

**PRESENT**

**Members:**

Deputy Mayor Lisa Intemann (Chair)  
Daniel Finch (NSW Police)  
Linda Makejev (TfNSW) (PV) (via Skype)

**Other Attendees:**

Carl Eade (Port Macquarie Taxis)  
Malcolm Britt (Busways) (via Skype)  
Group Manager Infrastructure Planning (Cameron Hawkins)  
Transport & Traffic Engineer (John Hanlon)  
Education Team Leader - (Mystie Smith)  
Administration Officer (Amanda Foster)

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The meeting opened at 9:12am.

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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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Apologies were received from:

- Councillor L Dixon
  - Dan Bylsma (Director of Infrastructure)
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**03 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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Majority Support:

Council - yes  
TfNSW - yes  
Police - yes  
Member for Oxley - nil  
Member for Port Macquarie - nil

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**CONSENSUS:**

That the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on 24 June 2020 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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Majority Support:

Council - yes

TfNSW - yes

Police - yes

Member for Oxley - nil

Member for Port Macquarie - nil

Clr Intemann noted that the LTC Meeting Charter should be reviewed and brought back to the next LTC meeting for review, before being reported to the next Council Meeting.

Clr Intemann noted that a new request for the Local Members to be involved in the LTC meeting should be initiated. GM IP advised that Local Members will be written to by Dan Bylsma.

Clr Intemann noted that all future meeting requests should be sent to attendees with the option to be physically present or to join the meeting via skype.

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## **06 PARKING TIME RESTRICTIONS - HIGHFIELDS CIRCUIT, PORT MACQUARIE**

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Majority Support:

Council - yes  
TfNSW - yes  
Police - yes  
Member for Oxley - nil  
Member for Port Macquarie - nil

Discussion:

Council had received a number of requests from residents and businesses around parking in Highfields Circuit. Hospital workers are parking along this street and dominating the short term parking spaces for visitors to the medical practices along the street. There are potential pending changes from free to paid parking at the hospital, which will put further pressure on parking in Highfields Circuit. Therefore Council proposes time restricted parking for this street. There are currently "No parking" signs installed on northern side. Council is proposing is to install 2 hr parking restrictions on the southern side. TfNSW has indicated that they would support the recommendation. Busways support the recommendation. Taxi commented on the fact that it is very difficult to take a wheel chair down the road - GM IP advised that there are plans to resurface the road in April 2021.

CONSENSUS:

That it be a recommendation to the Director Infrastructure, under sub-delegation, for implementation:

1. That Council installs '2 Hour, 8.00am-6.00pm Mon-Sun' parking time restrictions on the southern side of Highfields Circuit, Port Macquarie, between No.8 and No.24.
2. That Council notify Port Macquarie Base Hospital and residents and businesses of Highfields Circuit at least 14 days in advance of the implementation of the changes.

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## **07 ISSUES BEING REFERRED TO POLICE FOR ENFORCEMENT**

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Majority Support:

Council - yes  
TfNSW - yes  
Police - yes  
Member for Oxley - nil  
Member for Port Macquarie - nil

Discussion:

Clr Intemann - How does the police respond to traffic matters referred by Council for Police enforcement. Sgt Finch explained to the committee the internal process for dealing with such matters. Police would usually refer requests for traffic calming and speeding issues

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to Councillors. Sgt Finch advised that he refers enquires to police within the station via email. Police would monitor the areas of concern and provide feedback to Council if required. GM IP advised that a comment on each line item to close each of the comments out in the report would be useful.

The main purpose of this report is to refer matters that are outside of Council's control. Sgt Finch advised that the Police will always go to the site and inspect to carry out their own due diligence.

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Issues being referred to Police for Enforcement Report as at 28 October 2020 be received and noted.

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**08 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS - WILLIAM ST/MUNSTER ST, PORT MACQUARIE**

Majority Support:

Council - yes  
TfNSW - yes  
Police - yes  
Member for Oxley - nil  
Member for Port Macquarie - nil

Discussion:

GM IP - Gave the committee a high level view of the attached report and outcomes of the community engagement process carried out from 15 09 2020 - 13 10 2020 . Community Engagement was carried out via letters to stakeholders, information sessions, Have your say and facebook.

Following the initial representation from the Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of William and Munster Streets, Council looked at options for the intersection and took these options the community for feedback. Council has long term plans for signalisation post 2020, there are concept designs, although no funding, noting that the cost would be around \$1m. There have been 5 crashes in 5 years that have been reported at this intersection.

Council proposed a short term safety improvement would be to extended the medium strip across the intersection, noting that this would conflict with traffic cross movements. The overwhelming majority of feedback received by the community was that this would potentially create a unintended short cut, so would outweigh the benefits of the traffic calming.

Council's view is that there are no other small improvements that could be carried out to improve safety in-between traffic signalisation or the extension of the medium strip. Suggestions of signage, eg - no right turn at the intersection have not progressed as there are issues with this as well if motorists cannot see the need for the sign.

TfNSW - supports the original recommendation subject to the engagement as per the report and is happy with the current recommendation that Council has put forward in light

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of the engagement. TfNSW concurs with Council that traffic signals would be the most appropriate long term safety improvement for the intersection, however, Council will need to make sure the intersection meets the warrants before traffic signals can be considered.

Busways - opposed the original recommendation as it part of the bus route. Additional cost to TfNSW and note that they have never had an accident there. Supports the new recommendation and the outcome of the community engagement.

GMIP - Advised that some work would be carried out to improve sight distances including the trimming of vegetation on the medium strip.

Council will complete the engagement back to the church and via the majors office.

Clr Intemann - 5 traffic accidents in 5 years, where does that sit in terms of other intersections?. Transport Engineer explained that TfNSW count severity and cost of the accident rather than the numbers of minor accidents. There have not been any accidents on caravans going across the intersection. It is of note that if the police attend an incident, it may not get reported as the crash may not have been of a severity to be reported.

Signals may cost about \$1m - at this stage the benefit cost ratio is not justifiable (as the crashes here have been costed at \$50k to 100k due to the fact that they have not been severe)

Port Macquarie LGA have about 250 reported crashes each year on average for the last few years. 1 crash every 1 or 2 days across the LGA.

Clr Intemann asked if the consultation could be carried out with the church as soon as possible, so that a report could go to the December 2020 Council meeting. Clr Intemann enquired about the community submission responses and was advised that everyone who put in a submission would be responded to by Council with the outcome of the recommendation. Community members who put in submissions will get notified of the outcome when the agenda is put on the council web site for the December 2020 Council meeting.

#### CONSENSUS:

That it be a recommendation to Council:

1. Note the information contained in the William Street/Munster Street intersection Community Engagement Report.
2. That Council does not proceed with plans for extending the William Street median strip through the Munster Street intersection.
3. That Council undertakes regular road maintenance and vegetation management works at the intersection.

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## **09 2021 MEETING DATES FOR THE LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

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Majority Support:

Council - yes

TfNSW - yes

Police - yes

Member for Oxley - nil

Member for Port Macquarie - nil

CONSENSUS:

That the Local Traffic Committee adopt the proposed dates for the 2021 Local Traffic Committee Meetings.

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## **10 STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS - LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE 2020**

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Majority Support:

Council - yes

TfNSW - yes

Police - yes

Member for Oxley - nil

Member for Port Macquarie - nil

Discussion:

Bridge Load Limits - Initial concern from the community in Rollands Plains - 7 or the 8 load limits have now been removed. Council allocated an additional \$1.2m to remove the load limits. Mortens Creek Road still has a load limit. Brill Brill has a side track now.

Busways raised concerns about future predicted rainfall and what would happen if the Wilson River floods. Council advised that the intent is to have Thompsons Bridge completed by the end of November 2020. Crews will then be moving onto the Brill Brill side track with the intent of having it finished by the end of 2020.

GM IP advised that there were a few ongoing issues with garbage services, although some customers have been able to negotiate a private agreement with JR Richards and Council have stopped charging these customers a waste services fee.

Intersection improvements at William - Munster Street, Investigation and Community engagement has now been completed.

Clr Intemann raised there is some agitating for more work to be done in the area of bicycle tracks for the LGA. The Education team has done some engagement regarding ride to work day and will use this information to implement into the transport strategy.

Clr Intemann also advised that she had received concerns from residents about the lack of bicycle facilities on Beechwood Road - they are requesting a smoother surfacer on the outside of the guard rail to ride on. Clr Intemann will send information through to Education

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Team Leader regarding this issue.

**CONSENSUS:**

That the Status of Agenda items as at 28 October 2020 be received and noted.

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**11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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**11.01 PLINTH AT GLASSHOUSE**

Busways asked the Committee if they would like Busways to install a plinth at the Glasshouse? Similar to the one installed on Clarence Street. This would formalise the bus stop. Busways will discuss with Senior Traffic Engineer informally.

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**11.02 NEW BUS STOPS - DDA COMPLIANT**

Busways advised that Mid Coast Councils are making all new bus stops Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant. GM IP advised all new stops that are going in are compliant. The reason Busways is asking is TfNSW is getting Busways to audit all the bus stops and if they are not at the standard expected, Busways are notifying Council to update the stop to DDA compliancy TfNSW are not contributing funds to do these works. Program is in its infancy. The access committee should be made aware of this for consideration.

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**11.03 EXPANDED BUS SERVICES**

Busways advised that their services to Kendall, Wauchope and Ruins Ways had been expanded by TfNSW. All routes have been supported with additional early starts and later finishes and the Ruins Ways also had additional stops. The take up rate goes directly to TfNSW, although the anecdotal evidence shows that the changes have been received positively.

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**11.04 LINE MARKING STOP SIGNS**

Sgt Daniel Finch - Police to provide details to Senior Transport Engineer with regards to line marking stop signs.

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### **11.05 DIPS IN ROADS**

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Taxi's advised that there is a dip in the road in Hollingsworth Street (this is located right at the end of Waugh street) GM IP advised that this is on the rehabilitation list. Taxi's advised that another dip was located near the Racecourse, coming east between Lake Road and Fernhill just before the bend. This is causing issues for wheelchair taxi's and their passengers (as they sit about the back axel). Senior Transport Engineer to follow up with Taxi's with regards to these dips in the road.

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### **11.06 RAILWAY CROSSING AT WAUCHOPE**

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Clr Intemann advised that she has raised this a couple of times and this issue is causing considerable angst in the Wauchope community. When the south bound train is approaching the Wauchope train station, the boom gates are closing at the road crossing, so they are closed for a considerable time while the train is approaching and waiting at the station. This is causing considerable traffic build up at the road rail crossing site and has even effected emergency vehicles on occasion. This issue has previously been raised with ARTC and Council was advised that the issue had been rectified. Clr Intemann advised that she has spotters monitoring the crossing and the spotters have advised that the boom gates are closing on the majority of the south bound approaches before the train arrives at the station; although there is no pattern; sometimes they close early - sometimes they don't. TfNSW advised Council to send an email to the TfNSW LTC representative and she will try to facilitate the communication with regards to this issue. Clr Intemann requested that she be copied into the email that is sent to TfNSW.

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### **11.07 EDUCATION TEAM**

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Education Team Leader advised that the Education Team is part of larger Community Team; and was historically Road Safety Officer position in Transport area. The Education Team is working with TfNSW and Council in the road safety space. They have defined their core business as behavioural change in the road safety area. Council have been looking at TfNSW campaigns and how this can be used in our LGA. Police featured in local video's including shared pathways and speeding on country roads, school zones. Education are being strategic with delivery of projects. Mystie Smith is the key stakeholder contact for Roads Safety at Council.

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## **11.08 SENIOR STATE CUP TOUCH FOOTBALL**

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Senior Transport Engineer advised that this event is currently unconfirmed at the present moment. A decision will be made by week ending 30 November 2020. If this is to go ahead, it will look very different from a traffic perspective. A traffic management plan for the event will be circulated to the committee for comment and feedback. An electronic meeting will be held, if required, to allow for the traffic management plan to be endorsed by the committee.

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## **11.09 TRAFFIC ISSUES**

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GM IP advised the police of some traffic issues that had been raised with Council and will forward this information through to the Police.

1. Platt and Gore Street, PM - Intersection between Platt and Gore Street (customer requests an investigation of the intersection as it is dangerous intersection with lots of drivers cutting the corner).
  - Investigation of line marking to improve intersection.
2. Botanic Drive, Kew - Traffic noise and speeding - Botanic Drive Kew - customer request traffic calming devices in street as there is speeding in the street.
  - Sgt Finch has advised that he visited this location and believe that there was not a speed issue here, more of a noise issue. His monitoring showed that vehicles were travelling on average at 45km per hour.
3. Koala Street, PM - Excessive speeding - Letter from a teacher - regarding a near accident of a child - request for pedestrian crossing / upgrade of road / noting excessive speeding.
4. Pacific Drive, PM - On street parking obstructing vision - request for no stopping zone
  - Rangers to be made aware of this issue if caravan has been parked in this space long term.

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The meeting closed at 10:19am.