

**DRAFT**  
**GOOMALIBEE**  
**TOWNSHIP PLAN**

Please Note: This document is a draft version of the Township Plan. The information contained within has been collated from various sources and may be outdated. The Community Development Team from Benalla Rural City Council want to work together with the Goomalibee community to develop and update this document so that it accurately reflects the current plans and priorities of the town and its community members. Your feedback on this document will help shape consultations and the future of Goomalibee.

# Table of Contents

|                                                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Executive Summary .....</b>                                  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Vision Statement.....</b>                                    | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Purpose of the Township Plan.....</b>                        | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Alignment to BRCC Community Plan &amp; Vision 2036 .....</b> | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Location.....</b>                                            | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>History of Goomalibee.....</b>                               | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Goomalibee Today .....</b>                                   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>What makes Goomalibee unique .....</b>                       | <b>5</b>  |
| Products & Services .....                                       | 5         |
| Community Groups .....                                          | 6         |
| Sport & Recreation .....                                        | 6         |
| Education .....                                                 | 6         |
| Attractions .....                                               | 6         |
| Marketing & Promotion .....                                     | 7         |
| <b>Desired Town improvements .....</b>                          | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>Past &amp; Recent Funding Grants.....</b>                    | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Projects &amp; Priorities .....</b>                          | <b>9</b>  |
| Assets & Infrastructure .....                                   | 9         |
| Character & Appearance .....                                    | 9         |
| Celebrations & Events .....                                     | 9         |
| Community Projects .....                                        | 9         |
| Social Media, Advertising & Promotion .....                     | 10        |
| Ongoing Associated Projects .....                               | 10        |
| Long Term Goals & Aspirations .....                             | 10        |
| <b>Key Community Contacts.....</b>                              | <b>11</b> |

## Executive Summary

This document details a community led action plan that showcases a vision for the progressive development of Goomalibee. Included in this plan is acknowledgement of Goomalibee as a progressive, cohesive, and forward-thinking community, which values serenity, community cooperation, the beauty of the bush and all that Goomalibee offers for peaceful and harmonious co-existence with nature.

## Vision Statement

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

To engender good-will, build partnerships between local groups and the residents of Goomalibee, and promote a spirit of co-operation. To ensure initiatives have a greater likelihood of being supported, by how they are perceived by the community and for volunteers to support projects.

## Purpose of the Township Plan

The Goomalibee Township Plan is based on the ideas, hopes and aspirations of the Goomalibee community together with the Benalla Rural City Council (BRCC). The Township Plan aspires to guide the future development of the town by developing a list of projects and priorities to inform council strategic planning and to support the community to apply for grants when funding is available.

The plan:

- Articulates the issues that are important to Goomalibee residents
- Provides a clear blueprint for the future development of the Goomalibee township and surrounding region
- Assists the Goomalibee community to attract local and state funding to help achieve identified priorities and projects
- Provides a coordinated approach for the social, cultural and economic development of the township and surrounding enterprises
- Aspires to promote Goomalibee as a tourism destination & as a great place to live

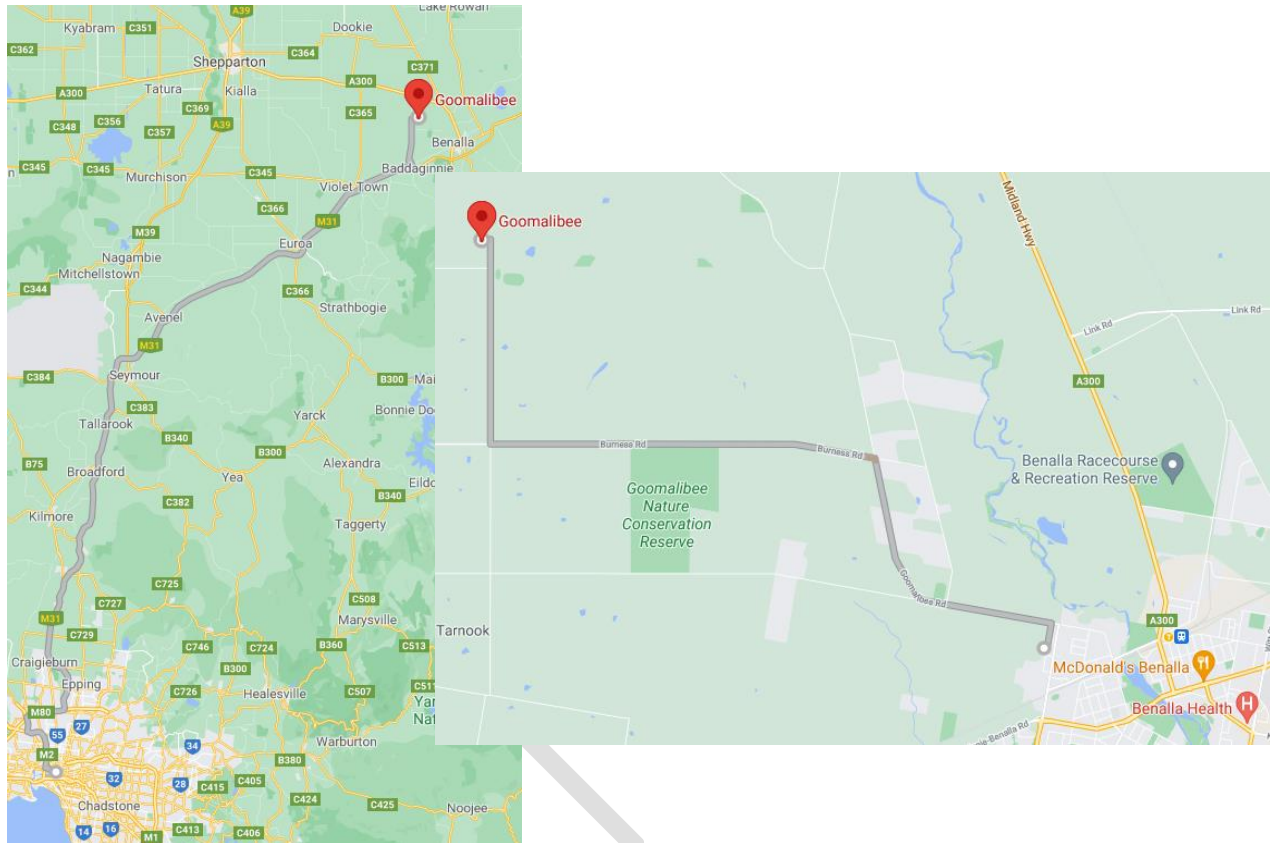
## Alignment to BRCC Community Plan & Vision 2036

The Swanpool Township Plan aligns with the BRCC Community Plan and Vision 2036 documents respectively as together they seek to provide a pathway to the development of individual towns and the rural area of Benalla as a whole.

The information in this document has been collated from a number of sources including the Benalla Rural City Council website, previous community consultations and grant applications, google and Facebook searches and various other council documents. Information may be updated, changed and further developed by the Goomalibee community to specifically reflect the communities' actions, plans and priorities.

## Location

Goomalibee is a small township situated 212 kilometres northeast of Melbourne and is 15kms northwest from the Rural City of Benalla. The town follows the Red River Gum country of the Broken and the Four Mile Creek.



## History of Goomalibee

The name Goomalibee means 'shady river camp' in the language spoken by the traditional owners of the area, who formed part of the Pangurang tribe. They were relatively peaceful people skilled in the areas of fishing, hunting and root gathering. Their stories remain whispered among the scarred and twisted trees of the area and in their abandoned stone tools lying buried in the sand bars.

The Overlanders intrusion into their lands from 1838 heralded the forced resettlement of many of these proud people into a Government Aboriginal Protectorate Station at Murchison 1840-1860. Misunderstanding and fear by members of both the black and white cultures resulted in no chance of reconciliation; fatalities and clashes were common. Until recently records concealed the local traditional aboriginal accounts and perspective. Uncle Freddie Dowing, an author and respected elder of the Pangurang, has recently documented the account of the infamous Faithful Massacre as told and handed down in the traditional manner from his Great Grandmother Luana Milawa who was a young girl at the time.

The squatters had moved their stock into the area prior to the 1840s, but it was not until that year that Goomalibee Station – 98,000 acres - was registered by Alexander Cheyne and William Gibb. After 1861 a series of Selection Acts encouraged many families to face the challenge of farming in our district. Many of their names are honoured along a tree lined road

in the vicinity of the Church. Alongside their names respect is also given to the sons of the district, who paid the supreme sacrifice in World War I and II.

The settlers were industrious and honest farmers. They lobbied for a school to be built in 1881-1941, a post office, sports ground, a church and a hall. A hall became their meeting place and home for their famous dances and suppers. Earlier response to the threat of fire and flood saw the Goomalibee Bush Fire Brigade officially formed in the early 1900s and members would then meet in the local hall.

A Creamery was built in 1903 to process the butterfat from the local dairy farms. Goomalibee butter along with wool and grain found its way to markets in Britain. Global markets and their demand for produce changed and although dairy heifers are agisted in the district, wool production has given over to mainly fat lamb production. The challenges to find new markets have seen breeding heifers sent to China and EU accredited meat to Europe.

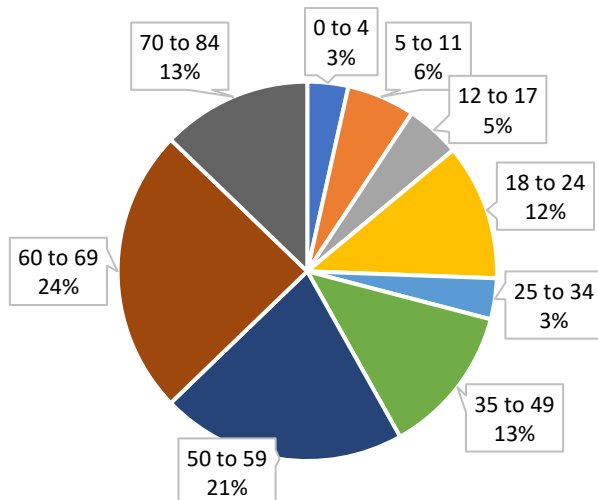
### Goomalibee Today

Goomalibee remains recognized as a farming area however within the Municipal Planning criteria 5 to 100 acres areas may be subdivided into blocks. Consequently, many families seeking a purely 'rural lifestyle' have shifted into the district. This has resulted in a change in the economic and social focus of the District. The challenge of flood and fire remain pertinent for all residents.

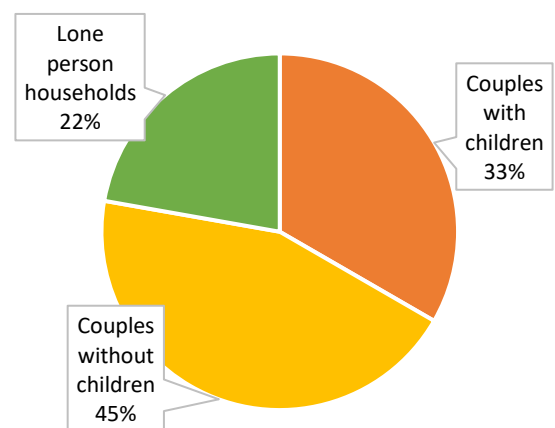
Today the Goomalibee-Upotipoton CFA meet in the comfort of a recently constructed (2017) Meeting Room attached to the Fire Shed. The Annual Christmas Party is hosted jointly by the Brigade and the local Landcare Group. It is an acknowledgement of a rural community determined to be resistant and adapt to change.

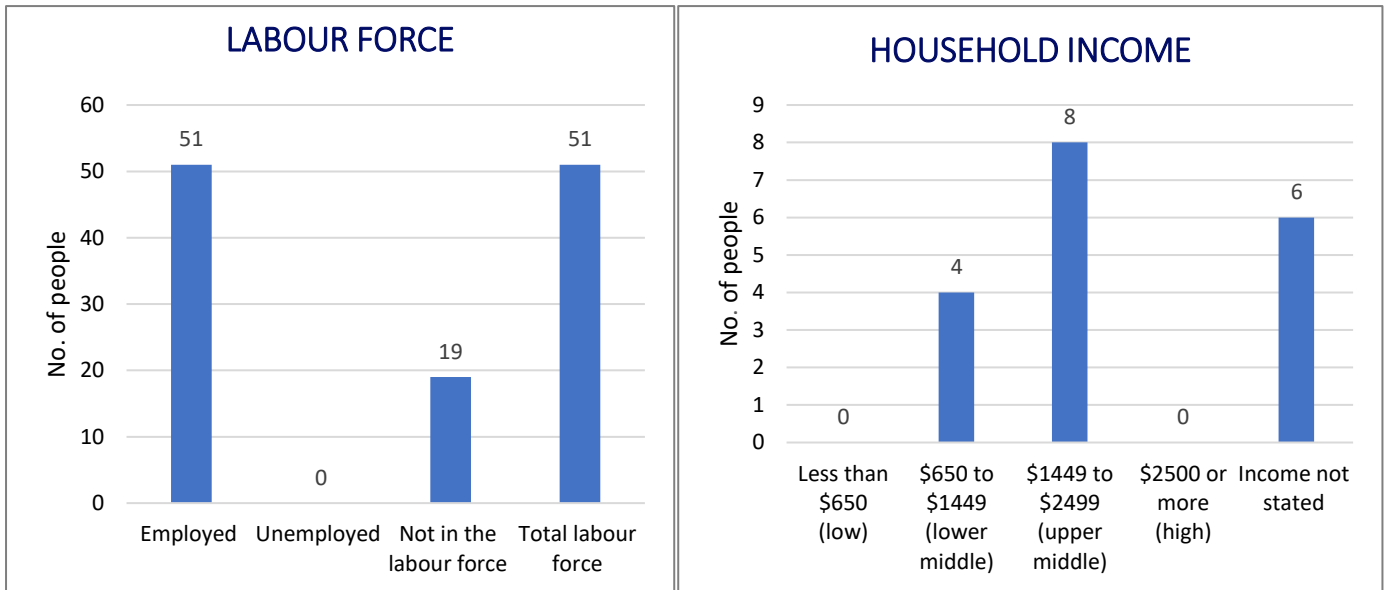
According to the 2016 census, Goomalibee and the surrounding district had a population of 86 in 2016, with 41 males and 48 females. Of these, 4 require assistance due to age or disability. Education statistics show 5 children attend pre - school or primary school, 3 attend secondary school and 3 attend TAFE. There are 32 dwellings, 13 residents own their own homes, 6 are purchasing and 5 are renting.

POPULATION BY AGE



HOUSEHOLD TYPES





*\*The information represented in the above graphs has been taken from the 2016 Census from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and therefore may not be an accurate reflection of the township in 2021.*

### What makes Goomalibee unique

Goomalibee is a small peaceful country town.

#### Products & Services

- 

#### Community Groups

- Goomalibee Rural Fire Brigade
- Goomalibee Landcare Group

#### Sport & Recreation

- 

#### Education

- 

#### Attractions

-

---

## Marketing and Promotions

- Goomalibee – Upotiptopon CFA Facebook - Active, 134 followers  
[www.facebook.com/Goomalibee-upotipotpon-cfa-104737178027325/](https://www.facebook.com/Goomalibee-upotipotpon-cfa-104737178027325/)
- Goomalibee Landcare Group  
[www.landcarevic.org.au/groups/goulburnbroken/goomalibee/](http://www.landcarevic.org.au/groups/goulburnbroken/goomalibee/)

## Desired Town Improvements

- A town vision

DRAFT ONLY

## Past & Recent Funding Grants

| Year | Project                    | Amount | Source | Group                      |
|------|----------------------------|--------|--------|----------------------------|
| 2019 | CFA                        | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 2018 | CFA                        | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 201  | Land Care                  | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Landcare Group  |
| 2016 | Australia Day event        | \$200  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 2016 | CFA                        | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 2015 | ?                          | \$2000 | CG     |                            |
| 2015 | Goomalibee Christmas event | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 2015 | Ride on mower              | \$2500 | CG     | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |
| 2013 | CFA Community BBQ          | \$500  | CSP    | Goomalibee Upotiptopon CFA |

Funding Source Legend

CG = Community Grant ME = Major Event

CSP = Community Sponsorship

YP = Youth Participation

## Infrastructure Projects

| Year |  | Project | BRCC Funding | State Gov Funding | Project Total |
|------|--|---------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|
|      |  |         |              |                   |               |
|      |  |         |              |                   |               |
|      |  |         |              |                   |               |

## Goomalibee Projects & Priorities:

Priority - Time Line:    **A** = SHORT TERM (1- 2 years) **B**= MEDIUM TERM (3-4 years) **C**= MED -LONG TERM (5-8 years) **D**= LONG TERM (9+ years)

### ASSESTS & INFRASTRUCTURE

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### CHARACTER & APPEARANCE

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### COMMUNITY PROJECTS

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### SOCIAL MEDIA, ADVERTISING & PROMOTION

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### ONGOING ASSOCIATED PROJECTS

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

### LONG TERM GOALS & ASPIRATIONS

| Priority | Project | Working Groups | Proposed Costs | Other Comments |
|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |
|          |         |                |                |                |

---

### Key Community Contacts

| Name | Landline | Mobile | Email | Group | Title |
|------|----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
|      |          |        |       |       |       |
|      |          |        |       |       |       |
|      |          |        |       |       |       |
|      |          |        |       |       |       |
|      |          |        |       |       |       |