



**Moreland**  
City Council

# **Charles Mutton Reserve Female Friendly Facilities**

## **Outcomes of Consultation Report**

**March 2021**



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# Executive summary

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## Charles Mutton Reserve Female Friendly Facilities

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Charles Mutton Reserve is primarily an active sporting reserve, and the site consists of the following facilities:

Sporting pavilion and change rooms (AFL/Cricket):

- Located between the two playing fields on south eastern edge of main field
- Two separate buildings: 1) social rooms and away change facilities, 2) terraced undercover area and home change facilities
- Buildings constructed in 60s/70s - in structurally sound condition and reasonably functional
- Two small non-compliant change rooms
- A non-compliant umpires' room
- Two small public toilets and a non-compliant accessible toilet
- Non-compliant kitchen/canteen
- A rundown social room
- Fails to comply with facility standards with respect to number of change rooms and amenities areas, the size of the umpires' rooms and the provision of a first aid room

In 2017 Council undertook the development of a precinct plan. The Charles Mutton Reserve Precinct Plan (Precinct Plan) was developed following consultation in October and November 2017. This Precinct Plan was endorsed in March 2018.

In 2021, with the support of the Charles Mutton Reserve Precinct Plan, community consultation commenced November 2020 with key stakeholders including council officers, current club members, residents, AFLVic, Cricket Victoria, Haig Fawkner CC (HFCC) and Northern Saints FC (NSFC) including club committee have guided the preliminary plans being developed.

The following meetings and events were held as part of the Female Friendly Facilities consultation process:

- **Meeting 1:** 1 November 2020 - meeting with club representatives that use the reserve;
- **Meeting 2:** 18 December 2020 – follow up meeting with club representatives;
- **Meeting 3:** 16 March 2021 - meeting with girls and women's players;
- **Meeting 4:** 18 March 2021 – drop in session for the local community;
- A letter box-drop of residents living within 500m the reserve inviting them to 'have a say'. (attached)

Consultation discussions highlighted several key improvement areas of the proposed community infrastructure:

- Four changerooms and two umpires' rooms which are suitable for male and female players and officials
- New storage areas for football/cricket
- Externally accessible first aid room
- Accessible public toilets and new disabled toilet/s

# Introduction

## About the project

Council is applying for State Government funding to upgrade the change rooms and supporting spaces at the Charles Mutton Reserve (CMR) Facility. Currently CMR is the home to Fawkner-North Coburg Sports Association (FNCSA) which consists of Haig Fawkner Cricket Club (HFCC) and Northern Saints Football Club (NSFC).

The objective of the consultation was to give women and girls, stakeholders, Fawkner Primary School and the local community that use the facility regularly an opportunity to provide feedback on the current change rooms and supporting spaces and provide details on what they would like to see in the new design.

## Methodology and Participation

Council undertook four separate community engagement site meetings/drop in sessions at Charles Mutton Reserve.

Invitation was sent to all stakeholders and local community and was shared in each club's chat/communication channels, on the club's social media channels and Council website.

Clubs were invited to an initial meeting to discuss the proposed project and their priorities. The architect was also at the meeting to capture the information and incorporate into the draft design. From this meeting, a preliminary design was developed, and a follow up meeting was held with the clubs. At this point, two draft designs were presented to the clubs. Clubs were in favour of all four change rooms built within the one building and not in separate buildings.

On 16 March 2021, a meeting workshop was held in the social club of Charles Mutton Reserve at a time prior to when most women and girls' teams were already scheduled to train. Female coaches, administrators and players from both tenant clubs (HFCC and NSFC) were in attendance. Twelve women and girls participated in the consultation session (two adults and ten teenagers).

The process included:

- A walk-through of the current changerooms
- Using sticky notes, participants were asked to list things they did not like about the current changerooms and attach to the board
- Using sticky notes, participants were asked to list game day rituals, preparation activities or post game activities they did not feel comfortable doing in current changerooms and attach to the board
- The design standards of both AFL and Cricket were presented
- Using sticky notes, participants were asked to list things they wanted to see in the new changerooms and attach to the board
- Pictures of changeroom bathrooms and changerooms were shown to the participants and they were asked to write on their three favourite images what they liked about the image
- Two sets of 2D designs were presented to the participants, they were discussed, and participants were asked to select their preferred design and explain why they preferred it

From these sticky notes, a list has been compiled and forwarded to the architect to include in the design. Girls and women will be involved in the detailed design stage to ensure that their ideas will be considered.

A letter box-drop of residents living within 500m of the reserve was also done inviting them to a drop-in session to 'have a say' on the proposed project. The session was held at Charles Mutton

Reserve outside the social room which was visible to anyone within the precinct. Signage was posted around the facility to welcome and encourage the community to be involved in the consultation.

13 people attended this session with a walk-through of the current change rooms and the proposed building footprint. Two sets of 2D designs were presented to the participants, they were discussed, and participants were asked to select their preferred design and explain why they preferred one design over the other. Participants were also asked to list things they dislike/liked about the current change rooms and the new proposed change rooms.

A list of priorities was captured from the feedback that was provided. The list will be considered within the final design.

Method	No.	Notes on Participation
Council's website	36	Project information page created. - <a href="https://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/about-us/projects/building-projects/charles-mutton-reserve-sports-pavilion-refurbishment/">https://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/about-us/projects/building-projects/charles-mutton-reserve-sports-pavilion-refurbishment/</a>
Drop in session	25	Were held across a variety of times and dates to speak with a variety of users onsite at Charles Mutton Reserve.
Stakeholder targeted meetings	4	Key users: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Northern Saints Football Club</li> <li>- Haig Fawkner Cricket Club</li> </ul>
Submissions	0	No submissions were received.

## Promotion

**Online project specific website:** The project was hosted through Moreland Council website.

**Direct Mail:** Council distributed 1500 letters to residents within 500m of Charles Mutton Reserve.

**Communications Support:** Communication support was provided by club's social media platforms.

**Posters:** Signage around the facility to invite and inform the local community of the proposed project.



## Key Findings

Council's Female Sport Participation Officer conducted a workshop with girls and women of both clubs in the existing social room on 16th March 2021, to draw out ideas of what they like, don't like and would like from the future change rooms.

Twelve girls and women attended the workshop and identified that the current change rooms were old, tired, cluttered and not welcoming. Specifically, the design of the toilets and showers prevented them from using the facilities in a comfortable manner. The lack of privacy to change was also identified.

When the consultation process focused on potential design changes that would make the change rooms more welcoming and suitable to their needs, the women and girls put forward requests in relation to the both the functionality of the change rooms and the aesthetic.

In terms of functionality the women and girls identified they would require more private spaces to change, more welcoming and private showers and toilets, larger change rooms, power points for devices to play music, mirrors, a whiteboard, lockers or shelving units for their personal items and bags and partitioned seating spaces within the change room. In terms of aesthetics the women and girls identified they would prefer more natural light, uncluttered spaces (which can be mitigated through more storage space) and walls painted in one colour.

A summarised overview of responses received is shown below:

### WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT THE CURRENT CHANGE ROOMS?

- Showers
- Bathrooms/Toilets
- Ancient "feel" to it

### CURRENT GAME DAY RITUALS YOU CAN'T USE CURRENT CHANGE ROOMS FOR

- Being able to check if I look okay
- Getting changed before and after game/lack of privacy
- Checking if my scarf is on properly
- Having a shower

### WHAT DO YOU WANT IN THE NEW CHANGE ROOMS?

- New/cleaner bathrooms
- Full-length mirrors
- Air freshener units - in & out of bathrooms

### CONCEPTS LIKED FROM IMAGES OF CHANGE ROOMS

- Space
- Separated seating/partitions
- Locks on doors

Community Drop in session participants were asked similar questions. Below is a summarised overview of responses:

#### WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT THE CURRENT CHANGEROOMS?

- The old looking pavilion change rooms
- They are tied and long overdue for refurbishments
- They lack natural lighting and ventilation

#### WHAT DO YOU WANT IN THE NEW CHANGEROOMS?

- More space
- New change and shower amenities
- Better flooring

#### CONCEPTS LIKED/DISLIKED FROM IMAGES OF CHANGEROOMS SHOWN

- Nice new rooms proposed would like to see the 4 change rooms
- Rooms facing east and west ovals which will be great for all participants playing sport
- Upgrades to the umpires change and amenities rooms

The overall community consultation had 9 specific key improvements listed. Below is an overview of these items:

<b>Key Improvements</b>
- Existing building retained and extended
- New storage areas for football/cricket
- Four changerooms and two umpires' rooms which are suitable for male and female players and officials
- Accessible first aid room
- Breezeway connection between south and north ovals
- Accessible public toilets and new disabled toilet/s
- More storage
- Improve the directional signage to the reserve
- Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.

## Evaluation and next steps

Following the community consultation, all requests that were made will be reported back to the architects to be considered towards the final design. The consultation was inclusive of all stakeholders and the local community. History teaches us that sport can be a platform for positive change therefore a specific meeting workshop was held for girls and women who use the facility, to encourage their input into the design. This was well received by the community as it gave the girls and women the voice and provide valuable insight into game day rituals and how it can become a true unisex facility.

Next step:

Engagement on this project has created significant interest and aspirations for Charles Mutton Reserve Female Friendly Facilities. Girls and women, stakeholders and the local community will continue to be involved in the project to finalise the detailed design stage.

Subject to Council successfully receiving the grant:

- Sport and Recreation Victoria in partnership with Council will communicate the result of the funding application and when works will commence.
- Council will be responsible for communication to stakeholders including status reporting, risk management, and, in general, making sure the project is delivered in budget, on schedule, and within scope.
- Council plans to deliver the project within the 2021/22 financial year and within the eighteen months deadline as required by the funding agreement.
- Building works will commence in August 2021 and be finalised by August 2022.

### Thank Participants

Issue a statement to thank participants for participating in the project and for sharing their ideas and contributions to the project.

### Share the data

Provide the community with a copy of the community consultation report.

Consider ways to share the report with other agencies and community organisations that can work alongside Moreland City Council to help deliver the vision and community aspirations.

### Close the Loop

Keeping participants informed in engagement and the project is called 'closing the loop', the information loop is currently open. Participants have shared their ideas and their feedback through the engagement process and are waiting for what happens next.





## Appendix

1. Women and girl's consultation invitation
2. Survey questions and responses
3. Photos from meeting workshop
4. Community Consultation Invitation Letter

# Attention girls and women who play at Northern Saints FC and Haig Fawkner CC



**We'd love your opinion!**

## **Charles Mutton Reserve Development Female Friendly Change Room Consultation**

**Moreland Council is applying to Sport and Recreation Victoria for funding to upgrade the changerooms at your club, Charles Mutton Reserve in Fawkner.**

**Please join us at the club at 5pm-6pm, Tuesday 16 March 2021 where we will listen to what is important to you about changerooms and what you would like.**



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Appendix 2.

<b>WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT THE CURRENT CHANGE ROOMS?</b>	<b>No.</b>
Showers	4
Bathrooms/Toilets	6
Coloured/chipped paint	2
Windows - dingy	1
Lack of storage/space	2
Gym equipment in the way	2
Cleanliness	2
Ancient "feel" to it	1
Tiles/Grout	1

<b>CURRENT GAME DAY RITUALS YOU CAN'T USE CURRENT CHANGE ROOMS FOR</b>	
Checking if my scarf is on properly	1
Being able to check if I look okay	4
Getting changed before and after game/lack of privacy	3
Having a shower	1

<b>WHAT DO YOU WANT IN THE NEW CHANGE ROOMS?</b>	
Airfreshner units - in & out of bathrooms	3
More space	2
Heating/cooling	4
Glass/clear windows	1
New/cleaner bathrooms	5
No carpet	1
Full-length mirrors	7
Fridge for drink bottles/healthy snacks	3
Speakers	4
More power points	4
Closed bins	1
TV	2
Whiteboard	1
More privacy in bathrooms	1
Fresh paint	2
New club song board	1
Motivational quotes on walls	1
Extra seating for friends and family	1
Individual shelving/lockers	3

<b>CONCEPTS LIKED FROM IMAGES OF CHANGE ROOMS</b>	
Space	9
Private	3
Shelving/lockers	2
Separated seating/partitions	5
Clean	3
Modern	4
Locks on doors	4
Comfortable/welcoming	2
Whiteboard	1

Images/artwork	1
Lighting	1

<b>PREFERRED OPTION</b>	
A - Separate to opposition, more storage, separate to public toilets, better when sharing with cricket	7
B - Massage room, all spaced in one building	5
<b>What is missing</b>	
Separate analysis/meeting room	

**Q. What don't you like about the current changerooms?**

The old looking pavilion change rooms  
They are tied and long overdue for refurbishments  
They don't complete with other visiting football club rooms in the EDFL.  
They lack natural lighting and ventilation  
The smell in the shower areas  
Not inviting changerooms to participate in playing sport  
Bathrooms and toilets out of date  
We want a grandstand area

**Q. What do you want in the new changerooms?**

More space  
New change and shower amenities  
More GPO's  
Room for whiteboards  
Storage space - much needed space always needed with two clubs operating from change rooms  
Accessible public toilets and new disabled toilet/s  
accessible first aid room  
Better flooring  
lighting and mechanical exhaust fans  
Breezeway connection between south and north ovals  
Bench seating

**Concepts liked/disliked from images of changerooms shown**

Nice new rooms proposed would like to see the 4 change rooms  
More space can we afford these new rooms  
Rooms facing east and west ovals which will be great for all participants playing sport  
Upgrades to the umpires change and amenities rooms  
No shelter or veranda across the front of the pavilion, a must have on game day  
Taking up green space in the reserve to the north of the current footprint,  
can something be done between the social and pavilion rooms. Maybe use this space to fill in with a building

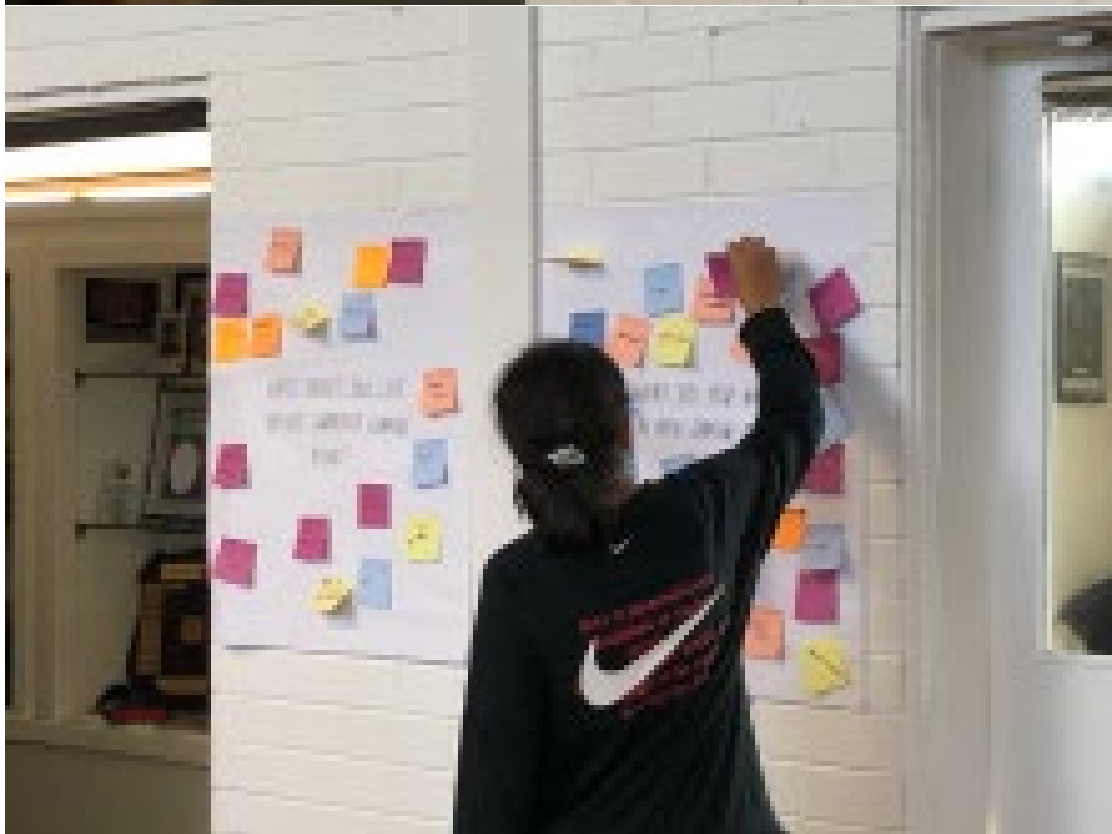
**What other comments in relation to the use of Charles Mutton Reserve**

A fitness circuit path with outdoor fitness equipment will also be constructed later this year, completed by November 2021.  
Improve the directional signage to the reserve - - Signage should be of a consistent and contemporary graphic standard and comply with Council specifications.  
Comment from a resident, is there any works happening to the tennis club rooms.  
Works are proposed for refurbishment works in April this year to the tennis club rooms.

### Appendix 3.

#### Photos from Workshop

*Please note: Photos are not for distribution or publication. Consent from participants has not been granted to share the photos publicly.*













# Charles Mutton Pavilion Refurbishment



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## We want to let you know about our proposed plans for Charles Mutton Pavilion

Planning is currently underway to upgrade the existing facilities to accommodate the increased community use.

The aim is to provide compliant sports facilities including female friendly changeroom and accessible amenities making the facilities more accessible to the broader community.

Further to the proposed pavilion refurbishment, the precinct circuit paths and outdoor fitness equipment are intended to be upgraded.

Council will be applying for a State Government Grant (Community Sports Infrastructure Fund) to assist with funding the upgrade of the existing facilities.

Subject to grant application, we expect to finalise design and commence works by 2022.

You are invited to our community drop-in session at the Northern Saints Football Club at 12 Creedon Street, Fawkner (Charles Mutton Reserve) on Thursday 18 March 2021 from 4 - 6pm.

For further information or to provide feedback on this, please contact Building Projects via email [bpu@moreland.vic.gov.au](mailto:bpu@moreland.vic.gov.au) until 21 March 2021.

### Questions?

#### Please contact

Building Projects [bpu@moreland.vic.gov.au](mailto:bpu@moreland.vic.gov.au)

#### Call us

9240 1111

#### Moreland Language Link

廣東話 9280 1910  
Italiano 9280 1911  
Ελληνικά 9280 1912

عربي 9280 1913  
Türkçe 9280 1914  
Tiếng Việt 9280 1915

हिंदी 9280 1918  
普通话 9280 0750  
ਪੰਜਾਬੀ 9280 0751

All other languages  
9280 1919