

AGENDA

KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Katherine Civic Centre - Committee Room

Tuesday 12 June 2018 at 5.30pm

1.	WELCOME
2.	APOLOGIES Jill Kelly, Patrick Kelly, Adam Buzzo, Sam Forwood, Megan Cope and Jamie Craven
3.	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES 10 April 2018
4.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
5.	GENERAL BUSINESS 5.1 Users concerns/issues/maintenance reported to Council 5.2 Draft Katherine Sportsgrounds Master Plan 5.3 Katherine Sportsgrounds Project Brief
6.	OTHER BUSINESS
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING 14 August 2018
8.	MEETING CLOSED

Katherine Town Council

Master Plan

Katherine Sports Ground

3/1/2018

Mayors Message

Consultation over an extended period of time to determine priorities

Multipurpose facility which caters for a wide range of sports within the Katherine Community – Multipurpose sporting facility.

Provision of quality sporting facilities which provide a wide range of sport and active recreation opportunities is important for the health and well being of the community and the wider regional community.

- Contributing to quality of life by providing opportunities for a range of sporting and active recreational activities and provides for social networking might not otherwise be available.
- Sports Grounds establish a source of social capital for a community providing a means for cooperative activities and voluntary fundraising. The events provide a focus for voluntary activities, sponsorship and contributions.
- Clear, staged development strategies
- Maximum flexibility for the residents of Katherine to play structured and unstructured sport and recreation activities.



The Sports Ground play a role in sustainability and resilience of the regional community. The facilities recreational and social opportunities and sense of place provided by Sports Grounds are contributes to the actual and perceived quality of life and the desire to live in a community.

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1 The purpose of the Katherine Sports Ground Master Plan

The Katherine Sports Ground Master Plan (the Master Plan) has been developed, in conjunction with the Katherine Town Council, local sporting and community groups. This Master Plan lays the ground work to improve the usability of the Sports Ground, to cater for existing and future sporting codes and the active recreational user.

This Master Plan forms part of the Katherine Town Council Sport and Recreation Master Plan which covers three key sporting and recreation precincts under the ownership or management of the Katherine Town Council. Those grounds being, the Katherine Sports Grounds, the Katherine Show Grounds and Multipurpose Centre and Binjari Sports Grounds.

These documents will guide The Council in its forward planning to maximise use of the Sports Ground for formal sporting and training facilities, for active recreation activities and general community use. This Master Plan builds on the previous Master Plans undertaken in 2006 and 2010.

2 The Katherine Sports Ground Vision

At a workshop in March 2017 members of the Sports Ground Advisory Committee developed the following vision. The purpose of the Katherine Sports Ground (the Sports Ground) is:

“The Katherine Sports Ground is a versatile, multisport, community facility catering for a wide range of sport and recreational facilities for Katherine and the wider regional community.”

The Katherine Town Council (the Council) and the Katherine community will achieve this vision by:

By providing a range of quality community facilities which:

- Are flexible and attractive for a diverse range of sporting and active recreation pursuits and suitable for a wide range of ages groups
- Provide a range of quality venues for sporting and recreational activities
- Enable User Groups and the Council working together for the common good
- Are affordable for our primary User Groups
- Have a plan for continual investment in infrastructure and maintenance
- Are marketed to our wider community as an enjoyable location in which to play sport and undertake recreational activities.

3 Ownership

The Council is the freehold owner of the Sports Ground. As such, the Council is responsible to the community for the development and maintenance of the grounds and their facilities. The Council consults with User Groups through the Katherine Sports Ground Advisory Group (the Advisory Group) which meets on a bi-monthly basis. This consultation provides comment to Council on the Sports Ground’s development and maintenance. The Sports Ground is located in the centre of Katherine’s suburbs and there is easy access from Katherine North, Katherine South, Katherine East and the CBD. The grounds have direct access off of the Stuart Highway so access from RAFF Base Tindal is convenient.

4 History

4.1 Overview of development of the grounds

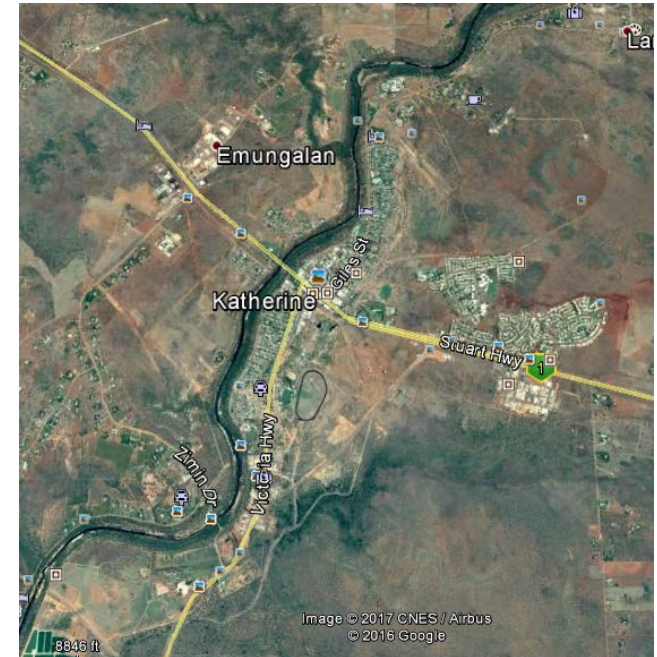
The Sports Ground first came into being as a sports ground location when the original pool and several sports fields were developed pre 1960’s. Since that time the Sports Ground has slowly developed with new infrastructure being constructed as funding became available and as demand increased. The Don Dale Building was built in 1989 and was a major milestone for the Sports Ground. The construction of the Henry Scott building in 1999 was another major milestone for sports and recreational activity in Katherine.

Funding of minor projects is often sought by the User Groups in conjunction with the Council. There are currently 18 regular user groups, plus the YMCA who operate a wide range of programs at the Henry Scott Centre and the Aquatic Centre. The YMCA organises school holiday programs, yoga workshops, swimming programs, challenges, career expos, body pump sessions, zumba, body balance and skate park events. In addition to the regular user groups there are six school or community groups that book a range of facilities for sports days, other organisations book the grounds for physical events such as Run for Life and the number of participants and user groups are growing each year.

The Sports Ground has developed into a true “Sportsville” model. The Sports Ground is a multipurpose facility which caters for structure sports, unstructured activities and the general recreation needs of the wider Katherine and regional community.

5 Sports and Active Recreation Master Plan

The Sports and Active Recreation Master Plan (the Plan) recommends the sharing of sporting and recreation facilities across multiple sports and for multiple uses. The Plan also recommends on page 36, that the preparation of Strategic Master Plans are required for Multi-Use Precincts and that core infrastructure is shared. This sharing occurs regularly at the Sports Ground for example Oval One, Oval Two, Oval Three and the court areas are all shared facilities.



Sport and physical activity are strong threads in the fabric of life in the Northern Territory. Through sport and active recreation there are multiple pathways to a more active and healthy lifestyle for individuals and communities across the Northern Territory. Territorians and Katherine people in particular are keen participants in sport and active recreation.

The Master Plan acknowledges the following Principles:

- Sport and active recreation programs are important for social cohesion and stability
- Sport and active recreation is important to young people's positive use of leisure time
- Sport and active recreation has a positive impact on physical and mental health
- Sport and active recreation is critically important for remote communities
- Sport and active recreation programs open up pathways to employment and sporting success.

The Katherine Sports Ground is a multipurpose precinct which caters for a wide range of sports with structured and unstructured recreational pursuits undertaken. The grounds are home to a wide range of User Groups who encourage community and individual participation in sport and recreational pursuits.

6 Other facilities in Katherine

There are a range of other facilities in Katherine that are utilised for sport and recreational activities including the Katherine Show Grounds and Multipurpose Centre and the various school ovals are utilised at times for junior sporting activities. There is the view that given the high usage levels at the Sports Ground that some of the Junior Sports may be able to increase utilisation of several of the School ovals. Issues such as training lights, insurance coverage, access amenities and litter control would need to be addressed to facilitate more opportunities.

7 Katherine demographics

The population within the Katherine Town Boundary area was stated to be 11,188 people in 2015 (Statistical data Katherine Town Council, Local Government Area (LGA) Region, ABS period 2015). ABS stated that 25.5% of the Katherine LGA is Indigenous. The LGA has an average median age of 32.3 years which is seven years below the average median age in Australia. Katherine is the service centre for over 24,000 people. There are about 800 more males than females. The demographics indicate that the groups of ages are quite stable overall with the 5 -15 cohort being incredibly stable over the past five years.

The town and region has a higher than normal percentage of people who engage in sport and there are new sports and activities being introduced every year. This coming twelve months will see Women and Girls AFL introduced and other groups in growth.

Source ABS 2011- 2016 statistics about Katherine

8 Community usage of the sports ground

8.1 Overview

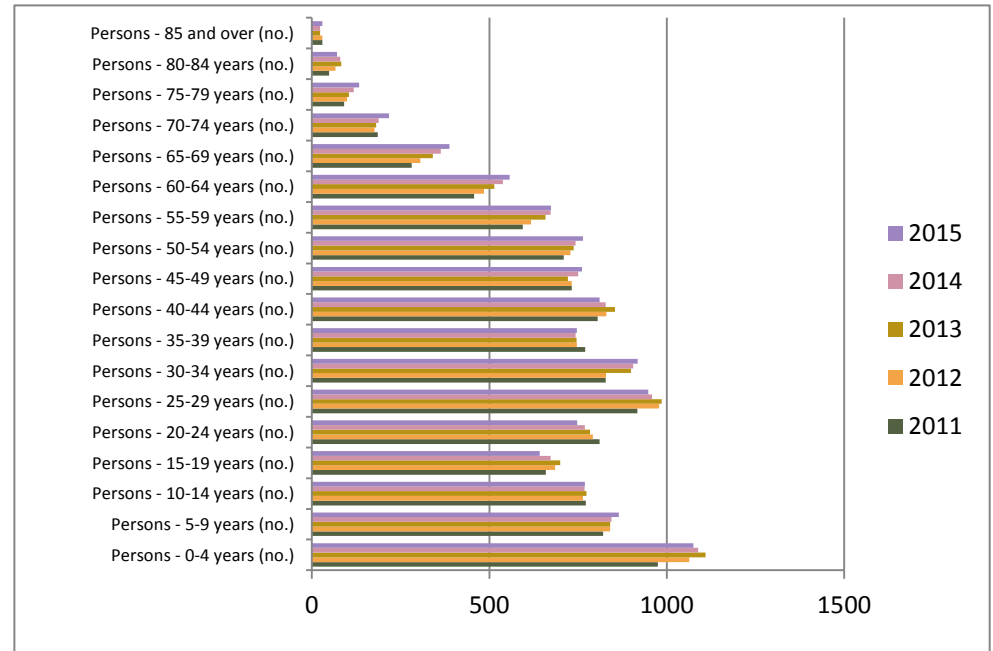
User Groups for the Sports Ground include local sporting clubs, school and community groups from the Katherine and across Greater Victoria Daly Regional Council and from the Roper Gulf Regional Council areas. Participants use these facilities for structured fixtures, unstructured and general recreation activities.

The grounds and its range of facilities are flexible enough to allow for a wide range of activities by User Groups throughout the day and into the evening. The Sports Ground Ovals One and Two have high back to back usage during the dry season and the court areas have multiple users utilising the facilities side by side during the wet season. The booking schedule indicates that other ovals are utilised for overflow activities including training and general strengthen exercises.

8.2 Overview

The Sports Ground is located on Lot 3217, Town of Katherine and comprises 29 hectares 7700 square meters of land within the parcel. The parcel is owned freehold by the Katherine Town Council.

The zoning is Public Space (PS) and Organised Recreation (OR) and all uses comply with that zoning. The land is located on the Stuart Highway adjacent the Central Business District and Katherine East. The Sports Ground is the sporting and active recreational heart of the Katherine community. The grounds are within a short walking distance of the Central Business District, and a majority of Katherine East. The Sport Ground is linked to Katherine’s Central Business District, Katherine North and Katherine East through a series of cycle/walking paths.



The boundary fronts on to Stuart Highway and the side boundary to the Godinyamayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Cultural Centre and the site is fully fenced. Not all the land is utilised and land on the northern boundary with Chambers Drive is still open savannah bushland. This land is ideal for the development of future facilities.

There are no easements on the site. The site’s development is constrained due to the Sports Ground’s location within the Katherine Flood Plain. All infrastructure development needs to be designed to address the flood constraints. A number of buildings are elevated on mounds above the flood level. Facility design will need to remain flexible to enable opportunities for informal/non-organised activities not just organised sport programs or fixtures.

8.3 Management

The Council manages the maintenance and other works including landscaping, general repairs, irrigation and the booking of the site for fixtures and events. The Advisory Committee meets six times per year to advise Council on the operation of the Sports Ground, on current upgrades and the ground’s future development. Within the Sports Ground some User Groups undertake to maintain and manage their allocated areas ie BMX. The Henry Scott Building was built by the Northern Territory Government on Council land and is managed by the YMCA. The YMCA also manages the Aquatic Centre under arrangements with the Council.

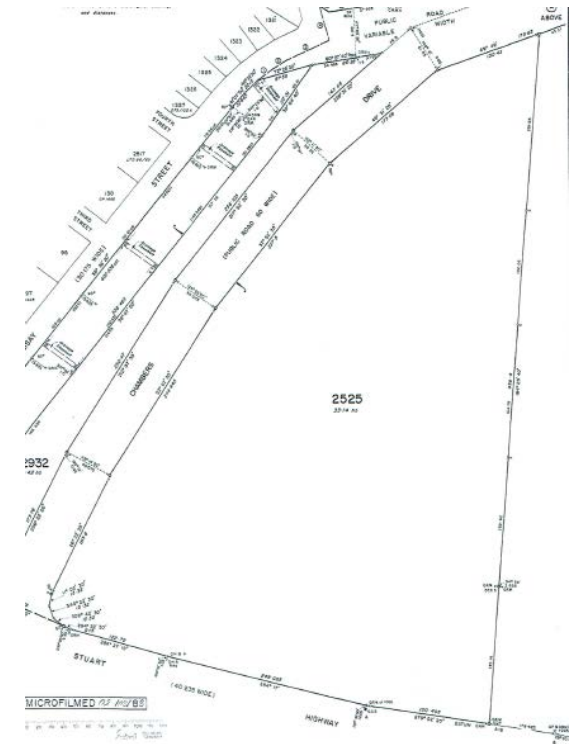
Generally those areas which are utilised by multiple User Groups contact the Council direct for day to day maintenance issues which ensures a quick response to any issues which poses a risk to the public and User Groups. Longer term maintenance is planned on a regular basis to address infrastructure issues.

8.4 Access

There are two access roads to the Sports Ground, being one off of the Stuart Highway entrance and the second entrance off of Chambers Drive. These access roads create a ring route around the facility along with several minor internal access roads to the basketball and baseball areas. There are a series of cycle tracks which provide access through pedestrian gates on the northern and southern sides of the grounds. The road infrastructure, though good, will need to be addressed as part of this Plan. Directional signage and general road signage is poor. This results in a large number of near misses occurring particularly at the Aquatic Centre and main access road intersection. Parking is unstructured in a number of locations and leads to additional confusion.

8.5 Climatic Impact

The climate in Katherine though ideal for sport during the dry season with warm sunny days, is a challenge for sport and recreation activities during the build-up and wet season. The Council over the past two years has removed a number of large mahogany trees due to the risk they presented to both the players and supporters. To enable year rounds sports and to reduce the heat stress the following strategies have been included within the capital works program.



- **Strategy One** - review the tree planting program around the various ovals, parking and high activity areas and determine a number of safe species that can be planted in these areas and implement a tree planting and replacement program
- **Strategy Two** - provide additional shaded tiered stands to the basketball courts, and areas around Ovals One and Two
- **Strategy Three** – to provide all weather shade to the tennis and basketball/netball courts to enable year round fixtures and training.

Given the booking profile there are a number of the sports including tennis, basketball and netball that have the demand and ability to have fixtures throughout the year. Suitable weather proof shade covers will enable play to start earlier in the day. Currently the day time temperatures are too high to enable extended day time play.

9 Status of Current Infrastructure

There is a wide range of infrastructure on the site including 36 buildings which vary in size, condition and age. The largest building is the Henry Scott (YMCA) building, followed by the Don Dale Pavilion, the Aquatic Centre, the Tennis Club building plus ablution blocks, sheds, shelters and shade structures. In addition there are four ovals/playing fields, six tennis courts, four netball/basket ball courts, cricket nets, the BMX facility, the children's covered adventure play ground, the skate park, the swimming pool and various water features.

The current infrastructure varies in age greatly with some infrastructure being in place for over forty years and some infrastructure recently installed. Many of the buildings have substantial residual life left and replacement of minor structures is ongoing. There are several buildings such as old change rooms which will need to be replaced in the next five to seven years. This does not preclude the need to do ongoing upgrades to a number of the older buildings until their replacement time. The replacement value of the buildings and infrastructure on the site is valued at \$2,693,000 for the Aquatic Centre and at \$6,391,000 for other buildings, excluding the Henry Scott Centre.

9.1 Power

Main power access is off of the Stuart Highway to the main switchboard. Power is distributed to a number of switchboards, distribution boards and light poles. As new infrastructure is installed the total requirements of the site will need to be reassessed, particularly where air-conditioning facilities added.

During the life of this plan a majority of the light tower lights, street lights, security lighting and internal lighting will be replaced with LED lighting this will reduce the overall power requirements hence there should be no urgent need for major upgrading of the site's power capacity.

9.2 Water

The site is well service through both town reticulated water and two bores. The upgrade of the irrigation systems should occur in the life of this plan. This will reduce the total amount of water utilised on the site. This is particularly important given the use of bore water and the impact on the Tindal Aquifer. The current system should be replaced with a moister sensitive system which will irrigate automatically at night, reducing the evaporation rates, improving the coverage and reducing any pooling effect and potential

waste of water. PFAS contamination of the board water used will need to be monitored on an on-going basis. There is discussion around the installation of two large water supply tanks for the swimming pool. The sighting of these tanks will need careful consideration so that they do not take up valuable building space. Utilisation of the space between the Henry Scott building and the aquatics centre/marathon club shed is probably the most appropriate location. This will enable the catchment of water off of a number of rooves.

9.3 Sewerage Supply

There is a sewerage pump station located adjacent the Stuart Highway entry area. This facility provides for the entire site. This includes the existing ablution blocks, the Henry Scott Building, the Don Dale Pavilion, the Aquatics facility and the Tennis Club house.

9.4 Fire Services

There is a system of hydrants and fire hose reels to the site. When a new oval is developed the hydrant lines and fire hoses systems will have to be extended. Normal fire requirements are covered in all areas.

9.5 Site drainage

Drainage on the site is generally good with the sheet water flow moving towards the open town drainage system. There are several locations that will need to be addressed during the life of this Master Plan including the water pooling near the Don Dale Pavilion at the southern end. With the formalisation of car parks, consideration will need to be given to ensure that the hardening-up of car parking area does not cause drainage problems for the various playing surfaces.

9.6 Facilities Use Status

There are a range of facilities which are available for sporting and recreational groups or individuals including:

Table One: Building Utilisation on the Sports Ground

Space/building name	Utilisation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henry Scott Building 	Owned by the NTG, managed by the YMCA, wide usage range of programs, user groups and individuals including the police and defence force personnel, for keep fit programs and youth diversion programs. There is a small on-site crèche which provides supervision of children whilst parents are participating in recreational activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic Centre 	Managed by the YMCA, they have five different schools utilising programs, learn to swim programs, competitions Visitors and the general public who exercise on a daily basis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don Dale Pavilion 	Meeting rooms used by the Lodge of Fidelity, Sporting groups for AGM, training sessions and other meetings, toilets used by the public – various clubs utilise the change rooms, ablution areas, storage and meeting space including Katherine Athletics, Katherine Crocs, Rugby League, Katherine Football, Katherine Football and Katherine High School.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oval One Rugby Oval 	High back to back usage up to three user groups per day during the dry season and two user groups per day in the wet season

	Wet Season users include BarBars for training and matches, Brahams for training, Katherine Rugby Union Competition on Fridays, Katherine Crocs Saturday and Sunday, Katherine Athletics, Scool Sports, Katherine Junior and Senior Rugby League and Soccer occasionally. Dry Season users include Katherine Junior and Senior Rugby League, Katherine Athletics, Scool Sports, Katherine Touch, NRL NT training, Katherine Football, Katherine High School, School Sports NT, Kintore Street Schools, St Joseph’s Athletics, CPCS and School of the Air.
• Oval Two	High back to back usage up to two user groups some days. Wet Season users include Katherine Junior Rugby League, Katherine Rugby League competitions, Katherine Athletics, Katherine Touch, Katherine Football and Scool Sports. Dry Season users include Katherine Football, Katherine Junior Rugby League, Scool Sports, St Josephs Athletics, School Sports NT and Relay for Life and casual users at off peak time for social sport
• Oval Three/Baseball soft ball Diamond	Dry Season users include Scool Sports and softball every day except Sunday from May to October Several clubs utilise this field for training due to the other fields being at capacity
• Oval Four Cricket Oval and nets	Utilised during the cricket season on training nights and for single and double day fixtures Several clubs utilise this field for junior training, running and exercise sessions due to the other fields being at capacity
• Skateboard	During school time by preschool children, after school, during the school holidays and on weekends by the youth of the town Structure activities by the YMCA during school holiday programs and youth diversion programs
• BMX track / club house	Used on weekends and two nights after school
• Tennis Courts and building	Most afternoons and nights of the week during the dry and on weekends plus Thursday morning Social tennis by members when there is no formal fixtures
• Basketball/Netball Courts	High back to back usage during the wet and dry season, courts used virtually every day through dry season Wet Season Katherine Basketball, YMCA, Scool Sports, Katherine Netball, NT Schools Sports Katherine Net ball, Katherine South Sports, Katherine Basketball, Katherine Net ball Development Katherine South Sports, plus casual users at off peak times
• Ablution Blocks in various locations	All Clubs depending on location and the general public during fixtures, training and whilst participating in general recreation
• Adventure Playground	Every day during the week and on the weekend – high usage by young families, very popular for children’s birthday parties
• Adventure Park area	The space is used by marathon/running group for general exercise activities
• Marathon Sports Shed	Two nights during the week and some weekends for meetings

Source: Katherine Town Council Booking schedules

9.7 Current User Groups Data

The User Groups listed below use the Sports Ground consistently. Some organisation’s on a daily bases, some several times a week including training, some monthly, some occasionally and several on a yearly basis for major events. Those not recorded include users of the Don Dale Pavilion, casual users such as schools and other community groups, Scool Sports, those using the Skateboard and play ground area. Figures for the Henry Scott facility only take into consideration those people who are involved in structured programs or who are registered gym users.. The Aquatics Centre figures are people through the gate who pay, school groups, and structure exercise classes. Best estimates indicate that in 2016 there were in excess of 233,822 visitors/spectators/users for the Sports Ground and that in 2017 there could be in excess of 282,332 visitors/spectators/users of the grounds. Growth has been centred around a number of the ball sports including Rugby Union and Rugby League plus increase visitation to the YMCA programs. These figures do not take into consideration the casual users of the skateboard, adventure playground or use of the Adventure Park,

Table 2 Visitor, spectator and user numbers during 2016 and 2017

Sporting /Users Groups	2016		2017 estimate	
	Registered Participants	Spectator attendance	Registered Participants	Spectator attendance
Katherine Athletics Club	6400	2750	5000	2750
Katherine Junior Rugby League	18850	25000	15548	26572
Katherine Rugby Union	11500	10000	18200	16640
Katherine Krocs Rugby Union	3500	4500	41600	5200
Katherine Touch Association	8000	2000	9750	3000
Katherine Football Club (Soccer)	11500	5000	10500	5500
Katherine Netball Association	17520	8000	13360	8400
Katherine Basketball Association	8400	3000	4830	3300
Katherine Softball Club	780	1000	900	1240
Katherine & Dist Crick Club	2640	480	1680	600
Katherine Tennis Club	9300	600	4500	900
Big Rivers BMX	750	220	1500	1200
Aquatic Centre	54,350	150	60770	320
YMCA Programs	17632	0	18572	0
Total users over a year	171122	62700	206710	75622

Source: Katherine Town Council records, YMCA records plus discussions with user groups

9.8 Active Recreation Pursuits

In addition to these formal groups there are many residents and family groups who use the Sports Ground for active recreation pursuits including unstructured activities such as:

- Walking and running
- Unstructured football and other sports
- Skateboarding
- Family picnics and birthday parties
- Walking their pets
- Cycling
- Children’s Parties and get togethers

10 Improvements and Future Infrastructure requirements

10.1 Overview

The consultation phase with the various User Groups and with public users indicated a wide array of infrastructure requirements for the short, medium and long term. Infrastructure which services multiple User Groups and the public is fundamental to the growing of sport and to maximise the use of the grounds. Improvements have been prioritised in a manner which allows for staged development and to give flow on benefits to the community.

10.2 Infrastructure Costs

The estimated infrastructure costs are based on the following figures. The figures are reflective of 2017 costs and escalations should be built into figures this period. The services of a Quantity Surveyor or a construction organisation should be gained before projects are committed.

Table Three: Cost estimates as at January 2018

Area	Cost Base
Road Infrastructure	Estimated with the assistance of a local contractor who has worked in the Katherine region for many years. Secondary Road based on \$140,000 per kilometre
Car parks	Based on \$12000 per 100m2 or per 4 parks including road infrastructure and swale drainage
Oval and other infrastructure	Discussed with specialist design architects and engineers
Building costs	Based on estimates by a Quantity Surveyor based on high level briefings
Specialist items	Discussions with suppliers and estimates sourced
Shelter and Shed costs	Based on cost estimates from two shed and steel fabrication companies in Katherine

10.3 Funding the Master Plan Projects

Katherine Town Council and the various sporting groups will need to access capital and improvement works funding from a range of sources both within and external to the community. These sources could include:

- Northern Territory Government Community and Sports Grants
- Federal Government Community Development and Sports Grants
- Katherine Town Council maintenance and capital works funding
- Sponsorship from businesses and licensed clubs
- Sporting Club members volunteer time and fund raising efforts
- Equipment and time given by business and volunteers for construction of Club venues
- Road Safety grants
- Private Developer partnerships.

The following plans are based on a yearly spend and priorities can be moved according to funding arrangements. Some projects have extended timelines due to the finance and grants required, planning implications, contract arrangements and funding pull downs as construction progresses. Clubs should be encouraged to work with the Council to ensure all planning and compliance requirements are gained.

11 Proposed Improvement and Capital Works Program

11.1 Year One Priorities

The following priorities are seen as base level priorities which will have benefits for multiple organisations.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Road Signage and line marking consultancy and application to Road Safety for funding, a number of new signs, new line marking	\$ 12,000
Safety review of the skate park and BMX ground to ensure compliance	\$ 25,000
Demolishing of the old building and construction of storage space for rugby league, rugby union , soccer, and touch foot ball for Soft ball end of Oval One	\$ 35,800
Initial upgrade works to Don Dale Pavilion including improvements to toilets, painting, tap ware, additional water fountains	\$ 23,000
Installation of roller doors to soccer storage area at the Don Dale Pavilion, the purchase of equipment hangers and trolleys to move equipment	\$ 3,800
Additional shaded tiered seating with shade two new units – basketball/netball area	\$ 13,500

Improvements to Athletics through the provision of covers, hanging racks and a permanent discus and hammer cage for the throw zones and storage area	\$ 5,200
Upgrade basket ball courts with multipurpose line marking, scorers benches and junior goals and supply outdoor power outlets	\$ 14,500
Protection fencing to the Skate Park area	\$ 11,500
New directional signage to the toilets near the adventure park	\$ 300
Aquatic Centre – Immediate repairs to the play and spray area pipe work and planning of general upgrade and improvement works to existing buildings and pool area	\$ 28,500
Additional seating under shade (trees) for the Adventure park area – 2 units sealed and painted	\$ 1,200
Lighting to the soft ball precinct	\$ 110,300
Initial planning for a new oval for Rugby Union and Rugby League with associated access and facilities	\$ 120,000

11.2 Year Two Capital Works

The following works ideally should take place in the second year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. It is envisaged that a number of User Groups will source some funding through their fund raising and grants to assist with the Capital Works Program.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Extension of the Don Dale Pavilion to create a community meeting space	\$ 220,000
Develop a tree replacement program, cost and start implementation as soon as possible	\$ 12,000
Covered shade extension area to the Don Dale Pavilion	\$ 64,000
Improved shaded tiered seating to athletics 100 meter track area and additional unit for Field 2	\$ 13,000
Sealed pathway from storage shed to the basket ball/netball courts	\$ 3,500
Additional directional signage around the Sports Ground	\$ 5,000
Aquatic centre works - Rails to the steps on the earth mound, replacement of the roller door to main building and replacement of damage shade cloth and replacement of tiles to pool edges	\$ 24,800
Aquatic centre – planning for expansion of aquatic area to include more water activities and shaded areas	\$ 15,000
Replacement of the remaining car park and street lighting in the Sports Ground with LED lights and improve lighting to basketball netball parking	\$ 60,000

area	
Consultancy to assess irrigation and highlight the areas where upgrades to the system are required	\$ 25,000
Replace cover with roof to Adventure Playground	\$ 60,000
Lighting to Oval No. 1	\$ 230,000
Initial construction works on new rugby league/union oval and associated infrastructure	\$ 1,850,000

11.3 Year Three Capital Works

The following works ideally should take place in the third year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Planning for extended covered court area and associated infrastructure to be undertaken in stages, extra courts then shade then amenities block plus construction of two additional courts and initial works	\$ 430,000
LED Lighting to the Cricket Oval - quoted	\$ 215,407
Two additional shaded tiered stand areas one for soccer area and one for the other oval	\$ 13,000
Fencing to Oval 2 to restrict access for user changes	\$ 8,000
Exercise equipment for adults in the adventure playground area	\$15,000
Additional soft fall rubber finish to adventure park equipment	\$ 10,000
Aquatics Centre – first stage of works to Centre expansion	\$ 80,000
Construction of new rugby union and league oval and associated infrastructure, road, fencing and car park	\$ 2,400,000

11.4 Year Four

The following works ideally should take place in the fourth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. Construction works for the oval would flow over the dry from one year to the next financial year.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Formalisation and sealing of the car park opposite the Aquatics Centre	\$ 85,000
Sealing of the Tennis/Cricket car park	\$ 35,000
Completion of covered court areas and associated infrastructure	\$ 2,180,000
Seeking of funding for new cover court and associated facilities	\$ 10,000
New practice net area for cricket	\$ 38,000
Extensions to the Aquatics area to include shade, upgrade of offices, new water spray features and other activities	\$ 350,000
Stage one of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

11.5 Year Five

The following works ideally should take place in the fifth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. Construction works for the oval would flow over the dry from one year to the next financial year.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Stage two of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

11.6 Year Six

The following works ideally should take place in the sixth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. At this stage a review of the Master Plan should be undertaken to determine if priorities have changed or if new sports and recreational activity have emerged in the community.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Formalisation of car park to softball/baseball area	\$ 155,000

11.7 Year Seven

The following works ideally should take place in the seventh year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Planning for indoor sports centre and amenities adjacent the court area	\$ 120,000
Upgrade Ablution Block at the play park and soft ball area	\$ 120,000

11.8 Year Eight

The following works ideally should take place in the eighth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Stage three of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

11.9 Year Nine

The following works ideally should take place in the ninth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Stage 2 expansion of aquatic area	\$ 400,000
Construction commencement of new indoor sports centre and the first stage	\$ 750,000

11.10 Year Ten

The following works ideally should take place in the tenth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Construction commencement of new indoor sports centre and the first stage	\$ 6,800,000

12 Sports Ground and Group Priorities

12.1 General Sports Ground Improvements

There were a number of overarching areas where improvements were required. This list of suggested improvements was developed through observations, Club survey comments and through interview comments.

12.1.1 Road signage

The quality of the road signage and markings vary throughout the Sports Ground. Observations indicate that the intersection adjacent the Aquatic Centre and main thoroughfare is poorly marked and near misses are common due to traffic levels and not understanding how the intersection works. An overall signage plan should be developed and implemented to direct spectators to the various playing fields and facilities and drop off areas. Line marking to road edges could assist with safety at night to ensure road users are aware of the edges in the wet season and in dark areas.

12.1.2 Road Infrastructure

The road infrastructure will need to be expanded in the life of this plan to cater for new sporting facilities. Some of the road infrastructure may have to be moved to create space for new pavilion or sporting facilities. The area on the south side of the Don Dale Pavilion needs to be addressed to make it accessible year round with good drainage.

12.1.3 Car Parking Areas

Car parking infrastructure varies greatly from paved marked areas to grass and gravel areas. Many of the areas are unstructured and during peak times results in poor parking habits by the public.

- The parking area associated with the Henry Scott building needs resurfacing and line marking renewed
- The parking area opposite the Henry Scott and Aquatics area needs to be formalised, have barriers and be sealed
- The gravelled areas generally are in good condition, with the exception of the car park adjacent the Tennis/Cricket which needs the bitumen extended
- Formalisation of some of the gravel car parking areas with signage could assist with formalising the car parking arrangements in the future.

12.2 Lighting to playing fields, ovals and court areas

As funding becomes available the lighting to all spaces should be replaced with LED lighting similar to Oval 2 and for other areas similar to the new “street and car park” lighting. There is no particular priority in this listing. Lighting around the various amenities areas is required. A night time audit needs to occur so lighting can be installed in locations which are used by the public.

- Cricket Oval
- Tennis Courts – undertaken with shaded court area
- Basket Ball and net ball courts – undertaken with shaded court area
- Baseball/Softball Oval

- Oval No. One
- Aquatic Centre
- Car park lights to the Henry Scott building
- Skate Park
- General access lights.

12.3 Landscaping and creation of shade

As a result of the removal of a number of African Mahogany trees, much of the natural shade has been removed from a number of areas. There is a need for spectators and players to have additional shade as a result of this tree removal safety program. New species of trees need to be identified, planted and irrigated to ensure that there is additional shade available in the future. A full inspection of the trees including species identification should be undertaken and gaps in the shade canopy identified and suitable trees planted.

12.4 Irrigation Upgrade

The clubs who utilise the ovals and playing fields highlight the need to improve the irrigation to the major playing surfaces. Aerial shots of the oval show inconsistencies in the playing surface irrigation and this results in the players running from soft to hard surfaces and interrupts the flow of the game and puts the players at risk. A full assessment of the irrigation system to all ovals and fields should be undertaken and staged plan for upgrading the irrigation developed for over a five to six year time period.

13 Specific Area works

13.1 Katherine Aquatic Centre

13.1.1 Overview

The Aquatic Centre is a high use area with the public coming early in the morning, schools groups coming through the day and the public swimming in the afternoon and early evening. In discussions with the staff at the pool and observations indicate that there are a range of improvements that have been made over the past years and now as with any aging infrastructure there are a range of maintenance issues and replacements.

13.1.2 General refurbishment

The following works are a general refurbishing will be required within the next two years and planning put in place to expand the general wet area play space for older children.

Initial improvement works include:

- Rails to the steps on the earth mound



- Replacement of the roller doors to the main building
- Extension of the shade to the kiosk area
- Repairs to the pipe work at the spray /splash out play area
- Replacement of edge pool tiles around the main pool
- Removal of urinals and replacement with new systems
- Replacement of the shade cloth to the Stuart Highway end of the main pool.

13.1.3 Extension works

Those interviewed expressed the need to expand the Aquatic area. This was highlighted in a number of face to face interviews with mothers, members of the community and several other groups who utilised the Centre. These users indicated that, due to the climate and inability to utilise the water ways all year round, additional shaded space was needed for water activities for children and teenagers. There is space which can be utilised within the Aquatic area for additional water play areas and an exercise pool to meet health and aqua aerobics requirements. A development plan for the pool area should be documented in the future to maximise the space around the Aquatics ground and to take into consideration the community needs.

13.2 Henry Scott Building

Responsibility for the Henry Scott building does not sit with Council, though during the consultation process the facility was viewed and key staff members interviewed to determine trends and general infrastructure requirements for the Sports Ground. The car park area, better utilisation of internal spaces and storage space were raised as areas infrastructure improvements for their building.

13.3 Don Dale Pavilion

The following works benefit all clubs and groups that use the Don Dale Pavilion.

- Additional toilet block on one end of the building including a disabled toilet
- More community space for holding meetings and training sessions
- Several additional large storage rooms
- Upgrade of existing external toilet block
- Extension works to the canteen storage area
- Drainage work to car park area on southern end of the building
- General building upgrade, painting, new external doors and eaves
- Soccer Storage area roller door to improve ease of access and reduce WH&S risks.

13.4 Katherine Rugby League Club Inc

The Association has 320 registered juniors and senior players each week for the dry season. Growth has been experienced each year and they have over 50 new members during the past two years. The Club utilises Katherine Sports Fields One and Two and the soft ball field for training. They use the Don Dale Pavilion change rooms, toilets and kiosk areas. The Club has sessions on every night except Friday. There are fixtures Saturday and Sunday.

The following infrastructure is seen as a priority:

- A large storage shed for equipment
- Additional shaded tiered shaded seating
- Water fountains
- Midterm a dedicated Rugby Union/Rugby league ground and amenities.



13.5 Katherine Rugby Union Inc

The Association has 350 registered plays with more juniors registering every game. Growth has been experienced since the introduction of Junior competition over the past two years. The Club utilises Field One and will be looking to utilise Field Two this coming season, they use the toilets, change rooms, canteen in the Don Dale Pavilion and have an office there also. They use an old shed change rooms at the end of Field One which is at the end of its usable life.

The following infrastructure is seen as a priority:

- Covered area adjacent Don Dale Pavilion for public and bbq space
- Additional tiered shaded seating
- Field Two fully fenced to restrict public access for user changes
- Long term a dedicated Rugby Union/Rugby League ground for back to back seasons.

13.6 Katherine Athletics Club

The Association has 256 registered players across the junior and senior players. Growth over the last two years has been substantial with over a 100 members joining the Association. The Club meets for training sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and has fixtures on Friday night evenings. On training nights up to 30 members attend each night. Only five lanes are usable throughout the year. Drainage is needed to improve the other lanes.

The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as priority:

- Permanent covers to sand pit areas
- Additional shaded grandstand seating areas on the 100 meter straight
- Safety throw cages for the discus and hammer areas
- Hanging rack for the storage shed
- Larger storage shed.

13.7 Katherine Cricket Club

The Association has 110 registered members across the juniors and senior players. Growth has been minimal over the past two years. Fixtures are played on Saturday and Sunday with training several nights a week during the season. The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as priority.

- Lights to the cricket field
- New practice net area.

13.8 Katherine Soccer Club

The Association has 650 registered plays across the junior and senior players. Soccer is moving to year round training and fixtures as part of their Youth Diversionary targets. They train four nights per week and have fixtures on Saturday mornings. There is a need to set up the goal posts at each training and fixture event. The following improvements are seen as a priority. The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as a priority:

- Roller door to the storage room at Don Dale Pavilion to make the setting up and packing away of goal posts easy
- Suitable trolleys for equipment to be moved
- Tiered shaded seating – at least two units
- Covered public area adjacent Don Dale to provide shade for officials and the public
- Moving of goal posts to create a national standard competition length.

13.9 Katherine BMX

BMX is currently in growth with a mixture of juniors and seniors. Thirty percent of the members are female. The Club members have spent time over the last two years upgrading the space. Currently there are 56 members and due to the ability to have fixtures next year, the junior membership in particular will grow. There is training every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon with practice on Saturdays. The major impediment for growth is the lack of formal racing on the weekends. The track has to be bought up to BMX NT standards prior to racing fixtures being allowed. To achieve that standard the following work is required:

- Safety fencing between the track and spectators
- Starting lights and gate system with the associated hard stand areas of compressor and equipment
- Track lights
- Track and spectator ground irrigation to reduce the dust
- A new demountable club house with a first aid facility, office and canteen
- Development of a Pump track.
-



13.10 Skate Park Area

The skate park is used by the public during all periods of the day, from young families who are teaching their children how to ride scooters to the youth of the town using the venue after school and on weekend to adults keeping fit and enjoying themselves. There were a range of face to face interviews with users of this space during the week mornings and on a Saturday. Several responses indicated that a smaller skate park for children on scooters in the area of the Adventure play ground would enable the younger children to skate/scooter with security. When the teenagers come the young children have to vacate the area. During the on-site inspections on several occasion the line between the skate park, the access road and general foot paths where blurred by users. For safety reasons the following improvements are recommended:



- Professional review of the safety of the skate park to ensure the area meets Australian Standards
- A fence between the access road and the skate park and the skate park and the main footpath and the skate park for the main areas of activity
- Erection of safety signs for a shared vehicle/pedestrian/ skateboard user area at the entry area and at the aquatic centre to remind people to slow down.

13.11 Children’s Adventure Playground

This is a very popular area for parents of young children and is utilised throughout the week and on weekends. Information was gathered through 11 face to face interviews and mothers taking surveys and emailing them to friends who also responded with comments. Seventeen individual inputs were received. Generally the Playground area is seen as one of the most important facilities in Katherine for these parents and the place to go to have a social outing, meeting other families, having birthday parties and is considered very safe and user friendly. The following suggestions were received.

- Additional small skate park for young children on scooters
- Improved signage to direct people to the toilets
- Additional seating as the number of shaded seats is inadequate and preferred to have a different style to make it easier for the children
- Soft fall areas under some of the equipment
- Exercise equipment for adults which is child friendly and will enable adults to exercise whilst their children play on equipment.

13.12 Katherine Basketball Association

The Association has 280 registered junior and senior playing each week during the dry season. With growth expected to come from the increased junior competition this year. The Club has fixtures two nights per week. They have a wide range of volunteers who contribute during the season. The Club is generally growing by 20 to 30 players a year. The covered area with additional courts is seen as a high priority to be able to play year round, to expand the sport and to reduce the risk of heat stress. The following infrastructure is seen as short term and long term priorities:

- General upgrade of court area including line marking, scorers benches, Under 10 fixed goal and installation of outdoor power points to court area for score board
- Tiered shaded seating for players and spectators
- Sealed pathway to storage area from courts
- Improved lighting around the ablution block and car parking area for night time events

- Midterm relocation of the courts to a new area where the sport can expand and the development of six courts with a covered water proof shade membrane court space to allow all year round basket ball competitions during the day
- Long term an indoor stadium with at least two courts in the long term adjacent the new courts.

13.13 Katherine Net Ball Association

The Association has 390 registered junior and senior players who participate in weekly events and training. The courts are used for Monday to Thursday and Sunday afternoons and for major competitions and development clinics on three weekends a year. The Association shares the courts with the Basketball Club. There are a range of short and long term priorities. The following improvements are seen as short term priorities:

- Additional court space and court markings
- Tiered shaded seating for spectators
- Upgrade to the toilet blocks
- Barrier fencing to control the cars and keep them off of the lawns
- The mid-term relocation of the courts to a new location with a minimum of six shared courts with a waterproof membrane.
- An indoor stadium with at least two courts in the long term adjacent court area.

13.14 Katherine Tennis Club

The Association has 150 register players, numbers can vary greatly throughout the year with more players registering as the season commences. In 2016 the Club had 310 players. The following infrastructure is seen as a midterm priority due the risk of heat stress when playing during the day and the inability to play tennis year round due to the weather.

- Four courts with water proof shade membrane to allow year round fixtures

13.15 Construction of a multipurpose facility

There are a number of sports which are unable to play year round and have potential problems around heat stress during playing times and wet season rains. Though the sport can be moved to a night time slot this is not always appropriate and would still not alleviate the wet season rains.

Through surveys, interviews and discussion the need for appropriate infrastructure became apparent. There is a need for a multipurpose facility which has court space, which is covered, court space which is uncovered but adjacent to the covered area, inside space for other sports which are not currently at the site, which could include a shared table tennis, martial arts, exercise space with several offices, change rooms and toilets and public toilets.

The concept of air conditioned court space was explored; the operational and power costs of such a space could be beyond the financial capabilities of the various associations and the Council.

The space adjacent the Henry Scott building is seen as a potential area. Realignment of the road may have to occur to create more space for the courts and facilities. The height requirements for covered court area for basket ball is 8.3 metres clear height over the court. Sports such as badminton require 9 metres clear height to comply with Australian Match Standards. Any facility would have to allow ample height for each of the sports. The shade membrane could be supported off of the core building.

Further discussions need to occur with basketball, netball, tennis and other sports both at a local and peak body level to determine what a centre would look like and what is included within the building envelope and what spaces are covered and uncovered. This is a long term project and the development of shade over the tennis court areas should be considered as part of the overall project. This project will need a separate feasibility and full investigation into what should be included in such a multipurpose space.

14 Project Management

Project Management of larger projects will be undertaken by the Katherine Town Council. Where the projects are smaller, the Katherine Town Council's permission to improve infrastructure or install seating, shade or infrastructure must be gained. All fixed infrastructure becomes the property of the Katherine Town Council with the exception of alterations to the Henry Scott Building and its car park. Once developed generally the asset becomes a Katherine Town Council asset and is include on their register and within their maintenance programs.



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS - PROJECT BRIEF

PROJECT SCOPE

The Katherine Sportsgrounds project will achieve the priority elements of the well consulted Katherine Sportsgrounds Master Plan.

It will deliver:

- Design and construction of a new sports pavilion between the existing ovals
- Safety enhancements to the entry road infrastructure and parking
- Swimming pool upgrades
- Upgraded YMCA Indoor multi-use facility as a secondary priority.

The total cost of the development would be in the order of \$6.7M to \$11.3M depending on which option is selected (please refer to the 'Estimates' section for costed options).

There are around 5400 people a week (281,000 a year) who utilise these sporting facilities. The benefits of this project would flow to the greatest percentage of the sports ground users and to Katherine and the entire region generally, which includes a large number of RAAF Tindal Officers and families who regularly engage in community sporting activities.

Early planning stages of the project have already commenced, with the consultation and the masterplan completed, an element of the multi-use community room under partial planning approval and the design work in the early stages of development. The site plan identifies the project graphically.

Council have identified \$550K of their own funding and in-kind contribution to put forward to the project. This funding will also be complemented by funding from the sports users and potentially the YMCA.



The Town Pool is utilised by Katherine schools and the general public throughout the year.



The Katherine Skate Park is very popular with the Youth of the region

OUTCOMES

The following benefits of the project have been identified:

- As the centre of the Big Rivers Region, Katherine sportsgrounds provides a recreational meeting venue for numerous competitions. These would benefit greatly from the new and improved facilities.
- The existing sportsgrounds facilities limit the ability for Katherine to host regular professional competitions. The upgraded facilities would increase the opportunities to provide a venue for top level competition at the ovals and swimming pool.
- The upgrades would provide the majority of users, which are families and youths, with an increased lifestyle amenity. The resultant benefit will attract additional people to the township and assist in making RAAF Base Tindal, a Base of choice.
- The considerable health and social benefits of sport and recreation are well recognised, both for short term and long term impacts. Katherine has a high demand for sporting activities and this project would supply the necessary infrastructure to satisfy this need.
- A focus on youth may also support the youth engagement strategies aimed at reducing crime in our community.
- The project will provide jobs during the construction and ongoing operations phases.

APPROVALS

This project has a high degree of 'shovel ready' element to it, with the following decision gates already passed:

Approval Type	Comment	Status
Community Consultation	Master Plan endorsed by users	Complete
Ownership of the land	Council ownership	Complete
Project Lead	Highly experienced team at Katherine Town Council with direct sporting facility design and construction as well as project management experience over many years	Complete

PROJECT ELEMENTS

Highest Priority Level

NEW SPORTS PAVILION

- A new sports pavilion will provide a focal point for the revamped sporting complex and a much needed gathering and storage space for the multiple sporting clubs which use the facilities. The planning includes new and improved amenities with change rooms, shade structures and a shared club room, complete with hot office facilities. An existing grant for a community facility could also be included in the project works.
- The building would also provide shaded areas for viewing and gathering that open out onto the adjoining fields.



ROAD AND PEDESTRIAN PATH WORKS

- These works include safety enhancements to the road infrastructure from the entry to the pavilion, upgraded parking around the complex as well as improvements to the entry statement and landscaping.
- An analysis of the overall flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic throughout the facility is required along recommendations on improvements. A particular focus on entry safety will be sought.
- The existing roads require surfacing, alignment and other improvements to allow safer passage of vehicles through the site. Road surface improvements, markings and drainage design should form part of the study and implementation.
- Visual cues to manage vehicle speeds, slow zones and other traffic calming devices around pedestrian circulation routes.
- An efficient and safe pedestrian footpath design will highlight pedestrian crossing points through the use of visual cues and special treatments.

PARKING PROVISION

- Refinement of the sportsgrounds parking strategy that plans for the next decade of the sites parking requirements.
- Implementation of the priority elements of the parking strategy across the project area, which should particularly address current areas of demand such as the ovals and the surrounding sports fields.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND LIGHTING

- Architecture needs are to be met, including an entry statement, attractive fencing and shade trees that would add considerable appeal and functionality to the complex.
- Use of lighting designs that provide personal safety and potential security monitoring through CCTV.

High Priority Level

SWIMMING POOL UPGRADES

The Katherine Aquatic Centre is in great need of upgrades to raise it to a regional/ territory level facility suitable for use as the Big Rivers Region venue.

- Proposed elements include the retiling of the pool, upgraded infrastructure, renovation of the whole facility, provision of greater BBQ facilities at the site, potential water play area, bermed landscaping mounds for seating, shaded areas for seating and new full pool shading.
- This facility is owned by Council and managed by the YMCA under a contract arrangement.

Medium Priority Level

YMCA HENRY SCOTT BUILDING UPGRADE

Whilst still identified as a priority, the benefits of this project are relatively less important as a result of the clearly identified needs of the community for an upgraded pavilion to service the ovals and the swimming pool upgrades when compared to the relatively lesser need for indoor courts as part of the Master Plan.

- The upgraded YMCA indoor multi-use facility will provide two basketball courts that could also be used for indoor soccer, netball, badminton and other sports. This upgraded venue would provide much greater usage into the wet season and a series of new recreation options.
- Should the project proceed in conjunction with the pavilion and swimming pool, Council would consider an agreement to take over the ownership of the Henry Scott facility so as to provide a reasonably priced service to the community and lease the management out to a group such as

Other Priority Level Projects

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND UPGRADES

- Other minor improvements to the Adventure Playground would also be achieved and funded by Council during the same period. Improvements would include upgraded shade sails, more parent seating and potentially more play equipment.

Swimming Pool Shade Cover Inspirational Image



STAKEHOLDERS

KTC and the selected consultants will take the lead on the project for the design, planning and construction; with support for the design concepts stage from the YMCA, NTG and sportsground user representatives.

The existing Katherine Sportsgrounds User Committee have already contributed greatly to the Master Plan and will be consulted on the key aspects of the design. KTC have a good relationship with the YMCA.

KTC have very strong architectural and project management experience in designing and constructing sports facilities through current staff in previous roles.

PROPOSED TIMELINE

Timelines for consultative processes and indicative construction milestones would be agreed with the NTG so as to achieve its goals should the project be funded.

Element	Cost	Who
Project Management	250,000	KTC In-Kind
Highest Priority Level		
Sports Pavilion	4,100,000	NTG/KTC/Users
Road & Parking Enhancements	900,000	NTG
Landscape Architect	300,000	KTC
High Priority Level		
Swimming Pool Upgrades	2,150,000	NTG/KTC
Medium Priority Level		
YMCA Upgrade for Multi-use Indoor Courts	5,100,000	NTG
Adventure Playground Upgrades	50,000	KTC
TOTAL	12,850,000	

Funding from:

• Katherine Town Council (cash + in-kind)	300,000
• Katherine Town Council (in-kind)	250,000
• YMCA Contribution (to be confirmed)	100,000
• Sportsgrounds Users	100,000
Funding sought from NTG for major priorities only	7,050,000 (excludes YMCA funding)
Funding sought from NTG for all priorities	12,100,000