

Access Advisory Committee

5 September 2016



Minutes

HELD AT Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre

Present

Ron Finneran OAM (Chair)	Colin Dunn	Anthony Basford (BVSC)
Graham Carmody	Sue Thomas	Ian Macfarlane (BVSC)
Jennifer Dessens	Nathan Johnston	Jeff Tipping (BVSC)
John Reynolds	Rosemary Oates	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Chris Sparks	Cr. Tapscott	Katrina Berenguer (BVSC)

1 Welcome & Apologies

Jamie Aulbury attended the meeting as a guest of the Chair.

That the apologies submitted by Simon Schweitzer, John Grady and Peter Newton for their inability to attend the meeting be accepted.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the previous Access Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting held on 27 June 2016 be taken as read. Motion moved by Graham Carmody and seconded by Jennifer Dessens.

3 Access4All

Michaela Pascolutti from Sapphire Support Services, Lynne Koerbin from Pambula Rotary and Carsten Eckelmann and Liam O'Duibhir from 2 Pi Software attended the meeting to update the Committee on the development of the Access4All App that has been designed for tourists and visitors to find accessible accommodation, venues, tourist locations and services when planning a holiday in the Bega Valley. The app will be going live on the 8 October 2016 and will be available from the Google Play store and works on all android and smart phones. A launch event is planned at Pambula Surf Life Saving Club on the same day.

The app will have six categories to search being accommodation, services, transport, equipment, places to eat and things to do which will have an access star rating system. Photos of the facilities and icons to show what's available will also be included. The filter system will also allow for specific features to search for exact requirements.

Businesses who wish to join the app will be free for the first 12 months and then an ongoing yearly fee will be charged to maintain the services.

11:15 am Keith Tull joined the meeting

Phase 2 of the app will include the ability for people to give feedback and will also look at an accredited rating.

Please provide any issues or feedback on venues or facilities to Michaela Pascolutti.

11:25 am Anthony Basford joined the meeting

4 NDIS Update

Council's NDIS Project Officer, Ange McKechnie is helping community members find out about and prepare for the NDIS through monthly drop-in information sessions at Eden and Tura libraries. She has offered to assist any community members by contacting her directly via the details on the attached brochure with the minutes.

Rosemary Oates said that the Government website is confusing and wanted to thank Council for taking this role to support the shire.

It was noted that the NDIS is a staged rollout and that Bega Valley Shire is not due to roll out until early 2017.

Extra copies of the brochure were provided to committee members.

5 Business arising from last meeting

Action Items & Outcomes Register updates

Item No 8/2016 - Front access to the Bermagui Bowling Club

Action Update: Jeff Tipping reviewed the occupation certificate for the ramp constructed and did not find a compliance issue. No further action can be taken.

Item No 4/2016 – Rear access to Bermagui Medical Centre

Action Update: Jeff Tipping advised that the medical centre management have kept the back door access locked because they have security concerns. He has confirmed in writing to Bermagui Medical Centre that they are not conforming to the consent and that the back door access is to remain open during business hours.

Item No 25/2015 – Access to Bermagui Pharmacy

Action Update: Jeff Tipping advised that the pharmacy is conforming to the original consent. No further action can be taken.

Sue Thomas advised that some time ago the AAC agreed to offer financial assistance to resolve this access issue.

Anthony Basford advised that he has sent a letter to the business owner and land owner offering to work together to resolve the problem that included offering to refund statutory costs but has not had a reply from them.

Anthony Basford advised that there will soon be \$20,000 available for Access grants that will be managed by the AAC. It may be appropriate to fund private works if it benefits the community.

12:00 pm Cr Sharon Tapscott joined the meeting

New Action: Anthony Basford to provide a copy of the draft AAC grants guidelines to the committee to review at the next meeting to be held 5 December 2016.

New Action: Ron Finneran asked Anthony Basford to request the State Disability Council to include Pharmacies under the classification as an essential service.

6 New & Other Business

6.1 Sub-committees reports/updates

- Bermagui – Sue Thomas advised that the surf club public toilets improvements and the medical centre rear door access issue are both ongoing.
- Bermagui – Graham Carmody advised that he has concerns with elements of the Bruce Steer Pool draft strategic plan that is on exhibition. Anthony Basford advised him to submit his feedback to Council to be reviewed.
- Tathra – Chris Sparks has recently visited the Kianinny Jetty upgrade and the initial access looks much better. Anthony Basford advised that David Buckley will be in contact with the AAC soon to arrange a site visit prior to fitting the ladders, bollards and mooring cleats.
- Bega – Nathan Johnston advised that he needed a police check for a new job and he was unable to access Bega Police Station or press the buzzer. **New Action:** AAC to request in writing that Bega Police Station improve their front door access with a possibility of addressing all local police stations.
- Candelo – Jennifer Dessens asked about the pools draft report on exhibition. She has had feedback that Council is planning to close many of the shires pools. Anthony Basford advised that it is a report that reviews all the pool users, assets and facilities and the redevelopment costs for modern standards. Council may need to consider options to invest limited resources for the best overall result/service levels.
- Merimbula – Rosemary Oates requested if the Waterfront Café toilet could be open for public use. It is currently locked and you have to obtain a key from the café. **New Action:** Jeff Tipping will look at the consent approval conditions and advise the committee.
- Tura – Rosemary Oates advised that she has received many compliments about the new Tura Marrang Library.
- Pambula – Colin Dunn complimented the new accessible car space at Pambula River Mouth. The renewal of the accessible pathway at Pambula Beach will need further discussion with all stakeholders on the best way forward after the recent storm event.
- Eden – Cr Tascott advised that the accessible car spaces in the main street are requiring bollards to be installed to stop people from parking in the hatched sections.

6.2 Major works/developments projects update

- Anthony Basford advised that Bruce Steer Pool and Short Point draft strategic plans had been on exhibition and Council received good feedback. It appears that generally feedback provided so far has been in agreement with the plans.
- Graham Carmody requested that signs be erected at Bruce Steer Pool to advise the community that the shark nets are not in operating order. He has concerns some community members may not be aware. **New Action:** CRM to be raised to request a sign be erected at Bruce Steer Pool advising that the shark net is not in operation.
- Ian Macfarlane advised that Section 44 Disaster Relief for the recent South Coast low only includes civil assets, communications and essential services and does not cover recreation facilities. It is subjected to a strict auditing process.

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- Anthony Basford advised that the Palmer Street carpark in Merimbula is nearly complete. There are five compliant accessible car parks that include a hatching area. There is also one compliant accessible car park near the gym.

6.3 General business

- Ron Finneran tabled a letter addressed to the AAC from Mr Shayne Smith regarding a request to improve the shared pathway that runs alongside Arthur Kaine Drive from Merimbula to Pambula. In short the three main areas of repair requested are:

- 1 Repairs to the section north of the Pambula-Merimbula Golf Club entrance and bridge crossings
- 2 Clearing of vegetation from pathway
- 3 Plan for the future of the path

New Action: CRM to be raised and sent to Ian Macfarlane to include as a renewal on the civil assets program and copy to John Turville.

- Anthony Basford advised that the Disability Inclusion Action Plan will be approached via the Community Strategic Plan process so as to include broader community thoughts. The next phase is to bring a more focussed group together to address access/disability aspirational ideas. The AAC will be contacted for an additional meeting for the next steps of the planning process.

6.4 Item deferred to next meeting

- SCIA Accessible Toilets Update will be deferred to the next meeting.

7 Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 1:20pm.

8 Next meeting

The next and final ordinary meeting is to be held on the 5 December 2016. Further details to be advised.