



# A VISION FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Ideas for climate mitigation  
and resilience in the Port  
Macquarie- Hastings region



*We acknowledge the Birpai people, their Elders and Country.  
We acknowledge with deep respect the people, knowledge, cultural traditions and  
practices that look after the land and waters of the lands on which we live and work.*

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## INTRODUCTION

On March 12, 2022, The Head, Heart, and Hands project of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Sustainability Network invited community members to participate in a visioning workshop to co-create a community based plan for climate mitigation, resilience and adaptation. Twenty-eight (28) community members attended the workshop, including representatives from a range of local community groups.

The **key objectives** of this visioning process were:

- To identify and bring together existing individuals, networks, projects, and resources in the community who are responding proactively to climate change;
- To facilitate a community visioning process resulting in a clear framework for the community's response to climate change;
- To support and develop stronger communication and collaboration between all involved partners;
- To reach a point of shared understanding of actual and perceived community needs in responding to climate change; and
- To move from "what is" to "what if" and then to "what now", by facilitating a positive vision for the community's response to climate change and planning steps for the implementation of that vision.

Through the day-long workshop, we achieved the following **outcomes**:

- Identification of existing projects and resources;
- Identification of key priority areas to enable community action to move towards climate change resilience;
- Initiated the development of a conceptual framework for a community response to climate change, with the aims of facilitating effective use of human and financial resources to ensure cooperative climate resilience activities and action; and
- In-principle agreement to develop a community working group that is resourced and empowered to implement key actions.

Action areas were prioritised under the following themes:

- Building connections with First Nations community and knowledge;
- Built environment / energy;
- Community resilience and disaster preparedness/response;
- Food;
- The natural environment;
- Transport; and
- Waste.

See p6 for the summary of the priority actions.

## HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

The intention of this report is that it is owned by the community for use to support ongoing local climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience projects in the Port Macquarie-Hastings (PMH) area.

### You could consider using this report;

- As a starting point to generate ideas for new climate change mitigation or resilience projects;
- To identify existing projects or organisations who you may like to volunteer for or collaborate with;
- To support advocacy around climate change resilience or implementation of one of the suggested initiatives;
- To guide the development of a detailed community climate change response plan for the PMH region;
- To develop a better understanding of the concerns and vision of PMH community members as they relate to climate change; and/or
- As a guide for potential workshop activities to support development of a community project.

### Not sure where to get started? Try the following

- Join the Port Macquarie-Hastings Sustainability Network ([www.pmhsn.org.au](http://www.pmhsn.org.au)) to connect with other locals who have similar concerns and stay abreast of future events and opportunities;
- Browse the list of existing organisations and resources and contact them to see how you can get involved;
- Explore the list of priority areas and project ideas and consider where your passion lies – if you would like help to connect to others with similar interests or advice on next steps to take then reach out through the Port Macquarie-Hastings Sustainability Network for further support; and/or
- Explore the photos of the four lenses activity to tune into our community and what we cherish, and wish to change, for our future.

## VISIONING PROCESSES AND EXERCISES

The workshop was facilitated by Lisa Siegel from the Centre for Ecological Learning and took the following format:

### Introduction – “The Milling”

Participants were asked to mill around the room, then find themselves in front of one other person. Each pair then spent time completing a prompt sentence. There were four rounds, with different pairs each time. The four prompt statements were:

- I’ve been here since (year) and I came here because...
- My favourite place in this area is (place) because...
- The most challenging thing for me about living here is...
- For me, the best part of living here is...

### Guided visualisation and personal reflection

Participants were asked to close their eyes and take a trip into the future where they found themselves in this area where all the changes needed for a sustainable world had already been made. They were guided through an entire day in this future world. After the visualisation ended, there was some personal reflection time, and then a short group discussion where some sharing of future visions took place.

### Four Lenses Visioning

This activity helped the group identify community needs through the four lenses of REFUSE, RECOVER, CHERISH, CREATE: what do we REFUSE to bring into our resilient future, what would we like to RECOVER from the past that would be useful to resurrect, what exists currently that we CHERISH and want to keep, and what new realities do we want to CREATE?

Participants rotated to the four corners of the room where each lens was written in the middle of large sheets of butcher’s paper and wrote their responses to these four lenses on post-it notes. Subsequently, the facilitators sorted the post-it notes for each lens into common themes. The Head Heart Hands committee helped to identify which of the many themes were most relevant for the intended Community Climate Resilience plan.



### World Café

The World Café is a process that enables ongoing and emergent dialogue amongst members of a group (see <http://theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method/> for more information). For this workshop, there were three rounds of World Café, with participants working in groups on tables that discussed and mind mapped the following priority areas:

- Building connections with First Nations
- Transport
- Community
- Natural world
- Built environment and energy
- Food
- Waste

A representative from each table presented an overview of the discussion to the whole group in the summary session.



## OUR VISION

Through the four lenses activity and ongoing conversation through the day, a shared vision emerged of a community where:

- We are strongly connected to each other and work together to achieve our goals.
- We live in harmony with and connected with the natural world and work towards it's restoration and protection.
- Equity, respect, and inclusion for all community members is prioritised.
- The voices and knowledge of First Nations peoples are valued and respected.
- We enjoy peace, safety, good education, good health, and balance, with time for family, friends and community and the opportunity for cultural and other pursuits.
- We are nourished by food that is affordable, accessible, and grown locally in home or community gardens or by farmers who are supported to carry out sustainable agriculture.
- We live in well-designed homes and towns, with infrastructure to successfully transition away from fossil fuels, support active transport and encourage community connection.
- We have created a culture of reduced consumption, taking responsibility for waste, sharing and repairing, and a circular and sharing economy to support this.
- We are prepared for, respond to and recover from disasters with resilience.
- Political, governance, economic and regulatory structures are supportive of our shared vision.

## SUMMARY DISCUSSION OF PRIORITY AREAS

At the end of the workshop an overview of the discussion for each priority area was provided to the whole group in the summary session. The following priority actions were developed from that session. For full documentation see appendix 1.

Priority Areas	Priority Actions
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting local farmers to develop resilient food systems</li> <li>• Continuing the Hastings Farm Gate Tour</li> <li>• Developing strategies to connect local producers with consumers</li> <li>• Normalising seasonal eating e.g. through a regular farmers market</li> <li>• A Locavore website</li> </ul>
The Natural World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued support for many existing local projects</li> <li>• Foster passion for the environment and understanding that humans are part of the natural world (many projects suggested)</li> <li>• Develop strategies that reward farmers as the biggest land managers</li> <li>• Rapid reduction in GHG emissions needed to protect biodiversity</li> <li>• Biodiversity and the natural world needs to be at the centre of decision making</li> </ul>
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with council and other levels of government to develop bike paths and other active transport initiatives, a community bus project, fast rail and resilient transport infrastructure</li> <li>• Initiatives to support rapid electrification of transport</li> <li>• Demand council transport strategy placed on exhibition</li> </ul>
Building connections with First Nations community	<p>There was a sense of the importance of this but uncertainty about how to go about achieving it. Suggestions included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking</li> <li>• Finding common ground – land management, food, bush tucker,</li> <li>• Engaging with formal positions - Landcare engagement officer, Aboriginal Advisory Group</li> <li>• Exploring opportunities to give back control (e.g. of management of council owned land)</li> <li>• Connecting with schools</li> <li>• Storytelling and learning</li> <li>• Supporting local business initiatives</li> </ul>
Built environment and energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiatives to support better building (design for climate, adaptive housing, quality climate resilience social housing)</li> <li>• Exploring opportunities for equity transfer</li> <li>• Initiatives that support retrofitting as a community (education, funding initiatives, resilience to sea level rise/flood/bushfire)</li> <li>• Initiatives to support low-income earners increase resilience to extreme heat e.g. community purchase arrangements for solar/insulation/heat-pump AC</li> <li>• Microgrids, community storage solution and increasing energy resilience in disasters</li> </ul>

Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a strong, diverse community with lots of opportunities to connect BUT not everyone is working towards transition</li> <li>• Initiatives to support local organisations to update plans and processes so that they are climate ready</li> <li>• A home for climate action and sustainability education</li> <li>• Initiatives that support a place-based sense of belonging</li> <li>• More spaces for gathering</li> <li>• Suitable spaces for evacuation</li> <li>• Increasing the amenity of “villages within villages”, and of satellite villages to reduce reliance on a centralised town centre and increase local connections</li> </ul>
Waste reduction and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating spaces for projects</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Creating local industry: Recycling solar panels</li> <li>• Developing a sharing economy e.g. tool libraries, repair café</li> <li>• A local waste audit is needed as a baseline for action</li> </ul>
Moving forward and building momentum for change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledged that a group of people who could support the community by “holding space”, “leading” “following up” outcomes of the vision workshop</li> <li>• The report will be distributed to all who attended and hosted on PMHSN website for the general public</li> <li>• A photo of the work undertaken will be distributed and hosted on PMHSN website</li> </ul>

## PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

The following steps are proposed as possible options:

- The report will be distributed to all who attended and hosted on PMHSN website for the general public
- A photo of the work undertaken will be distributed and hosted on PMHSN website;
- A media release will share the outcomes of the workshop with the broader community;
- Those who registered interest in each priority area could be contacted to start an email conversation or invited to a F2F or zoom meeting;
- Further 4 lens/world café/ planning sessions could be facilitated for each priority area;
- Identifying what resources are required to continue this work and then working out how to use them will need to be a focus.

## EXISTING ORGANISATIONS, RESOURCES, PROJECTS AND KEY CONTACTS

The following organisations, resources and projects were identified by participants during the World Café process.

<p>Building Connections with First Nations community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Birpai Aboriginal Land Council</li> <li>- Bunyah Aboriginal Land Council</li> <li>- Aboriginal Advisory Committee to council (renamed)</li> <li>- Guulagu / Koala Custodians</li> <li>- North Coast Regional Landcare Aboriginal Engagement Officer</li> <li>- Jamie Donovan (2022 Citizen of the year Port Mac)</li> <li>- Healing Country book</li> </ul>
<p>Transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PMHC draft regional integrated transport strategy</li> <li>- PMHC cycle strategy</li> <li>- Energy Forever</li> </ul>
<p>Community Resilience – Disaster Recovery and Response</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PMQ helping hands</li> <li>- Mud Army</li> <li>- St Agnes</li> <li>- Red Cross</li> <li>- CWA</li> <li>- Primary health network (Healthy North Coast)</li> <li>- Hospitals</li> <li>- SES</li> <li>- RFS</li> <li>- Sports clubs</li> <li>- Council library</li> <li>- Schools</li> <li>- Resilience NSW</li> <li>- PMHC</li> </ul>
<p>Community – Building strong healthy community and people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environmental groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Energy Forever Community Energy Group</li> <li>o PMHSN</li> <li>o CCA</li> <li>o NEFF</li> <li>o Landcare</li> <li>o Koala Hospital</li> <li>o Coastal Warriors</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Community / NFP gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Lost Plot</li> <li>o Douglas Vale Vineyard</li> <li>o The Davis Farm</li> <li>o Other community gardens (Laurieton etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Education</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mid North Coast Community College</li> <li>○ The Nature School</li> <li>○ The Steiner School</li> <li>○ Other Schools</li> <li>- Culture and Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multiple groups existing</li> <li>○ Wauchope Community Art Centre</li> <li>○ The Glasshouse</li> <li>○ Wauchope Art Gallery</li> <li>○ Sunset Gallery</li> <li>○ Local choirs</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Healthy North Coast</li> <li>○ Doctors for the Environment Australia</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Religious / spiritual groups</li> <li>- Sports Clubs</li> <li>- “Circles” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Arly Mehan</li> <li>○ Innerworld Village – Megan and Joh</li> <li>○ Artemis Rising – Judy Mort</li> <li>○ Self Seen – Jules Jam</li> <li>○ Sara Phillips – Deep Heart Wisdom</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Political <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Voices for Cowper / Voices for Lyne</li> <li>○ Relationships with local MPs/ councillor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Built Environment and Energy</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PMHC – long term energy strategy, LEP, DCP, housing strategy and draft infrastructure strategy</li> <li>- NSW State Government</li> <li>- Energy Forever – community renewable energy project</li> <li>- Local architects, building designers and builders</li> <li>- Climate Change Australia (CCA)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Food</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hastings Farm Gate Tour Inc</li> <li>- Revamp (living skills program initiative of local LHD and Land Councils)</li> <li>- Community Gardens / NFP gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Lost Plot (Port Macquarie)</li> <li>○ Laurieton</li> <li>○ Lake Cathie Community Centre (Brendan)</li> <li>○ The Davis Farm</li> <li>○ Douglas Vale Vineyard</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Local Markets</li> <li>- Head Heart and Hands – <a href="#">eBook on how to start a food coop/buying group</a></li> <li>- Head Heart and Hands – <a href="#">List of local producers</a></li> <li>- Regenerative Farms Networks</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land to Market Australia farmers co-op</li> <li>- AGWE – <a href="http://www.agwe.com.au">www.agwe.com.au</a></li> <li>- Oz Harvest</li> <li>- Green Bin</li> <li>- The Other Chef</li> </ul>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MidWaste Regional Waste Group (education with councils)</li> <li>- Public Health Unit</li> <li>- PMHC sustainability officer, education programs and waste strategy</li> </ul> <p>Example initiatives from other regions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bellingen Eco House</li> <li>- Kingfisher Tip Shop</li> <li>- Reverse Garbage</li> <li>- The Hive Communities Ballarat / Bendigo / Castlemaine</li> </ul>
The Natural World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local Farmers</li> <li>- Landcare</li> <li>- Hastings Farmgate Tour</li> <li>- Community Gardens / NFP gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Lost Plot (Port Macquarie)</li> <li>o Laurieton</li> <li>o Lake Cathie Community Centre (Brendan)</li> <li>o The Davis Farm</li> <li>o Douglas Vale Vineyard</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Local bushwalking groups</li> <li>- The Nature School</li> <li>- Koala Hospital</li> <li>- National Parks</li> <li>- Hastings Birdwatchers (KBA Guardian)</li> <li>- No Electricity From Forests (NEFF) group)</li> <li>- Guulagu / Koala Custodians</li> <li>- Coastal Warriors</li> </ul>

## IDEAS FOR ACTIONS, ACTIVITIES AND OTHER INITIATIVES

<p>Building connections with First Nations community and knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bush Tucker walks / projects</li> <li>- Including Bush Tucker walks in Hastings Farm Gate Tour</li> <li>- Activities to support local First Nations Businesses</li> <li>- Activities to learn more about local First Nations wisdom, culture, custodianship of the land</li> <li>- Community yarning circles</li> <li>- Supporting local schools to have strong curriculum on Aboriginal culture taught by Aboriginal teachers</li> </ul>
<p>Transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase walkability             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Improve footpaths</li> <li>o Walkable communities project like Queensland Walks e.g PMH Walks</li> <li>o Close off CBD to allow foot traffic only</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Support cycling             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Bike path from Port Macquarie to Lake Cathie and Port Macquarie to Wauchope and between suburbs</li> <li>o Include space for cycleways in new developments (e.g. wider streets)</li> <li>o Include cycleways in road re-development</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Promotion of EVs (electric vehicles)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Planning for Electric Vehicles (charging infrastructure etc)</li> <li>o Explore use of Virtual Power Plants using EVs</li> <li>o Policies to support uptake of ebikes, electric skateboards and electric scooters</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Improved public transport / shared transport             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A free community bus</li> <li>o Park to ride/public transport hubs: Donut, Lake Cathie, Racecourse</li> <li>o Ride share hubs</li> <li>o Rewards for Carpool to school</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Increase climate resilience and reduce embodied energy of transport infrastructure             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Planning for alternate transport routes and methods for extreme weather events (fire, flood, heatwave)</li> <li>o Use of light-coloured road base material</li> <li>o Make roads with waste tyres or other waste materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Advocate for rail projects             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Fast Rail to Sydney</li> <li>o Privatise rail to make rail freight economical</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Light rail</li> </ul>
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiatives that support a place-based sense of belonging</li> <li>- Multipurpose evacuation centres that work for people</li> <li>- Initiatives to plan better together for disaster preparation, recovery and response</li> <li>- Improved early warning systems</li> <li>- A “hub” or pop-up space perhaps in the “cultural” court next to Glasshouse or somewhere central. Way to “show and tell” the community new innovations, materials, transport, energy etc and as a meeting place for all</li> <li>- A “home” for climate action and sustainability</li> <li>- Incorporation of PMHSN as the “go to” for climate/ environmental and sustainability projects</li> <li>- Community spaces for gathering (close to where people live)</li> <li>- Community spaces for working together e.g. tool library, repair shed, skills development</li> <li>- Increasing amenity of smaller villages / local neighbourhoods</li> <li>- Deep Ecology Workshop -&gt; self-care / grieving /anger /gratitude</li> <li>- Initiatives to support climate change science and response curriculum in schools</li> <li>- Strengthen local media – a local paper and other options beyond social media, activities to increase truth in media, responsible use of social media</li> <li>- Develop opportunities for intergenerational relationships</li> <li>- Healing weekends to raise funds and promote wellbeing in ourselves and our environment</li> <li>- A “we can do it” campaign based on optimism and collective power</li> <li>- Building music, story-telling, poetry, art, dance and gathering into daily community life</li> </ul>
Built environment and energy	<p>Addressing housing suitability for climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiatives that support retrofitting as a community (education, funding initiatives, resilience to sea level rise/flood/bushfire)</li> <li>- Projects to support alternative construction materials and methods e.g. recycling of building materials, natural building</li> <li>- Education / support for people to learn what to do for their specific environment/ home</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supporting better quality housing (design for climate, natural ventilation, natural lighting, efficient heating and cooling, no black roofs, better insulation)</li> </ul> <p>Addressing social inequity in terms of housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local housing strategy to consider housing affordability, where dwellings are, displaced people (floods, fire), how dwellings are built</li> <li>- Initiatives to support low-income earners increase resilience to extreme heat e.g. community purchase arrangements for solar/insulation/heat-pump AC</li> <li>- Initiatives to support renters to develop equity in the property they are renting</li> <li>- Ensuring climate resilience of investment property housing stock</li> <li>- Implement the <a href="#">Nightingale model of affordable housing</a></li> </ul> <p>Energy infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Projects to support local storage solutions to improve disaster resilience and increase accessibility for low-income community members e.g. community batteries, microgrid</li> <li>- Renewable electrification of cooking, heating and transport</li> </ul> <p>Community wide planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local housing strategy to consider housing affordability, where dwellings are, displaced people (floods, fire), how dwellings are built</li> <li>- Consider as a community – do we need to move away from coastline, flood plain, high risk fire zones</li> </ul>
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hastings farmgate tour – see detail in appendix regarding ideas related to expanding the HFGT</li> <li>- Initiatives to support local farmers to develop resilient food systems, and support regenerative/organic farmers and to connect local producers with consumers</li> <li>- Initiatives to promote and change public attitudes around regenerative/organic foods, seasonal eating</li> <li>- Increasing use of local produce by hospitality venues</li> <li>- A permanent farmers market space</li> <li>- Education initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Recipe cards</li> <li>o Skill development</li> <li>o Benefits of choosing regeneratively farmed/organic foods</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Community gardens</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing support for existing community gardens</li> <li>○ Verge gardening initiatives</li> <li>○ Kitchen gardens in schools e.g. Herrons Ck, Comboyne</li> <li>○ Bushtucker gardens and tours</li> <li>- Linking with state/national organisations as allies</li> </ul>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Undertake a local waste audit as a baseline for action</li> <li>- Developing a sharing economy e.g. tool libraries, repair café</li> <li>- Education initiatives             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community workshops</li> <li>○ Full time education officer working with local schools</li> <li>○ Class excursions to recycling hubs</li> <li>○ Working with arts community</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Reduce single use plastic</li> <li>- Waste management for natural spaces             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Designing infrastructure to prevent waste entering waterways</li> <li>○ Clean up dumped waste in bushlands</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Develop space and opportunities local recycling initiatives recycling hub             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Solar panels</li> <li>○ Mattresses</li> <li>○ Reverse Garbage</li> <li>○ Schools as collection points for arts/play materials</li> <li>○ Department store of second-hand stores</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Natural World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many existing projects which need more \$\$\$, more people to help and shift to place nature conservation at the centre of decision making</li> <li>- Projects to increase support for local regenerative/organic farmers             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Locavore Website (Jake Wadsworth)</li> <li>○ Markets</li> <li>○ Food Co-op.</li> <li>○ Eco tourism App/projects</li> <li>○ Hastings Farmgate tour</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Need to foster ... education, connection and passion for our environment             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Food and native gardens in every school</li> <li>○ Walking tours of natural spaces (more than just Sea Acres)</li> <li>○ Community garden growth/workshops</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

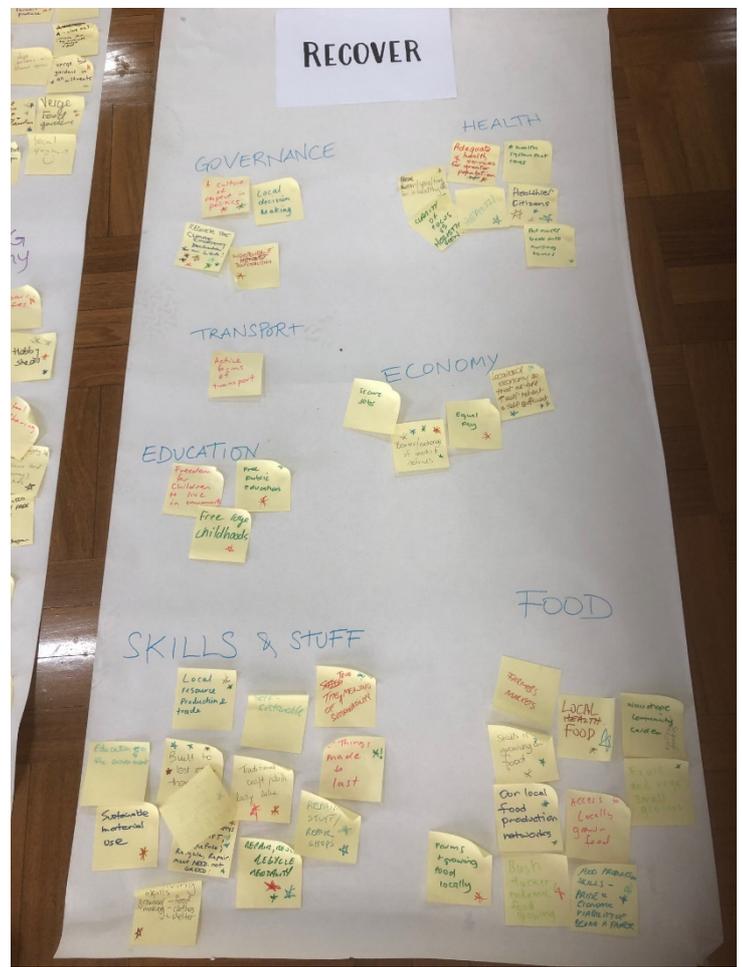
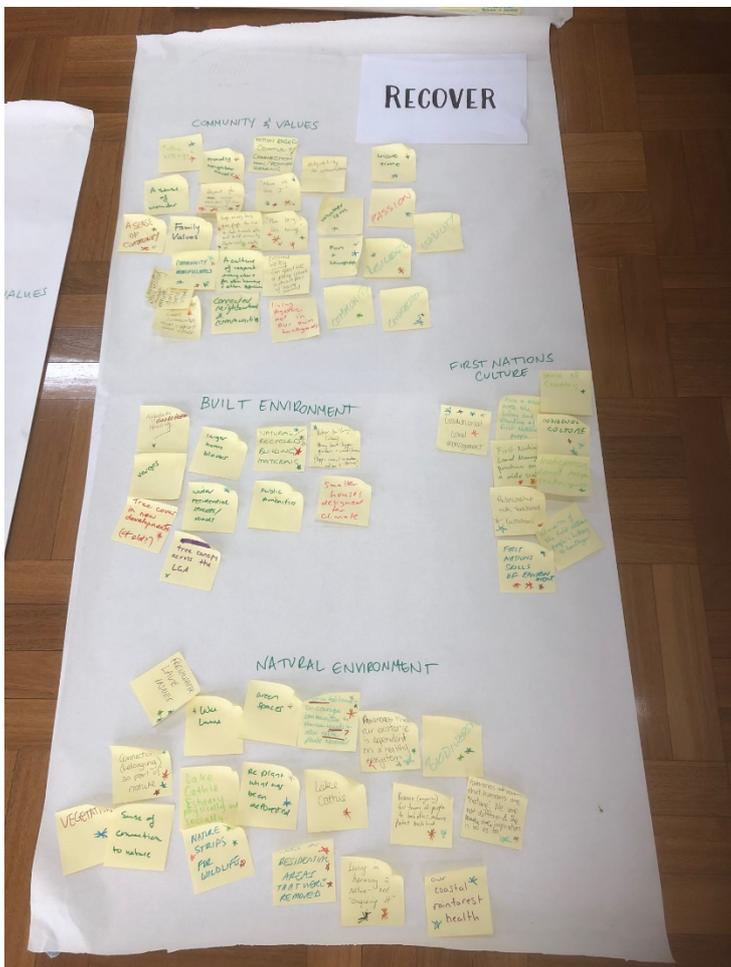


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Field studies centre/enviro ed centres (locally) -&gt; can the Pappinbarra Centre be revived?</li><li>○ Indigenous guided environmental walks/experiences</li><li>○ Free access to national parks</li><li>○ Bushwalking groups</li><li>○ Landcare</li><li>○ Community gardens</li><li>○ Backyard wildlife corridors</li><li>○ More shaded walks</li><li>○ Port Macquarie Hasting Bird Count Week</li><li>○ A netted swimming area (not tidal pool)</li><li>○ Aged care resident visits to natural spaces/community gardens</li><li>○ Tree planting days</li><li>- Conservation /Preservation/Planning<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Landcare</li><li>○ Farmers/ landowners improving biodiversity and planting native habitat on their properties</li><li>○ Work with council to review the L.E.P. to strengthen preservation of native vegetation</li><li>○ Climate emergency declaration</li><li>○ Strong actions to reduce emissions</li><li>○ Strengthen action to protect koalas and their habitats</li><li>○ Strengthen land clearing laws</li><li>○ Private native forestry education and reviewed</li><li>○ Ongoing projects that build Biodiversity and improve Water quality</li><li>○ Ongoing work with existing organisations</li><li>○ Lake Innes and Lake Cathie as a national park</li><li>○ Large teams of people employed to look after bushland</li></ul></li></ul>
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## 2. Recover – what do we want to recreate in a resilient future

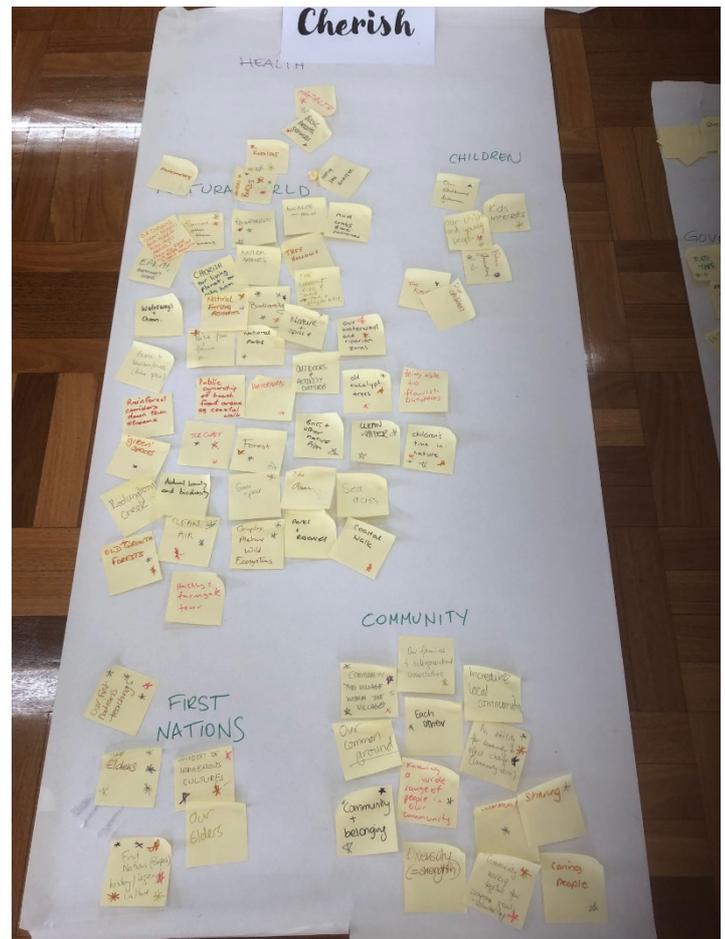
- Built environment
- Community and values
- Economy
- Education
- First Nations culture
- Food
- Governance
- Health
- Natural environment
- Skills and stuff
- Transport





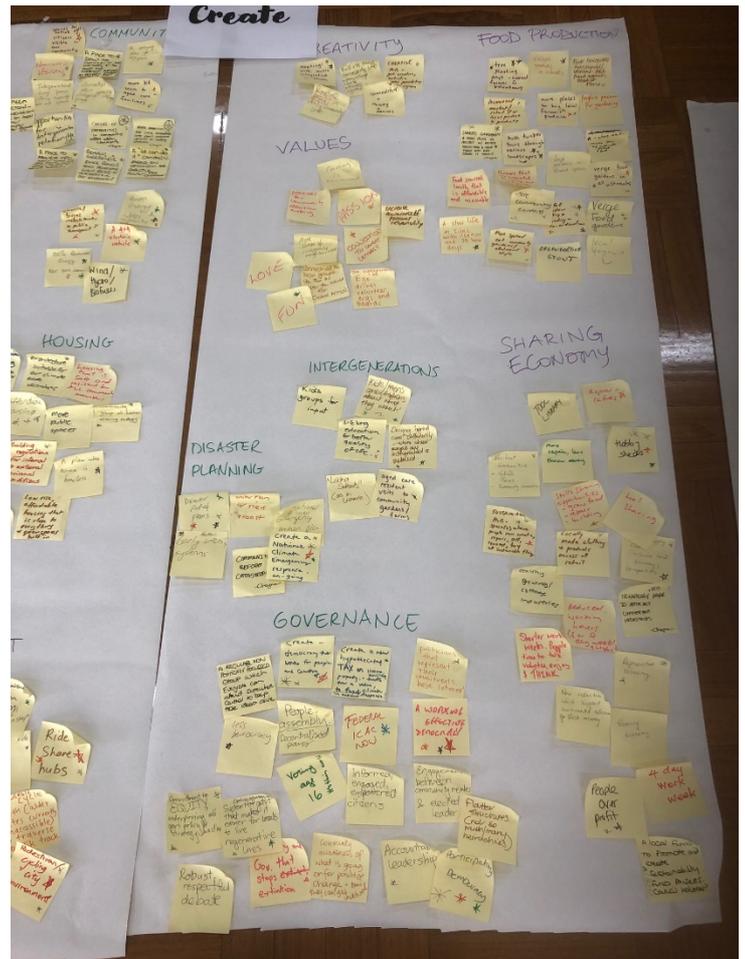
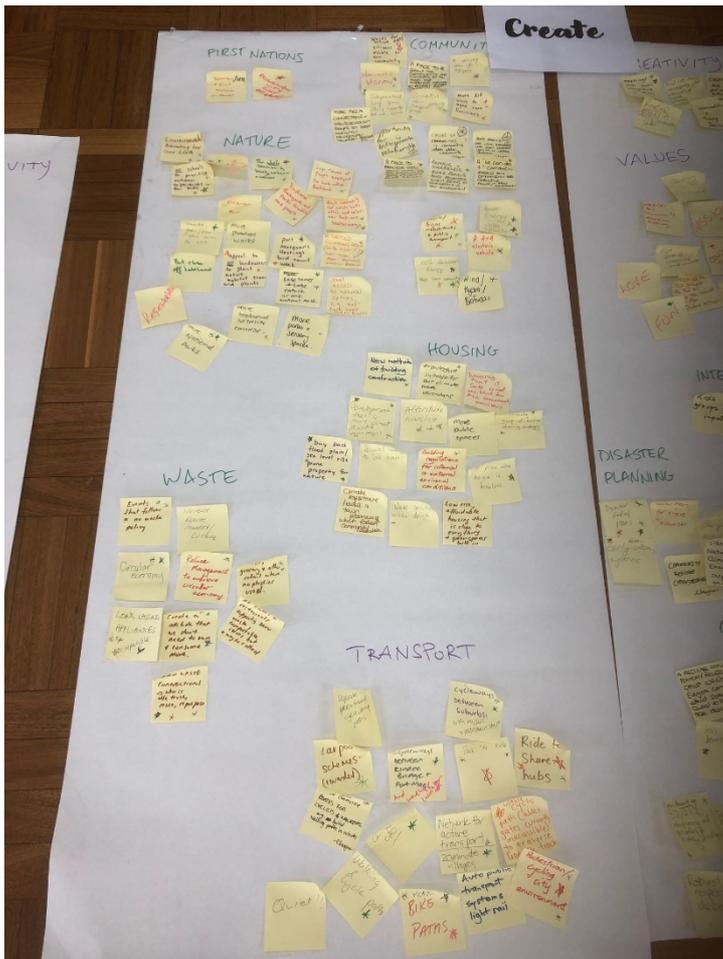
3. Cherish – things that have value and need to be part of our resilient future

- Children
- Community
- Creativity
- Economy
- First Nations
- Food
- Gratitude
- Health
- Natural world
- Self-care
- Social Capital
- Values



4. Create – new realities we want to evolve for our resilient future

- Community
- Creativity
- Disaster planning
- First Nations
- Food production
- Governance
- Housing
- Intergenerations
- Nature
- Sharing economy
- Transport
- Values
- Waste





APPENDIX 1 – Documentation of Summary Discussion

*Simon Hemmings* **FOOD** **PRIORITY AREAS**

- Supporting local farmers + resilient food system
- Hastings Farmgate Tour
- How do we find out about food to connect producers with consumers
- Seasonable eating / farmers markets
- Localvores

Linda Schiller, Jacqui Murray, Joie Wadsworth, Cheyne, Nadine Baker, Megan Baker, Steve Allwood, Les Mitchell

*with hash on* **TRANSPORT**

- demand council transport strategy on electrification
- Community Bus project
- working with council
- Bike path + active transport initiatives
- Fast Rail
- resilient transport infrastructure

Stuart Watson, Rachel Sheppard, Luke, Sandra

**First Nations connecting**

- Aboriginal Advisory Group
- Sense of importance but not knowing what to do

- Common ground - land management, bushfire, and engagement of fire
- Give back control → managing rural owned land
- connect all school
- Story telling, learning → Aboriginal heritage study
- Supporting broker + initiatives

Maryanne, Landcare Skye, Lauren

**Built environment**

- Building better - design for climate, adaptive housing
- quality social housing
- climate resilient equity matters
- Support retrofitting as a community education → funding initiatives
- advocacy for disaster resilience (floods, sea level rise) Steve

Sarah Mollard, Energy forever Council

**Waste**

- Creating spaces for projects
- Education
- Recycling solar panel hub
- Tool libraries - sharing economy
- A number of existing organisations to partner with
- Waste audit -

Sarah M, LINDA, Sandra

**Communications**

- twitter hash tags
- group email
- Request council updates from Rachel + Lauren

Steve Allwood, Community diverse

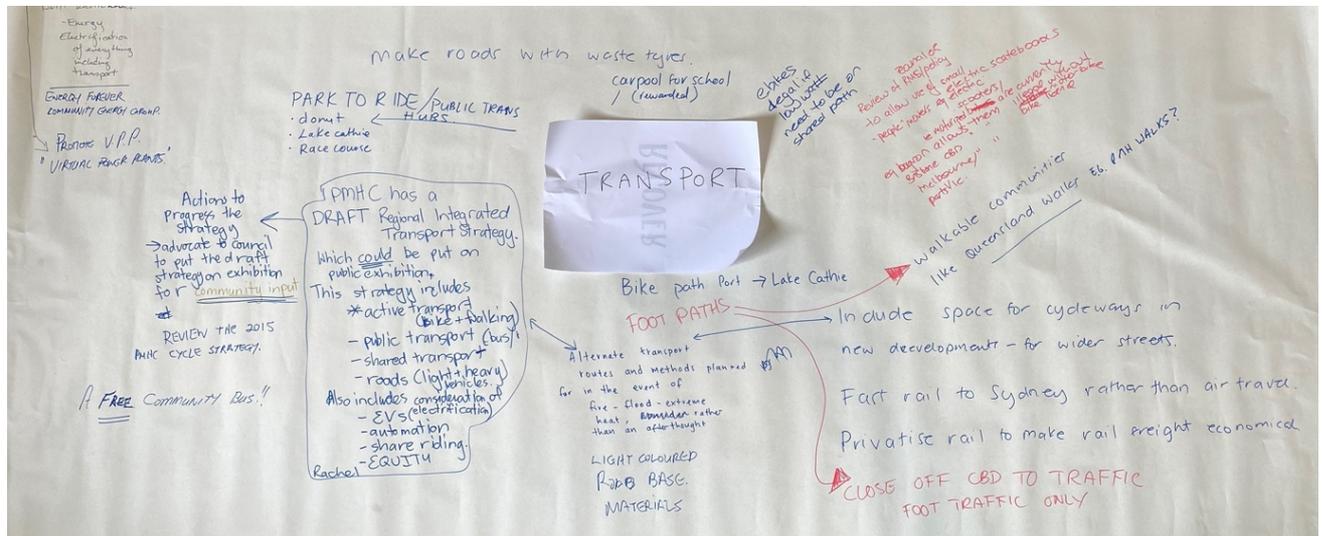
- We have a strong community with lots of opportunities to connect
- But not everyone working towards transport → how do we support organisations to update plans + processes
- A home for climate action + sustainability education
- Spaces for gathering
- Spaces for evacuation
- increasing amenity of small villages

Sarah M



North Coast Regional Landcare have Aboriginal Engagement Officer/Worker  
 -> Also Landcare networks

## 2. Transport



Bike path Port to Lake Cathie

Footpaths

-> walkable communities like Queensland Walks e.g. PMH walks?

-> Close off CBD to traffic, foot and emergency traffic only

Include space for cycleways in new developments – for wider streets

Fast rail to Sydney rather than air travel

Privatise rail to make rail freight economical

Alternate transport routes and methods planned for in the event of fire – flood – extreme heat, rather than an afterthought

Light coloured road base materials

- PMHC has a draft Regional Integrated Transport Strategy - which could be put on public exhibition. It includes: Active transport (bike and walking)
- Public transport (bus)
- Shared transport
- Roads (light and heavy vehicles)

Also includes consideration of

- EVs (electric vehicles)
- Automation
- Share riding
- EQUITY

Rachel

➔ Actions to progress the strategy

-> advocate to council to put the draft strategy on exhibition for community input

Review the 2015 PMHC cycle strategy

A free community bus!!

Built environment

- Energy
- Electrification of everything including transport

Energy forever Community Energy Group

Promote VPP "Virtual Power Plants"

Make roads with waste tyres

- ➔ Carpool for school (rewarded)
- ➔ Park to ride/Public trans hubs

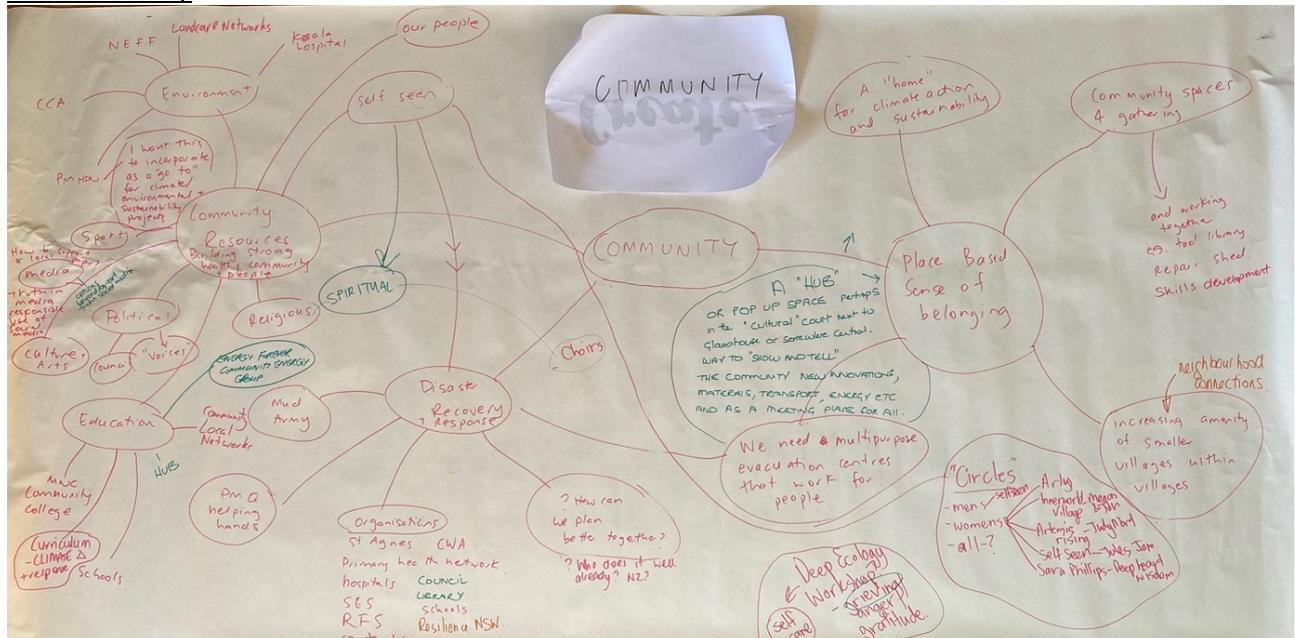
- Donut
- Lake Cathie
- Racecourse

Ebikes

- legal if low watt
- need to be on shared path
- Review of council or RMS/ policy to allow use of small "people" movers eg. electric skateboards, electric scooters (motorised scooters are currently illegal without motorbike bike licence, however, Byron Bay has made them legal, as have other jurisdictions)

ie.

### 3. Community



➔ Disaster recovery and response

-> PMQ helping hands

-> Organisations

- St Agnes CWA
- Primary health network
- Hospitals
- SES

RFS  
Sports clubs  
Council library  
Schools  
Resilience NSW

- > How can we plan better together? Who does it well already? NZ?
- > Mud Army
- > We need multipurpose evacuation centres that work for people -> Place based sense of belonging

➔ Community Resources

Building strong healthy community and people

- > Religious -> spiritual -> self seen -> -> disaster recovery and response

- > Religious -> spiritual -> Choirs

- > Education -> MNC Community College

- > Curriculum - climate  $\Delta$  and response

- > schools

- > Community Local Networks

- > Energy Forever Community Energy Group

- > Hub

- > Political -> "voices"

- > council

- > Culture and arts

- > Media -> How to support a local paper?

- > Truth in media responsible use of social media

- > Options beyond/apart from social media

- > I want this to incorporate as a "go to" for climate/environmental and sustainability projects -> PMHSN

- > Environment -> PMHSN

- > CCA

- > NEFF

- > Landcare

- > Koala Hospital

- > Our people

- > Self seen -> "Circles"

- Men's – self seen

- Women's

- Arly

- Innerworld Village – Megan and Joh

- Artemis Rising – Judy Mort

- Self Seen – Jules Jam

- Sara Phillips – Deep Heart Wisdom

- All - ?

➔ Place Based sense of belonging

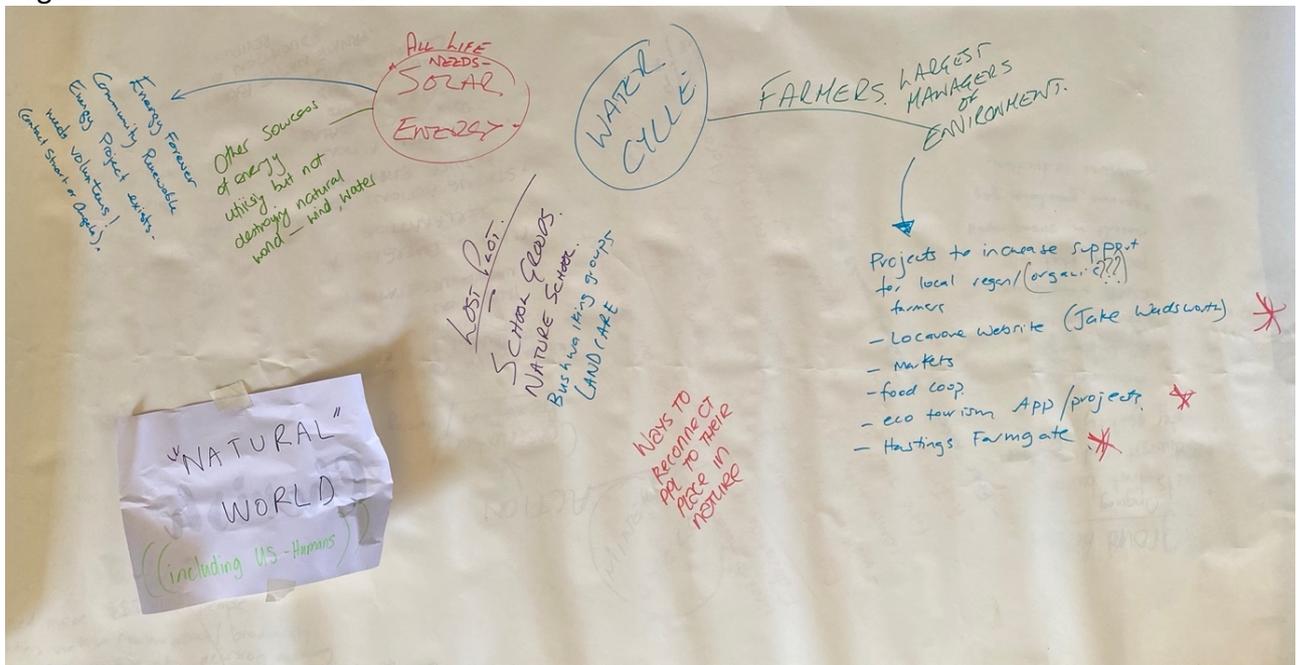


- > A "hub" or pop-up space perhaps in the "cultural" court next to Glasshouse or somewhere central. Way to "show and tell" the community new innovations, materials, transport, energy etc and as a meeting place for all
- > A "home" for climate action and sustainability
- > Community spaces for gathering and working together e.g. tool library, repair shed, skills development
- > Increasing amenity of smaller villages within villages
  - > neighbourhood connections
- > We need multipurpose evacuation centres that work for people

Deep Ecology Workshop? -> self-care  
 - Grieving /anger /gratitude

#### 4. Natural world (including US – Humans)

Page one:



#### Water cycle

- ➔ Farmers largest managers of environment
- > Projects to increase support for local regen/organic??? farmers
  - Locavore Website (Jake Wadsworth)
  - Markets
  - Food Co-op.
  - Eco tourism App/projects
  - Hastings Farmgate

#### Ways to reconnect people to their place in nature

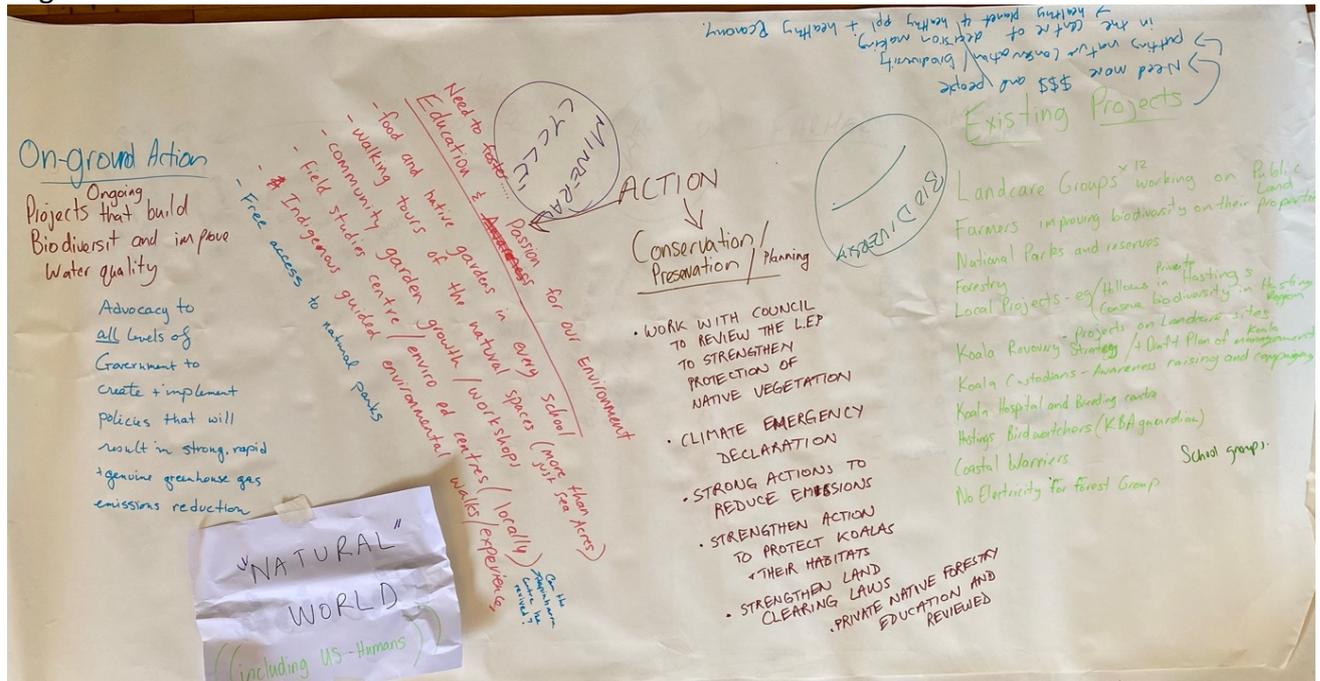
- Lost Plot
- School groups
- Nature school
- Bushwalking groups

- Landcare

All life needs “solar energy”

- ➔ Other sources of energy utilising but not destroying natural world – wind, water
- ➔ Energy Forever Community Renewable Energy Project exists. Needs volunteers! (Contact Stuart or Angela!)

Page two:



Action

- ➔ Conservation /Preservation/Planning
  - Work with council to review the L.E.P. to strengthen preservation of native vegetation
  - Climate emergency declaration
  - Strong actions to reduce emissions
  - Strengthen action to protect koalas and their habitats
  - Strengthen land clearing laws
  - Private native forestry education and reviewed
- ➔ Need to foster ... Education and Passion for our Environment
  - Food and native gardens in every school
  - Walking tours of natural spaces (more than just Sea Acres)
  - Community garden growth/workshops
  - Field studies centre/enviro ed centres (locally) -> can the Pappinbarra Centre be revived?
  - Indigenous guided environmental walks/experiences
  - Free access to national parks

Mineral Cycle

On-Ground Action



- ➔ A project to address how to support marginalised community members to be able to live in housing that is secure, safe, healthy designed for climate, affordable to run
  - > Retrofitting housing stock
    - > ? flood prepared
    - > heat and humidity
      - > well designed equitable access
        - > low interest loans for solar installation/retrofitting and air-conditioning

#### Energy

- ➔ Local storage solutions (community/localised batteries) to soak up excess solar and increase accessibility for low-income community members
  - > Microgrids
    - redundancy and reduce reliance on grid
    - resilience to disasters
- ➔ Community Renewable Energy Project Energy Forever Inc. [pmhsn.net.au/](http://pmhsn.net.au/) Join it!
- ➔ Renewable electrification of cooking, heating and transport
- ➔ Transport

#### PMHC upcoming opportunities -> Long Term Energy Strategy (out of date)

- LEP and DCP reviews -> defining how land can be used and standards for building houses
- Housing strategy
  - Where dwellings are
  - Displaced people
  - How dwellings built

\* Immediate: Draft infrastructure strategy is ready for exhibition; need community to urge immediate exhibition for public to give feedback

#### Where do we live??

- Do we need to move away from floodplains/coastline

#### Building design standards

Which meets needs as efficiently as possible

- Heating
- Cooling

Housing footprint (relative to land area), orientation, insulation, roof colour, green space etc.

- ➔ Working together with other households to share the greenspace
- ➔ No black roofs
  - > Quality design
    - > Design for climate
      - Natural ventilation
      - Cooling
      - Natural lighting
      - Alternative construction materials and methods
        - > Green spaces attached to buildings

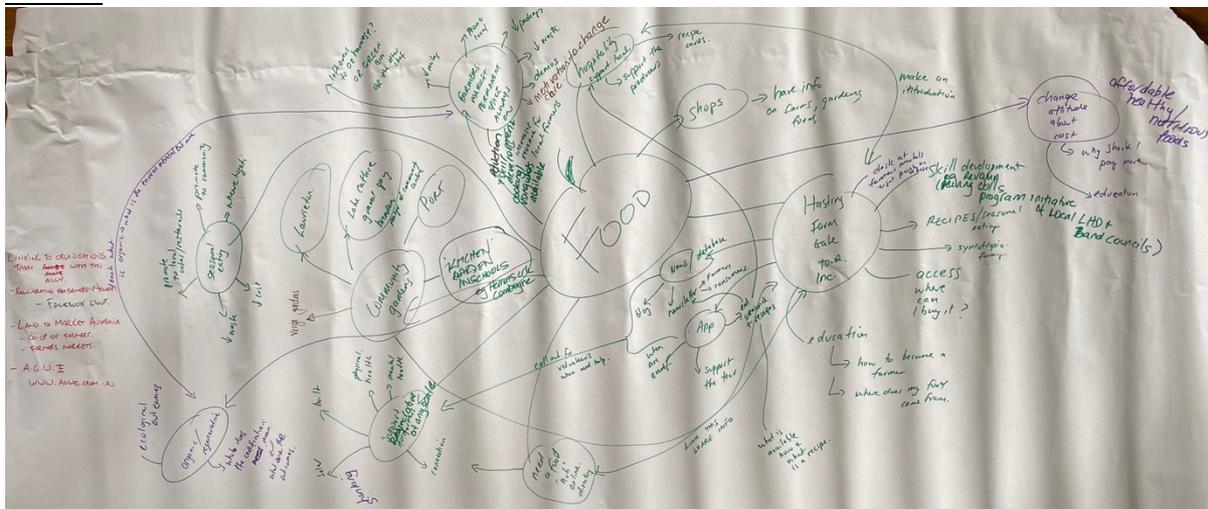
Utilisation for native vegetation  
 -> Education -> create a market for this

Retrofitting

- ➔ Recycling building materials
- ➔ Subsidies
- ➔ How
- ➔ Options
- ➔ Ideas
- ➔ What to do for your specific environment/home

Nightingale Model of Affordable Housing

6. Food



- ➔ Hastings Farm Gate Tour Inc.
  - > skill development e.g. Revamp (living skills program initiative of local LHD and Land Councils)
  - > desk at farmers markets to get people on database
  - > recipes/seasonal eating
  - > Syntropic farming
  - > Access. Where can I buy it?
  - > education
    - > how to become a farmer
    - > where does my food come from
  - > App
    - > eat seasonal and recipes
    - > newsletter
    - > what is available. How and what is a recipe
    - > support the tour
    - > when are events
    - > call out to volunteers when need help
  - > News/database
    - > newsletter -> farmers

-> consumers

- > blog
- > call out to volunteers when need help
- > make an introduction -> hospitality support local
- > Need a food "hub" or online directory -> link this share info
- ➔ support regenerative farmers at any scale
  - > connection
  - > mental health
  - > physical health
  - > built
  - > solar sun king (?)
- ➔ Change attitude about cost
  - > Why should I pay more
  - > education
  - > affordable healthy/nutritious foods
- ➔ Hospitality
  - Support local
  - > Support the producers
  - > Recipe cards
- ➔ Farmers Market permanent space always on
  - > motivation to change care
  - > reduce waste
  - > reduce packaging (?)
  - > reduce miles
  - > promote local
  - > education and skill development cooking/using what's available
  - Increase revenue for farmers
  - > Leftovers to Oz Harvest?
    - Or Green Bin?
    - Or the other chef
  - > demos
  - > teach what is organic -> what is the environmental outcome
- ➔ Organic/regenerative
  - > What does the certification mean
  - > what are the outcomes
  - > Ecological outcomes
- ➔ Community gardens
  - > Kitchen Garden in schools e.g. Herrons Creek, Comboyne
  - > Verge gardens
  - > Laurieton
  - > Lake Cathie
  - Gravel guy
  - Brendan
  - Manager of Community Centre



- ➔ Seasonal eating
    - > Promote to community
    - > where to get it
    - > Promote to local cafes/restaurants
    - > reduce waste
    - > reduce cost
  - ➔ Linking to organisations that align with this
    - Regenerative farms networks
      - Facebook groups
    - Land to Market Australia
      - Co-op of farmers
      - Farmers markets
      - AGWE
- [www.agwe.com.au](http://www.agwe.com.au)

## 5. Waste



➔ Tool Library

- Physical and Virtual
- The Hive Communities Ballarat/Bendigo/Castlemaine

Tools – who has what sharing info between women's=shed, men's shed, maker space, LWA, TAFE, schools

Schools as collection points for arts/play material

Street Collections – twice a year

Tip tickets for renters

Department store of 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Stores

- Run as co-op model
- E.g. sections with books/library, clothing, household goods

Education – community workshops – e.g. Reduce reuse recycle of food scraps/clothing

➔ Audit of Waste. Local vs. exported

- Volume? What?

Support circular economy

- Green bins in apartment buildings and public areas – not subject to strata decision
- Use of recycled material in built environment e.g. glass in roads

Reduce single use plastic

Infrastructure to prevent waste entering waterways. Traps, different designs etc.

Clean up of dumped waste in bushland

Circular hub

- ➔ Kew activate this space close
  - > sort
  - > manufacture
- ➔ List of circular stuff
- ➔ Education – class excursions to see and make
- ➔ Reverse garbage
- ➔ Like Shoalhaven recycling centre
- ➔ Hook up with artists/creative

Linking with existing orgs:

- MidWaste Regional Waste Group – education with councils
- PMHC Sustainability Officer
- Community College (Maker's Space)
- Public Health Unit (local projects) for school
- Council Education Programs