

The background of the page features a light beige color with abstract white line art. The lines are fluid and organic, with some forming loops and others extending across the page. A prominent dark red rectangular box is centered in the upper half of the page, containing the title text in white.

APPENDIX C

CONSULTATION REPORT

CONSULTATION SUMMARY REPORT

CYGNET TOWNSHIP STRUCTURE PLAN

MELUKERDEE COUNTRY

*We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first
Australians and traditional custodians of the lands on which we work.
We pay our respect to their Elders past and present.*



CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 CONTEXT	4
1.2 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY PURPOSE & SCOPE	5
2. COMMUNICATIONS.....	6
2.1 COUNCIL’S ARTICLE FOR THE CYGNET, HUON & CHANNEL CLASSIFIEDS	6
2.2 ONLINE PRESENCE	8
3. CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY	9
3.1 TARGETED DISCUSSIONS – COMMUNITY & BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS & KEY LANDOWNERS	10
3.2 ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS – GOVERNMENT.....	11
3.3 INTERCEPT SURVEYS.....	12
3.4 DESIGN WORKSHOP	14
3.5 BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT.....	16
3.6 SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT	16
3.7 ONLINE SURVEY	18
4. RESULTS.....	24
4.1 TARGETED DISCUSSIONS: COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS AND KEY LANDOWNERS	24
4.2 ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS: GOVERNMENT.....	24
4.3 INTERCEPT SURVEY	25
4.4 DESIGN WORKSHOP	26
4.5 ONLINE SURVEY	32
4.6 SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT.....	37
5. CONCLUSION.....	47

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Approved Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Appendix B: Communications: The Cygnet, Huon & Channel Classifieds News Article

Appendix C: Summary Minutes for the Targeted Discussions with Community & Business Associations & Key Landowners

Appendix D: Summary Minutes for the Government Discussions

Appendix E: Intercept Surveys

Appendix F: Online Survey Questions

Appendix G: Council Part-Way Online Survey Findings

Version – 1

Prepared – Amy Longva

Reviewed – Naomi Beck

Date – 11 September 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT

Huon Valley Council has recognised the need for holistic strategic planning to guide future development of the municipality, developing a *Land Use and Development Strategy* (LUDS) in 2024. This strategy recognised the need for structure plans for townships within the Huon Valley. Structure plans will ensure that these towns continue to play vital roles in the provision of essential services for residents, contributions to the vibrant local economy and enhance their destination appeal for day-trippers and tourists.

The liveability and resilience of regional towns has never been more important with the rapid changes through covid, as well as natural population growth and other influences such as climate change. There is a clear focus for Huon Valley Council on establishing a concise, informed, and strategic plan for its towns that integrates community sentiment and engagement.

To guide the development of the Cygnet Township Structure Plan, a comprehensive communications and engagement program was implemented in line with the approved Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan as prepared by Niche Planning Studio (Niche) in consultation with Huon Valley Council (refer Appendix A).

1.2 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY PURPOSE & SCOPE

Niche is undertaking a comprehensive engagement program to understand the varied perspectives of key stakeholders and community members who have ties to Cygnet. More than 750 people have been consulted with to date, across the initial phase of the engagement.

The Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been divided into key phases. The first two phases are designed to inform the preparation of the Structure Plan, namely:

- Information Collection
- Information Building and Collaboration

The final phase of engagement will be conducted after preparation of the Structure Plan has been completed and will be designed to confirm the information collected and built on during the first two phases.

The Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan began with initial stakeholder engagement occurring in July 2025.

Community and stakeholder engagement methods included such items as:

- Awareness raising through social media advertising, Council website and social media posts, and discussions with key community members by Council.
- Targeted intercept surveys and targeted business engagement carried out on 25 and 26 July 2025.
- One-on-one Targeted Community and Stakeholder Interviews.
- Online and hard-copy surveys.
- Preliminary Design Workshop in Cygnet on 23rd August 2025.

The methodology associated with each of these techniques, together with the results distilled from each process, are outlined in the following sections.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

To ensure broad community awareness of the proposed Engagement Strategy, and to ensure a successful consultation campaign, a detailed Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan Strategy was developed.

Key communication mediums and collateral are highlighted below and further detailed in Appendix B.

2.1 Council's Article for The Cygnet, Huon & Channel Classifieds

To raise awareness of the structure planning process to the broader community, Council prepared an article for inclusion in the local paper: The Cygnet, Huon & Channel Classifieds.

The article titled 'Help Shape Cygnet's Future' was featured in the local newspaper on 24 July 2025 and advised the community that there would be consultants in Cygnet wanting to chat to the community. A copy is appended at Appendix B.

2.2 Online Presence

To supplement the strong in-person representation, an online presence was established using Council's website and various social media platforms. The dedicated page on Council's website was setup to provide basic background information regarding the project, provide key dates and access to key documents. The social media platforms provided information on consultation activities that would be occurring and how the community could get involved.

By leveraging online channels, stakeholders gain easy access to pertinent details about the project, ranging from its inception to ongoing developments. Regular updates not only keep the community informed but also create a sense of inclusivity, allowing individuals to contribute their opinions and concerns. The interactive nature of online platforms facilitates a two-way communication flow, establishing a more collaborative and informed decision-making process. Ultimately, a well-maintained online presence enhances community participation, ensuring that the project aligns with the diverse needs and perspectives of its community members.

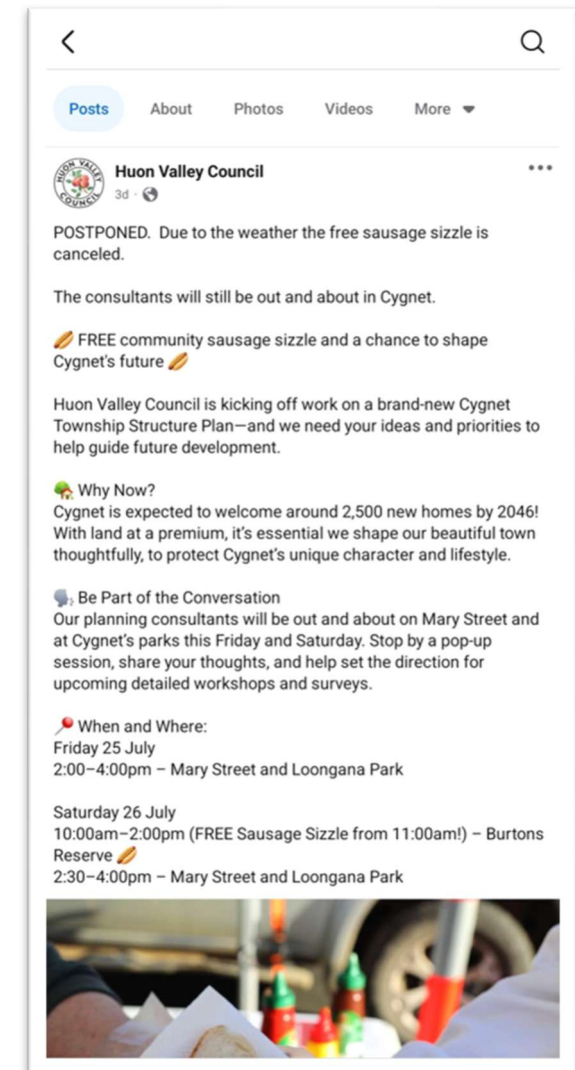


Figure 1: Facebook Post

3. CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY

Reflective of the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan, this chapter outlines the specific methodology undertaken during the consultation period. A total of 770 community members and key stakeholders were engaged with during the consultation period. Of this, 454 adults, representing approximately 20% of Cygnet's rate payers have been engaged with to date. A summary of consultation methods utilised is listed in the table below.

Table 1: Engagement Scope

Type	Description
Council Staff Briefing	A briefing was conducted with the project steering group as well as Council technical staff to provide a summary of initial engagement responses.
Departments/agencies	Relevant agencies and government departments were consulted on the project as part of the technical studies. This includes working with sub-consultants Pitt&Sherry to understand the locality demographics.
One-on-one Targeted Stakeholder Interview	A range of one-on-one discussions were conducted with several landowners, business owners/operators and representatives of community groups. These were undertaken face to face and online.
Intercept Surveys	Intercept surveys were conducted by two members of the project team. The process of intercept surveys included questions and participants were codified based on whether they were a Cygnet resident, business or tourist, while their responses are anonymous.
Design Workshop	A design workshop with residents and representatives of community associations of Cygnet was held on 23 August 2025 at the Cygnet Town Hall. Facilitated and moderated by the project team, residents and community association representatives shared their vision for the township and the improvements they would like to see in the area.
Survey – Online and Hardcopy	An online survey was hosted on Council's website, social media and paid targeted online advertising and supplemented by a hard copy version. The survey was made available to the public between 4 August 2025 and 31 August 2025. The survey included quality questions to best understand community concerns and needs, for a collective community vision.
School Engagement	School engagement was undertaken by Council during the week of 25 August 2025 and included a modified version of the intercept survey.

3.1 Targeted Discussions – Community & Business Associations & Key Landowners

In collaboration with Council, targeted key stakeholders were selected for engagement. These identified key community stakeholders, community committees and key landowners were invited to a consultation session run by Niche Studio. Chosen stakeholders were contacted and asked if they wanted to be included in the process, and a total of 6 representatives were engaged. A further 16 were contacted but did not return a request for meeting.

The following key stakeholder and community groups were engaged with:

- South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation
- Various key landowners
- First Nations Representatives

The sessions were semi-structured in nature, where stakeholders were asked to respond to key questions focusing on the following themes:

- Constraints
- Opportunities
- Future visions for key sites/landholdings
- Vision for the overall study area

Representatives were asked to respond in an open manner to questions relating to the above themes under the headings below:

- Background
- Stakeholder specific
- Precinct wide
- Emerging themes
- Comments

These informal discussions were held face to face and online, summarised into written minutes and approved by consenting parties. This engagement process occurred in April, July and August 2025 to enable key stakeholders to be engaged.

A record of the approved minutes from each party is attached at Appendix C.

3.2 One-on-One Interviews – Government

Stakeholders from relevant Council departments, government departments and agencies were engaged in a consultation session run by Niche Studio staff. Traffic engineers, pitt&sherry, took the lead in consultation processes with the Department of State Growth.

Stakeholders were contacted and asked to be involved in discussion processes held online or in person during February 2025, with additional agencies contacted and validation sought during August 2025.

The discussions were semi-structured in nature, with questions focusing on the background and context of Cygnet, and opportunities and constraints as relevant to each stakeholder. Additional information as relevant was provided by each department.

The following government stakeholders were consulted with:

- Department of State Growth
- TasWater
- TasNetworks

A record of the approved minutes from each meeting is attached in Appendix D.

3.3 Intercept Surveys

Intercept surveys were undertaken in Cygnet between 9am-4pm on the 25 and 26 of July, and between 9am and 12pm on the 23 August, reaching a total of 145 respondents. A record of the intercept surveys and responses are attached at Appendix E.

Intercept surveys are intended to gather rich quality data from a diversity of participants, rather than solely relying upon more traditional methods of online or long form surveys which are commonly completed by an older time-rich demographic.

Intercept surveys undertaken in Cygnet enabled input from a variety of ages, ethnicities and genders. It also enabled a mix of both residents and tourists to be consulted during a short timeframe. As illustrated in the photos below, intercept surveys also allow discussions with both business and local residents.



Figure 2: Intercept engagement examples within Cygnet

Niche curated a town-specific intercept survey framework to best gather quality data. The intercept survey included two parts; the first part focussed on the town and the second part focussed on movement networks of the town. Cygnet residents and tourists were approached along high streets, public spaces and within community destinations such as post offices and cafes.

The first part of the intercept survey was based around four key questions:

1. Are you a Cygnet resident or visitor?
2. Thinking more broadly about Cygnet, what are you most proud of/what do you love?
3. The five key issues raised in relation to Cygnet were:
 - Healthcare
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Cost of Living
 - Sense of Community

Which of these is the most important to you?

4. If you could improve something in Cygnet, what would it be?

The first question set the parameter for the questionnaire and allowed the results to be coded and compared to other towns. The second question assists in defining a clear 'snapshot' of life in the town today. The third and fourth questions will assist greatly in the preparation of possible upgrades/changes to be incorporated within the Structure Plan.

The second part of the intercept surveys were based around six key questions:

1. Are you a Cygnet resident or visitor?
2. How did you travel here today?
3. Do you park in street parking or in an off-street car park? (What's your preference?)
4. How far is your preference to walk from a car park to your destination?
5. Is there a need for additional parking?
6. Regarding car-parking, how long do you generally need it for (i.e. 15 minutes, 1-2 hours, half-day, all day)?

The first question set the parameter for the questionnaire and allowed the results to be coded and compared to other towns. The second question assists in defining a clear 'snapshot' of life in the town today. The third to sixth questions will assist greatly in the preparation of possible upgrades/changes to be incorporated within the Structure Plan.

3.4 Design Workshop

A design workshop was facilitated and led by Council and Niche on the 23rd August 2025 with the aim of providing quality spatial input into the Structure Plan. A total of 53 people attended the workshop.

The outline of the workshop included a background and context summary of the project. The workshop worked through a more detailed level of questions than those undertaken during the intercept survey, with three activities focussing on four themes, as below:

- ACTIVITY ONE – participants record on posters what they love about Cygnet focussing on each of these four areas:
 - Arts and Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Community Buildings
 - Housing and Local Economy
 - Movement and Access
 - Climate Change and Environment
- ACTIVITY TWO – recording on butcher paper and marking up large A1 plans what they like/what works and what they don't like/can be improved regarding each of these four areas:
 - Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Community Spaces (arts and festivals, buildings and places, heritage interfaces, visitor infrastructure, green network, public open space, streetscapes, health and wellbeing, schools etc.)
 - Housing and Economy (standard housing lots, new residential areas, town centre area, retail etc.)
 - Movement and Access (public transport, walking, cycling, traffic control, freight, parking, safety etc.)
- ACTIVITY THREE – Using dotmocracy with three coloured dots (the colour of the dot did not signify level of importance to the participant), participants were asked to stick dots next to the items, that came out of Activity Two, what they considered important for Cygnet to focus on for the future of their town.

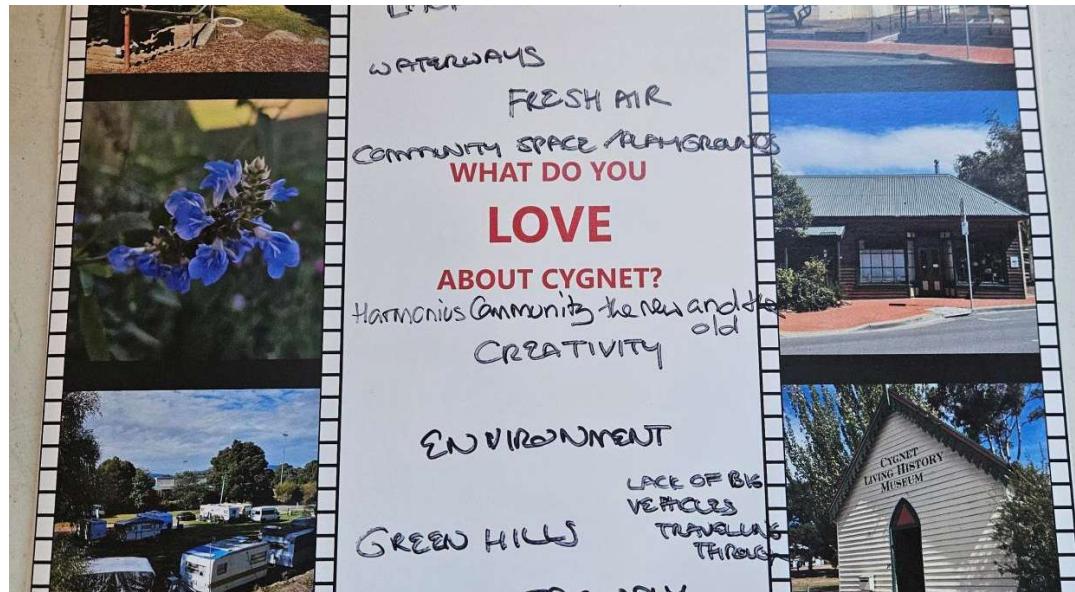
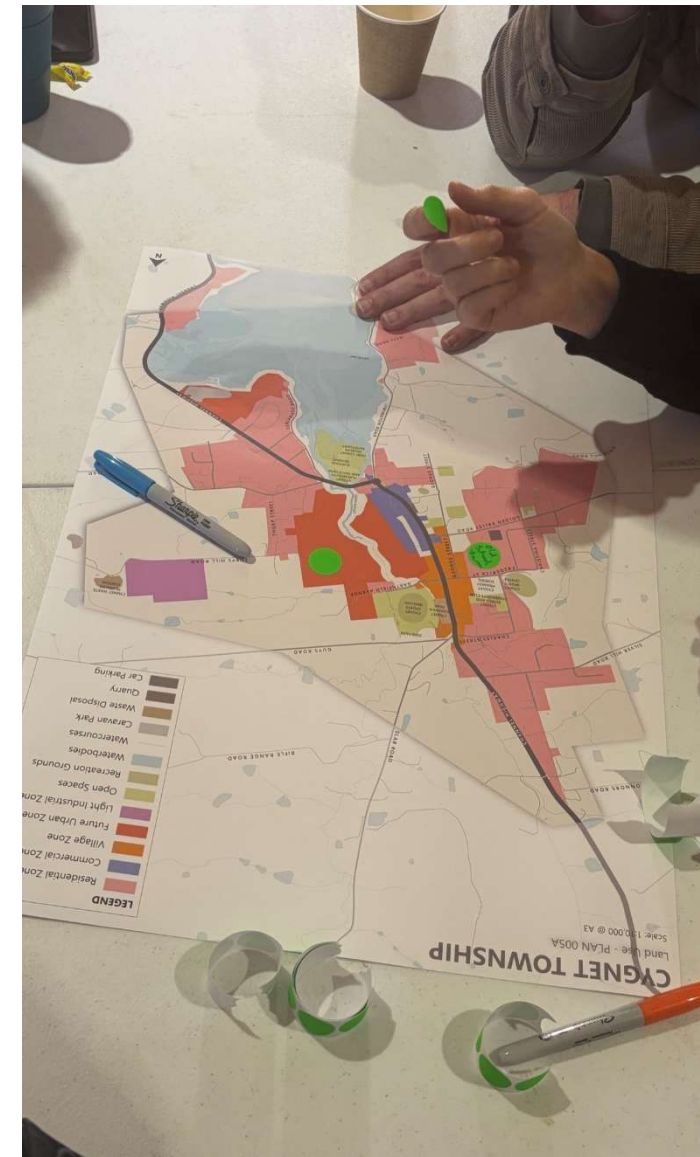


Figure 3: Design workshop



3.5 Business Engagement

To supplement the results drawn from the targeted discussions and the intercept surveys, Targeted Business Engagement was undertaken. This included one-on-one meetings with 40 businesses along Mary Street and surrounds.

Conversations were targeted towards economic growth and development of the town, together with questions specifically targeting movement and access regarding the Mary Street precinct.

3.6 School Engagement

School engagement was conducted by Council staff during the week of 25 August 2025 with the aim of providing quality input into the Structure Plan. Three schools were engaged with (St James, Cygnet Primary and Peregrine School). A total of 316 students were engaged with.

A modified version of the intercept survey questions was prepared and designed to be easy for children to interact with.

The surveys issued to St James and Cygnet Primary were based around five key questions:

1. How old are you?
2. What grade are you in at school?
3. How did you get to school today?
 - Bus
 - Scooter
 - Carpool/car share
 - Skateboard
 - Car
 - Walked
 - Bicycle

4. What is your favourite thing about living in Cygnet? What makes you happy or proud when you tell your friends about it?
5. Thinking about the future, if you could change one thing in Cygnet, what would it be?

The surveys issued to Peregrine School were based around five key questions:

1. How old are you?
2. What grade are you in at school?
3. How did you get to school today?
 - Bus
 - Scooter
 - Carpool/car share
 - Skateboard
 - Car
 - Walked
 - Bicycle
4. What do you think Cygnet needs most help with? (students were to choose the three that mattered most to them)
 - Doctors and staying healthy
 - Houses for families
 - Taking care of nature
 - Things not costing too much money
 - People being friends and helping each other
5. What's your favourite thing about living in Cygnet? What makes you feel happy or proud when you tell your friends about where you live?
6. What would make Cygnet even more awesome?

A dotmocracy exercise was also undertaken by Council with St James and Cygnet Primary in relation question 4 asked to Peregrine School.

The first and second questions set the parameters for the questionnaire and allowed the results to be coded. The second question assists in defining a clear 'snapshot' of life in the town today. The following questions will assist greatly in the preparation of possible upgrades/changes to be incorporated within the Structure Plan.

3.7 Online Survey

To supplement the results drawn from the targeted discussions, design workshop and the intercept surveys, and to reach the broader community an online survey was prepared (with options for hard copies to be completed and lodged at the Council Offices and Cygnet Library).

The survey was advertised on Council's website, social media and paid targeted online advertising. A link to the survey was also sent to key community associations with targeted invitations. The survey was open from 4 August 2025 to 31 August 2025, and 207 responses were received. Participants were asked to respond to 23 questions which asked for the opinions of participants on existing facilities within the developed area of Cygnet as well as the participant's thoughts and aspirations for the future of Cygnet, focussing on eight themes, as below:

- Movement and Transport
- Public Realm and Open Space
- Utilities and Servicing
- Climate Change and Environment
- Housing
- Local Economy
- Character, Design and Heritage
- Council-Owned Sites
- General

3.8 Specific Site Design Workshops

On the 1st of November, Niche Planning Studio, Inspiring Place and the Huon Valley Council partnered to facilitate a design workshop focussed on specific sites within Cygnet - Old School Farm, Cygnet Council Depot, Caravan Park and Mary Street Precinct.

This phase of consultation was advertised on Council's website and social media channels, as well as through targeted invitations which were circulated to community groups and attendees of previous phases of consultation. Approximately 70 members of the public attended the Specific Site Design Workshop.

The project's scope, timelines and context were presented, including a high-level overview of each of the focus sites and precincts.

The attendees were split into groups of 8-10 members and asked to provide input or suggestions across four themes.

- ACTIVITY ONE - The attendees were split into groups of 8-10 members and asked to provide input or suggestions across four themes.
 - Q1: USERS – What are the current and future users of each site?
 - Q2: SITE CONTEXT / CONSTRAINTS e.g. access, drainage etc.
 - Q3: BIG IDEAS FOR SITE – If budget and feasibility were not considered, what could the site be used as?
 - Q4: PRELIMINARY DESIGN OPTIONS
- ACTIVITY TWO – General Discussion
 - The facilitator from each table provided a summary of key takeaways and big ideas for consideration.
 - All attendees were given an opportunity to ask questions.
- ACTIVITY THREE - Dotmocracy
 - Upon exiting the meeting, participants were each provided four sticky dots and asked to place them on a map showing the 'Big Ideas' which resulted from Activity One. The dots highlighted which 'Big Ideas' each attendee considered most important for Cygnet to focus on for the future of their town.



Figure 4: Specific Site Design Workshops in Cygnet

3.9 Project Working Group

On the 3rd of November, Niche held a meeting at Huon Valley Council Chambers with the Council's Community Working Group members, as well as representatives from Hip v Hype and Gullock Urban Design. The meeting consisted of three distinct phases.

- PHASE ONE – An overview of the progress of the Structure Plan was provided, reiterating the purpose, scope and what has been done to date.
- PHASE TWO – A presentation was held to provide a detailed overview of the key considerations for the focus sites. This was co-presented by an expert panel covering
 - Economics (Nicola Smith – Niche Planning Studio)
 - Sustainability, Climate Change & Medium Density (Josh McLennan – Hip v Hype)
 - Urban Design in Regional Towns (Campbell Gullock – Gullock Urban Design)
- PHASE THREE – An open discussion was held with the group, with the aim of generating options for the structure plan. Attendees were encouraged to put forth 'Big Ideas' to accommodate future growth within Cygnet.
- PHASE FOUR – Various structure plan options, including their constraints and opportunities, were presented and discussed between the group. Attendees were then invited to ask questions, provide input and stoke discussions



Figure 5: Post-it note suggestion examples



4. RESULTS

4.1 Targeted Discussions: Community and Business Organisations and Key Landowners

An emerging vision of Cygnet as a thriving village that meets daily needs and supports a multi-generational community, enables the community to walk beside each other on a journey towards reconciliation, celebration and acknowledgement of Melurkerdee people as traditional owners of the land, connection to physical and natural environment, maintain character and heritage of area and protection of Burton Reserve was discussed by key stakeholders.

Provision of third spaces for the youth of Cygnet was also discussed.

Challenges relating to aging population and lack of infrastructure and supports, especially around aging in place, were identified by most of the key stakeholders. Key landowners are keen to enable provision of walkable, liveable neighbourhoods that support aging in place.

A resounding commonality was a desire to see Cygnet flourish into the future as an inviting, liveable town that capitalises on key assets and opportunities. Discussion tended to centre around forming collaborations of local businesses, upgrading existing facilities, providing opportunities to grow and develop community and partnering with First Nations people to progress reconciliation.

4.2 One-on-one Interviews: Government

General discussions with key government stakeholders gave insight into background opportunities and constraints present in Cygnet.

Cygnet's water is supplied by potable water from Huonville (Glen Huon water treatment plant) which is currently near or at capacity. This is well known by TasWater and detailed investigations that include options assessment (including costings) to identify the best option are underway at present. Population growth scenarios and proposed provision of residential lots from the Structure Plan will inform the business case currently underway by TasWater and ensure that future growth can be supported.

Currently, TasWater has indicated that the predicted number of lots exceeds land supply forecasts and would exceed capacity of the sewerage treatment plant (STP) in Cygnet. At this stage, replacement of the STP is not planned for over 20 years and significant network upgrades are not included in the capital works program for the upcoming Structure Plan. As such, the strategic importance of this work in Cygnet is highlighted, with direct implications to land supply if not completed.

TasNetworks is currently upgrading the voltage profile on supply feeders in the Cygnet area which will unlock additional capacity to service new residential lots. Significant network investment may be required should the projected load approach 5 MW (more likely with significant commercial/industrial projects; anticipated load with forecast residential growth is 1,600 kVA).

The Department of State Growth manages the Channel Highway and indicated they would support increased tourism opportunities with consideration given to management of additional traffic, with improved wayfinding and safety for the local community. There are government grants available for active transport facilities (e.g. bike park, walking paths), and EV chargers. These can provide opportunities for Council to fund some of the projects.

4.3 Intercept Survey

Below is a summary of the findings from the intercept survey which are broken down into the two parts of the intercept survey. Part 1 of the intercept survey focussed on the town and Part 2 focussed on the movement network of Cygnet.

Intercept Survey Part 1 - Cygnet

Existing Strengths

Residents and visitors of Cygnet were surveyed and asked what they love about their town. Many of the participants stated they love the community identity and social fabric of the place, followed by the infrastructure/facilities/services and the local economy and town centre vitality.

Issues

Residents and visitors of Cygnet were asked which of the five key issues (healthcare, housing, environment, cost of living and sense of community) in relation to Cygnet were most important to them. For residents the key issue was 'sense of community', followed by 'not applicable' and 'environment'. For visitors the key issue was 'not applicable' followed by 'sense of community' and 'housing'.

Future Aspirations

When envisioning the future of Cygnet, those surveyed spoke of maintaining the small town character of the town and the strength of the community. This would include infrastructure to encourage a diversity of residents including allowing residents to age in place.

Specifically, the top four following improvements were identified:

- Amenities and facilities

- Movement and access
- Urban planning
- Medical services

Intercept Survey Part 2 – Movement Network

Car Parking and Movement

The following themes emerged from questions regarding car parking and movement around Cygnet.

- Majority of the participants travelled to Cygnet by car on the days of the intercept survey, with a mix of on-street and off-street parking.
- Participants identified the following hierarchy of preferences for how far to walk from their car park to a given destination:
 - Out front/ as close as possible
 - 5 minutes
 - 10 to 15 minutes
 - 20 to 30 minutes
- The majority of participants said there was a need for additional car parking.

4.4 Design Workshop

Below is a summary of the findings of the discussions and activities undertaken at the design workshop.

What they love about Cygnet:

The five main things participants loved about Cygnet are:

- Community
- Environment
- Convenience/Accessibility

- Intangibles/vibes
- Amenities

Emerging Themes

The three thematic areas that Design Workshop attendees participated in activities on were centred around Movement & Access, Economy & Housing and Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Community Spaces. Within each broader area, sub-themes began to emerge, and these are detailed in the table below.

Movement & Access	Culture, Heritage, Tourism & Community Spaces	Economy & Housing
- Active transport - Community services - Infrastructure - Public transport - Policy	- Public realm - Movement - Community facilities - Housing	- Environment - Community services and facilities - Housing and construction - Transport and movement - Tourism - Commercial/retail - Agriculture

What would the community like to see?

Movement

- Alternative route to Mary Street
- Integrated transport system
- More walking tracks

- Small buses to Huonville
- Second pedestrian crossing on Mary Street
- Public transport/express buses
- Space for community transport nodes
- Upgrade Channel Highway
- Upgraded footpaths

Culture/Heritage

- Swimming pool
- Opportunity to use Old School Farm
- Plan for natural spaces to allow gathering of indigenous and non-indigenous peoples
- Community kitchen
- Safe cycle tracks
- Allow for the wild
- Functional gym

Jobs/Economy

- Circular economy
- Fire management and education
- Aged care
- Telecoms/gold standard
- Co-working space
- In-home end-of-life care

Housing

To test appetite within the broader community for future housing development, participants were asked to identify the preferred future locations via a dotmocracy exercise. The preferred locations, as shown on the below plan (in order from most preferred to least preferred) are:

- Location 1 (potential drainage/flooding limitations)
- Location 5
- Location 2 (potential drainage/flooding limitations)
- Location 3 (requires an approx. 200m buffer distance from sewerage treatment ponds)
- Location 4

Other preferred locations identified include:

- Wedge of land between the northeast side of Channel Highway and Winns Road
- Area west of Agnes Rivulet between Channel Highway and Garthfield Avenue
- Square area bordered by Frederick Street, George Street, Golden Valley Road and Christina Street
- Area west of George Street – South of Golden Valley Road
- Wedge of land directly northeast of the intersection of Guys Road and Slab Roads
- Arc shaped area stretching from mid Thor Street, northwest to Silver Hill Road, in a smooth curve
- Eastern section of Channel Highway spanning from Garthfield Avenue south
- Channel Highway outside of the southeast edge of the main township
- Area directly south of Tobys Hill Road
- Area along Rifle Range Road and north of Rifle Range Road
- Area west of Christina Street
- Area directly north of Tobys Hill Road
- Area due south of Cygnet township – below Jetty Road
- Area west of Lymington Road – south of George Street
- Commercial zone along Channel Highway (central Cygnet)
- Village zone along Channel Highway – south of Garthfield Avenue
- Southernmost section of Channel Highway – west side (residential zone)

- Area due south of Section 4 – east of Channel Highway
- Area directly north of Cygnet sports centre
- Area directly northeast of Cygnet sports ground
- Flood corridor running along Agnes Rivulet
- Large area between the north end of Channel Highway and Slab Road
- Channel Highway – from Cygnet playground and skate – heading south
- Channel Highway – from Charles Street – heading north
- Commercial zone on Tobys Hill Road
- Area west of Channel Highway – north of Silver Hill Road
- Area south of Silver Hill Road

The preferred housing location (1 to 5) results in the design workshop differ to the results of the online survey. The order of the preferred location from the online survey are 5, 4, 1, 3 and 2 compared to 1, 5, 2, 3 and 4 identified in the design workshop. Other locations were also identified by participants as a preferred location under both the online survey and design workshop. Constraints with locations 1,2 and 3 (inundation risk and sewerage pond attenuation buffer, respectively) were flagged in the online survey questions but were not explicitly disclosed to workshop participants. Additionally, representatives from key landowner groups attended the Design Workshop and preferenced their landholdings for housing stickers, potentially swaying results.

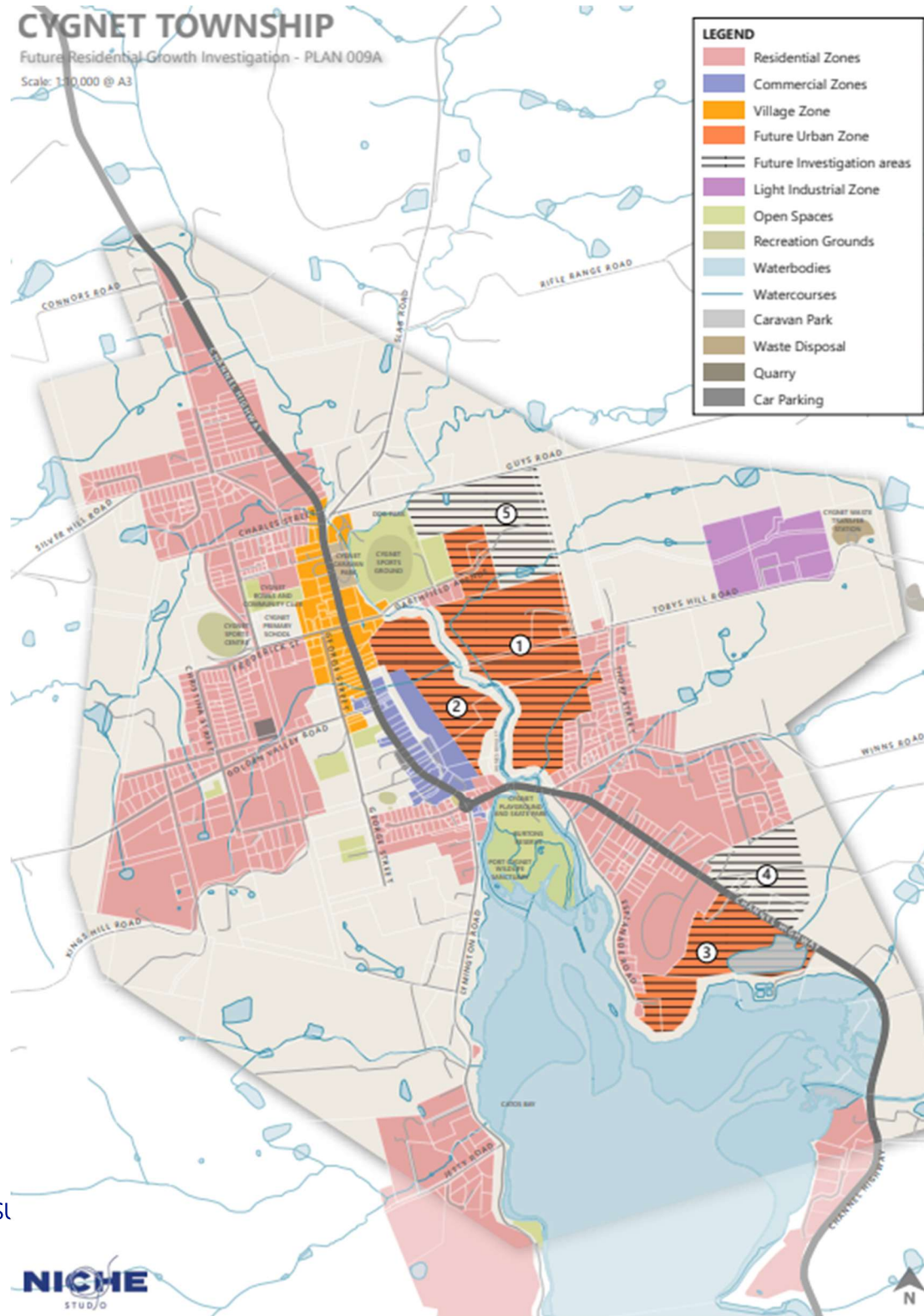
CYGNET TOWNSHIP

Future Residential Growth Investigation - PLAN 009A

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LEGEND

- Residential Zones
- Commercial Zones
- Village Zone
- Future Urban Zone
- Future Investigation areas
- Light Industrial Zone
- Open Spaces
- Recreation Grounds
- Waterbodies
- Watercourses
- Caravan Park
- Waste Disposal
- Quarry
- Car Parking



4.5 Online Survey

An online survey was created and was advertised on Council's website, social media and paid targeted online advertising as well as links sent to key community associations with targeted invitations. Hard copies were also available at Council offices and the Cygnet library. A total of 207 responses were received.

The online survey asked a combined total 23 questions under eight themes. A copy of the online survey questions is included at Appendix F. The themes and the emerging responses to the questions are outlined below. Council undertook an analysis of the online survey results part-way through the online survey process. The findings from the Council analysis have not been included in the below summary as they do not include findings from all online surveys. A copy of the Council analysis is included at Appendix G.

Movement and Transport

- The main traffic / transport issue identified was public transport, followed by vehicular access and car parking along Mary Street.
- Improve pedestrian paths around town, followed by bicycle routes, improved pedestrian safety along Mary Street and additional car parking near shops were the main movement projects the community wanted to be undertaken.

Public Realm/Open Space

- The top four most important aspects of parks and recreation areas within Cygnet are: running/walking trails, support of native fauna (i.e. birds etc.), incorporation of native vegetation and play/active space (i.e. playgrounds, skate parks, ovals).

Utilities and Servicing

- The key four servicing and utility concerns in Cygnet are internet/digital connectivity, stormwater management, power reliability and access to reticulated sewerage and water for new developments.
- Other concerns raised by participants include:
 - Emergency and disaster management

- Climate risk
- Telecommunications
- Environment, lighting and waste management

Climate Change and Environment

- The significance of flooding/erosion/sea level rise to the future development of Cygnet was primarily identified as being moderate followed by high and very high.
- Residents were asked how likely they were to support the relocation of public open space, community facilities and privately owned buildings due to erosion/sea level rise.
- For both public open space and community facilities residents responded they would most likely moderately support the relocation of the facilities followed by very highly likely to support the relocation.
- For privately owned buildings, residents responded they were most likely to moderately support the relocation of privately owned buildings followed by low support for the relocation.

Housing

- Participants were asked if more residential land was provided where it should be located, with five locations plus other (for participant to specify) provided. The top location chosen by participant's was location 5 followed by location 4 and location 1 (potential drainage/flooding limitations).
- The top five housing or accommodation that participants identified Cygnet needed more of (in order from 1 to 5) are aged care/retirement village, rental housing, housing with 1-2 bedrooms, social housing and townhouses.
- The majority of participants support medium-density housing in parts of Cygnet close to shops and services.
- Concerns expressed with medium-density housing in parts of Cygnet close to shops and services relate to negative impact on Cygnet rural character.
- 47.08% of participants either strongly opposed or opposed allowing higher-density developments in Cygnet's town centre. 37.38% of participants either strongly supported or supported allowing higher-density developments in Cygnet's town centre and 15.53% of participants were neutral.

- The top four (in order) housing and services that would help keep participants or their families to stay living in Cygnet as they get older are: improved public transport, improved/more healthcare services, improved walkability and streetscape improvements.

Local Economy

- The key retail/employment places participants would like to see or expand in the future development of Cygnet are cafes/restaurants followed by tourism opportunities and shopping precinct.

Character, Design, Heritage

- The top four heritage stories and places that participants identified as important to maintain or promote further are:
 - Aboriginal heritage and history
 - Heritage and stories
 - History of Cygnet
 - Apple/orchards history and industry
- The majority of participants would like to see more Aboriginal culture, heritage and history reflected in Cygnet's public spaces and planning.
- The small town feel of Cygnet's character is the most valued by participants followed by open view to hills and water, street trees and greenery and historic/heritage buildings.
- The majority of participants support the protection of Cygnet's local heritage through planning tools.
- The majority of participants consider it very important to guide the design of new developments to reflect Cygnet's heritage and local character.
- 48.79% of participants would support design guidelines or controls that guide the size, scale or appearance of new buildings in Cygnet. 43% would potentially support the guidelines, depending on the approach. The remainder of participants either would not support guidelines, or 'other'.

Council-Owned Sites

- Some of the things participants would like to see happen with the Old School Farm Site include:
 - Keep the trees as much as possible

- Provide medium density housing, up to three storeys, at the top of the site and small units to the lower part of the site
- Public open space/green space
- Aged care/retirement living
- Wooded walking tracks
- Some of the thoughts participants have about the future of the Caravan Park Site (Mary Street/Agnes Rivulet) include:
 - Social housing
 - Low cost accommodation
 - Keep as caravan park
 - High density housing
 - Housing
 - Medium density aged care social housing
 - Community space/facilities.
 - Sustainable culture small homes
 - Affordable housing
 - Emergency accommodation
 - School farm
 - Swimming pool
 - Shopping precinct
 - Green riparian belt with walking track
 - Affordable housing
 - Pool or gym
 - Arts and crafts precinct
 - Public open space
- Some of the ideas participants have for the Port Cygnet Council Depot Site include:
 - Tiny houses
 - Community centre
 - Park/gardens
 - Community garden
 - Swimming pool/gym centre/sports centre
 - Part of the Old School Farm site development into housing
 - Community space/youth centre
 - Council run medical offices
 - Medium density housing
 - Aged living/retirement village
 - Housing
 - Mountain bike track
 - Form part of new caravan park

- Commercial site
- Small business incubation centre

4.6 School Engagement

The below information was gathered as part of a school visit by the Huon Valley Council officers' visit to Cygnet Primary, St James and Peregrine School.

A modified version of the intercept survey questions was prepared and designed to be easy for children to interact with.

The survey was given to:

- Students aged between 5 to 12 years old, in grades prep to 6 across Cygnet Primary and St James;
- Students aged between 12 to 17 years old, in years 7 to 10 at St James; and
- Students aged between 9 to 13 years old, in grades 3 to year 8 at Peregrine School.

The findings from the school surveys are as follows:

- Students get to school largely by either bus or car.
- Walking is the third-most common mode of transport to and from school.

Cygnet needs the most help with (in order):

- Things not costing too much money
- Houses for families
- Doctors and staying healthy
- Taking care of nature
- People being friends and helping each other

The students were also asked *'What is your favourite thing about living in Cygnet? What makes you feel happy or proud when you tell your friends about it?'*. Cygnet Primary and St James were also asked *'Thinking about the future, if you could change one thing in Cygnet, what would it be?'*. Peregrine School was also asked *'What would make Cygnet even more awesome?'*

The key themes that arose are below:

What is your favourite thing about living in Cygnet? What makes you feel happy or proud when you tell your friends about it?	Thinking about the future, if you could change one thing in Cygnet, what would it be? / What would make Cygnet even more awesome?
- Ponds/lakes/water features - Friends and social/community connections - School - Parks/reserves/playgrounds - Sports facilities - Restaurants/cafes/shops/markets - IGA supermarket - Community - Beach access - Fishing opportunities. - Small town atmosphere - Quiet/peaceful environment - Natural environment - Transport links - Local facilities - Outdoor activities - Local events - Swimming pools - Safety and walkability - Their homes - Rural lifestyle - Ease of access to shops	- Swimming pools - Skate parks - Basketball courts - Better/more recreational facilities - More play equipment - More shops/cafes/retail - Additional activities e.g. more things to do at the park/more places for activities - Entertainment facilities e.g. movie theatre, places to hang out with friends. - Youth focussed amenities and activities. - Improved infrastructure - Better walking tracks/paths - More public transport options - Safer pedestrian infrastructure - Better housing options - Improved community facilities - Environmental improvements - Not wanting the town to become too busy or overcrowded - Preservation of existing town character - Walkability - Improved healthcare access

Responses from youth in Cygnet articulate the need for recreation activities, improved community facilities, facilities for youth, improvement and care for the natural environment and improved and safe walkability. The responses from the online survey and design workshop include suggestions for more community facilities and the importance of walking/cycling trails. The responses provided by young people at the schools support these

suggestions. We can see that the existing facilities/offerings such as parks/reserves/playgrounds, outdoor activities, safety and walkability, friends and social/community connections are some of their favourite things about the town, and they believe that building on these would improve Cygnet.

4.7 Specific Site Design Workshop

The following information was gathered as a part of the specific site design workshop held on Saturday 1st of November.

Attendees were asked to identify, for each site:

- Current and future users:
- Constraints:
- Big ideas:
- Preliminary design options:

Cygnet Caravan Park

Who are the current / future users of the site?

- Campers
- Temporary accommodation for people experiencing homelessness
- Seasonal workers employed as fruit pickers
- Festival accommodation
- Part of a public open space network, connected to Cygnet Sports Ground, mens shed, riding club, dog park, RSL

What are the site constraints?

- Development on site is heavily constrained due to:
- Steep gradient change from the front of the lot at road edge to the rear, at the edge of waterway Agnes Rivulet
 - Existing access into the site is a small bridge over Supplices Creek, off Guys Road. Unsuitable for larger vehicles ie campers. Access off Mary Street is very steep.

Big Ideas & Opportunities

- More than half of the site (lower side) is covered by a Waterway and Coastal Protection Area (WCPA) Buffer Zone (LIST), translating to the Natural Assets Code in the TPS.
 - Proximity of Pub and RSL – night time economy uses not necessarily compatible with residential use
 - Site is seasonally damp at lower side
 - Constraints make even temporary living a challenge according to some
 - General thinking amongst participants was not a good place for living, despite close proximity to town services
 - Potential to provide connectivity with other open spaces in the network
- a) Green gateway to the town:
- Part of broader open space assets
 - Potential for eco-community focussed productive gardens (like Ceres in East Brunswick)
 - Open space with temporary activation (eg coffee food van, market stall)
 - Recreation and passive open space, day picnic use
 - Sculpture garden
 - Establish a continuous walking/cycling trail along the rivulet 'Yacht Club to Pub'
 - Rehabilitate waterway, remove willows and revegetate platypus habitat
- b) Creative hub:
- Arts and crafts workshops, artists/makers studios, incubator workspaces
 - Mix of workshops, commercial, community and residential spaces
 - Car parking, garden spaces

	- Tiny homes / tiny workshops - Outdoor music venue with amphitheatre – a new venue for the festival
c)	Medium density residential dwellings - Side by side, along Rivulet designed to accommodate flooding - Townhouses on high ground with minimal/no setback from Mary Street to take advantage of proximity to village - Tiny homes to accommodate itinerant workers – seasonal - Identify unconstrained portion of the site that could be used for housing
d)	Retain existing use as camp ground - Camp facilities and temp accommodation during summer picking / festival season - Improve facilities and seek another operator - If camping can't stay here, must find another site

Mary Street Precinct

Who are the current / future users of the site?	- Residents - Through traffic - Traders and shoppers - Festival and events - Day trippers – including cyclists, motorcyclists - RV users and caravans – difficulty using Mary St need parking - Workers – construction and seasonal pickers - Families and children – home-school, scooters and bikes, school drop off - School buses (stop behind town hall) - Farm equipment, trucks to the tip, deliveries loading/unloading - Community social space - SETAC
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What are the site constraints?

- Dog walkers
- Roadway is narrow (this is good for pedestrian amenity as it slows traffic, but may be a concern for drivers)
- Not enough parking
- Not pedestrian friendly
- Emerging service risk
- Car park junction not safe

Big Ideas and Opportunities

- Slowing traffic
- Widening road
- Residential development in east
- Round about
- Preserve heritage value
- Walkways
- One way traffic through road reserve
- Well connected roads in future subdivisions
- Remove car park below church and replace with parking to the east, behind shops
- Expand car park
- Create permanent market space
- Shop top apartments
- Better signage and wayfinding
- Turn Mary Street into pedestrian precinct
- Retain some on street parking

Old School Farm and Council Depot

Who are the current / future users of the site?

- Residents
- Dog walkers

What are the site constraints?

- Access points.
- The site slopes downward from the western boundary to the eastern boundary, falling approximately 5m.
- A drainage line adjoins the south-western corner of the site.
- The majority of vegetation present on the site is within the unconstructed Louisa Street Crown reserve and the western site frontage with Donohoe Street.
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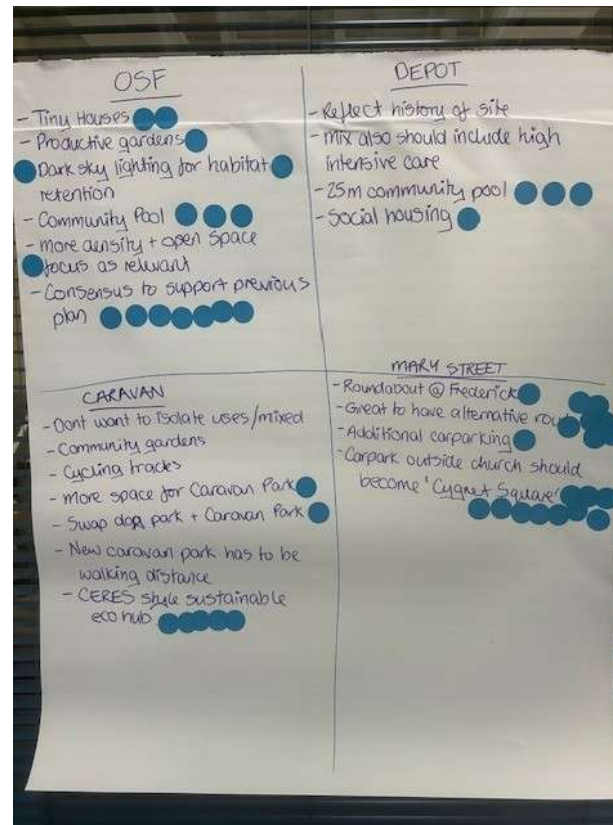
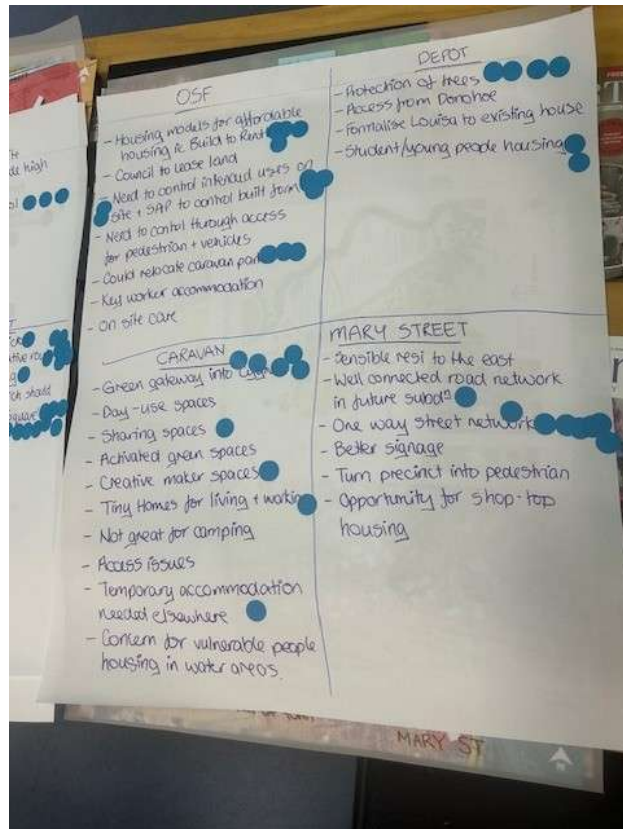
Big Ideas and Opportunities

- Tiny houses
- Community centre
- Park/gardens
- Community garden
- Swimming pool/gym centre/sports centre
- Part of the Old School Farm site development into housing
- Community space/youth centre
- Council run medical offices
- Medium density housing
- Aged living/retirement village
- Housing
- Mountain bike track

- Form part of new caravan park
- Ambulance centre
- Duplex or apartments
- Commercial site

Dotmocracy:

Preferred outcomes for the individual sites were as follows.



4.8 Project Working Group

The meeting with the project working group highlights several key themes, each containing a broad range of suggestions. The key takeaways from each theme will be described below.

Housing and Heritage:

In terms of housing, there is a strong sentiment in favour of increasing density within Cygnet, highlighted by suggestions for multiple houses to be built on the same parcel, as well as medium-density development to be increased – particularly on council owned land. However, there is a clear desire to protect existing neighbourhood character and other local heritage features. Further, attendees emphasise the need for future developments to embed best practice design (7-stars) and include both solar panels and electric vehicle charging capacity. Other notable suggestions include a desire to reduce the number of Airbnb's within Cygnet, and for community-led tiny home villages to be implemented on council-owned land.

Movement:

In terms of movement, attendees put forth suggestions for two new shared pedestrian tracks in Cygnet – one riverine path centred on Agnes Rivulet, and the other connecting remaining areas of interest in Cygnet. New pedestrian zones are also emphasised as an important means of connecting key infrastructure elements to neighbouring residential areas. Finally, it was suggested that natural environmental spaces are upgraded to ensure both walkability, and connectivity.

Tourism, Local Economy, Public Realm, Open Spaces & Recreation:

Responses in this area centre around promoting tourism by fortifying Cygnet's identity - both within the town, and throughout broader Tasmania. Responses suggest that this can be achieved by leaning into Cygnet's strong apple growing history - reinforcing it as a recognisable brand for the town and creating a more memorable and attractive tourist experience. Further, attendees emphasise a desire to upgrade the towns entrance and exit-ways, ensuring Cygnet's identity is announced proudly as the town is approached from either direction. The need for a dedicated festival marketplace venue in the heart of town, and adequate open space for camper vans and other seasonal visitors is also evident in responses.

Climate Change & Environment:

Attendees highlight the opportunity to employ nature-based solutions such as blue-green spaces - connected by corridors to mitigate effects of climate change and promote environmental sustainability. Responses also emphasise the opportunity for future planning to consider coastal inundation, and for

land deemed 'unusable' for housing - due to the risk of flooding - to be utilised as a managed retreat of the salt marsh. Finally, native trees and vegetation are proposed along roads and nature strips – creating a vibrant new ecosystem within Cygnet.

General:

Attendees feel that it is important for clear expectations to be set and conveyed to the public prior to beginning major changes in Cygnet. This includes the estimated costs, timelines, and projected outcomes of projects discussed above.

5. CONCLUSION

The results of the community engagement for Cygnet provides an insightful overview of the community's priorities and concerns for the future within the town.

Particular attention by Council, should be given to concerns relating broadly to Community Infrastructure and Facilities, Movement and Transport, Open Space, Housing, Lifestyle and Character and ongoing Economic Growth.

The community engagement process enabled the consultants to receive direct feedback and facilitate continued connections between Council and the local residents. In total, 840 respondents from the broader community, business network, and local tourists have been consulted.

Intercept engagement and the online survey proved highly successful and could be implemented further if required by Council as a separate exercise to provide a more in depth understanding of the town's needs and wants.

The results of the preliminary and ongoing community engagement have highlighted the ongoing importance of the need for a Structure Plan. This information can be used to facilitate appropriate further development and design decisions throughout the planning and design process.

APPENDIX A: Approved Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

APPENDIX B: Communications: The Cygnet, Huon & Channel Classifieds News Article

APPENDIX C: Summary Minutes for the Targeted Discussions with Community & Business Associations & Key Landowners

APPENDIX D: Summary Minutes for the Government Discussions

APPENDIX E: Intercept Surveys

APPENDIX F: Online Survey Questions