Terms of Reference (Draft 25/2/14)
Sustainability and Environment Round Table

Purpose:

The Mount Alexander Shire Council Environment Strategy describes a vision of 'a community aware, proud and active in caring for the environment and living sustainably, where land owners and managers actively protect biodiversity, and are strongly engaged and supported by Council actions on the environment.'

The Sustainability and Environment Round Table provides a Council-convened, community-led forum for sharing views and information, and coordinating strategies and actions to create a more sustainable and healthy built and natural environment in Mount Alexander Shire.

The Round Table has a specific collaborative role in enacting Council Plan 2013-2017 goal four, Building Sustainable Communities: "We will demonstrate leadership in sustainability. We will foster the ongoing development of environmentally responsible liveable communities across the shire."

Objectives:

- Ensure the Shire meets its future energy, waste, water and food requirements.
- Lead by example in our approach to sustainability and the environment and actively respond to climate change.
- Collaborate with the community to protect and celebrate our natural and built environment

Term of Committee:

The utility of the Round Table will be reviewed following every fourth quarterly meeting.

Review Period for Terms of Reference:

The Round Table Terms of Reference will be reviewed following every fourth quarterly meeting.

Membership and Roles:

The Round Table is convened and chaired by Councillors Henderson and Howard.

Membership is open to representatives of community groups, businesses, organisations and government departments with an interest in the built and natural environment.
Members are encouraged to:
- Identify shared goals and topics of mutual interest
- Identify and discuss funding opportunities, especially to support collaborative projects
- Strengthen partnerships through strategic and operational collaboration
- Facilitate capability and capacity building of individuals and agencies/entities
- Celebrate best practice and promote innovation

Quorum:

Four non-Council participants.

Meetings:

Quarterly. The location of meetings will alternate between Castlemaine and a town or place within the shire but outside of Castlemaine e.g. Maldon, Newstead, Chewton

Reporting and Circulation: