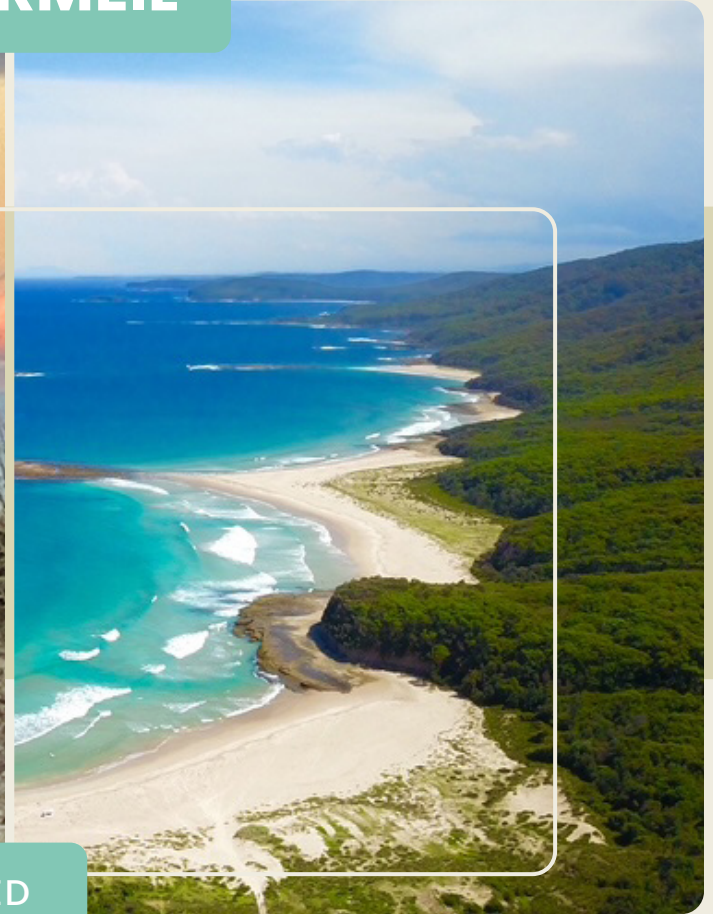


Three Villages Community Strategic Plan

BAWLEY POINT, KIOLOA, TERMEIL



THRIVING • SUSTAINABLE • CONNECTED

2025 to 2035

VERSION: September 2025

Your guide to the THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY PLAN 2025-2035

Welcome to our guide to the Three Villages Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for Bawley Point, Kioloa and Termeil. This Plan is designed to be a roadmap for our community for the next ten years, from 2025 to 2035. It's all about working together to shape the future of our beautiful natural environment, our homes, roads, public spaces, waterways, recreation facilities, local businesses and more. This is a Plan created by our community, for our community. Its main purpose is to outline our shared vision, values, aspirations and top priorities. This plan will guide decisions made for our community over the coming years.

A more detailed version of this document has been prepared that captures the full process of preparing the Community Plan. This comprehensive document will be used as the cornerstone for future planning and will be formally submitted to the Shoalhaven City Council for endorsement and as a blueprint for ongoing discussions. It is available on the BPKTCA website for community members.



Our Vision: Thriving in Harmony

We see ourselves as a connected, resilient and thriving coastal community of three villages, united by a shared purpose and an enduring connection to our country, coast, and community. This vision is a promise to foster deep social bonds and mutual respect, enhancing the sense of belonging for everyone, including newcomers.

Our vision is a future where nature and our community thrive in harmony for generations to come. This commitment underpins all aspects of the Plan, guiding our focus on sustainable practices, environmental protection and community-led initiatives to safeguard the unique charm and natural beauty of our three villages. At our core, we are a community deeply committed to protecting our beautiful natural environment, our biodiversity and our cherished 'coastal village' character and lifestyle.



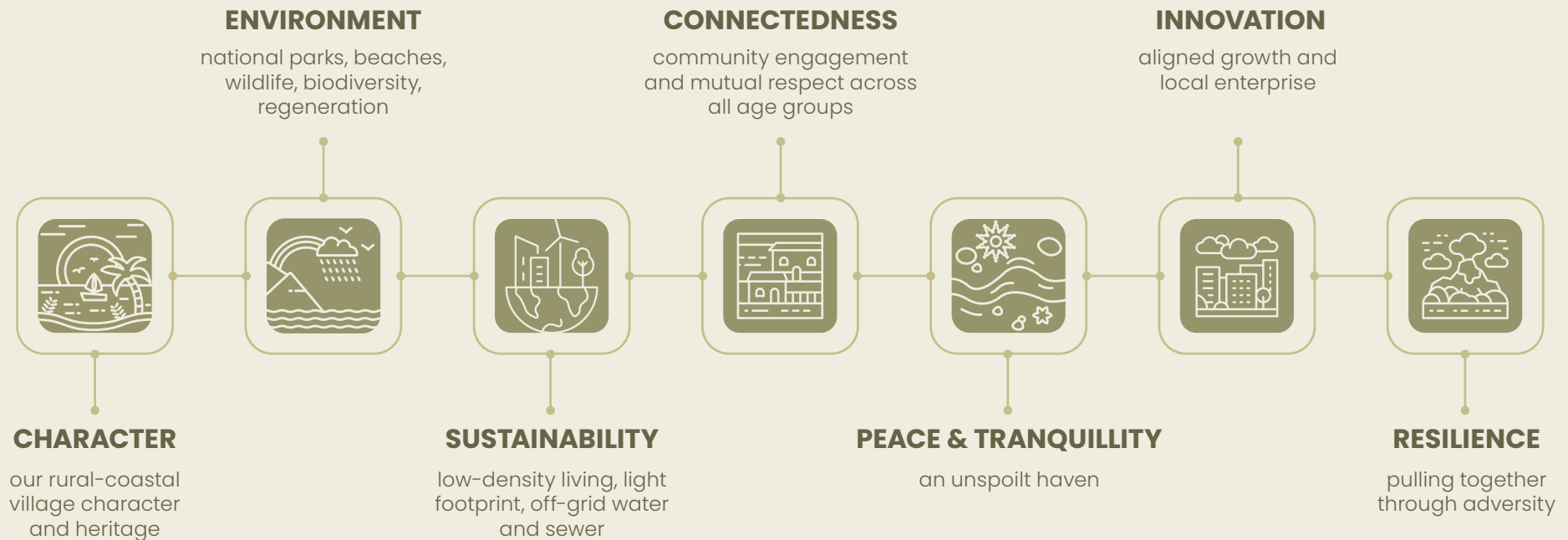
This means:

- 1** Fiercely safeguarding our natural treasures: Our waterways, beaches, foreshores, flora, fauna, and the national parks that embrace us are highly valued and respected.
- 2** Preserving our unique character: We love our unspoilt haven, the absence of large commercial developments, and our low-density, rural-coastal charm.
- 3** Ensuring sustainable growth: We insist that any future growth or development is sustainable, with the needs of our community always at the forefront of planning decisions. We support low-scale development that aligns with our character and existing infrastructure, and we do not support residential or commercial development of an urban scale.

Our Values

Our Values reflect the heart and soul of our community. They capture the essence of what we, as residents, renters and ratepayers interested in the wellbeing and health of our local region, truly value as the core elements of a cohesive, agreeable and happy community.

THE SEVEN VALUES THAT OUR COMMUNITY IDENTIFIED





CHARACTER

Rural-coastal village character and heritage

This value highlights the community's appreciation for its blend of coastal village and rural lifestyles. The villages are cherished for the absence of large commercial developments, hotels, and multi-dwelling complexes, proudly accommodating local enterprises and events that align with the village culture. There is a strong desire to protect and honour coastal community traditions, culture and character, while ensuring any growth and development initiatives are aligned with this identity. The community explicitly does not support residential or commercial development of an urban scale.



ENVIRONMENT

National parks, beaches, wildlife, biodiversity, regeneration

The community is protective of the natural environment, waterways, beaches, foreshores, flora and fauna. The villages are surrounded by beautiful natural settings including pristine waterways, national parks and unspoilt bushland. There's a high level of awareness and responsibility among local people to manage and protect this pristine region and landscape. This includes initiatives around preservation, conservation, regeneration, biodiversity, cultural burns, and waste management.



SUSTAINABILITY

Low-density living, light footprint, off-grid water and sewer

The community is proud of the sustainable practices and systems that support them, such as off-grid water collection, sewer management and the newly created microgrid. There is a commitment to protect and enhance these systems to continue being environmentally responsible. There is little or no interest in town water as the current off-grid systems effectively serve the community's needs and the introduction of town water would likely raise costs and create unwanted opportunities for extensive overdevelopment. Sustainability as a value aims to maintain and enhance off-grid systems and encourage investment in innovative practices that enhance environmental sustainability.



Our Values



CONNECTEDNESS

Community engagement across all age groups and mutual respect

The Plan seeks to enhance social bonds and engagement opportunities between the three villages. There's a strong emphasis on achieving results through community volunteer-led initiatives, with recognition that engaging the skills and expertise of residents and local volunteers is essential for success. The community recognises a strong connection with the local Yuin people, and newcomers are welcomed and helped to settle into the community culture.



PEACE/TRANQUILITY

An unspoilt haven

Residents frequently cite the pleasure that comes from living in small villages, appreciating the peace and tranquillity and slower pace of life. The villages are deliberately appreciated for the absence of large commercial developments.



"Our homes are often handed down — it's about legacy and connectedness, not turnover."



INNOVATION

Aligned growth and local enterprise

The community encourages local innovation and new enterprises that align with its vision and values. It supports low-scale, sustainable development that enhances local-level service needs and aligns with coastal character requirements. Residents support activities that strengthen and enhance existing local businesses



RESILIENCE

Pulling together through adversity

The community has demonstrated extraordinary resilience and resourcefulness when confronted by adversity, with the response to the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires being an example of this cooperation. This attitude is also reflected in the multitude of local markets, music events, sporting, wellbeing and cultural activities strongly supported throughout the year.



Who we are: A Snapshot of our Community

OUR POPULATION (2021 Census)

Total Population: Close to 1,400 people

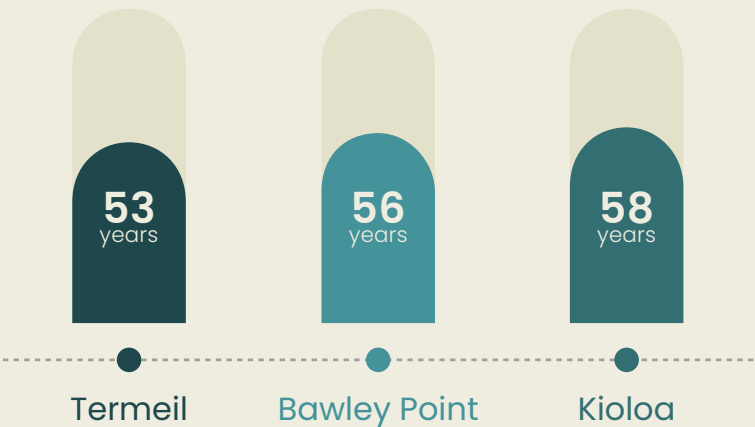
Bawley Point: 844 people

Kioloa: 292 people

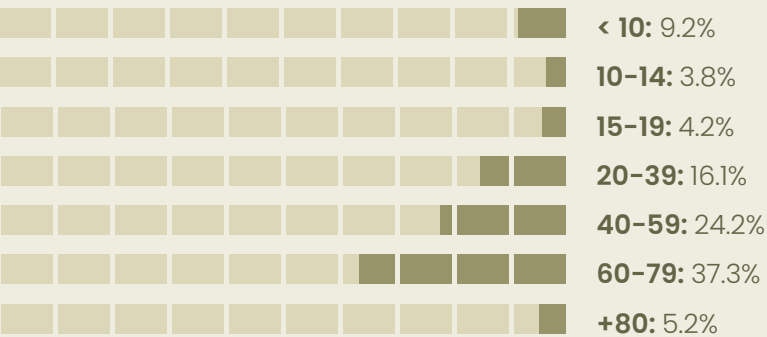
Termeil: 273 people

OUR AVERAGE AGE

Overall Average Age: 56 years



AGE DISTRIBUTION



OUR HERITAGE



The community has a proud connection with country, championed by the local Yuin people

OUR HOMES AND LIFESTYLE



A happy mix of coastal village and rural lifestyles – Includes permanent residents, part-time residents and seasonal holidaymakers



Homes are typically single dwellings on generous land parcels – often passed down through generations, giving a deep sense of heritage



No town water or sewerage – we rely on off-grid, sustainable systems (rainwater tanks and septic systems) which define our growth limits. There is little interest in town water or kerb and guttering



Beautiful natural settings: beaches, bush, pristine waterways, abundant wildlife and National Parks



Peace, tranquillity and a gentle pace of life is highly valued

WORKING LIFE

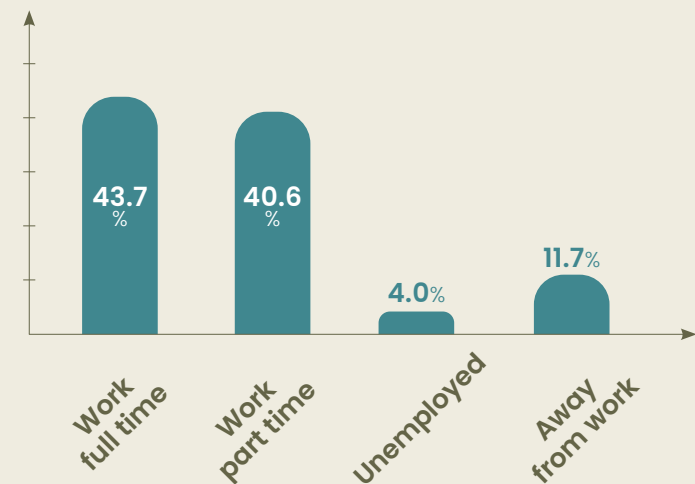


In the labour force



Not in the labour force

EMPLOYMENT STATUS



The full time working population is small, mainly in building/construction, hospitality cleaning, local retail or home-based work

Four Pillars of Our Future: What We Strive to Be

Through our shared purpose, community connections and ongoing investment, we are committed to work together to be:

A CARING COMMUNITY

We actively support and invest in the well-being and health of residents across all ages, fostering connectedness and providing amenities that promote active, engaging and healthy lifestyles. This means enhancing social bonds, offering support networks for our aging population and ensuring frequent, inclusive communication. We're committed to providing a network of new and enhanced sporting, community and recreational facilities for everyone, promoting wellbeing and youth development.

A PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY

We welcome investment in innovative, sustainable businesses and growth that align with our community vision and values. We appreciate existing local innovations and research, and we encourage practices that enhance the sustainability of our environment, culture and lifestyle.

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY

We celebrate and share our rich cultural heritage and pristine natural environment. This involves reinforcing awareness and respect for the strong and proud connection to country championed by the local Yuin people, as well as our shared commercial history and warm, country-coastal character. Newcomers are welcomed and helped to settle in.

A RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY

We protect our coastal village character, tranquil lifestyle and natural assets. This includes valuing our unspoilt haven, ensuring responsible tourism practices that comply with environmental, safety, social and legal regulations, as well as working to protect our villages from poorly aligned, urban-scale development. We pride ourselves on being self-driven and committed to a high level of self-sufficiency and sustainability.



Our Unique Character: What Makes Us Special

Our three villages are cherished for their pristine beauty, gentle lifestyles, and strong sense of community. We are often referred to as “hamlets” – small villages without large commercial developments, hotels, or multi-dwelling complexes. Instead, we have local businesses, events and initiatives that align with our village culture, encourage community engagement and support appropriate local development.

OUR VILLAGES CHERISH MANY UNIQUE QUALITIES INCLUDING:

- The beauty of the coastal and rural landscape with national parks, abundant wildlife, native bushland and historic middens
- The gentle, respectful lifestyles of residents appreciating the peace, tranquillity and slower pace of life
- The absence of large commercial developments, pubs, hotels and multi-dwelling complexes
- The rainwater tanks and septic systems that support independent and sustainable water and waste management
- An open and connected environment with lawns often meeting between properties, fostering interaction and collegiality
- Homes typically designed as single dwellings on generous parcels of land, often passed down through generations, creating a deep sense of heritage and ownership
- An extraordinary resilience and community resourcefulness, demonstrated during the 2019 bushfires
- A proud, responsible and self-driven community committed to achieving a high level of self-sufficiency and sustainability



“We’re proud of our off-grid tanks and septic. It keeps us sustainable.”

Our Top Priorities for Future Action

Based on our community's vision and values, seven high-priority strategic themes were identified as being the priority areas for future action. A detailed implementation plan will be established for each of these themes over coming months, but the focus of each priority has been clearly identified through the community consultations. These themes and focus areas for community actions are:

1. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND AWARENESS:

Create a shared program with Council to manage and protect our national parks, beaches, wildlife and waterways for future generations.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Conservation, cultural burns, protecting wildlife corridors, tree planting, cleaning up dump sites, protecting Willinga Lake and tidal lakes and reintroducing koalas.

2. COMMUNITY SPIRIT, CHARACTER, AND CONNECTEDNESS:

Strengthen social connections between the villages and celebrate our shared history, First Nations heritage and warm, country-coastal character.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Organising community gatherings (festivals, dinners); health and wellbeing programs; interest groups (history, snorkelling); swap shops; community noticeboards and historical information boards.

3. SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION:

Maintain and improve our off-grid water, sewerage, and waste systems, expand our microgrid and encourage investment in new ideas and support local businesses.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Bushfire education and cultural burns; supporting the micro-grid; recycling and pollution education; enforcing compliance for holiday parks regarding water/sewerage management and investing in green bin programs.

4. RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

Provide new and improved sports and community facilities suitable for our community size across all three villages, promoting wellbeing & youth development.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Upgrading Kioloa playing field for ball/ field sports and related activities; creating a new recreation site, located away from Kioloa to provide more central access to all users and accommodating wheel-based sports and wellness activities (eg BMX pump, skatepark, adventure playground); extending Kioloa Community Hall; completing the Gantry historic walk.

5. INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT:

Well-maintained infrastructure, including roads, pathways, picnic areas, public spaces, transport and local businesses, to meet current and future needs.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Improving pedestrian access to beaches; a new walking/ cycle path connecting Termeil and Bawley Point; transport enhancements (EV chargers, traffic calmers); an annual roads Council maintenance program and an alternative emergency exit route.

6. RESPONSIBLE TOURISM:

Support responsible practices by tourism operators and visitors, working with Council to ensure compliance with environmental, safety, social, and legal rules. Any expansion will respect our natural landscape and character.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Council planning controls aligned with community character; better regulation of commercial tourism park operators; a formal agreement with Council to manage environmental controls for tourism parks.

7. PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND GOVERNMENT ALIGNMENT:

Protect the villages from inappropriate, urban-scale development and unsustainable growth that disregards our environment and coastal character.

FOCUS / ACTIONS

Ensuring Council's land use and design controls clearly commit to preserving character and culture in future development, and an annual Council/Community program for bushland management.

Community and Council Priorities – Alignment

Importantly, there is close alignment between our seven community priorities and the four key themes that Shoalhaven City Council has set in its 2035 Strategic Plan. This ensures that our initiatives can be helpfully supported by Council as a partnership over the life of our Three Villages Plan. As a responsible community, we seek to support Council’s success in achieving its own mission, while ensuring our villages receive the attention, support and investment needed from Council to achieve our Vision for 2025–2035.



COMMUNITY THEME	OBJECTIVE	ALIGNMENT WITH SHOALHAVEN COUNCIL THEMES
1. Environment Protection	Safeguard coast, lakes, and forests	2. Sustainable Environments, Liveable Communities
2. Community Spirit	Strengthen local identity and connections	1. Vibrant, Safe and Active Communities
3. Sustainability & Innovation	Support off-grid and green enterprise	2. Sustainable Environments, Innovation, Resilient Economies
4. Recreation & Facilities	Create inclusive village-wide spaces	1. Vibrant, Safe Active Communities
5. Infrastructure	Maintain resilient infrastructure & transport	2. Sustainable, Liveable Communities 4. Transparent Leadership, Good Governance
6. Responsible Tourism	Eco-compliance and visitor education	2. Sustainable, Liveable Communities 4. Transparent Leadership, Good Governance
7. Planning & Government	Align growth with village character	4. Transparent Leadership, Good Governance

How We Got Here

This plan was developed through a nine month consultation process (October 2024 to June 2025). It involved over one-third of our community. More than 400 people from various age groups contributed their ideas to this plan. The Bawley Point Kioloa Termeil Community Association (BPKTCA) has played a key role in driving this process. Here's how we scoped the plan and various phases we went through to gather your input:

PHASE 1 PLANNING AND CONSULTATION

- Preplanning, research and initial consultation
- Formal consultation
- Workshops and "Have Your Say" events
- Pop-ups – interviews and surveys at markets, shops, cafes
- Individual interviews
- Electronic surveys
- Posters and newsletters to keep everyone informed
- Consultation with community leaders, groups, businesses, and government representatives
- Data collection from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Shoalhaven City Council, and other government agencies
- Data and feedback analysis and shaping of emerging themes and objectives

PHASE 2 DRAFTING THE PLAN, DESIGNING IT, COMMUNITY REVIEW, GRAPHIC DESIGN AND FORMAL SIGN-OFF



What Happens Next: And How to Get Involved

This Plan is designed to be organic, a work in progress – allowing for additions, amendments, and enrichment as the community works towards its vision. The next steps involve:

- 1 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ENDORSEMENT:**
The BPKTCA formally accepts the CSP.
- 2 COUNCIL ENDORSEMENT:**
The Plan will be submitted to Shoalhaven City Council for formal acknowledgement and endorsement.
- 3 PUBLICATION:**
The Plan will be published in both hard copy and electronic formats for everyone to access.



*“Markets, music, wellness
— we turn up, we pitch in.”*

4

IMPLEMENTATION, ACTION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

A series of working groups will be established (or existing groups utilised) to develop action plans, financial needs and take necessary steps to progress the projects within each focus area and theme.

Community members will be able to nominate to work on individual projects. These will either be:

- infrastructure, recreational or facilities projects requiring capital investment and Council support
- community-led projects that need volunteer effort but not significant financial investment

Each project will have a dedicated group of community members driving it. These groups may be new or existing (eg Men's Shed, Community Garden, Sport & Rec) and will play important leadership roles. Watch out for Facebook notices, flyers and posters inviting you to get involved



Successful implementation will depend on the investment of time and effort from community members, as well as the support and investment we receive from Council. The Plan outlines numerous projects and activities, many of which can be implemented quickly by volunteers and existing community groups. Other initiatives will require partnership with Council and other agencies and some will need significant capital investment. We invite all community members to get involved.

Acknowledgements

This Acknowledgements section highlights the collective spirit and wide-ranging contributions that underpin this vital community guide. Sincere thanks are extended to many generous people within our community.

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP: The project was voluntarily driven by the Committee of the Bawley Point Kioloa Termeil Community Association (BPKTCA) and the Community Working Group (CWG). The BPKTCA is recognised by Shoalhaven City Council as a Community-Consultative Body (CCB), able to formally represent the interests of the three villages. The CWG, auspiced by the BPKTCA, was specifically charged with driving the strategic planning process in consultation with the community.



“We’ll grow – but in ways that protect what we love.”

WIDESPREAD COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION: A deep appreciation is extended to everyone in the community who participated in the process and gave generously of their time and local knowledge. This Plan is representative of the views of a diverse range of people living, visiting, working in and supporting the villages, with significant effort invested to ensure broad community contribution. More than one third of the collective community, involving over 400 members across various age groups, contributed to the initiatives proposed in the CSP.



SUPPORT FROM INDIVIDUALS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES: Many people and local businesses donated time, services, resources and goodwill to make it happen. This collective goodwill was essential in developing the Plan.

CRUCIAL FINANCIAL UNDERPINNING: Specific thanks are given to the Kioloa Bawley Point Sport & Recreation Club for underpinning this project with funding for essential services and resources. This included covering professional fees for the facilitator; printing and community consultation resources. An independent community facilitator played a key role in guiding community events.

CULTURAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT: The community recognises the important cultural identity and influence of the Yuin and Murramarang people and their enduring connection to culture and country. The Elders are thanked for their guidance throughout the process.





We Are Custodians of our Region

GET INVOLVED

More than 400 community members across our three villages have contributed to this Plan.

Join us in bringing it to life.

Contact BPKTCA to Join a Project Team!



www.bawleykioloatermeil.org.au



The BPKTCA acknowledges and thanks the members of the Working Group who have contributed to the preparation of this Plan: Peter Longstaff, Lynn Cowley, Tony Sattler, John Meyer, Sandy Betts, Roger Lucas, Lindsay Cane.

The BPKTCA acknowledges and thanks John Hudson and the other community members who have contributed their photographs to this community document.