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WHEELS TURNING ON FRIENDLIES OVAL UPGRADE

A steering committee, made up of representatives of the Friendlies Oval Committee and relevant Councillors and Council staff, have met for the first time to get the ball rolling on the Friendlies Oval upgrade.

Strathbogrie Shire welcomed a \$100,000 funding announcement in January from the Victorian Government's Community Sports Infrastructure – Cricket Facilities Fund.

The upgrade will include the following items:

- ✓ A new surface for the oval, including the widening and slight lengthening of the oval to create an even playing surface
- ✓ Installation of a new watering system
- ✓ Replacement of existing perimeter fencing with white picket fencing
- ✓ Installation of three turf wickets.

The project plan, scoping and design are currently being developed and is forecast to go out to tender in the coming months.

Friendlies Oval Committee member and one of the drivers of the project, Rob Asquith said the Euroa community has been so generous in their support for the project and he is looking forward to seeing things get underway.

"It is exciting in several ways; not only is it going to be a magnificent sporting ground for our community, but it will be a beautification point from the northern side of Euroa with the lovely white picket fencing," Mr Asquith said.

Strathbogrie Shire Deputy Mayor Cr John Mason is a member of the steering committee, alongside Cr Mick Williams, and said he is really excited to be working closely with such an enthusiastic group.

"It's great to be able to get things started and to have such a highly committed group of people steering this project," Cr Mason said.

"The Friendlies Oval Upgrade has received huge support from our community and the end product will be a high calibre facility which will be utilised by the whole community and situated on one of the main entrances to the town."

The \$210,000 upgrade will be funded through the grant, in conjunction with over \$50,000 raised by the Friendlies Oval Committee and a \$50,000 contribution from Council.

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