

PRESENT

Members:

Councillor Peter Alley (Chair)
Ben Oultram
Bruce Gibbs
Ian Irwin
Julie Haraksin
Cheryl Dimmock
Mike Ipsen
Sharon Beard
Julie Priest (PMHC Aged & Disability Officer)

Other Attendees:

Sandra Wallace (PMHC Community Participation Manager)
Pip Cox (PMHC Road Safety Officer)
Kara Nicholson (Omnicare)
Pip Cullen (OT, All Together Therapy)
Graham Saunders

The meeting opened at 2:00pm.

01 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

02 APOLOGIES

CONSENSUS:

That the apologies received from Elizabeth Rose, Helen Booby, 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 7 August 2018 be confirmed.

04 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest presented.

05 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

05.01 Access Friendly Project

Thank you to Helen Booby, Bruce Gibbs, Cheryl Dimmock, Ben Oultram and Julie Priest for undertaking a visit to Shelly Beach, Shops and Sea Acres.

Discussion about venues and future locations.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee recommend that:

1. The bench seat in the Shelly Beach accessible toilet be shortened so that it does not encroach on access to the hand basin.
2. The design of future module toilets be reviewed so that the push buttons are off centre (to the left) of the pan and also if a back rest is available to be installed.
3. Correspondence be sent to the Shelly Beach shops recommending nosings on the stairs to be installed that are in a bright contrasting colour such as white. That they consider a threshold wedge or straightening the front of the ramp as it is currently cut at a 45 degree angle when meeting the footpath.
4. Correspondence is sent to Sea Acres offering a letter of support from the Access Committee if they apply for a grant to install a lift. That they consider purchasing a wheelchair which is available for their customers to use with assistance. That future improvements of the walk include installing kerb rails and handrails in the sections that are missing these.
5. The next access visit be coordinated for the shopping precinct at Spotlight at Lake Road.

05.02 Accessible Updates

Council has a new webpage about the footpath programme. For more information, visit <https://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au/About-Us/What-Were-Up-To/Roads-and-Bridges>

Council is investigating a trial for the 'Pop Up' special event car parking idea at Westport Park.

The Committee were pleased to note that the plans for the new footpath at Bunnings showed that the push button pedestrian light poles were linked to the footpath.

CONSENSUS:

1. That an update be provided to the Committee about the Bunnings footpath design in front of Grace Church.
2. That Lucilla Marshall is invited to a future Access Committee meeting to provide an overview about the Health and Education Precinct (HEP).

05.03 Access Issues

A variety of access issues were reviewed and discussed by the Committee.

The Committee voiced that in regards to pedestrian access for the Stingray Creek Bridge that Council shouldn't have found itself in this situation. It is noted that the Council waste truck requires access to the gross pollutant trap so it is not possible to install a handrail or gate in front of this access.

The footpath on the Camden Haven side has been extended. The pedestrian refuge on the Laurieton side has been modified as requested. Wayfinding signage is being installed to direct access to the accessible footpath side.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Pip Cox investigate and provide an update to the Committee about the New Horizons request for an accessible car park at Morton Street, and review the location of the bus zone and how it relates to the bus shelter.
2. That the Access Committee reviewed the request for 2 x kerb ramps at Cameron/Weistmantle Street, Wauchope and assessed it as a low priority due to minimal local usage and not linking two significant destinations such as a retirement village to local shops.
3. That Pip Cox investigate options for an accessible car park on Murray Street, review the turning bay at the end of the street, and provide an update to the Committee.
4. That Pip Cox review timed accessible car parks from other LGA's such as Sydney and provide the Committee with an update about the regulatory requirements.
5. That at Stingray Creek Bridge (Camden Haven end) the Committee recommend to Council to extend the handrails on both sides of the road as far as possible.

05.04. Accessible Parking Project

CONSENSUS:

That a field excursion be organised to map more car parking spots with the iPads with Bruce Gibbs, Ben Oultram, Cheryl Dimmock and Mike Ipsen.

05.05 Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Julie Priest tabled a copy of the Plain English Report Card for the Disability Inclusion Action Plan which will be placed on the Council website.

05.06 Development of an Airport Access Guide

Discussion about developing an airport guide, similar to Hobart and Newcastle.

CONSENSUS:

1. That a working group be coordinated with Sharon Beard, Cheryl Dimmock and Julie Priest to develop an accessible Airport Guide.
 2. That David Archer, Acting Airport Business Manager, be invited to the December Access Committee meeting to provide an overview of the airport expansion.
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06 CHANGING PLACES - ADULT CHANGE TABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TOILET

Pip Cullen, (OT, All Together Therapy) and Kara Nicholson (Omnicare) spoke in support of Council installing a 'Changing Places' adult change table, hoist and accessible toilet.

Thank you to Ben Oultram who has championed this initiative for three years.

CONSENSUS:

That the Committee:

1. Noted the support for a Changing Places adult change table, hoist and accessible toilet module by Pip Cullen, (OT, All Together Therapy) and Kara Nicholson (Omnicare).
 2. Recommend to Council a preferred location for the module at Short Street Plaza Car Park, Port Macquarie. The 2nd option is a location elsewhere in Port Macquarie.
 3. Recommend that the module does not include a shower.
 4. Recommend that there is high contrast colour between the floor and the walls, toilet seat and pan, and signage.
 5. Recommend Council add this module to the works schedule for the proposed new amenities block and take advantage of savings for connection to water, sewerage, power and installation.
 5. Recommend a budget allocation from the PMHC DDA Budget for the purchase and installation of a 'Changing Places' adult change table, hoist and accessible toilet module of up to 100% of the budget (\$106,100.00). Council to undertake robust quotes for the purchase and installation in compliance with its Procurement Policy.
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07 A GUIDE TO TACTILE GROUND SURFACE INDICATORS

The Access Committee reviewed the draft Guide to Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSIs). This has reduced a 79 page document to a simple 7 page guide for our local Engineers and Developers.

CONSENSUS:

1. That Cheryl Dimmock will provide some photos of good examples and offered the Guide Dogs Advisory Group for further review.
 2. That design drawings are consistent with the photo images and show best practice.
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08 GENERAL BUSINESS

08.01 PROPOSED 2019 ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

CONSENSUS:

That the dates for the 2019 Access Committee Meeting are 2pm to 4pm on the first Tuesday of every second month as follows:

5 February 2019

2 April 2019

4 June 2019

6 August 2019

1 October 2019

3 December 2019

08.02 SOAR AND ROAD EVENT

The Committee were advised about the Special Olympics event on Sunday 9 December at Sydney Motorsport Park www.soarandroar.com.au

08.03 FAIRMONT GARDENS AMENITIES

The Committee were advised of a request for funding to replace the amenities block at Fairmont Gardens. This will not be funded from the PMHC DDA budget as is not a priority. The sporting club or Council Recreation and Buildings to source alternative options for funding.

08.04 GRANT AND GORDON STREET SIGNALISED CROSSING

Julie Haraksin advised that the new pedestrian crossing lights do not allow enough time to cross the road. The RMS regulate the timing of the traffic lights.

CONSENSUS:

That Pip Cox provide the RMS contact details to the Committee.

08.05 DRIVEWAY IMPEDIMENTS

Julie Haraksin advised that at some driveways a parallel bar along the kerb and guttering has been installed that impedes access.

CONSENSUS:

That Julie Irwin send photos of the impediment and location to Pip Cox who will investigate and report back to the Committee.

08.06 MISSING FOOTPATH LINK - PRIVATE HOSPITAL

Ian Irwin raised the issue of a missing footpath link on Lake Road/Munster Street in the vicinity of the Private Hospital.

CONSENSUS:

That the missing footpath link on Lake Road and Munster Street be included as an item in the December Agenda.

The meeting closed at 4:25pm.