

Glenferrie Ward

December 2021



Your Glenferrie Place Plan is set to transform the precinct.

Cr Wes Gault

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A message from your Councillor

It is now almost a year since our current Council was sworn in.

At that time I was warned that I must be patient as things happen slowly in local government. Not so, I have found, as over the past 12 months I have seen excellent progress and have been pleased to play a part in advancing many of the things I hoped to achieve when I stood for Council.

Action on climate

An ambitious Climate Action Plan (CAP), which will guide and motivate Council's actions for the next 10 years is now in place. Initiatives therein will see Council's operations attain carbon neutrality by next year, well ahead of the 2025 milestone previously hoped for, and with your help, will see our whole community achieve neutrality by 2035.

A CAP implementation plan, which details all mitigation and adaption initiatives to be undertaken by Council in the first two years of CAP, is also now in place and, to confirm our commitment to these plans, Council, in September, also declared a climate emergency.

Placemaking

The long-awaited plans for the revitalisation of Hawthorn's iconic Glenferrie Road shopping strip and its laneways have now been made public, together with concepts for the reconfiguration and upgrading of parking amenities, which enable enhancement of pedestrian areas and provide bicycle lanes in Glenferrie Road.

Glenferrie Oval/Grace Park

Preparatory investigations are now underway for the demolition of what remains of the Ferguson Stand and repurposing of the Michael Tuck Stand, which currently grace the western end of Glenferrie oval. The pedestrian path or running track around our historic Grace Park has also now been completed.

The Rocket

No report from me would be complete without confirming that the launch and return flight dates for our much-loved Rocket have been set. It should arrive back in autumn to a wonderful new lunar landscape in Central Gardens.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wes Gault".

Cr Wes Gault

Bigger, brighter preschool awaits

West Hawthorn Preschool will reopen for 2022 with bright new premises and double its former learning space.

Council has modernised the facility and created purpose-built spaces to meet the needs of children in our community and future generations.

The former single-room preschool has been replaced with a state-of-the-art, two-room facility alongside a modern outdoor play area.

This expansion means the facility can accommodate an additional three-year-old kindergarten group and deliver services to more than 80 families.

The upgrades have been supported by the State Government, which made a contribution of \$500,000, as part of its Building Blocks Early Learning Facility Upgrade grants program.

Council is thankful to West Hawthorn Preschool's President, Jess Pattison, the committee of volunteer parents, and staff who worked closely with us to bring this new facility to life.

For more information on the project, visit:



www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/west-hawthorn-preschool-reopening





Time to accelerate action on climate change

In late September, Council adopted our new Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlining how we plan to respond to climate change over the next 10 years. The declaration of a climate emergency was also passed by Council, in acknowledgement of our community's strong desire to take action on climate change.

Council plans to be net carbon neutral by 2022, along with the aim for our broader Boroondara community to be net carbon neutral by 2035. By 2040, we hope as a Council and community to reduce our actual emissions by 100 per cent (compared with our corporate baseline year of 2007-08 and community baseline of 2020).

Most of Council's electricity already comes from renewable energy, and we can keep reducing our energy use by continuing to improve our facilities that use renewable electricity too. However, these actions won't be enough to achieve our new emission targets. In order to

achieve carbon neutrality in 2022, we will be investing in greenhouse gas offsets that can be measured and proven. As we keep improving our own operations and facilities, we won't need to rely on as many offsets because our level of emissions will shrink as we gradually reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Within the CAP and the supporting implementation plan, hundreds of actions are outlined that will be implemented by Council and the broader community in an effort to reduce emissions, improve our environmental performance and ultimately, reach our targets.

Our actions over the 10-year life of the CAP are summarised under five themes:

- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Biodiversity and trees
- Water and waterways
- Transport
- Circular economy (waste).

We also have overarching actions that affect more than one theme.

Some of these actions are ready to roll out, and some need more planning and development. Others define how new or updated policy frameworks will be developed to better support our community in achieving these targets.

Implementing a community solar PV, battery and energy-efficiency bulk-buy program, halving the number of our buildings that use natural gas, and converting at least 90 per cent of our fleet cars to electric vehicles or other low-emission technology are just a small sample of what we intend to achieve.

To learn more about all the actions we are implementing, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/CAP



Making your place in Glenferrie

Your Glenferrie Place Plan is here. Shaped by the voices of more than 1,700 community members, it sets out nine major initiatives designed to guide the transformation of Glenferrie into a vibrant and accessible place where everyone feels welcome.

In it, you'll find longer-term initiatives, and others to be delivered in the short-term, like revitalisation of the laneways around Glenferrie Station to offer an imaginative and memorable experience. Revitalising our iconic Glenferrie Road shopping strip – which you told us is the 'heart of Hawthorn' – is, of course, a major part of the plan.

All the proposed initiatives are underpinned by what our community told us was important to them, such as transforming the precinct into a place for people, improving public spaces, enhancing greenery throughout, building spaces where people can play and create, and considering smarter and more sustainable transport and parking options.

The plan aims to achieve a net increase in car-parking capacity while enhancing

street appeal by relocating some on-street car parks to unlock more public space and enhance the streetscape.

One proposed solution is to build a new parking facility to provide for additional car-parking spaces at the existing Liddiard Street car-parking site.

Council will consider feasibility analysis for car parks, funded by the Federal Government Urban Congestion Fund, before a decision to consult more broadly.

The Glenferrie Place Plan will be delivered over several years, and we are committed to seeking your ongoing feedback to guide the implementation of large-scale projects before they are taken further.

For a closer look at the Glenferrie Place Plan and the initiatives it contains, visit:

 [engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/glenferrie-placemaking](https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/glenferrie-placemaking)

It's lift-off for Rocket Park

Look out for a new lunar landscape when work to build a renewed Central Gardens playground, known by many as 'Rocket Park', begins in early February. This will allow the playground to remain open over the summer school holidays.

The new playground design centres on the existing rocket, and uses the theme of space exploration to create a playful narrative that supports this much-loved play piece.

To retain and renew the lifespan of the rocket, some necessary modification works will be undertaken off-site. The rocket will take flight in early February, with its return landing anticipated approximately 12 weeks later. Images of the repair and modification works will be shared during this time to keep the community updated on the progress of the rocket's renewal journey.

The entire playground is anticipated to be finished by mid-2022, weather permitting.

To view the final playground design and learn more about our plans for the rocket's renewal, visit:

 www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/central-gardens-playground

