

Our objectives

— adopted March 2004

- To encourage people in Tomerong to become involved in shaping and nurturing our community.
- To give us good habits of working together so we are a welcoming and cooperative community.
- To give everyone a chance to express a view and accept differences of perspective.
- To develop ideas of how to enhance the physical assets of the village, so it remains a village and becomes a more vibrant community – and a great place for individuals and families to be.
- To support the development and growth of local community organisations.
- To develop planning concepts and designs which might in future assist Council produce a Development Control Plan for Tomerong, but which in the meantime can be seen by potential developers as a basis for maximising the quality of development from the perspective of whole village rather than individual lots.
- To assist Council in assessing development proposals by submitting comments on them based on wide consultation.
- To tell Council about what we think our village is and should be and ask for landscaping, road works, parks and gardens development and maintenance, tree planting etc.
- To embark on our own projects for physical development and care of our village environment and seek Council assistance with resources for that.



Where to next?

Landcare, Environment and Sustainability

In the 'Tomerong plan' adopted in principle by the last annual general meeting we set out a number of issues and objectives in these areas. They become very relevant now.

We have made the point to Council that the new developments will bring to Tomerong many new people, some with limited awareness of rural landcare issues. The Watt and Parnell subdivisions drain into a creek which is currently a model of care, with healthy natural vegetation. This creek, like Tomerong Creek, drains to St Georges Basin. We have placed this on the agenda for a meeting with senior Council staff on 6 June — the need for community-Council collaboration in a positive way to protect this environment..

With the doubling of population, we need to address the principle of 'sustainable living' for present and planned residences of the village of Tomerong — defining sustainable living as seeking harmony within our community and with our environment. We still have the opportunity to be a model community - provided we have community involvement. We can focus on the issues in the 2004 plan: resource consumption (our 'ecological footprint', economic base and local production, etc), maintenance of natural lands and productive lands and sustainable water use. Come to the AGM to discuss what we do about this.

Passive Open Space

With the development of the Watt Subdivision, there will be a need in the coming year to work with council on the allocation and design of passive open space allocated in this area for the whole village.

Community Organisations

We have supported the Friends of Tomerong Union Church and the School of Arts in introducing them to senior Council staff and in pursuit of grants. The Community Forum can support other community initiatives... note the comment under finances, immediately below.

Finances

We receive \$400 a year from Council to assist us with the business of community consultation — use of the hall, mailing out reports like this, etc. We will only get this while we are seen to be active and meet standards set by Council.

We can, from this amount, consider new initiatives, such as, for example, supporting a Youth Forum, to help young people get together and define their needs — for amenities, for mentoring, whatever... Over to you!