



OUR FIVE-YEAR PLAN 2015–2019

Kyneton Transition Hub – Our Five-Year Plan 2015–2019

About the Transition Network movement

Kyneton Transition Hub is part of the world-wide Transition Network movement. This movement began in 2005 as a response to the twin pressures of peak oil and climate change. It involves people working together to help their local community become more resilient and self-sufficient as the world transitions to a post-carbon and lower energy future. At the heart of the movement is the work of “relocalising” the essential elements a community needs to survive and thrive. These elements include food, energy, transport, waste and recycling, housing, and the means of exchange.

About the Kyneton Transition Hub

In 2010, over 100 residents met up at the Kyneton Conference to explore different scenarios for Kyneton’s future. A small group among them decided to join the emerging Transition Network movement. The Kyneton Transition Hub was born and has since evolved into a network of around 20 people directly involved in activities, and several hundred people regularly receiving information and taking part in activities. Our main focus to date has been on food and how we can grow more of it locally and in self-sufficient ways.

Our common purpose

We are working together to help make Kyneton and surrounding communities stronger, happier and more resilient as we all deal with the impacts of peak oil and climate change.

Who is involved

Kyneton Transition Hub is open to anyone who wants to be involved. There are no membership fees or any official membership list. We are associated with the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group which auspices our grants applications and provides insurance cover for our activities and events. We have a core group of people who meet monthly and manage the day to day business of the Hub.

The way we work

An important part of the way Kyneton Transition Hub works is not to duplicate what people are already doing in the Kyneton area, but to support and build on that. We do this by keeping up to date on who is doing what, sharing information widely through our website and other communication channels, and putting people in touch with each other. We sometimes take the initiative and set up new activities where none currently exist. Where possible, we do this in partnership with other groups and organisations.

Everything we do is done by volunteers and we are mindful that the energy and time people have to put into activities and events will vary over time. We also recognise that to keep things humming along, there needs to be a strong core group who can provide leadership, set the tone for the way the Hub works and do the “behind the scenes” organising work.

A new five-year plan

This five-year plan was developed by the current core group in consultation with other interested members. Together we looked at what Kyneton Transition Hub has achieved so far, our strengths as a community group, and the individual passions and interests of the people involved. We also took stock of what is needed to do to make sure the Hub itself continues to be a strong, happy and resilient organisation.

We have set out a vision for where we want to be in five years' time. We've also identified two areas that we believe we need to focus on to help Kyneton go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

Our vision for 2019

Kyneton Transition Hub is seeding and supporting many local initiatives to help the community transition smoothly to a post-carbon world, and become stronger, happier and more resilient along the way.

If we are successfully making progress towards our vision, we expect to see:

1. Transition Network principles being understood and applied more widely:
 - demonstration projects and prototypes being taken up more widely
 - positively influencing local government, community groups and local business decision-making
 - individual stories of change.

2. An increase in overall activity:
 - number of working groups we're involved in (e.g. transport, energy production, energy conservation, waste management, water use)
 - number of people directly involved in activities
 - number of people receiving information about Kyneton Transition Hub.

Our two main areas of focus

1. Making Kyneton Transition Hub Strong
2. Growing our Transition Activities and Impact

How we will prioritise the work

There are many things we could do and at times the size of the task can seem overwhelming. We want to work in a way that will make the best use of people's interests, skills and energy. When considering new areas to get involved in, we will work through these questions to help us make good decisions.

Is anyone already working on this? If someone is, can we refer it onto them? Is it outside the scope of Transition Network principles and therefore off-limits for us? If not, should we make a start? What are our criteria for deciding?

If we decide to take something on, we will then consider what time, resources and skills we have available from among our members. To do justice to the work that will be involved, if our capacity to be involved is currently limited, we may decide to work on a small scale, with an eye to expanding where and when the time is right. Some projects may come with their own existing resources or offer opportunities to tap into funding and others support.

1. Making Kyneton Transition Hub Strong

PROPOSED ACTION	WHEN	WHO LEADS
<p>1. Provide strong, united and inspiring leadership on the Transition model.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: for example, training in leadership skills and working with change for core group and other interested members; communicating consistent messages.)</i></p>		
<p>2. Build our membership in order to increase our capacity to meet our objectives.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: e.g. one way we could do this is to present regular forums on aspects of the Transition movement; explore the potential for a KTH shopfront in a prominent place – could start small e.g. a display board in the centre of town)</i></p>		
<p>3. Research different governance models in the Transition literature and other community development approaches and decide on an appropriate model for KTH.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: refer to the Transition Network’s new support framework (published December 2014) http://www.transitionnetwork.org/blogs/rob-hopkins/2014-12/our-new-support-framework-here-give-it-go-and-let-us-know-what-you-think; refer to KTH’s previous work from 2013 when it reviewed the core group structure and processes.)</i></p>		
<p>4. Write a set of material that explains Kyneton Transition Hub and the Transition movement clearly and concisely.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: describe it in a way that is easily understood by people the first time they come across it.)</i></p>		
<p>5. Build on the skills of the core group and other interested members in governance, community development, community organising, partnership development and other useful skills.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: Council may have people who can assist e.g. with community development; could have guest speakers from organisations like Our Community.)</i></p>		
<p>6. Anticipate the potential for tension and conflict in this work and build people’s skills in resolving differences peacefully.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: offer training courses, hold discussion groups on the topic; consider whether it could possibly fit within an Inner Transition Group.)</i></p>		
<p>7. Keep the credibility of KTH high by making sure any information presented to the public is evidence-based and reliable, or has appropriate disclaimers.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: perhaps some system for vetting public information?)</i></p>		
<p>8. Ensure KTH is able to fund its priorities and maintain financial sustainability.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: research how other Transition Network communities, social enterprises and other not-for-profits have gone about this.)</i></p>		

2. Growing Our Transition Activities and Impact

PROPOSED ACTION	WHEN	WHO LEADS
<p>1. Explore possible approaches to setting up new KTH working groups.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: e.g. compile a list of experts in the community who might like to become involved; potential leaders to host forums; explore partnership opportunities; conduct surveys – all with a view to launching a new working group, say, every 12-18 months.)</i></p>		
<p>2. Make a plan for how to engage people from different backgrounds, groups and settings.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: target groups could include women, men, young people, people in their 20s and 30s, older people, people who live in the town, people who live outside the town, different work settings, small business operators, government agencies and so on; for each group, think about what their interest in the Transition Network might be, what they might be able to contribute, and how best to connect with them e.g. in person, in writing, through public events; consider forming a KTH Welcoming Group whose role is to welcome new members, provide them with information, put them at ease.)</i></p>		
<p>3. Develop a communication plan with tailored approaches for different groups and sectors.</p> <p><i>(Initial points to consider: use different technologies and formats for different groups e.g. letters and brochures for elderly people, website and social media for young people, young adults and older people who are up to date on technology.)</i></p>		

For more information: go to our website where you'll find information about local activities as well as links to the world-wide Transition Network movement <http://kynetontransitionhub.com/>.