

PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Rob Turner (Chairperson)
Councillor Lisa Intemann (alternate)
Lyndel Bosman (Guide Dogs NSW)
Brian Bucket
George Payne
Helen Booby
Max Waters
Sharon Beard
Lucilla Marshall (PMHC Group Manager Community Place)
Julie Priest (PMHC Place Facilitator - Aged & Disability)

Other Attendees:

Anthony Clarke
Julie Haraksin
Ian Irwin
Ben Oultram
Jeffrey Tapping
Carmel Tapping
Bruce Gibbs
Michelle van Zenen (Mid Coast Communities & Ability Links)

The meeting opened at 2.05pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Elizabeth Rose, Mike Ipsen, Phil White and Vicky Whitfield be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2015 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.14 Access Friendly Project:

The Committee provided an update on the visit to Rydges and Mercure. It was disappointing to note that Rydges had replaced the shower curtain with a perspex screen making it non-compliant. Mercure had four fantastic accessible rooms.

Clr Turner requested that Sails Resort be included in the next visit. Other suggestions include The Observatory and Ki-ea. Sharon Beard requested a roster system with four in a team.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Mercure be sent a letter and stickers welcoming them as members of Access Friendly business (with small tyrex wedge needed for lip of the balcony) and that Rydges be sent a letter advising them of the Committees disappointment about their non-compliant bathroom.
2. That Sails Resort, The observatory and Ki-ea be scheduled for Access Friendly visits.

5.17 Access Requests:

1. *Accessible car park requests*

House with No Steps has volunteered for one of their teams to audit all the car parking spaces and review the accessible car parks for compliance and count the number of carparks, location and ratio.

The Lake Cathie Shopping Centre is owned by Ocean Drive Holdings Pty Ltd in Wollongong.

George Payne and Brian Bucket spoke about accessible car parks needing both painted symbols on the road and large signage at eye height.

CONSENSUS:

1. That when the carpark audit is completed the Access Committee review the information.
2. That Ocean Drive Holdings are contacted in regards to advocating for additional accessible car parking spaces.

2. Disability Friendly Bus stops

ACES are continuing to measure and audit the bus stops.

3. Access issues

The kerb and gutter at Bridge and Hollingsworth was inspected and a map tabled showing the lack of kerb ramps. Joeys Day Care Centre has moved from 121 Bridge Street and this is now the office of Alzheimer's Australia. Cllr Turner spoke about the Master Plan for the area. Lyndel Bosman requested that the TGSI's be imbedded in the design. George Payne spoke about High Street Wauchope and cars scrape doors adjacent to the kerb. Lucilla Marshall advised about the High Street Plan currently being designed for the area.

CONSENSUS:

1. That the kerb and TGSI's needed for Bridge and Hollingsworth Sts be included in the Roads & Maritime grant application with discussion with the Traffic Engineer in regards to the Master Plan for the area.
2. That Alzheimer's Australia be contacted in regards to the footpath in front of their premises.

4. Access Works**CONSENSUS:**

That an update be provided at the next meeting about the construction of the Long Flat accessible public toilet.

5. Accessible Arts

Accessible Arts is undertaking \$70,000 worth of projects in our LGA. Julie provided an update with the puppet in a wheelchair theatre and Eric the Illustrator children's book to be launched on International Day of People with Disability 3rd December and the Committee will receive invitations to attend. The community public art installation of a giant whale tale (themed recycling and nautical) with participation by NewIDAFE, House With No Steps, Hastings Headway and ACES will be launched at the Fire, Water, Harvest Festival on Town Green in early November.

6. Roads & Maritime services Active Transport Grant

This grant is for pedestrian access to key routes which link the towns eg. the route from the Library to the Glasshouse. Maps were tabled showing location of proposed kerb ramps. Julie Haraksin requested Munster and Church Street be included.

CONSENSUS:

That the following kerb ramps with imbedded TGSI's be included in the grant application

Port Macquarie:

- 2 x kerb ramps Munster / New Street footpath (for route from Glasshouse to Library)
- 2 x kerb ramps Church and Grant Street footpath
- Along Park St headed toward settlement city (Park and Warlters St)
- Park street (near Port Marina)
- Buller St footbridge - steep gradient of ramp non compliant at footbridge (between the bridge and motel)
- 3 Bagnoo Place kerb ramp needed for pre-school (Port Macquarie Pre-School)
- Murray Street where pedestrian ramp meets footpath at Port Central Carpark is a 2 inch drop
- Murray Street - pedestrian kerb ramp needed opposite the Port Macquarie Court House
- Murray St - pedestrian kerb ramp needed at Port Macquarie Court House
- Hughes Place - kerb ramp for Melaleuca Residents
- 41 Munster Street Port Macquarie Community Pre-school

Camden Haven:

- Ocean Drive - footpath near Short Street needs kerb ramp to access footpath / motel accommodations
- Laurie Street, Laurieton kerb ramp needed at footpath linking to Retirement Village

7. Yellow Brick Road

Clr Turner led a discussion about Yellow Brick Road (YBR) which was a one off grant used to link Findley Ave (Retirement Village) to local Shopping Centre (Growers). Council is filling in key missing links so that high use footpaths are connected.

Clr Intemann advised that Council has allocated \$500,000 per year to filling in the missing footpath links. Max Waters discussed that during the evolution of the project there was discussion that different colours would signify different routes. Brian Bucket advised that the TCMP is looking at upgrading the whole breakwall area. Lucilla Marshall advised that footpaths would be six metres wide in this area. Moving forward YBR has been completed as a one off grant project.

CONSENSUS:

That Committee members are provided with a document of the Access Committee priority pathways and PAMP.

06 GENERAL BUSINESS

06.01 Request for wheelchair accessible ramp at North Haven River Pool:

Michelle van Zenen from Mid Coast Communities (Ability Links) addressed the Committee. Ability Links have purchased an all terrain wheelchair for Camden Haven and are seeking suggestions for where it can be stored so the community can easily access it for free hire. Michelle showed photo of the North Haven river pool and requested a wheelchair accessible ramp into the river pool. Julie Priest advised that Council had recently constructed a wheelchair accessible toilet and shower room and linking footpath to the two accessible car parks. Potentially the ramp could be funded from the Council Buildings & Facilities access budget.

Michelle spoke about Henry Kendall Reserve and makeshift boat ramp and if there could also be a ramp there. Cllr Turner asked if this was a highly used venue and committee advised that it was not.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Mike Ipsen advise of any organisations that could house the all terrain wheelchair and that Ben Oultram contact ACES and New IDAFE for suggestions too.
2. That the proposal is costed and investigated and brought back to the Committee for consideration as part of the access improvements to Councils buildings and facilities.

06.02 Footpaths and property shorelining:

Lyndel Bosman tabled a Guide Dogs document and spoke about how people with low vision or who are blind move around by using the shoreline of a property to guide them. Their preference is to have café, street furniture, clothes racks, and A Frames etc located along the kerb side of the footpath, and wherever possible the property line is free and maintained a 1.8m width.

Brian Bucket advised that in the Port Macquarie CBD the TCMP have required A Frames to be licensed and forbidden in front of shops. Outdoor dining not in front of shops but minimum 1.3m from the shoreline in low pedestrian traffic area and 1.8m in high pedestrian traffic area. Cllr Intemann spoke about public seating and if it is located on the kerb then it is not covered by an awning. Discussion about mix use and needs from a variety of users and interests in the community. Lyndal suggested street furniture is square ended and if café tables and chairs have a small barrier (such as potplant border or banner border) then would really help. Julie Haraksin and Ian Irwin spoke how they prefer different locations on the footpath to dodge pedestrians walking out of shops. The Australian Standards AS1428 do not specify where on the footpath clearance must be maintained just that an unobstructed accessible path must be maintained.

CONSENSUS:

That the Access Committee develop some guidelines regarding footpaths and property shorelining at the next meeting.

06.03 Review of DA for Student Housing Kingfisher Road, Port Macquarie:

The Access Committee reviewed the DA with Julie Priest to follow up the following questions:

- How many accessible rooms in total?
 - Which toilets in the student hubs are accessible?
 - Do the gradients linking car parks to accommodation comply with AS1428?
 - Where are the lifts located? This could impact on social isolation and interact ability.
 - Is the entrance to the student hub compliant with AS1428?
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The meeting closed at 4.00pm.