



BEACHPORT COMMUNITY TOWN PLAN



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I. Executive Summary

Beachport is approximately a 380km drive south east of Adelaide on the Limestone Coast of South Australia. The crayfish fleet and numerous small businesses are the main economic drivers in the town with the addition of a significant tourist trade over the summer months. These are predominantly repeat visitors and word of mouth contributes enormously to the tourist volume.

The *Beachport Community Town Plan* is a starting point and blueprint to aid the future development and prosperity of the Beachport Township and the surrounding region.

There are five priority types outlined in the Beachport Community Town Plan each to address developing projects for the following elements:

- Beachport celebrations and events
- Beachport assets & infrastructure
- Beachport projects
- Social media and Beachport advertising & promotions
- Beachport community projects

II. Vision Statement

To improve Beachport for residents to reside and work, visitors to stay, and for the future prosperity of Beachport from a social, economic, recreational and environmental perspective; whilst maintaining the character intrinsic to the community.

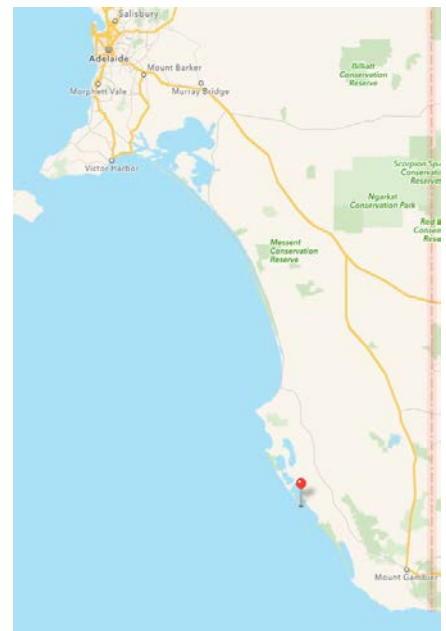
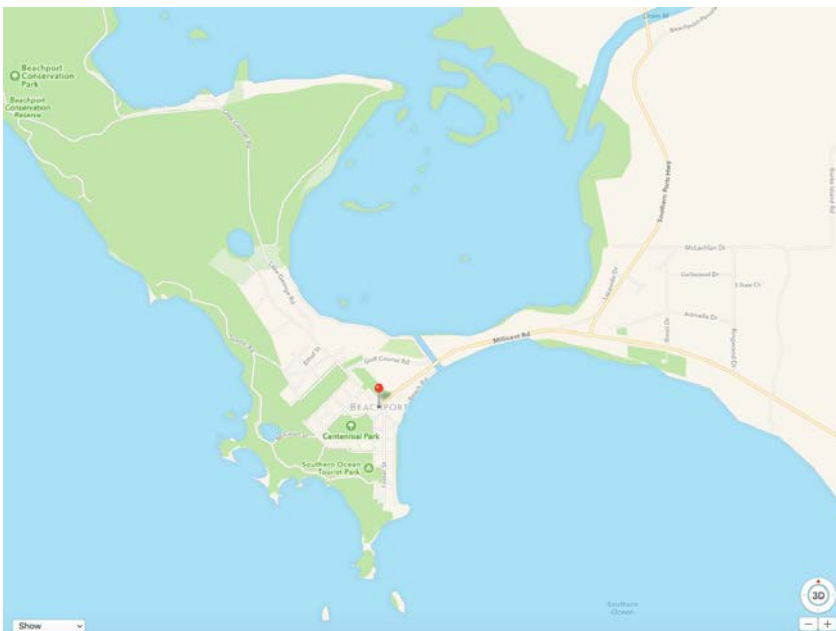
III. Purpose of Document

The idea of a *Beachport Community Town Plan* arose out of initial general discussions between Wattle Range Council staff and the Beachport District and Development Association. Essentially, the *Beachport Community Town Plan* provides:

- An opportunity to articulate the issues important to Beachport residents
- A clear blueprint for the future development of the Beachport township and the surrounding region
- A basis to attract local, state, and potentially, federal funding to help achieve identified community priorities and projects
- A more coordinated approach for the social, cultural and economic development of the township and surrounding enterprises
- An opportunity to enhance the reputation of Beachport as a tourism destination.
- Web page development and potential Beachport portal

IV. Location

The coastal community of Beachport is situated at the northern tip of Rivoli Bay on the Limestone Coast of South Australia. It is located 37kms north-west of Millicent on the Southern Ports Highway (Alternate Highway One), 80kms west of Penola, and approximately a four hour drive south east of Adelaide.



V. History of Beachport

In his ship 'Le Geographe', the French navigator Baudin surveyed much of the South East Coast in 1802-03.

After the sinking of the 'Geltwood' on the treacherous Limestone or 'Shipwreck' Coast in 1876, Beachport became home to the second longest jetty (772m) in South Australia; created as a port on 21st November 1878 and named after Sir Michael Edward Hicks Beach, the First Earl of Aldwyn and Secretary of State for the Colonies. A popular destination for holiday makers, especially over summer it combines exceptional scenery and environment with an intriguing history.

Originally founded as the first whaling station in South East South Australia, the crayfish industry is now predominant with numerous other supporting industries creating a vibrant and dynamic community with a thriving tourist trade.

Tourist attractions based on the history of Beachport include the Beachport Museum, with exceptional displays relating to the whaling history through to military actions; and Woakwine Cutting, reputedly Australia's biggest one-man engineering feat.

VI. Service Clubs

The Beachport & Rivoli Bay Lions Club is a service club, which drives community projects and works promoting comradery and social fun activities.

The Beachport District Development Association Inc. (BDDA) aims to encourage, promote and stimulate commerce, trade, industry & employment. It is also a key driver in promoting tourism, tourist facilities and to improve the level of services for them.

The Beachport Bulletin is a community newsletter put together by local volunteers. It is published once a month to provide information to the surrounding area and also provides support to local community organisations.

Beachport CFS aims to protect life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies whilst protecting and supporting our personnel and continuously improving. The CFS provides the training and equipment for volunteers.

Beachport SA Ambulance Service provides volunteer emergency response to the needs of the Beachport Community.

Beachport Surf Life Saving Club is newly affiliated with Surf Life Saving South Australia. Patrolling at the Surf Beach, it also provides nipper and youth programs concentrating on improving water safety skills and confidence. Patrols also occur with rescue services from Southend north as required.

Friends of the Canunda National Park are a group who provide their time to help preserve the Canunda National Park.

VII. Sport and Recreation

The Beachport Bowling Club hosts both social and competitive bowls. The social summer bowls is held at 5 pm Thursday through summer and autumn. The club is licensed and caters for fundraisers and is a venue for inside and outside events.

Beachport Golf Course is a 9-hole course with watered fairways situated near the heart of Beachport. Suitable for all standards of golf it is open to the public with affordable daily green fees, and has winter and summer competitions with Twilight Golf commencing in November each year. Beachport Golf Club, in conjunction with Robe and Kingston Golf Clubs host the long running annual Southern Ports Golf Championship.

The Beachport Pony Club encourages young people to ride, learn and enjoy horsemanship skills. Camping with your horse holiday options are available.

Sea Urchins and Slugs are ocean swimmers who meet most mornings at 7.30am who swim to the jetty and back regardless of the weather.

Rivoli Bay Sailing Club, based in Southend, has a small number of members, and offers a training clinic for juniors and new members are welcome. Set on coast line with flat protected waters and stunning views.

Millicent 4WD Club is active in the area servicing numerous 4WD tracks in the area, these are also widely utilised by the Millicent Buggy Club.

Other groups include but are not limited to the Beachport Film Society, Beachport Recreational Fishers, Beachport Hotel Social Club, Bompas Social Club, Social Cards, Yoga, Bootcamp, Tai Chi, Guided Meditation and Breathworks, Ballroom Dancing, Beachport Coastal Quilters, Swimming Lessons and Aqua Aerobics and the Beachport Ukulele Group.

VIII. Education

Beachport Primary School has an attached kindergarten and playgroup. Day care is provided by the 'Child Care On Wheels' (CCOWS) program once a week.

Kangaroo Inn Area School services the high school students of Beachport. Both schools are assisted by Parent Clubs which encourage and enable parental involvement in the schools. Private tutoring is available to assist students with their learning needs.

IX. Attractions

Beachport's iconic Jetty is the second longest in SA at 772m extending out into the beautiful Rivoli Bay from near the end of Beachport's main street. The town entrance sculptures were done by Andrew Stock and Tony Rosela, and were installed in 2000.

The Surf Beach lies a short distance prior to the entrance to Beachport and has both a spectacular and pristine beach used for surfing, windsurfing and kitesurfing. It is also the site of a memorial to the first casualties of the second world war in Australian territory, where local militia were killed defusing Japanese mines in Rivoli Bay.

With stunning coastal scenery Beachport Conservation Park offers great outdoor adventures for the whole family. The park's white sandy beaches and coastal flora and fauna provide plentiful opportunity for fishing, camping, BBQs or bird - watching. 1*

Bowman's Scenic Ocean Drive follows the spectacular rugged coast of the Southern Ocean. Enjoy a leisurely walk along the beach, scuba diving, surf fishing or looking at the sea from one of the many lookouts. This also takes in the Pool of Siloam, widely known for its very high salt content and reputed health benefits.

National Award winning Beachport Old Wool and Grain Museum is a National Trust locality with a variety of displays including fishing, whaling, agricultural and cultural displays of the Boandick people.

Woakwine Cutting is believed to be the largest private engineering project in Australia. Draining the peat marsh flats behind Woakwine Range, work commenced in 1957 and continued for 3 years. Ultimately 267,000 cubic metres of material was moved with a single excavator. Its sheer walls and the excavator used are displayed at the site.

*1 Taken from the Environment SA web page

Beachport Cinema hosts movies on the fourth Friday of each month for the Beachport Film Society. South Coast Cinemas also show a family movie during school holidays and provides films for fundraising events. Between Boxing Day and the end of January four films per day are shown.

Numerous 4WD tracks run north from Beachport through the Beachport Conservation Park with its numerous middens to Nora Creina and Robe. To the south of the town the coastal tracks traverse Canunda National Park through to Carpenter Rocks.

In the centre of Beachport the six acres of Centennial Park surround a large lagoon with bridges, barbecue areas, playground, tennis courts, basketball pad and plentiful lawn area for other activities. Located around the lagoon are several sculptures created by French artist Dominique Paolinis and local artists in 2013.

X. Products and Services

Beachport is a dynamic, welcoming community on a rugged coastline with pristine beaches which support a thriving seasonal tourism economy. The clean and tidy seaside community features picturesque scenery, safe boating access to recreational fishing ground, and a family friendly feel that makes it ideal for tourism. Strong and sustainable crayfish and fishing industries have provided vigorous economic growth for the coastal community. With strong ties to agriculture and fishing industries, support from family run businesses, and an active arts community, Beachport offers an inclusive environment welcoming to all ages.

XI. Desired Further Improvements to Beachport

SPECIFICALLY

- Aged care – independent living units / first stage aged care
- Securing future land area for future aged care
- Development of industrial land and permanent housing
- Review of housing and zoning in Beachport and environs
- Need for social housing

GENERALLY

- Businesses
- Tourism enterprises
- Industry
- Events/festivals – funding opportunities.
- Ideas to bring in young people
- Consolidation of businesses currently in Beachport

XII. Marketing & Promotion

At present, in excess of fifteen organisations have a social media presence. By mid-2018 there are plans to develop a portal website that enables access to the multiple organisations from a single location.

The Beachport Bulletin is a paper based monthly periodical that enables localised advertising and information relating to activities and events occurring in the town.

Appendix

XIII. Beachport Projects

Priority – Time Line: A = 1-2 years B= 3-4 years C=5-8 years D= 9-12 years E=13-17 years F= 17-20 years

CHARACTER & APPEARANCE OF BEACHPORT

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Cost	Other Comments
A	House numbering (consistent and modern)			
A	Repairs to Jetty	DPTI		Painting and more access ladders along the jetty.
A	Remove exotic plants from town reserves & weeds	BDDA Centennial Park Committee		Rats and vermin control (Lagoon) Native Species – public health concern
A	Construct footpaths for safety	WRC		
B	Town map with info bay at the surf beach, improve map detail			Potential to move the existing sign from near the Visitor centre to the surf beach or replicate.
B	Signage with photograph, distance, promoting the scenic drive view and showing it is RV friendly to enable RV's to traverse the drive	BDDA		
B	Playground / adventure playground to include labyrinth			
C	Lighting at Lanky's Well and naming of local flora.	BDDA and WRC		
C	Signage – educational inc. migrational birds on beaches etc.	Friends of the Park, National Parks		

A	Rubbish Bin remodeled to look more localized. Recycle bin at foreshore (Foreshore Plan) Review of rubbish bins and communicate with Lions			Proceeding with some recycling bins having been installed. Project in Progress
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BEACHPORT SOCIAL MEDIA AND ADVERTISING

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
A	Beachport tourism website; FB page & links, Instagram and other like social media platforms.	BDDA – (Cass Norman)		
B	QR code on sites around town Wooley's Lake, gate near bridge Surf Club location Starting at the Surf Beach	BDDA		STEM schools potential project
B	BDDA liaise with Council and other relevant agencies re buggy tracks area and use of motorbikes.	BDDA, 4WD clubs		

BEACHPORT CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
A	IRB & Rescue Boats Carnivals (SLSA)	SLSA		
A	Southern Ports Golf Competition			
A	Fisherman's Ball	Fisherman's Ball Committee		
A	Duck Race			
A	New Year's Fireworks	BDDA, WRC, PFA.		
B	Demonstrations / Workshops	BDDA and Community		Consider community needs for arts/personal development and skills based workshops
B	Music Festival			Reinstate and support

BEACHPORT ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
A	Surf Beach Install Colored Entrance and Exit signage on posts or roadway to ensure safety – replace existing signage.	WRC		
A	Tennis Courts – maintain tennis courts as open at all times. Fence fixed. General Maintenance	Centennial Park, WRC		
A	Bitumen road to Woolley's Rocks and turnaround.	WRC		
A	Form committee for independent living units built in the town	BDDA		
B	Progressive sealing to complete (Muggleton & Beachport), Pretty St, Northwest Tce to Southwest Tce	WRC		
A	Painted zebra crossing at Beach Road near the Beachport Caravan Park			
A	Jetty and Walkway to be joined as a flow for the Boardwalk.	Beachport Lions WRC		
A	Lighting on Millicent to Beachport Road especially from outlet to Railway Terrace, include more lighting on Railway Terrace	Council liaising with DPTI Roads		
A	Walking track maintenance - lighthouse	WRC		
B	Continuing upgrade Pool of Siloam facilities with toilets and showers a priority.	Beachport Lions WRC		
B	Beachport Recreation Centre Replacement of exterior wall/cladding	Rec Hall Committee		
B	Skate park – upgrade	Centennial Park Committee – WRC		

C	Bridge & town entrance landscaping; Footpath from caravan park to hotel	WRC, SA Power, BDDA		
C	Seal / Landscape Beachport Community Space, Railway Terrace Central Car Park Sealing	WRC		
C	Footpaths –disabled access – develop interlinked plan	Lions, BDDA, WRC		
C	Upgrade car park in town centre With potential anchor points for marquees / tents			

BEACHPORT COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
A	Cemetery – dry enviro toilets, wheelchair / walker, upkeep, sealed access	WRC		
B	Heritage / History Plaques to be placed beside places of interest and to be included in a heritage walk brochure	BDDA, Heritage Committee, Elaine Donaldson		On Going

ONGOING ASSOCIATED PROJECTS

	Support Lake George strategy for improving reliable water level in Lake George – wetland reserve, water sports	Lake George Management Committee		
	Maintain and oversee 4WD access to tracks; – necessity for tourism	Sand Buggy Club, National Parks		

LONG TERM GOALS & ASPIRATIONS

	Long term goal for a Marina development associated with Beachport.			
	Long term goal for an airstrip to service Beachport.			
	Beachport to retain and manage golf course in its current position integral to character of the town	Golf Club – BDDA		