
PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Rob Turner (Chairperson)
Ben Oultram
Elizabeth Rose
Helen Booby
Jeffrey Tapping
Sharon Beard
Julie Priest (PMHC Aged & Disability Officer)

Other Attendees:

John Nelson (Resident)
Dan Croft (PMHC Group Manager Development Assessment)
Rebecca Doblo (PMHC Landscape Architect)

The meeting opened at 2:15pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Councillor Lisa Intemann (alternate), Anthony Clarke, Bruce Gibbs, Ian Irwin, Julie Haraksin, Lyndel Bosman, Max Waters, Mike Ipsen, Phil White and Lucilla Marshall be accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS:

That the Minutes of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 18 April 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. Ben Oultram advised that the sign has been changed from 'out of order' to 'call Manager for assistance' which indicates that the stair lifter is working and management are trained in its operation.

Update provided about Charles Sturt University visit kindly arranged by Sharon Beard and also attending were Jeffrey Tapping, Julie Haraksin, Ian Irwin, Bruce Gibbs and Julie Priest. The Facilities Manager was very helpful and they will undertake several modifications (re-locating the car park sign which was in the middle of the footpath, adjusting all the doors, reviewing wayfinding signage to lifts).

5.17.1 Accessible car park audit.

CONSENSUS:

That Julie Priest will arrange an audit in the upcoming months with the allocated Committee members.

5.17.2 Disability Friendly Bus Stops:

Thank you to Bruce Gibbs who provided some worksheets showing bus stops. Nominated Bus Stops requiring bus shelters include Airport, Base Hospital, and Pacific Drive at Flynn's Beach. Bruce nominated Stop 244414 Pacific Dr opposite Arncliffe St, Stop 2444109 Ocean Drive at Platt St and Stop 2444118 Hastings River Drive adjacent to ALDI (Opposite Woods Street). Remaining four bus shelters to be nominated will be based in Wauchope and Laurieton.

Cr Turner discussed the bus shelter designs at City of Sydney which are backwards facing and fit in tight spaces.

CONSENSUS:

That streamline designed bus shelters be investigated and Cr Turner to provide a photo of the Sydney bus shelter design. That six sites will be nominated from Port Macquarie and two each from Wauchope and Laurieton for the grant application.

5.17.3 Access Issues:

The Committee were advised that the concrete kerb ramp at Players Theatre has been installed.

A request from the Heritage Arts and Culture Priorities Advisory Group for installation of a pedestrian crossing at Hay and William Streets (near St Thomas) was discussed. There is

a pedestrian refuge on William Street, the Committee has not received any other requests or issues raised with pedestrian egress in this area. Concerns about proximity of possible pedestrian crossing impact on queues with the signalised intersection and that discussions with RMS would have to be considered and considerable expense to install Australian Standard street lighting which is a requirement for a pedestrian crossing. In reviewing the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) there are higher priorities for pedestrian crossings and pedestrian refuges that have been identified to be installed elsewhere.

CONSENSUS:

That the Access Committee does not recommend a pedestrian crossing at Hay and Williams Street be installed at this time as this is not a short or medium term priority.

5.17.4 Access Works:

The Committee were advised that concreting has commenced for the installation of the new Long Flat accessible public toilet. That an access friendly visit can be arranged at the Historic Courthouse and unfortunately their s355 Committee did not put a grant application for an accessible toilet.

The Committee congratulated Matt Whatman on installing a ramp into the Wauchope pool. The Committee reviewed the three designs for an aquatic wheelchair which Council will purchase and recommend the two PVC designs. Cr Turner thanked Anthony Clarke for his feedback which he read out to the Committee.

Cr Turner advised that Council was successful in \$25k RMS grant for installing kerb ramps. Julie Priest tabled the map showing the locations that the Committee had prioritised.

CONSENSUS:

That Council proceed with getting quotes for the two PVC aquatic wheelchairs for the Wauchope pool.

5.17.5 Ability Links Wheelchair:

Julie Priest advised she has spoken to National Parks and Wildlife who are storing the beach wheelchair at Sea Acres. They do not have a brochure yet to promote the chair or a process in place for booking the chair and this is something they are working on over the next few weeks.

CONSENSUS:

That the brochure be tabled at the Access Committee meeting when it becomes available.

5.17.6 Website:

Information on the Access pages of Council's website is being updated.

**06 BREAKWALL CONCEPT PLANS PRESENTATION BY REBECCA DOBLO,
PMHC LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

Rebecca Doblo tabled concept design plans of the Breakwall which includes doubling the width of the footpath, installing two ramps, new lighting, three fishing platforms flush to the path, seating and wayfinding signage. The Committee congratulated Rebecca on the design which will be a great outcome for the community.

CONSENSUS:

That the Access Committee endorses the concept design plan of the Breakwall.

That the Landscape Architect review the option to include a third ramp in the middle: that a variety of seating is installed including seating with arms; that the bollard colour is reviewed in regards to having a colour contrast strip; that the footpath is reviewed in regards to shared way with cyclists and skateboarders; and that the Access Committee have input into the wayfinding signage to ensure the readability of the colour, contrast, font and font size.

**07 LAKE CATHIE WHEELCHAIR FRIENDLY FISHING PLATFORM CONCEPT
PLAN**

Julie Priest tabled the concept designs of the Lake Cathie Wheelchair Friendly Fishing Platform. The Committee discussed the design plans. Cr Turner raised how the Lake Cathie area needs proper planning on both sides of the Lake.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee endorses the concept design plans of the Lake Cathie Wheelchair Accessible Fishing Platform. That the handrail is reviewed so that toddlers cannot get underneath it. That the Access Committee endorse the removal of the existing toilets which have steps in front of them and the construction of a new toilet module which includes an accessible toilet and is funded from the Accessible Works for Buildings.

**08 RESIDENT JOHN NELSON TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ABOUT
DISABILITY ACCESS AND FOOTPATHS**

Resident John Nelson addressed the Committee and discussed lack of footpath access from Westport to the Port Macquarie Base Hospital and no pedestrian access to the Race Course. Mr Nelson also identified Buller St at Westport Park with uneven surfaces and gradients and the camber. The Committee discussed the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan with prioritising \$500k of footpath works last year and this year. The committee noted these concerns.

**09 DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT AND DISABILITY ACCESS PRESENTATION
BY DAN CROFT PMHC GROUP MANAGER DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT.**

Dan Croft discussed the accreditation process by the NSW Building Professionals Board. Different levels of accreditation ranging from A4 to A1 depending upon the type of DA that a private certifier is approved to issue a construction certificate. There is a serious disciplining process if an incorrect decision is made and is escalated through the Board.

Councils are unable to legally exceed the requirements in the Australian Standards and the Building Code of Australia. Discussion about the Aldi car park where it is permissible under the AS and although the interpretation of this may not be in the spirit of the Standards it is permissible.

Dan spoke about the upgrade at the Maritime Kiosk at Town Beach. The accessible amenity has an MLAK. The general toilet doors opening into the café area are a design issue which is separate to an access issue under the AS.

Dan spoke about three-storey apartments. They can be built without lifts with accessible room/s on the ground floor. The trigger point for a lift to be installed is that the building is four-storeys or higher. It is for the Body Corporate to maintain the lift/s in the building.

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Pedestrian Safety:

El Rose raised the issue of the Gordon Street and Hollingsworth round-a-bout which the foliage is again obstructing views.

CONSENSUS:

That a request is raised in the CRM for scheduled horticulture maintenance to enable sight lines for people using wheelchairs.

10.2 Community Network

Jeffrey Tapping discussed the need for a co-operative or disability network to serve as a forum for people asking information and seeking advice. This could be in the form of a Facebook group or online community forum where ideas are distributed and commented upon.

CONSENSUS:

Ben Oultram to discuss with NewIDAFE who currently issue a community newsletter.

The meeting closed at 3:50pm.