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 **Game-changer: new netball pavilion for Lorne**

For Lorne netballers, 2020 marks a new year, new coach and new netball pavilion.

With pre-season underway, Lorne Football Netball Club netball president Carly Enticott is excited for the next 12 months both on and off the court. As part of the Stribling Reserve Pavilions Redevelopment project, construction of a new netball pavilion will be underway this year.

“It’s going to provide all of our participants – from people aged 3 to 65 – with safe, warm and spacious change areas,” Ms Enticott said. “We’re especially excited it’s going to have multiple functions and provide the wider community with a brilliant facility. Stribling Reserve is the cornerstone of our community and is integral to the health and wellbeing of so many – from school students to sportspeople to community groups.”

Ms Enticott is one of numerous community members who have teamed up with Surf Coast Shire Council to help deliver the Stribling Reserve Pavilions Redevelopment project. The project will also see an upgrade of the main pavilion including the social rooms – scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2021.

The netball pavilion will provide netballers with new amenities that are more comfortable, functional and meet Netball Victoria requirements. It will feature change rooms and amenities for home and away teams, an accessible toilet, an office, first aid/trainers’ room, umpire amenities and storage. It can also be used by the wider community as a space to hire.

“Our current netball facilities are very basic, with no toilets or showers attached to the building,” Ms Enticott said. “Storage is minimal and privacy for players is often challenged with large windows around the main areas. The Stribling Reserve Committee has been very supportive of installing privacy blinds, but a new facility is going to make an enormous impact on our club.

“To be able to have an accessible toilet accessed from the court will be exceptional, as will a separate changing space for our male umpires who previously have not been catered for.”

The Dolphins will be led by newly-appointed coach Zoe Donne in 2020, with Ms Enticott handing over the reins after 10 years at the helm. She described the new coach as “the perfect candidate to take over and bring her experience and knowledge from a higher level”.

Lorne Ward Councillor Clive Goldsworthy said the pavilions redevelopment was a key project in the Stribling Reserve Masterplan, endorsed in 2017.

“The masterplan was the result of an innovative partnership between Lorne community members and Surf Coast Shire Council, and is guiding future improvements to the reserve,” he said. “Both the upgraded netball and main pavilions will provide opportunities for Lorne locals and the wider community to participate in a range of activities, including sports, community events and meetings.”

The $6.6 million project is underpinned by $3.3 million from the Australian Government Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF). The BBRF grant is being matched by Council, and includes a community contribution.

To find out more about the project and stay up-to-date, visit [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/striblingreserve](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/striblingreserve)

**Not for publication:**

For further information
Kate Fowles - Communications Officer (Monday to Wednesday)
5261 0564 / 0428 436 489

Sarah Gleeson – Communications Officer (Thursday and Friday)
5264 9297 / 0419 302 736