

Murringo

Village Plan



2026

Hilltops Council



Acknowledgement of Country

The Hilltops Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of the Hilltops LGA, the people of the Wiradjuri and Ngunnawal nations, and show our respect to elders past, present and emerging.

More information

This document has been prepared by Hilltops Council in collaboration with Murringo Community Association, and wider Murringo community.

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Information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing in 2026 and is subject to change.

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Cover Photo: Murringo Memorial Hall, (photographer unknown).

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Foreword

At the Ordinary Council meeting in March 2024 Hilltops Councilors resolved to endorse a village planning program. It is the purpose of this program to identify the needs and issues faced by Hilltops rural villages, and to create an enduring program of village plans to inform and contribute to the future growth of the Hilltops region.

Hilltops is home to fifteen rural villages- Bendick Murrell, Bribbaree, Frogmore, Galong, Jugiong, Kingsvale, Koorawatha, Maimuru, Milvale, Monteagle, Murringo, Reids Flat, Rugby, Rye Park, and Wombat. Each village has a rich history, with diverse communities and economies, facilities, and services.

Within each village plan key areas of strategic focus will be discussed, as they are identified in the *Hilltops Local Strategic Planning Statement 2040*, *Hilltops Community Strategic Plan*, *Hilltops Operational Plan* and the *Hilltops Rural and Residential Lands Study 2019*. Consideration will also be given to the goals and actions of the *Southeast and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036* in relation to rural villages. The village plans will analyse the current community facilities, economies, heritage items, service concerns, infrastructure, presence of schools and land use zoning as at the time the plan is developed. Through consultation with the community, the plans will explore the community's goals and aspirations for their village's future. They will also identify tangible objectives and actions for implementation, as well as future aspirations.

The Village Planning Program is intended to be an enduring initiative of Council whereby each of the fifteen villages are afforded the opportunity to benefit from the ongoing development and maintenance of individual Village Plans. The plans will be designed as a functional document to provide insight and guidance for the local communities to utilise in progressing and developing their villages, while encouraging and supporting their potential and viability. Through this process, Council aims to support our village communities, encourage economic viability, explore opportunities to improve local infrastructure and enhance the local environment.

Where we are now

Village overview

Murringo is one of the oldest villages in the region and is situated 25km east of Young, and 25km north-west of Boorowa. It is also the southern entry point to the Murringo Gap.

As settlement beyond the great divide was expanding rapidly a centre for pastoral development was required. To facilitate this, the surveyor of the Lachlan District, Mr James Larmer was, sent to locate the settlement that had taken place, and plan a village. By 7 March 1849 a plan titled a “Survey of the Reserve for a Village at Murringo,” had been submitted to the Executive Council for approval.

In the Government Gazette of the Colony of NSW dated 1 October 1850 it was stated that:

“On this day, 28 September 1850, the Colonial Secretary’s Office in this fair Colony of New South Wales does hereby give Notice that a site has been fixed upon for a Village, at the undermentioned place, and that a copy of the approved plan may be seen at the Office of the Surveyor General, at Sydney, or at the Police Office, Bennelong, viz: - Murringo in the Lachlan District. By His Excellency’s Command, Sir Edward Deas Thomson, Colonial Secretary of NSW.”



Image: Taubman & Webb trading Post, Murringo (photographer unknown)

Shortly after this declaration blocks of land were offered up for sale in the village. Stores, pubs, churches, schools and the post office were established over the following decade. A further government declaration was made some decades later to formally reaffirm the status of Murringo as a village.

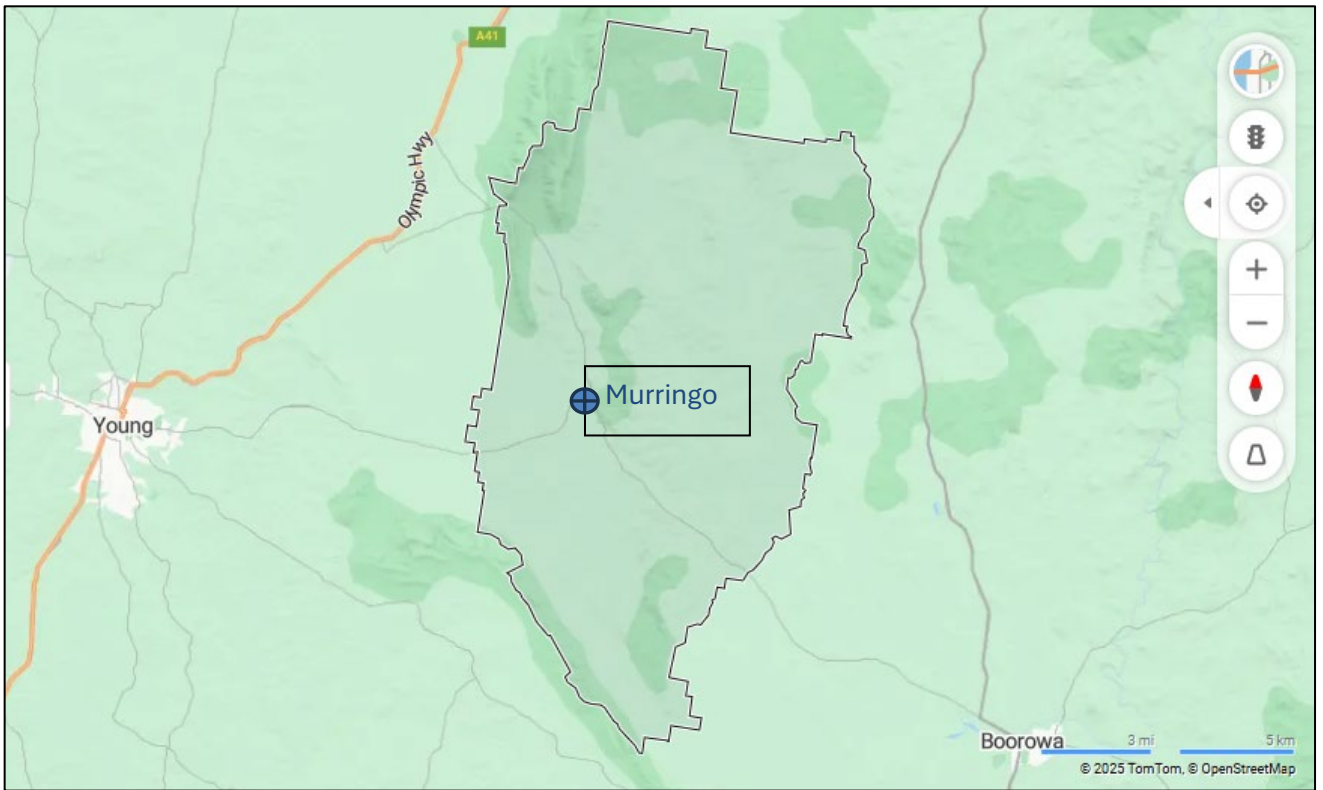
Today, Murringo offers a number of attractions for visitors including a museum, handicrafts and Trandari Wine tastings at the Taubman and Webb Trading Post (pictured above) and an art gallery and accommodation at the Murringo Barracks. Both are open most weekends.

Murringo has 24 Heritage items including a number of old homesteads, the Old Murringo Hotel, the Plough Inn, the Public School, the Christ Church Anglican Church the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Old Convent, the Memorial Hall, the Police Barracks, Taubman and Webb Trading Post, and the historic Cemetery. Most of the heritage buildings are over 100 years old with many built of bluestone gathered in the surrounding areas.

Large parts of the village are in an ecological zone, and so the area teams with all manner of native and introduced plant, animal and bird life. There are areas of crown land throughout where locals and visitors can wander and observe this diversity. These include areas of Crown land such as Boshy, Murringo Creek, Tony Young Memorial Park (Well Paddock), Murringo Sports Ground, and other areas of natural significance such as the Murringo Gap to the north of the village.

Community markets are held in May and November in the village, providing a festive atmosphere to the village common, known as the Tony Young Memorial Park. The Murringo Art Show in March each year provides a focus for the many artists living in the village and surrounds. It attracts visitors from far and wide. The annual ANZAC Day service at the Murringo Cenotaph is also a popular event, attracting 200-300 people each year. Many other events are held during the year and advertised on the Murringo – NSW

Facebook page. The village also has a playground, BBQ facilities, public toilets, community hall (available for bookings), Rural Fire Service station, Public School, Churches, tennis courts and active community.



Community Facilities:



Image: Anglican Church, Murringo. (photographer unknown)

Halls

Public restrooms

Murringo Community Hall and Supper Room

Behind Community Hall

Playgrounds

Places of Worship

Tony Young Memorial Park, Murringo Rd, Next to RFS Shed

Murringo Christ Church Anglican Church

Rec/sport facilities

Schools

BBQ, play equipment, and covered seating in Tony Young Memorial Park

Murringo Public School, 91 Murringo Gap Rd.

Oval and tennis court south of school

Active Community Engagement:

Community Engagement

- Murringo Community Association
- Our Murringo Matters Newsletter
- Murringo Parents and Community Association



Taubman and Webb Trading Post

26 Murringo Gap Rd, Murringo, NSW

The Taubmann & Webb Trading Post is located at 26 Murringo Gap Rd, Murringo, NSW and is one of Australia's leading Kangaroo leather and Redhide suppliers.

The Taubman and Webb Trading Post is a tribute centre to the late Syd Bayliss, renowned bushman, plaiter and whip maker.

The Centre displays many leather items which were made and used by Syd. There are also leather items made by local whip maker and attraction name-sake Richard Taubman and other leather works for sale.

Richard and Leah Taubman are dedicated to keeping Syd's stories alive for future generations.

The Tribute Centre also acts as a Cellar Door for the nearby Trandari Wines and sells local honey and sometimes freshly laid eggs.

[The Trading Post | Taubman and Webb](#)

Murringo Barracks

2244 Murringo Rd, Murringo, NSW

Murringo Barracks is set on 20 acres at the edge of the village heading towards Boorowa. The bluestone buildings were once the original police barracks built in 1880 and operated until 1925.

The current owners Mark & Therese Crowe, offer bed & breakfast accommodation, as well as an art gallery which exhibits works by local artists.

Open most weekends, visitors have the opportunity to view the original buildings including the barracks, stables and outhouses.

[Murringo Barracks | Farmstay B&B and Fine Art Gallery](#)





Image: Murringo animal landscape (© Rachael Lenehan)

Local Events

- Murringo Village Markets
- Murringo Art Show
- ANZAC Day Service
- Christmas mailbox/front fence competition
- Boxing Day Village Cricket Match
- Carols in the Park
- Working Dog Trials
- Murringo Moto Trials

Partnership: Hilltops Council and Murringo Community Association.

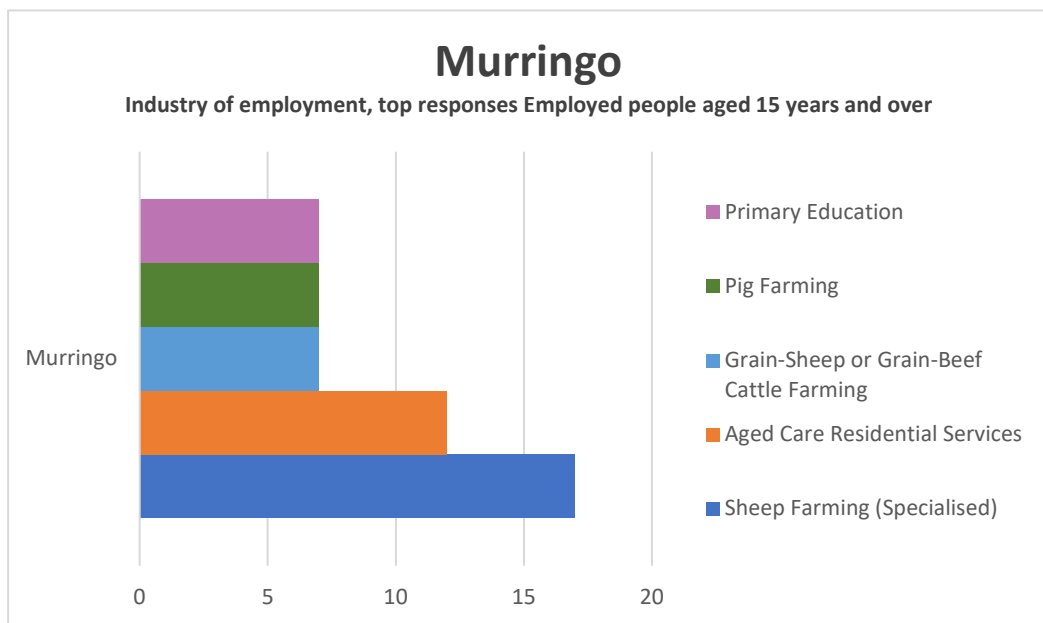
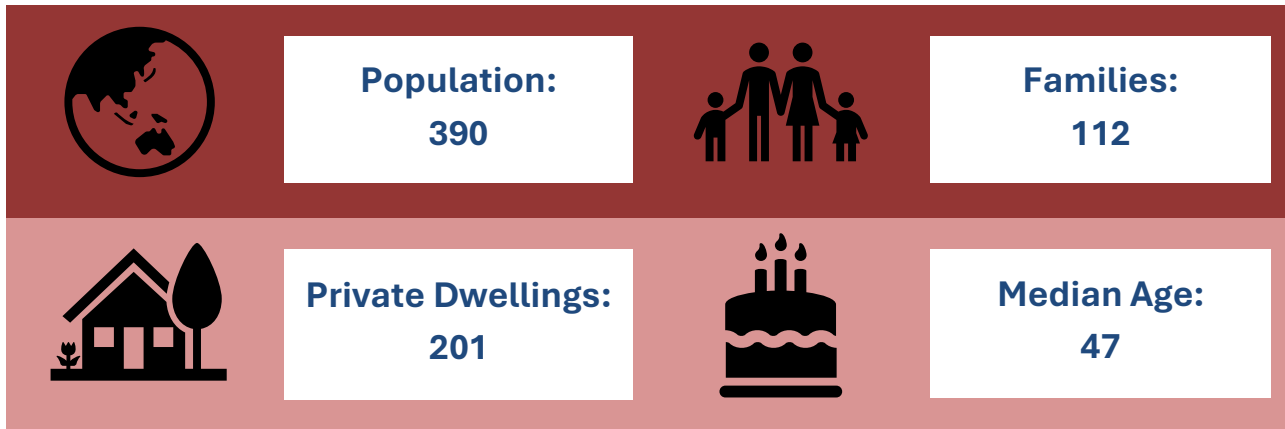
Hilltops Council and the Murringo Community Association work together to provide services to the Murringo community.

These services include lawn mowing (Council provides a lawn mower), hall and public toilet maintenance, rubbish collection of public bins at hall, a local refuse station for residents; and advertising and promoting of community events and businesses.

A Hilltops Councillor regularly attends MCA meetings, providing a direct conduit between the community and Council.

Active collaboration between Council and community seeks to encourage and facilitate the vibrant Village lifestyle found in Murringo.

Economy and Demographics (2021 census)



Infrastructure:

Mains Water Access	Mains Sewer Access
Not present. On-site services required	Not present. On-site services required
Waste Facility	Highway/Arterial Road Access
Murringo Waste Transfer Station- Notes Rd, Murringo	Murringo sits on the Murringo Rd between Boorowa and Young. Access to Lachlan Valley Way via Murringo Rd links the village to Cowra

Heritage:

Murringo has 24 items of heritage, as recorded in Schedule 5, Hilltops Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2022, and many other sites of historical significance.

Items from Schedule 5 of the Hilltops LEP are:

#	ITEM	#	ITEM
1	Calabash Cottage	13	Marengo Hotel (former)
2	The Calabash Shearing Shed and shearers' quarters	14	Murringo Memorial Hall and Mechanic's Institute
3	Willawong Homestead	15	Christ Church Anglican Church
4	Willawong Shearers' quarters	16	Marengo Station Homestead
5	Willawong Woolshed	17	Orizaba Homestead and stables
6	Sacred Heart Catholic School (former)	18	Orizaba Woolshed
7	Sacred Heart Convent (former)	19	Old Plough Inn
8	Sacred Heart Catholic Church (former)	20	Murringo Post Office (original)- Taubman and Webb Trading Post
9	Murringo General Cemetery	21	Murringo Public School
10	Murringo Police Barracks (former)	22	East Milo Homestead
11	Grants' Store (former)	23	Waihemo Homestead
12	Blacksmith shop (former)	24	Waihemo shearers' quarters



Main Street of Murringo early 1900s, from the collection of Paul Morris.

Community Survey

From 6 March 2025 to 11 May 2025 Hilltops Council, in conjunction with the Murringo Community Association, conducted a survey in the Murringo community asking two questions:

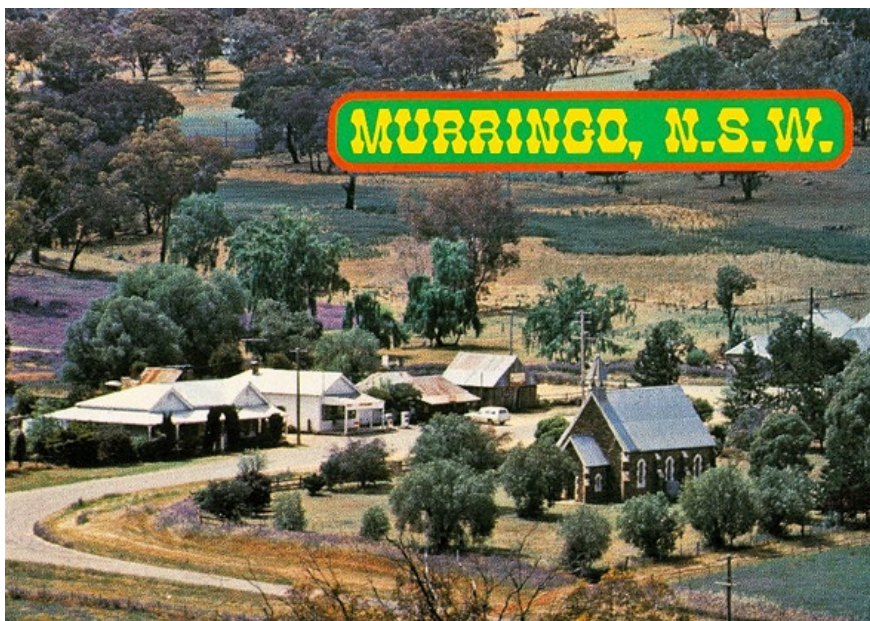
1. What do you love about your village and the wider Murringo community – what features and characteristics are important to protect and maintain?
2. What improvements would you like to see to make Murringo an even better place to live, or to help overcome any challenges facing the community?

A total of 20 surveys were received, with over 40 responses to what people love about their village, and what they would like to see improved.

✓ What the community loves about Murringo

Summary of responses:

Loves		
Amenity	Sense of place	Special mentions
✓ Village hall, well paddock, BBQs, community activities & events	✓ Tidy, well-kept village, picturesque, welcoming	✓ MCA and events held by MCA
✓ Art and craft businesses	✓ The small, tight knit, trusted community	✓ Heritage of the village
✓ Very good school	✓ Sense of community and support, community minded people	✓ Excellent for raising children
✓ The tip	✓ Rural lifestyle	✓ Supporting the people and community
✓ Local wildlife		✓ Family entertainment at the hall



Post Card from Murringo, circa 1980s, from the collection of Paul Morris

- ✓ What the community would like to see improved

Summary of responses:

Improvements
INFRASTRUCTURE
✓ Storm water gutters along streets
✓ Footpaths within the village, to cemetery, to school, over bridge to new estate, to Murringo gap (cycleway)
✓ Traffic control – lower speed limits extended to beyond cemetery, Swamp Rd, and further along Geegullalong Rd. Roundabout at intersection needed, trucks fly thru.
✓ Bridge changes (no overtaking / passing)
✓ Roads in village need to be sealed
✓ Keep and relocate transfer station
✓ Creek erosion repaired
HERITAGE, NATURE AND ART
✓ Information station at park near hall
✓ Establish a heritage walk around village
✓ Nature and bird watching walk up Boshy Hill
✓ The beautification of Murringo as in more trees.
✓ Tree planting on the entry to Murringo from Boorowa from the cemetery to the 50km/hr signs (Grevillea robusta or oak trees?)
✓ Artistic hub
✓ Equipment to display artwork for Murringo art show
COMMUNITY FACILITIES
✓ Regular Coffee Vendor
✓ Increased opportunity for sporting events with new facilities.
✓ Upgrade the playground to a more modern facility, including shade
✓ New seating and tables in BBQ area at park
✓ Use of tennis court – better access to it
✓ Caravan camping near hall
SPECIAL MENTIONS
✓ Ongoing regular maintenance of village parks and streets
✓ Ongoing Maintenance of Murringo Hall – provision of funding
✓ upgrades as needed e.g. painting, electrical updates, fencing
✓ More family entertainment in the hall e.g. drama plays, music nights etc.
✓ New water tank at hall and fix septic
✓ Better noxious weed control
✓ Regular mowing
✓ Toilet cleaning



Left: ANZAC Day 2023 at Murringo, Right: Murringo Cenotaph. Photos by Paul Morris

Objectives and Outcomes



Support and build resilience within Village communities,



Enhance the built environment and improve liveability in and around the villages,



Encourage economic viability through enabling greater self-determination, and



Enhance and maintain the natural environment in and around the villages.

The Hilltops Council village planning program identifies the above four objectives for the rural villages of the Hilltops LGA. The objectives of the program relate to Council's Strategic Objectives for the villages, as outlined in the Hilltops Local Strategic Planning Statement, Hilltops Community Strategic Plan, Hilltops Delivery Program, and the Hilltops Operational plan, in delivering outcomes for our village communities.

The village plan aims to support communities in realising the objectives and outcomes of the program through identification of projects and initiatives important to the village community, and the assigning of a lead group, or individual, to champion that item.

Objective 1. Support and build resilience within Village communities.

- Provide guidance and insights to the community, via village plans, to be utilised in the realisation of future growth opportunities.
- Stabilising, or increase in village populations through retention of existing residents and encouragement of new residents.

Objective 2. Enhance the built environment and improve livability in and around the villages.

- Retention of current facilities and services
- Increase in facilities and services
- Improved infrastructure within villages.
- Improved linkages to larger towns and centres.
- Facilitate the retention and regeneration of historical buildings and places.

Objective 3. Encourage economic viability through enabling greater self-determination.

- Protect and nurture the role of villages in supporting local agricultural industries and communities.
- Provision of support documents, through village plans, for communities to leverage on when seeking funding for community facilities.
- Increased village tourism.
- Increased responsiveness to growth opportunities.

Objective 4. Enhance and maintain the natural environment in and around the villages.

- Highlight areas of environmental significance.
- Consider the value add of areas of environmental significance for tourism opportunities.



Murringo Village Markets November 2025, photo by Paul Morris

How will we get there

5 year plan

Projects and lead organisation or person

Hilltops Council has worked with the Murringo community to refine the results of the 2025 survey into two groups:

- Projects/initiatives with an identified lead person or organisation to be included in the Village plan, and
- Projects/initiatives with no identified lead person or organisation that the community would still like to see realised but are more aspirational at this time.

The projects below are community goals based on the 2025 survey results and further community consultation. They have had a person or organisation indicate they would like to explore progressing the project over the next five years. They are projects that the lead feels they could reasonably endeavour to initiate within the next five years. Completion of projects and initiatives are subject to local conditions, funding opportunities, and community support.

Project/Initiative	Description	Lead	Indicative Timeline
Village Information Station/School Bus Stop	Erection of a School bus Stop which includes a visitor information board, or separate visitor information board, preferably at the park.	MCA, Council advocacy Grant Funding, requires approval from Traffic Forum.	3 Years
Bridge Changes - No overtaking or passing	Safety changes to bridge on Young side of village	Transport for NSW Currently under review	2 years
Beautification of Village- street trees	More trees from Cemetery to Village, incorporating recognition of veterans.	Community with Council consultation, requires consultation or approval from Traffic Forum.	4 years
Upgrading of playground, and BBQ tables and seating in Park		MCA	5 years
Increased opportunity for sporting events with new facilities and better access to tennis courts		Murringo Sportsground Land Managers	5 years
Artistic Hub, including equipment for displaying art works		MCA	3 years

Future aspirations and opportunities

Future Priorities

Items identified by the community as being of a high priority for the future of the Village, which also require significant advocacy and funding opportunities.

<p>Footpaths within Village</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In particular a pathway and safe crossing across bridge on western side of village, to allow safe passage of school students. 	<p>Identified as a high priority to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility. Active transport network for elderly residents to safely participate in Village activities, and for children and families to utilise for biking and promoting active lifestyles.</p>
<p>Establish Heritage walk</p>	<p>Installation of heritage information boards alongside heritage items in the village. Similar to those used in Young, to promote tourism and heritage preservation.</p>
<p>Coffee Vendor or food van</p>	<p>Encourage regular vending from a coffee/food van. Promoting sense of community and amenity within village.</p>

Other opportunities

List of initiatives that could be pursued should a lead/willing sponsor be identified

<p>Caravan camping near Hall (a dedicated space with amenities)</p>	
<p>Water supply and new fencing at cemetery</p>	
<p>Road Sealing</p>	

Hilltops Council would like to thank the Murringo community for their contributions and commitment to the Murringo Village Plan 2026. Council look forward to continued work with the community in the ongoing implementation, and iterations, of this and future Murringo Village Plans.

To contact Council regarding village planning please call 1300 445 586, or email mail@hilltops.nsw.gov.au.

Information on the Village Planning Program can be found at [Village Planning Program - Hilltops Council](#)

The Murringo Village Plan 2026 was adopted by Hilltops Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 March 2026. Resolution HC 62/2026.