

**PRESENT:**

Nik Sandeman-Allen (Chair) Care + Mobility  
Alex Momot - Camden Haven Access & vision impairment representative  
Brian Bucket - Access Building Designer  
George Payne - Wauchope seniors representative  
Helen Booby - physical disability representative  
Max Waters - Port Macquarie Access & vision impairment representative  
Mike Ipsen - Camden Haven Access & physical disability representative  
Sharon Beard - Education Access representative  
Vicky Whitfield - physical disability representative  
Julie Priest (PMHC) - Aged & Disability Officer

**01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

**02 APOLOGIES**

Tom Kennedy has resigned from the Access Committee and we will miss him and acknowledge all his hard work in previous years.

Absent with apology: Angela Harrison, Phil White  
Absent without apology: Peter McLeod

Consensus:

That the apologies be received.

**03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE HASTINGS ACCESS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2011**

Consensus:

That the Minutes of the Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 14 November 2011 be confirmed.

**04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

**05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Town Beach to CBD:**

The Chair acknowledged the General Manager Tony Haywards' speech at the International Day of People with Disability event and that it is fantastic to pilot the "yellow brick road" concept from Town Beach to Town.

Discussion about the Committee trialing the route to note any access improvements that are needed. This to be planned for Friday 24th February. Name of the community project "yellow Brick road " to be investigated by Julie in case the name is trade- marked.

The Chair also requested the GM to nominate a champion for this project. After discussion the GM and Chair have agreed that the council champion is Cliff Toms, Manager, Technical Services.

Committee discussed second route would be best at the Garden Village which was also nominated by the Country Labor Party.

Vicky advised that she had noticed that the footpath around McDonald's had been smoothed out which is a good outcome from the event.

Brian spoke about the Town Centre Masterplan Committee of which he is also a member and invited the Access Committee to provide representatives to meet with them.

Consensus:

1. Access Committee thanks General Manger for his support and accept the proposed Town Beach to Town Green as the first "yellow brick road' route.
2. Access Committee members meet 10am Friday 24 February at Town Beach and travel the pilot route to town identifying any access issues along the way.
3. Julie to investigate the "yellow brick road" for trademark conditions.
4. Brian Bucket to arrange meeting with Town Centre Masterplan Committee and representatives from the Access Committee.
5. The second route nominated is Garden Village and surrounds

#### 5.2 Update about North Haven tidal pool:

The ramp that the Access Committee requested will be included in the scope of works for improvements at North Haven including upgrade to the public toilets.

Consensus:

Julie to provide updates about project schedule when more information comes to hand.

#### 5.3 Review of concept plan of Wauchope All Abilities Playground:

Committee congratulated Council on the Project. Upon review made the following comments:

- Liked the idea of slippery dip being built into the mound – however would like to see mound available as arts / performance space;
- Sensory Garden at wheelchair accessible height;
- Music play and double width slippery dip great;
- Very important to have merry-go-round spinner that is wheelchair accessible;
- Good that playground is fenced especially for children with autism;
- Bike Circuit to not exceed Australian Standard for pathway i.e. 1 in 20 incline;
- Rotary/Lions may be interested in raising funds; and

- Men's Shed may be interested in creating logs for balance beams.

Two concepts were tabled and included 4 drawings by Landscape Architect Lucilla Marshall.

5.4 Update about Access Committee involvement with the logistics group for the Port Macquarie Base Hospital building expansion.

Brian and Julie spoke about attending these meetings. Brian advised that at peak times (8.30am to 11am) the Hospital is short 70 car parking spaces. Council is currently negotiating with Ramsays Health Care in regards to the second vehicle entrance road.

Consensus:

Brian and Julie to attend the upcoming meeting on the 16th February.

5.5 Update about ramp for Indoor Basketball Stadium – Wauchope:

Julie thanked the Chair for his letter requesting Council exceed the Australian Standards and construct a wider ramp to enable mobility scooters (with wider turning circle) to be able to use the ramp. Julie advised that Buildings Facilities will be constructing the ramp and although due to costings cannot build it extra wide they have reconfigured the top turning/landing area and by squaring it off created a larger space.

Consensus:

Ramp has been reconfigured to enable a larger space at the top of the turning/landing.

5.6 Review of DA for proposed addition to St Agnes Retirement Village:

Six drawings were tabled of St Agnes Village. The Committee reviewed the DA plans and wrote on the plans recommendations including review of bathroom size to conform with AS1428, automatic garage doors instead of panel lift, ramp access at back of deck instead of steps and for sliding doors tracks to be inlaid so not a tripping hazard.

Consensus:

Review to be submitted to DA.

5.7 Wauchope – need for access friendly bus scheduled on Route 355:

Julie advised that she has met with a Wauchope resident and Ben Hamilton from Disability Advocacy. There are no Busways buses that are access friendly that travel between Port Macquarie and Wauchope. Julie has written a letter to the Busways head office in Sydney requesting that an access friendly bus is scheduled at least twice daily (one in the morning, one in the afternoon) as there is no accessible public transport for Wauchope residents.

Consensus:

1. Julie will provide an update about the correspondence with Busways at the next meeting.

2. The Committee is very supportive in championing the need for an access friendly bus to be regularly scheduled – especially with the rail link in Wauchope.

5.8 Bold Street Laurieton – recommend location of new accessible car parking space:

Traffic & engineering have requested the Access Committee to recommend the location of an additional accessible car parking space in Bold Street. The Committee discussed options with Alex and Mike suggesting some possible locations including a spot near the Newsagents.

Consensus:

Mike Ipsen to take photos of a couple of possible locations on Bold Street and email Julie with his recommendations which will be forwarded on to Traffic & Engineering.

5.9 Mobi Mats – discuss temporary accessible parking mats which can be rolled out for event parking:

The General Manager has met with Leslie Williams who suggested temporary Mobi Mats to be put in place during events such as the Westport Markets. This would add an extra 2 accessible car parking spaces. The mats are heavy duty and could be stored at the depot with event organisers using the mats as part of their DA/Events applications i.e. if audience attendance is major or medium then they have to hire the mobi mats. Nik suggested that event organisers hire the mats for a small fee and the funds be used to replace the mobi mats or buy additional ones.

Leslie Williams has no budget to purchase the mats. Julie and Maya Spannari (Community Development Officer) are looking at Club Grants to see if Council is eligible to apply for a grant to buy two Mobi Mats (Cost \$8000 each).

Consensus:

1. Access Committee thanks Leslie Williams for her Mobi mats initiative.
2. Julie and Maya to investigate Clubs Grants.

## **06 GENERAL BUSINESS**

6.1 Call for nominations from Committee members for 12 month role of Chairperson:

As per the Access Committee Terms of Reference the position of Chair is a 12 month role. Julie thanked Nik, the current Chair for the previous year, especially for his leadership with the Access Friendly Scheme and the “Yellow Brick Road” project.

Julie advised that she had corresponded with Angela Harrison (who was an apology for this meeting) and she was not nominating for the role. The outgoing Chair advised that he was willing to nominate for another 12 months – unless some-one else on the Committee would like this role and if so he would not stand again.

Julie called for nominations with none other forthcoming. The Committee expressed it's unanimous endorsement of Nik to continue as Chair for another 12 month term and heartily congratulated him on the wonderful job he had done during the preceding year.

Consensus:

Unanimous vote in agreement by the Committee Members that Mr Nik Sandeman-Allen elected to serve a further 12 month term as Chair of the Hastings Access Sub-Committee.

#### 6.2 Work, Health & Safety induction and sign-off:

The Committee members each received a copy of the PMHC Code of Conduct and the PMHC Work Health & Safety guidelines. Julie explained that volunteers (including the members of the Access Committee) are to comply with all of these policies and to be aware of their responsibilities. The Committee members were requested to keep the booklets and read them.

The Committee members with a vision impairment advised that a family member would read the information out to them.

Consensus:

At the next Committee Meeting in March the members will be requested to sign documentation to say that they have received and read (understood) the information and will abide by the policies.

#### 6.3 Wauchope Access Improvements:

George raised the access improvements needed in Wauchope including a ramp at the new accessible car parking space and a kerb ramp at Lasiandra Park to enable access to the accessible toilet. Julie advised that these access requests are logged and in the queue.

Consensus:

Cliff Toms, Manager, Technical Services to be invited to attend the next Access meeting.

#### 6.4 Access Maps:

Max raised the issue of the new access map not happening and that Linda Hall (Manager, Tourism) had offered to assist with printing costs. Julie apologised for the delay.

Consensus:

Access maps sent with the minutes for the Committee to review

#### 6.5 Glasshouse Access Improvements:

Helen requested an updated report of progress of Glasshouse improvements be provided – including the width of the fire doorway.

Consensus:

Update report of Glasshouse access progress be tabled at the next meeting

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**6.6 Laurieton – Access improvements:**

Alex raised the issue of onstreet A-frame signage which posed an obstacle on the footpath and is a tripping hazard and were non-compliant with regulations.

Alex identified a hazard on Seymour Street with temporary hoarding blocking a footpath and raised the request for a pedestrian refuge on Seymour Street to enable a safe and direct route from Bold Street to the Laurieton United Services Club.

Julie advised the pedestrian refuge request is in the queue for works improvement

Consensus:

1. Julie to request a Ranger to visit Laurieton and conduct an onsite inspection.
2. Cliff Toms, Manager, Technical Services to be invited to attend the next Access meeting.

**6.7 Horton Street – additional access car parking space:**

Brian raised the issue of new access car parking spaces at the end of Horton Street (near CWA). These new spaces created parking spots closer to the public toilets, however have created extra ramp and in that small area there are a number of access parking spaces and ramps. The Council has added the extra spaces, not relocated the spaces at Crema.

The Committee thought this could be an opportunity for extra access car parks in the town centre which are needed but balanced with the need for more general parking spots.

Consensus:

To be included as an agenda item for discussion when the Access representatives meet with the Town Centre Masterplan Committee.

**6.8 Park Street – North Harbour:**

Nik identified that Pykon Constructions have a missing link in the footpath at their development site in North Harbour.

Consensus:

Julie to discuss with Development Assessment team in regards to the DA requirements for this site.

**6.9 New Carpark at Aldi:**

Nik raised the issue of the accessible car parking spaces at the new Aldi supermarket. A pedestrian crossing runs through the shared zone of the accessible car parks. Julie advised that the Building Certifier was from a private Sydney firm.

Consensus:

Julie to correspond with the Building Certifier requesting them to justify the design of the car park in regards to Australian Standards. Nik to counter-sign the letter.

6.10 Tourism Audit:

Nik raised with the General Manager a discussion about accessible tourism. The GM advised Nik to review the audit of access friendly tourism from Linda Hall (Tourism Manager) and Chamber of Commerce.

Consensus:

Access Friendly review to be tabled at next meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday 12 March 2012

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 4.10pm.