

EMERALD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

BUSINESS PLAN



1. Introduction

The Emerald Village Committee was formed over 20 years ago. Originally it was a Section 86 Committee of Cardinia Shire Council. In 2019 the Emerald Village Association Inc. was established which still has a close relationship with the Shire but is an independent incorporated body.

The stated purpose of the EVA is to:

- Strive to be the voice of Emerald, by representing and liaising with local groups and individuals so that matters of public interest can be identified and evaluated
- Liaise with the Cardinia Shire Council and others on matters of public interest
- Identify the unique strengths of the Emerald village community to build proposals from those strengths
- Provide a conduit for all local organisations and community members to the Cardinia Shire Council, its CEO, Ward Councillors, staff, and representatives
- Build and maintain a network of local community groups
- Develop an annual business plan which clearly identifies objectives that EVA Inc. aims to achieve, and
- Promote specific community projects which will enhance the sustainability of Emerald village and the wellbeing of the community.

The EVA prioritises Emerald Village as a liveable community with a strong attachment to its character and environmental setting. There is a strong shared concern about climate change. We want the Emerald Village community to be healthy, connected, and resilient. Our

local businesses, community organisations and services are important ingredients of a prosperous inclusive caring community.

The EVA relates strongly to the priorities that Council has set out in its 2021-2025 Council Plan, specifically:

- Strong communities: We empower our communities to be healthy, connected and resilient.
- Liveable places: We support the creation of liveable spaces and places
- Thriving environments: We value our natural assets and support our biodiversity to thrive
- Prosperous: We support economies our productive land and employment land to grow local industries
- Responsible leaders: We practice responsible leadership.



EVA Committee

Rear: George Trojan, Pat Buoncristiani, Ray Schmidt, Trevor Budge, Claude Cullino, Lyn Huberts, Shelley Beardshaw

Front: Heather Bishop, Peter Maloney, Dick Bartley (President), Howard Winter, Michelle Jackson

The EVA believes that these priorities align closely with and capture how most of our community see Emerald Village and its surrounds

The EVA strives to be a responsible leader, recognised by Council for the role it is playing. A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Council covering the next three years was signed on the **23rd June 2022**. The completion of this MoU is essentially the first step in the adoption of the Business Plan.

We see that the core element of the new MoU is - The Council and the EVA commit to working together to

implement the Council Plan and the Community Engagement Policy for the benefit of Emerald Village and surrounds. The EVA is ready to step up; work on behalf of and with the Emerald Village community in partnership with Council to develop a long-term Strategy, establish agreed long-term priorities for action to be a highly liveable community and an exemplar community-based organisation.

The role of the EVA includes:

- Be the Council's recognised voice of Emerald Village and surrounds by providing an established contact point, and through regular liaison and consultation with the Mayor, Councillors, CEO, Council staff, local groups and organisations, businesses, and the community.
- Prepare an annual business plan which sets out the goals, objectives, priorities, and actions for the EVA Inc. for its members and the Emerald Village and surrounding community.
- Ensure that Council and its staff regularly liaises with and informs the EVA Inc. of matters of public interest and proposed developments and actively seek input from EVA Inc. on plans, policies, actions, and decision making relevant to Emerald Village and surrounds.



Overhead of Emerald

2. Background

The EVA currently has over 100 members and is actively expanding its membership base, its outreach, profile, and relationship with the diverse range of groups and organisations in Emerald Village and surrounds and with the community generally.

To support these objectives the EVA has recently completed a membership drive which has already exceeded its membership target of 100 members by May 2022.

The EVA is completely revamping its website, digital reach, and social media content.

EVER (Emerald Village Environment and Recreation) in attracting over 800 Facebook followers in a very short

time has not only indicated the interest in the issues they are pursuing but that Emerald Village and surrounds is keen to engage in issues which impact on the liveability and future of the whole community.

In August last year Australians were asked to complete a census. These are held every five years. On June 29 2022 the Australian Bureau of Statistics released the first results, which includes profiles of all communities including the Emerald 3782 postcode area.

You can find the full Emerald profile at this website <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL20868>

This site also compares the data between Emerald, Victoria and Australia.

Here are some highlights for Emerald.

- Population 5,890 - this was an increase of 112 persons from the last census in 2016
- Median Age is 43 – in Victoria and Australian it's 38
- Percentage under 20 years 24.9 (In 2016 it was 26.3) in Victoria its 23.6 and Australia 23.9
- Percentage over 60 years 25.2 (In 2016 it was 23.7) in Victoria its 22.4 and Australia 23.0
- Country of birth Australia 80%, next is England 6.8%
- No religion 60% (Victoria 38.8%) Catholic 12.5% Anglican 10.1%
- Language used at home other than English – Spanish 0.7%, German 0.5%, Japanese 0.5%
- Median Weekly Income Personal \$851, (Victoria \$803), Household \$2,119 (Victoria \$1,759)
- Provided unpaid care for 1 or more children in 2 weeks before Census 30.8% (Victoria 26.3%)
- Did voluntary work through an organisation or group (last 12 months) 18% (Victoria 13.3%)
- Long term health conditions – arthritis 9.7%, mental health 9.2%, asthma 8.9%
- Dwellings with 3 or more cars 34.2%, (Victoria 18.4%)
- Dwellings percentage rented 8.3%, (Victoria 28.5%)

3. Vision

The EVA will collaboratively work towards the goal of ensuring that Emerald Village:

- Is a liveable and resilient community.
- Continues to be a great place to live, work and play.
- Preserves its character, charm, environment and attractiveness for its residents and visitors.
- It is not just another suburb of Metropolitan Melbourne)



Emerald Lake Park

4. Mission

For the EVA to be the recognised voice of Emerald Village on matters of public interest and to provide a conduit for all local organisations and community members to Council.

The EVA will promote specific community projects which will enhance the liveability and sustainability of Emerald Village and the well-being of the community.

As the recognised voice of the Emerald Village community, the EVA will prepare an annual business plan which sets out the goals, objectives, priorities and actions for the EVA for its members and the Emerald Village and surrounding community.

The EVA will ensure that Council and its staff regularly liaises with and informs the EVA of matters of public interest and proposed developments and actively seeks input from the EVA on plans, policies, actions, and decision making relevant to Emerald Village and surrounds.



Puffing Billy

5. Values & Code of Behaviour

In giving this undertaking EVA Committee is committed to the objectives and principles expected of a well governed Association.

The EVA will:

- Respect the dignity of all individuals.

- Act based on being well informed and act with good conscience.
- Act with integrity and complete honesty.
- Act in the best interests of all members and community.
- Uphold the following Business Plan Objectives:
 - Provide accurate and best advice to members.
 - Meet regularly to effect good governance, to initiate and influence favourable outcomes for the Association.
 - Endeavour to reconnect with people who live, work, and recreate in the district.
 - Understand and acknowledge the value of diversity and inclusion to good governance.
 - Ensure a cohesive and collaborative committee to maximise success and create a welcoming environment for members.

6. Governance Structure

Originally, the EVA was the Emerald Village Committee, an organisation linked very closely with the Cardinia Shire. In 2019 the Emerald Village Association Inc. was formed which still has a close relationship with the Shire but is an independent incorporated body.

The governance structure of the EVA is based on the model rules for incorporated associations.

The Association annually elects a Committee from its members.

The Committee currently comprises **twelve (12)** persons with the following elected office bearers:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 8 Members

The EVA has the following working sub-committees working.

The Planning Sub-Committee to deal with details of the various Community Issues, Key Objectives or ad-hoc matters of relevance and report findings to the EV Committee for a decision.

(Refer to the Terms of Reference Approved 25 May 2022)

1. **The Awards Sub-Committee** to select Awards for:
 - a. Emerald Citizen of the Year
 - b. Emerald Young Citizen of the Year
 - c. Emerald Local Group of the Year.
2. **Communications Committee**
3. **Community Well-Being Committee**

The EVA representatives on other bodies are:

1. The Hills Hub Management and Strategic Planning Committee
2. The Emerald Emergency Support Team Committee
3. The Emerald Lake Precinct Representative
4. U3A Committee Representative

(The EVA Committee will establish terms of reference for each of the sub-committees, outlining the scope of the delegation and the frequency for reporting back to the Committee.)

It should be noted that the EVA allows all members to attend meetings and add value by outlining matters of interest that should be considered by the Association.

7. Finances

Emerald Village Committee was a section 86 committee and was funded with annual Council grant monies, but now as an incorporated body the EVA Inc. substantially relies on local business sponsors to continue operations.

BUDGET FOR 2022

INCOME

1	Shire Grant	\$0
2	Donations	\$560
3	Sponsorship	\$5,000
4	Membership Fees	\$0
5	Cardinia Sponsorship	\$900
6	IGA/Bendigo Grant	\$0
7	Special Grants	\$0
	Total	\$6,460

EXPENDITURE:

1	Hub Lease	\$200
2	Citizenship Awards	\$600
3	Newsletter	\$3,000
4	Web Page	\$200
5	Donations to community groups	\$200
6	Community Meetings food/ drinks	\$300
7	Consumer Affairs	\$60
8	Social Grants	\$0
9	Insurance	\$1400
	Total	\$5,960



The Hills Hub



Citizens of the Year - 2015



A friendly neighbour



Anzac Place