

Access & Inclusion Advisory Committee

27 August 2018



Minutes

HELD AT Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre

Present

Ron Finneran OAM	John Reynolds
Cr Robyn Bain	Kristina Brenner (BVSC)
Jennifer Russell	John Grady (BVSC)
Graham Carmody	Jason Deller (BVSC)
Colin Dunn	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Rosemary Oates	Jonathon Pyke (BVSC)
Francis Pearce	Ian Macfarlane (BVSC)
Nathan Johnston	Katrina Berenguer (BVSC)

1 Welcome and apologies

That the apologies submitted by Chris Sparks, Felicity Gates, Michaela Pascolutti, Jenny Robb and Anthony Basford for their inability to attend the meeting be accepted.

2 Confirmation of minutes

That the minutes including the amendment of the previous AIAC meeting held on 18 June 2018 be taken as read. Motion moved by Ron Finneran and seconded by Colin Dunn. The majority of the AIAC agreed.

Bega Valley Regional Gallery Development

Iain Dawson, Regional Gallery Director and Daniel Djikic, Project Development Manager presented the proposed gallery development application which has been submitted to support possible State Government funding. It is noted that the Bega Valley Library access will not change within this project scope.

All members were supportive of the development and added that if successful it will be a great asset to the region. The committee would like to be consulted as further developments occur.

3 Review of Action Items & Outcomes Register

Item No 9/2018 – Compleat Angler & Camping World – status of lift

Jonathon Pyke advised that the owner is in the process of converting part of the building from commercial to residential use. A final design has not been lodged with Council. Will monitor developments and update committee.

Item No 7/2018 – Misuse of disabled parking stickers

Local examples of the misuse of disabled parking stickers were discussed and concerns raised about the eligibility of disabled parking stickers and also enforcing the misuse of disabled

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parking stickers. Parking is the responsibility of Council Rangers but they are time limited with other responsibilities.

Rosemary Oates advised that a doctor conducts a medical assessment before a disabled parking sticker is granted.

Cr Bain advised that Council approved two parking inspectors for three months. The committee agreed to suggest that when the inspectors are hired that they focus on accessible parking as a priority.

Action: When the parking inspectors have commenced with Council, a breakdown of parking infringements be provided to the AIAC after a month to assess the accessible parking infringements.

Action: A recommendation from the AIAC be sent to the Local Traffic Committee for further clarification from the RMS and appropriate State authorities regarding the misuse of disabled parking stickers.

Post Meeting update

Attached is a link to a flyer issued by the RMS regarding the Mobility Parking Scheme (MPS) conditions of use, parking concessions and driver declaration.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/about/forms/45071549-mps-conditions-of-use.pdf>

Please note that there is a hotline for reporting abuse of the MPS by phoning 1300 884 899 or email Customer_Service_Centre@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Action: Letters be sent to General Practitioners in the Bega Valley Region to encourage them to maintain the law with regard to conducting medical assessments before a disabled parking sticker is granted.

Ron Finneran has a disabled parking flyer that can be placed on car windscreens for anyone who has clearly parked unlawfully in an accessible parking space. He has offered to provide copies to anyone who is interested.

12pm Ian Macfarlane arrived.

Item No 06/2018 – 2017 Access Grant Round

Katrina Berenguer advised that 2017 Access Grant acquittals are not due until 22 January 2019. A summary will be provided to the AIAC at the February 2019 meeting.

Item No 05/2018 – Ben Boyd Light to Light Walk

Ron Finneran and Jenny Robb have a meeting organised with Andrew Wall from National Parks and Wildlife Service to discuss ongoing developments.

Item No 13/2017 – Increase accessible car spaces in Merimbula

Jason Deller advised that there is no change to this issue.

Action: AIAC to recommend to the Local Traffic Committee that the current accessible car space in Alice Street, Merimbula (near camping shop) be converted from one to two accessible car spaces and that the disabled car parking sign on Alice Street be moved to the correct location.

Item No 12/2017 – Bunga Street, Bermagui

Cr Bain and Kristina Brenner are conducting a site visit of the Bunga Street accessible car park this afternoon. They will be consulting with Anthony McMahon to find a resolution to this issue.

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Ron Finneran advised that they should consider consulting the owner of the nearby liquor store, Fran Trennery for her input on the issue.

Action: Cr Bain and Kristina Brenner to provide an update regarding the accessible car park on Bunga Street, Bermagui to the committee at the next meeting.

Item No 11/2017 – IMB Eden entrance step

Letter sent to the CEO of IMB, Mr Robert Ryan. He responded and declined to resolve the issue.

Item No 19/2016 – Status of the EIS on the Eden Port Development

Jenny Robb will provide an update at the next meeting.

Item No 18/2016 – Camber of footpath out the front of Club Sapphire Merimbula

Keith Tull advised that Aldi Supermarket have submitted a development for a wombat crossing but is yet to be approved by Council.

Action Update: Keith Tull will forward the contact details of Peter James who is responsible for constructing the Woolworths crossing to Felicity Gates so that she can provide her input into the design and tactiles.

Jason Deller did advise that the camber of footpath correction out the front of Club Sapphire Merimbula is in the schedule of works.

Item No 13/2016 – NSW legislative improvements in Access

Chris Sparks will raise issue at the NSW Physical Disability Council meeting in August 2018 and advise at next meeting.

Item No 9/2016 – Disability Council to include pharmacies as an essential service category

The Human Rights Commission responded and advised that submissions can only be received by individuals and not groups.

Action: Jennifer Russell on behalf of a Tulgeen client will submit a complaint to the Human Rights Commission against Bermagui Pharmacy for unacceptable access under the NSW Disability Exclusion Act.

Action: Kristina Brenner will invite the owner/manager of Bermagui Pharmacy to apply for an Access Improvement Grant. It was also decided to extend the Access Improvement Grant round a further 3 weeks to 14 September 2018.

12:20pm Nathan Johnston left the meeting

4 New and other Business

4.1 AIAC Committee Update requests

RMS Eden

Cr Bain advised that RMS Eden have moved their driver testing area at the rear of the building right next to the accessible ramp which can be unsafe.

Action: Cr Bain to provide an update from the Local Traffic Committee at next meeting regarding the RMS Eden driver testing area.

4.2 Sub Committees reports and updates

Business

Colin Dunn provided a document outlining a proposed strategy, “Good Access is Good for Business”. Proposal is to approach businesses with a presentation and also use social media. Document is attached to the minutes.

Action: Colin Dunn and Michaela Pascolutti will present the business strategy at the next meeting to gain the committee’s approval before proceeding.

Cr Bain advised that the combined Chambers of Commerce meetings which occur every 3 months would be the best meeting to present the AIAC business strategy.

Cr Bain also advised that Anthony Osbourne from Bega Valley Shire Tourism is organising a business event which could also be beneficial in attending.

Community

John Reynolds advised that he would like further explanation regarding the status of installing an accessible parking space on Church Street, Bega.

Action: Jason Deller advised that he will be presenting an update at the next meeting regarding accessible parking at Church Street and also regarding the accessible parking request from Sapphire Community Pantry on Peden Street, Bega.

Tourism – Jenny Robb will provide an update at the next meeting.

4.3 Major works/developments Projects update

Merimbula Wharf Accessible Parking

Jason Deller advised that via the Local Traffic Committee plans are in place to install an accessible car space at Merimbula Wharf. He asked the AIAC for their input on the preferred location.

Ron Finneran asked if the brief could be extended to include a ramp into the aquarium doors together with an accessible car space in consultation with the owners. Ron said that the AIAC could provide a contribution to the project if approved.

Action: Jason Deller to investigate further and consult with the owners of the aquarium/restaurant building regarding the possibility of installing an accessible car space together with a ramp into the entrance of the aquarium. Provide an update to the AIAC at the next meeting.

John Grady update

Everyone Can Play Guidelines – on exhibition

The NSW Office of Open Spaces and Parklands have produced the Everyone Can Play Guidelines which outline the direction and principles of how to construct playgrounds for everyone to access and is a balanced approach to keep everyone engaged. The Guidelines are on exhibition for any comments or feedback via an online submission. John Grady and John Turville from Council have been involved on the advisory panel. This can be accessed via the link <http://planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Open-space-and-parklands/Everyone-Can-Play-in-NSW>

Tathra Taylor’s Square Inclusive Playspace

The Office of Open Spaces and Parklands have awarded a \$600k grant to upgrade the Tathra Taylor’s Square playground to an Everyone Can Play inclusive playground. Currently developing plans in consultation with Tathra Community groups, Playability, Disability Trust, Bega Cheese and IMB. NSW Government is conducting a workshop to be held on Saturday 8 September 2018.

Kristina Brenner advised that a Council staff member had recently been told about a Changing Places-style facility from Shoalhaven City Council that was more cost effective than the Changing Places brand.

Ron Finneran requested that if the playground is being upgraded to an inclusive playspace that the toilet facility will also need to be upgraded to support the new visitors.

Action: John Grady to investigate the Tathra Taylor’s Square toilets to be upgraded to include an accessible toilet and report back to the AIAC.

Leisure and Recreation Project updates

- Tathra to Kalaru path is still in planning stages.
- Round 2 of the Stronger Country Regional funding
 - Upgrades to Rural Village Playgrounds at Wyndham, Bemboka, Cobargo and Mogareeka are in planning stages.
 - Wallaga Lake Boardwalk. Funding is for land based boardwalk out to Murunna Point.
- Boating Now
 - Round 1 - Beauty Point, Bermagui. Construction to commence before Christmas.
 - Round 2 - Bermagui River, Black Fellows Lagoon and Eden Jetty. Design stage.
- NSW Grant applications have been successful for the Coastal Accessibility Plans for Bruce Steer Pool, Short Point and Pambula Beach. Currently in design stage.
- NSW Grant funding for the Applications have been submitted to the Stronger Country Regional Fund Round 2 for an inclusive playground at Bermagui, Stage 2 Wallaga Lake Boardwalk out to Camel Rock, Barclay Street Eden Pavilion upgrade, Wolumla Pavilion upgrade, Tathra Lawrence Park improvements
- Bega and Pambula Sportsground Masterplans will be on exhibition for comment soon.

4.4 Other Business

Enquiry from Jim Holdsworth

The committee reviewed the correspondence from Jim Holdsworth regarding access at Tathra and the response sent to him by Council.

Action: The AIAC noted the correspondence from Jim Holdsworth and agreed with the response sent to him by Council. The majority of the AIAC agreed.

Meeting closed 1:30pm.