

## **PRESENT**

### **Members:**

Councillor Peter Alley (Chair)  
Ben Oultram  
Bruce Gibbs  
Helen Booby  
Ian Irwin  
Jeffrey Tapping  
Max Waters  
Mike Ipsen  
Sharon Beard  
Julie Priest (PMHC Aged & Disability Officer)

### **Other Attendees:**

Cheryl Dimmock – Guide Dogs  
Ally Costanzo  
Sandra Wilson  
Colleen Carmody

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The meeting opened at 2:00pm.

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## **01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

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The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

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## **02 APOLOGIES**

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### **CONSENSUS:**

That the apologies received from Councillor Sharon Griffiths (Deputy Chair), Anthony Clarke, Elizabeth Rose, Julie Haraksin, Lyndel Bosman, Phil White and Lucilla Marshall (PMHC Group Manager Community Development) be accepted.

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### **03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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#### **CONSENSUS:**

That the Minutes of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 1 August 2017 be confirmed.

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### **04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

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There were no disclosures of interest presented.

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### **05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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#### **5.01 Access Friendly Business Project**

Thank you to Cheryl Dimmock, Helen Booby, Jeffrey Tapping, Max Waters and Julie Priest for conducting the access friendly visit to shops under the Observatory and Port City Bowling Club. Discussion about the four accessible car parks which comply with Australian Standards and the steep gradient of the kerb ramp at the footpath.

#### **CONSENSUS:**

1. That Port City Bowling Club be granted access friendly business status (noting the exception of access to the buffet).
2. That Transport and Stormwater network investigate the steep gradient of the non-compliant kerb ramp on footpath outside of Port City Bowling Club.
3. That Committee members receive a copy of the Australian Standards for car parks with the minutes.
4. That an update about Kmart's taxi rank and door to accessible change room be provided at the next meeting.
5. That Julie Priest will arrange the next access visit in November, either to Coles and Finnians in the CBD or the newly upgraded Tacking Point Tavern and Coles at Emerald Downs or the Harvey Norman complex.

#### **5.02.01 Accessible Public Toilets**

Committee advised that Wayne Richards Park does not have an MLAK. The toilets and cleaning are contracted to the sporting club. Committee advised that after the Lake Cathie fishing platform is built a conducting footpath will be installed to link it to the new toilet amenities. Council is continuing to explore new amenities at Plaza Car Park with \$80k matching Town Centre masterplan committee budget. Julie Priest attempted to inspect the North Haven Community Hall amenities however the MLAK lock had been damaged. Building Facilities will be repairing the lock this week.

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**5.02.02 Accessible Reserves**

The Committee reviewed the website pages and discussed the draft audit sheet. There is an opportunity to include a layer on the online maps showing accessible toilets, picnic furniture, car parks and trails.

**CONSENSUS:**

That Julie Priest will arrange a walking trail audit of North Haven and invite Mike Ipsen, Bruce Gibbs, Ben Oultram and Cr Alley.

**05.02.03 Access parking**

Bruce Gibbs provided an update about the car park audits. The Access Committee reviewed requests for accessible car parks.

**CONSENSUS:**

1. That the request from Ability Options for an accessible car park outside 17 Short St, Port Macquarie was allocated a LOW PRIORITY. There are five accessible car parking bays in close proximity and recommend Ability Options approach their landlord to convert a car park at the rear of the premises into an accessible space.
2. That the Committee prioritised the request from Focus Medical Centre for an accessible car park outside 2 Clarence Street, Port Macquarie as a HIGH PRIORITY. This request to be forward to Transport and Stormwater Network for them to investigate.

**05.02.04 Access updates**

There was some confusion about the location of the bus shelter at Lakewood. The Road Safety Officer had contacted Busways. By 2022 all services will be operated with low floor easy access buses. As the bus stop is not a high usage bus stop it forms a low priority for the requested upgrade of ramps, rails and other infrastructure to construct enough height equivalent to that of a kerb.

Rangers have not advised outcome of requested visit to Lighthouse Beach Shops.

**CONSENSUS:**

That Rangers inspect A-Frames and chalkboards for narrowing egress at Lighthouse Beach Shops and an update be provided at the next meeting.

**05.02.05 Footpath requests**

The Committee reviewed the request from Parklands Village for approximately 135 metre footpath linking retirement village to Post Office and RMS/RTA on Central Road.

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**CONSENSUS:**

That the Access Committee allocated as a HIGH PRIORITY the request from Parklands Village for approximately 135 metre footpath linking retirement village to Post Office and RMS/RTA on Central Road. This request to be forward to Transport and Stormwater Network for them to investigate.

**05.02.06 International Day of People with Disability**

Discussion about activities to celebrate IDPwD.

**CONSENSUS:**

1. That on Saturday 16 December 2017 a disco at Panthers with House with No Steps and NewIDAFE will be held.
2. That the Committee will host an Accessible Short Film Screening at the Glasshouse.

**05.02.7 Town Centre Master Plan Committee**

Sharon Beard provided an update about the TCMP Committee. She advised that the street furniture for Town Square was being reviewed as many did not have back rests or armrests. The bubbler is wheelchair friendly and includes a water bowl for dogs.

**05.02.8 Disability Inclusion Action Plan**

Committee members have received a copy of the DIAP. Max Waters and the Committee congratulated Julie Priest on a terrific outcome for creating the Plan. This four year Plan is from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021.

**05.02.9 Local Government NSW Awards**

Cr Alley congratulated the Access Committee receiving a Highly Commended in the NSW Disability Inclusion Award for our Access Friendly Businesses Program.

**05.02.10 Access Committee Membership for 2018-2019**

Applications close 1 November 2017. Current members who wish to apply for another two year term please complete an application form.

**05.02.11 A User Organisation**

Discussion led by Jeffrey Tapping, seeking one enthusiastic community person to coordinate an information hub / facebook, to pass information back and forth.

**CONSENSUS:**

Request Communications consider a Media Release promoting the Access Committee's achievements for the past two years and promotion in local media.

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## **06 BUIDLINGS AND FACILITIES ACCESS PRIORITIES**

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### **CONSENSUS:**

That this matter is delayed until the December meeting and is included on the agenda.

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## **07 OUR LGA DEMOGRAPHICS FROM THE 2016 CENSUS DATA**

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The Committee received the census data.

### **CONSENSUS:**

That the Strategic Planning team is invited to the December Access Committee meeting to discuss universal, accessible, liveable and adaptable design for new multi-unit dwellings and the Draft Urban Growth Management Strategy. Discussions also to include ratio of accessible car parking bays.

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## **08 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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### **08.01 GYM ENCROACHES ACROSS FOOTPATH**

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Ben Oultram identified an access issue at the gym at the Harvey Norman Complex. It appears that the expansion has expanded over the footpath which prevents Newldafe clients from being able to access the footpath.

### **CONSENSUS:**

The Harvey Norman Complex to be scheduled as an Access Friendly visit.

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### **08.02 SETTLEMENT CITY CAR PARK**

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Ian Irwin identified Settlement City car park as an issue. The pedestrian refuge leads to a kerb ramp into a car parking space. This car park needs to be removed to enable unobstructed access.

### **CONSENSUS:**

That Lendlease be contacted and requested to keep void the car parking bay.

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**08.03 MAX WATERS - VOLUNTEER ACHIEVEMENT**

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Cr Alley congratulated Max Waters on his remarkable achievement of 70 years' service with the Surf Life Saving Australia.

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**08.04 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS NOMINATIONS**

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The Committee were advised that nominations close 30 November 2017.

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**08.05 OFF LEASH DOG PARK**

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The Committee were advised that engagement will be opening soon for the puppy park at The Boom, Port Macquarie.

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Committee receive an invitation to 'Have Your Say' about the proposed dog park when community engagement opens.

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**08.06 INVITATION TO THE MAYOR**

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Helen Booby discussed the profile of the Committee and that it would be valuable for the new Mayor to visit and meet the Committee members.

**CONSENSUS:**

That Mayor Peta Pinson be invited to visit the Access Committee.

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The meeting closed at 4:00pm.