

PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Rob Turner (Chairperson)
Anthony Clarke
Ben Oultram
Elizabeth Rose
Helen Booby
Ian Irwin
Jeffrey Tapping
Julie Haraksin
Lyndel Bosman
Max Waters
Mike Ispen
Sharon Beard
Julie Priest (PMHC Aged & Disability Officer)

Other Attendees:

Nil

The meeting opened at 2:00pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Councillor Lisa Intemann (alternate), Bruce Gibbs, Phil White and Lucilla Marshall (PMHC Group Manager Community Development) be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 15 February 2016 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.14 Access Friendly Project:

Discussion about KFC stair lifter which still appears to be out of order. Discussion about Sails Resort with refurbishments expected to take at least a further 10 months. The Committee reported on the business friendly visit to Roto House and Koala Hospital attended by Max Waters, Ben Oultram, Julie Haraksin, Ian Irwin and Julie Priest. Discussion about Building Professionals Board and accreditation of private certifiers. Ian Irwin discussed lifts in apartment blocks, especially those built in silos.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Julie Priest contact KFC Management and request an onsite meeting regarding stair lifter and Ben Oultram, Julie Haraksin and Ian Irwin be invited to attend meeting.
2. That Access Committee request a site visit to Sails Resort once refurbishment is complete (likely to be in February 2017).
3. That National Parks be advised access recommendations for Roto House to include small wedge at all doorways leading onto the verandah for smooth transition, deck have handrail/kerbrail or contrast colour painted on the deck perimeter, seat at toilets be moved half a metre so is not a pinch point for access to the men's amenities, that veterinary window and fencing at Koala Hospital is too high for viewing, recommend a surface treatment similar to Sea Acres for the dirt and mulch pathway. Suggest grant such as Club Grants for footpath treatment and that Access Committee is happy to provide a letter of support.
4. That Dan Croft, Group Manager Development Assessment, be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss accreditation for private certifiers and lifts in three-story+ apartments that are built in silos.

5.17.1 Accessible car park requests:

The Committee received a copy of the AS 2890.6:2009 Off-street parking for people with disabilities document.

CONSENSUS:

That Julie Priest arrange an accessible car park audit for Port Macquarie (with Ben Oultram, Julie Haraksin and Ian Irwin), for Camden Haven (with Mike Ipsen and Anthony Clarke) but Wauchope (with Lyndel Bosman) to be on hold due to RMS plans to move parking spaces on High Street and Hastings Street.

5.17.2 Disability Friendly Bus Stops:

The Committee discussed bus stops which had a footpath but no bus shelter and reviewed photos of some 40 possible locations with the aim to select 10 sites for a grant application. Max Waters and Cr Rob Turner formally thanked Bruce Gibbs for all his hard work in compiling this information.

CONSENSUS:

1. That bus stops 244415 Pacific Drive at Flynn's Beach, 2444121 Port Macquarie Airport and 24441777 Port Macquarie Base Hospital are the top three priorities.
2. That the remaining seven sites be reviewed by Julie Priest and Bruce Gibbs and be recommended at the next Committee Meeting for endorsement.

5.17.3 Access issues:

Committee were advised that the proposed installation of an accessible kerb ramp outside Players theatre is scheduled to be built by end of April.

5.17.4 Access works:

Committee were advised that the new Long Flat accessible toilet module has been ordered. Lake Cathie Fishing Platform is proceeding with Council Engineer to design the structure and the toilet module Committee selected to be ordered. Quote not received yet for installation of ramp at North Haven River and due to structural issues (condition of concrete, eco and tidal issues) it will not be affordable within our allocated budget.

5.17.5 Ability Links Beach Wheelchair:**CONSENSUS:**

That Committee be advised at next meeting of how and where National Parks will have the beach wheelchair available and how they will promote this community asset.

5.17.6 Adult Change Tables:

Discussion led by Ben Oultram about this concept.

CONSENSUS:

That the best venue to locate an adult change table would be at the proposed amenities at Food for Less Carpark when this site is revitalised.

5.17.7 PMHC Website:

Committee reviewed the PMHC website content for “Disability” and “Access”. Jeffrey Tapping led a discussion about economic benefits to community. Navigation with different pages appearing depending on search engine.

CONSENSUS:

1. That reference link to Disability Advocacy and Every Australian Counts is added.
2. That Access Committee and Access Friendly Business page is updated.
3. That Julie Priest discuss with Economic Growth team for Access Friendly business to be linked to tourism website.

Andy Roberts, Communication, Engagement and Marketing Team Leader to be invited to attend the next Committee meeting.

06 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.01 Proposed Accessible Toilet at Port Macquarie Historic Courthouse:

Committee discussed a Federal grant opportunity to demolish old toilet and install accessible toilet module which would be wrapped in material so outside has a ‘heritage’ look. Discussion about attitude of volunteers at site who have turned away committee members and that staff training is required. Lyndel Bosman spoke about installing a wayfinding sign showing access via the kitchen which would help reinforce that the venue is accessible.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Access Committee will provide a letter of support for Port Macquarie Historic Courthouse for their grant application upon request.
2. That Julie Priest request the Heritage Officer to meet with the volunteers to advise that the venue is accessible (via the kitchen).
3. That this venue is included on the itinerary for the next Access friendly visit.
4. That Building Facilities are requested to install a directional access sign indicating that access to venue is via the kitchen entrance.

6.02 Letter received from two mobility scooter using residents:

Committee reviewed letter.

CONSENSUS:

That the residents are advised that this is consistent with the need for footpath infrastructure that the Committee has identified and is in the pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. This year Council committed an extra \$500k to footpath infrastructure.

6.03 Seniors Week Expo:

Helen Booby advised that she represented the Committee at the Lincoln Garden Expo during Seniors Week. The main point of interest was the MLAK. The Committee discussed the National Public Toilet map and Anthony Clarke advised on the app.

CONSENSUS:

Councillor Rob Turner thanked Helen Booby for her fine work in representing the Committee.

6.04 New Maritime Building and Café at Town Beach:

Julie Haraksin and Ian Irwin spoke about the upgraded building and a step at café entrance before the counter and how the toilet doors opened in to the café area.

CONSENSUS:

That Dan Croft review the DA and advise the Committee in regards to the Australian Standards and compliance of the building at the next Access Committee meeting.

6.05 Access and Sundowner Caravan Park:

Ian Irwin discussed how inaccessible this site was with unnavigable gutters running along the grounds and if there was an accessible cabin.

CONSENSUS:

That Access Committee request Sundowner Caravan Park to visit the site at the next Access Friendly Business review.

6.06 Access complaints:

Ben Ultram asked how residents can contact council if they identify an access issue. Residents can call Council Customer Service on telephone 6581 8111, visit Customer Service or visit the council website and lodge a complaint or use "Snap, send, solve" app on their phone which takes a photo and lodges the complaint to the Council where the GPS on the photo is taken. (This can be used Australia-wide).

The meeting closed at 4:00pm.