
PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Rob Turner (Chairperson)
Brian Bucket - Access Building Designer
Lyndel Bosman - Guide Dogs NSW
Max Waters - Port Macquarie & Vision Impairment
Mike Ipsen - Camden Haven Access
Nik Sandeman-Allen - Care & Mobility
Phil White - Wauchope Access
Sharon Beard - Education & Access
Julie Priest - PMHC Community Development Officer - Aged & Disability

Other Attendees:

Jaci Fisher - Group Manager Community Development

The Meeting opened at 2.10 pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS

That the apologies received from Councillor Lisa Intemann, Helen Booby - Port Macquarie Access, Vicky Whitfield - Port Macquarie Access, George Payne- Wauchope Seniors and Peter McLeod - Hastings Macleay Community Transport, accepted.

03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

CONSENSUS

That the Minutes of the Hastings Access Sub-Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2013 be confirmed, with the following amendments:

5.17.6 Tea & Treasures Footpath

Clr Turner identified the footpath as a potential falls hazard. Max Waters requested bench seating at this location.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Yellow Brick Road (YBR)

YBR has progressed to design stage with Council's Technical Services. The Hill Street design will be submitted to the Access Committee for their Review. Nik Sandeman-Allen clarified that Town Green to Town Beach is still on the YBR Agenda. With the new Masterplan for this area the YBR design to be discussed with Town Centre Masterplan Committee as an appropriate design to fit with the style guide for this precinct such as tiles or mosaic instead of being painted. Brian Bucket discussed Westport High prioritisation.

CONSENSUS

Hill Street footpath design to be submitted to Access Committee for review.

5.12 Aldi Car Park

Clr Rob turner and Mike Ipsen met onsite with the Aldi Regional Manager who was sympathetic but offered no solution. Mike Ipsen discussed need for additional accessible car parks, current standard is 1:100 so it is likely the Aldi car park complies with this.

Brian Bucket suggested Council review and amend its DA Policy with Developers to be over and above the minimum standard. Jaci Fisher explained that any change to policy would involve a community engagement process. Discussion about a two-pronged strategic approach, with Committee advocating to the State Government to modify the Australian Standards / Disability Discrimination Act so that a shared zone in an accessible car parking space is not also a pedestrian pathway and for Council's DA Policy to be modified as a procedural solution. Brian advised that he could acquire 4 to 5 letters of support if needed. First step is to develop a formal proposal for Aldi to consider and for Committee to conduct an onsite review.

CONSENSUS

1. The Committee to conduct an onsite review and measure up the car park spaces and prepare a formal proposal for Aldi Centre Management to consider.
2. Brian Bucket to provide some wording to Julie Priest for draft letter to advocate to State Government for Disability Discrimination Act / Australian Standards to be modified.
3. Julie Priest to discuss with Group Manager Development Assessment and report back on process to advocate for DA Policy to be modified.

5.14 Access Friendly Project

Nik Sandeman-Allen and Brian Bucket tabled the threshold criteria with 5 critical points.

Clr Turner thanked Nik and Brian for their work. Opportunity to promote this criteria via the Chambers of Commerce.

Sharon Beard discussed visit to Abundance Café with Helen Booby and Julie Priest who spoke to the owners who are keen to join Access Friendly. Discussion about possible launch of the project at Abundance and plan with communications such as promote three businesses which have joined Access friendly in Port Macquarie CBD, Sancrox and Bonny Hills.

Clr Turner suggested all 3 Chamber of Commerce's linked in and promotion via their newsletters.

5.16 Development Approval & Footpaths

1. Clr Turner advised that two new wheelchair seating spaces have been installed in the Glasshouse Auditorium. This is one of the projects the Committee selected as a Building and Facilities priority and is an excellent outcome. The 2012/13 list was distributed to members for their information.
2. The entry door at the Glasshouse above the ramp has been retro-fitted with an automatic door opening sensor. Committee invited to 'test-drive' this when next in town and report back to Julie their experience of using the automatic doors so Council can ensure the sensor is working properly.

Committee to advise Julie Priest if automatic opening door at Glasshouse is working properly. This item to be closed.

Item closed.

5.17 Access Requests

1. *Wheelchair Access To Ferry*

Mike Ipsen advised that he saw footage of a ferry with 1200mm wide ramp for wheelchair access. Due to floods Brian Bucket has been unable to review the ferry.

CONSENSUS

Deferred until May meeting.

2. *New Coles in Port Macquarie*

TGSI's compliant and item closed.

3. *Litterbin located near Port Macquarie Coach Terminal footpath*

Clr Turner provided update that Waste and Environmental Engineer thanked Access Committee for identifying this access issue and they will attend to it.

4. *Pedestrian Crossing - Lake Road Medical Centre*

Technical Services have received a copy of Brian Bucket's plan to alleviate traffic congestion and increase safety of pedestrians crossing road. They were impressed and very positive reception to his plan. Brian added that there would be one lane of on-street parking on the side opposite the Private Hospital.

5. *Tea & Treasures footpath*

Clr Rob Turner advised that the footpath is a potential falls hazard. Max waters requested bench seating at this location as a half-way point for pedestrians.

Clr Rob Turner proposed an idea that the Access Committee develop a list of locations for bench seats in the LGA. This list will be provided to Recreation and Buildings so when they receive an enquiry for a memorial seat they can be provided with the listing to choose from. Committee agreed this was an excellent suggestion.

CONSENSUS

Agenda item for next meeting for Committee to create a list of bench seat locations.

6. *Bus Shelters*

Clr Turner discussed Max's request with the Manager of Technical Services. He was advised that the local quote was almost double for manufacture of the bus shelters. The Road Safety Officer advised Julie that he received quotes from local manufacturers for the shelters but cost wise was very expensive and design solution underwhelming. Currently bus shelters are being installed. They will look into other options for the next round.

Item closed.

Item closed.

06 HASTINGS ACCESS SUB-COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Discussion about the Terms of Reference. Max Waters tabled his suggestions and Cr Turner thanked Max for his work.

Nik discussed footpaths and access and it's link to the socially and economically disadvantaged and if appropriate to invite the CEO Birpai Aboriginal Lands Council to the next meeting.

Discussion about S94 contributions, footpaths in new subdivision, hierarchy of roads with footpaths and footpaths to nowhere.

The updates to the TOR will update reference to Councilor as Chairperson and link to Council's overall operational plan. Discussion about number of members (minimum 12) and quorum to be 5 community members. Lyndal suggested opportunity to open to a number of people for example a person with a hearing impairment. Discussion about duration of membership and how person selected to be a member. Jaci Fisher advised that under the LGA Act S355 legislation the Committee exists as an advisory Committee to

Council.

CONSENSUS

1. That Julie Priest and Jaci Fisher draft the Terms of Reference consistent with other S355 Committees and table the draft at the next meeting.
2. That Council's Development Contributions representative be invited to present at the next Access Committee Meeting.

07 TOP 10 FOOTPATH WORKS / PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

The Committee reviewed the top 10 footpath works to be prioritised for the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Government Area.

Sharon Beard tabled her recommendations and Clr Turner thanked Sharon for her input.

The Committee agreed to include kerb ramps as relatively easy construction projects and the Port Macquarie Library drop off/pick up as a high priority.

Kooloonbung Creek Pedestrian Footpath is scheduled and underway.

CONSENSUS

Julie Priest to update the footpath & pedestrian priority list with the Committee's recommendations for review at the next Meeting.

08 DISABLED TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Clr Rob Turner advised the Committee of the NSW Government survey regarding Accessible Accommodation and encouraged the Committee members to go online and complete it. Julie Priest will email the link to the Committee.

Julie Priest had located the 2003 Port Macquarie Accessible Accommodation guide which was self-rated and is out-of-date.

Nik Sandeman-Allen spoke about the woefully poor situation of disability accommodation in our LGA. He and Tom Kennedy had assessed some accommodation as part of the Chamber of Commerce Awards and although the owners were under the impressions that they had good premises upon inspection found not to be disability friendly. Better disabled accommodation in Port Macquarie-Hastings is needed.

Brian reminded us that Helen Booby had advised there was no accessible (disabled) toilet at Billabong. The new Majestic Cinemas revamp will include accessible (disabled) toilets and ramps.

Julie Priest reminded the Committee of the work of the Access Committee 18 months ago when Kieren Dell (Manager of Majestic) met with the Access Committee to discuss plans for the upgrade.

CONSENSUS

Include on Agenda for ongoing discussion. Opportunity for Cllr Turner to advocate for improved accessible (disabled) tourism accommodation with Chamber of Commerce.

09 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 9.1 Brian Bucket asked for an update about the accessible toilet at the Wauchope Indoor stadium, whose non-supportive wall prevented access.

CONSENSUS

Julie Priest to report back at the next meeting.

- 9.2 Councillor Turner advised that the Community Development team were purchasing a Beach Wheelchair for Town Beach. The Committee would receive invitations to the launch. Cllr Turner thanked the Community Development team and the Access Committee were enthusiastic about the new beach wheelchair.

- 9.3 Phil White discussed Busways and lack of wheelchair accessible buses with only one bus being accessible (Lighthouse Route). There is no accessible bus route from Port Macquarie to Wauchope return. Busways requests people to ring days in advance to request the accessible bus. They advised Phil that it won't be until 2016 that bus routes will be accessible in our LGA.
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The Meeting closed at 4.00 pm.