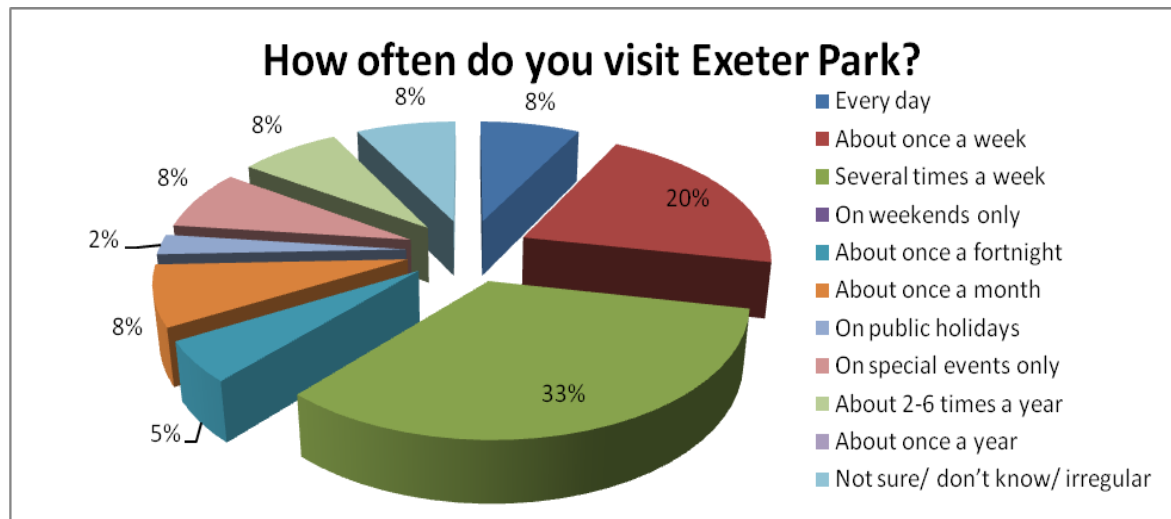


What Activities do you/ your family do at Exeter Park?



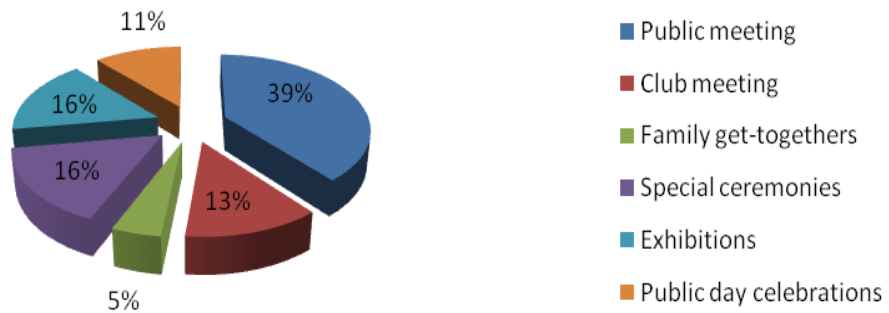
How long do you usually stay in the Park?



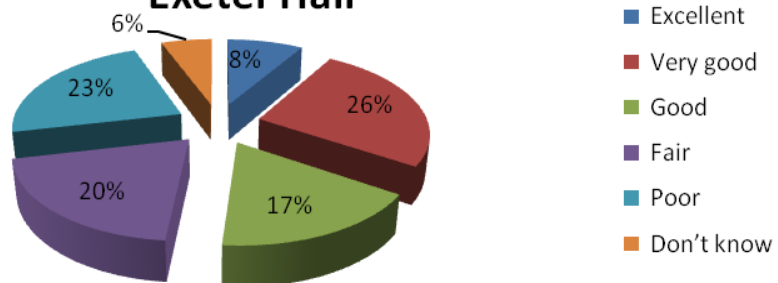


Community Hall Questionnaire Questionnaire Summary

What activities you use/ attend at Exeter Hall



Rate the general quality and facilities of the Exeter Hall



How important are the following items for Exeter Park?

