

Access & Inclusion Advisory Committee

14 August 2017



Minutes

HELD AT Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre

Present

Cr Robin Bain	Felicity Gates	Anthony Basford (BVSC)
Ron Finneran OAM	Michaela Pascolutti	Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)
Rosemary Oates	Francis Pearce	John Grady (BVSC)
John Reynolds	Jenny Robb	Jason Deller (BVSC)
Colin Dunn	Jennifer Russell	Ian Macfarlane (BVSC)
Chris Sparks	Graham Carmody	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Nathan Johnston		Katrina Berenguer (BVSC)

1 Welcome and apologies

Welcome to Cr Robin Bain being her first meeting to the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee (AIAC) and also welcome to Anthony Basford, Director Community, Relations and Leisure also being his first meeting to the new committee.

That the apologies submitted by Michaela Pascolutti, Sue Thomas and Jeff Tipping for their inability to attend the meeting be accepted.

2 Confirmation of minutes

That the minutes of the previous AIAC meeting held on 8 May 2017 be taken as read. Motion moved by Ron Finneran and seconded by Jenny Robb.

3 Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

The following nominations were received:

Position	Committee Member	Nominated	Seconded
Chair	Ron Finneran	Rosemary Oates & Graham Carmody	Jenny Robb
Deputy Chair	Chris Sparks	Rosemary Oates	Colin Dunn

The majority of the AIAC agreed that Ron Finneran be appointed Chair and Chris Sparks be appointed Deputy Chair.

4 Pathways to Inclusion Presentation

Felicity Gates presented Pathways to Inclusions which included recommendations made for local government in collaboration between Guide Dogs NSW/ACT, Blind Citizens NSW, People with

Disabilities and Inner West Council. The document can be viewed on the Guide Dogs Association website by clicking on the link below.

https://www.guidedogs.com.au/sites/default/files/pathways_to_inclusion.pdf

New Action: Keith Tull (on behalf of Jeff Tipping) to advise the AIAC at the next meeting what the Council guidelines are for placing café furniture on the walkway/outside of shop fronts.

New Action: Francis Pearce requested a list of acronyms to be sent to the AIAC members to assist new members.

5 Review Action Items & Outcomes Register

Item No 9/2016 – Pharmacies classification to be changed to an essential service

It was reported that Sue Thomas had written to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia requesting that pharmacies come under the classification of an essential service.

New Action: Sue Thomas to advise the AIAC at the next meeting the response from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

New Action: Anthony Basford to write to the NSW Government Minister requesting the classification of pharmacies be changed to an essential service.

Item No 10/2016 – Merimbula accessible public toilet

Anthony Basford reported that the accessibility upgrades at the Waterfront Café toilets are still for patrons only and not for public use.

Rosemary Oates is concerned that there are no accessible toilets available for public use on the Eastern side of Market Street given that the tourist information centre is located nearby.

Anthony Basford advised that new signage had been installed on Market Street regarding the public toilets on Palmer Street so that visitors can clearly determine where the public toilets are located in Merimbula.

Cr Robin Bain advised that the toilets at Twyford Hall could be utilised for public use, however there would need to be a substantial upgrade.

John Grady advised that the Leisure and Recreation section are currently conducting a Bega Valley Shire amenities review and will be submitting a report to Council.

New Action: A motion was moved by Ron Finneran to raise the issue of an accessible toilet on the Eastern side of Market Street, Merimbula in the amenities review report to Council. The move was seconded by Rosemary Oates. The majority of the AIAC all agreed.

Item No 13/2016 – NSW legislative improvements in Access

It was noted by Cr Robin Bain that the responses received were only from Federal Ministers and that there had not been any response at a State level.

New Action: Anthony Basford to request a response or outcome regarding the LGNSW resolution to change the planning requirements for improved access for people with a disability to the NSW Minister for Disability Services, The Hon. Raymond Williams MP and provide a copy to the local members.

New Action: Chris Sparks advised that in his capacity as board member of the Physical Disability Council NSW he will also try to influence a response or outcome in this matter. A motion was moved by John Reynolds. The move was seconded by Ron Finneran. The majority of the AIAC all agreed.

Item No 14/2016 – Bermagui accessible car park

Ian MacFarlane advised that a new location has to be identified as the current accessible car park on Lamont Street does not comply to current standards.

Jason Deller advised the committee that a new Bermagui master plan will need to be agreed and adopted by Council. Community consultation will occur as part of this process. Accessible parking to current standards will be addressed as part of the plan in the next 18 months – 2 years. Unfortunately there is no easy fix to this issue and it has to be addressed as part of the master plan.

Item No 17/2016 – Mogareeka accessible toilet door

This issue has not been resolved and the door swinging inwards restricts a wheelchair inside. John Grady advised that this issue will be addressed in the amenities review.

New Action: Ian MacFarlane to rehang the toilet door so that it swings outwards so as not to restrict a wheelchair inside.

Item No 18/2016 – Camber of footpath Club Sapphire, Merimbula

Jason Deller advised that the footpath redesign has been identified on the list of works that requires completion. There is no set date for completion as this stage.

New Action: Keith Tull to advise the design of the new crossings from the Woolworth's development next door and report at the next AIAC meeting.

1:00pm Chris Sparks left the meeting.

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

Keith Tull advised that a council submission was submitted to EIS for consideration to be given to accessibility but has not received a response to date.

New Action: Jenny Robb advised that she is on the Community Eden Port Strategic Committee and that she will request an update to present at the next AIAC meeting.

6 Sub Committees

Ron Finneran distributed a hand out to the committee regarding a proposal of new sub committees to be formed to enable the AIAC to spend more time on a strategic focus. Each sub committee would undertake work and provide written reports via the new AIAC Update Form to be tabled two weeks prior to the next AIAC meeting.

The sub committees and heads of the sub committees were recommended as follows:

- Business – Colin Dunn to head the sub committee
- Community – John Reynolds to head the sub committee
- Tourism – Jenny Robb to head the sub committee

1:20pm Nathan Johnston left the meeting

Sub Committee heads should email all AIAC members on feedback/progress on projects they are working on so that everyone is kept up to date.

Cr Robyn Bain moved the motion that the above sub committees and new AIAC Update Form be adopted. The move was seconded by Jenny Robb. A majority of the AIAC agreed.

Colin Dunn moved the motion for a trial period. The move was seconded by Cr Robin Bain.

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All AIAC members are encouraged to contact the sub committee heads if they are interested in contributing or would like to be involved.

1:25pm Jason Deller & Rosemary Oates left the meeting.

7 Access Improvement Grants

Anthony Basford presented to the AIAC the new Access Improvements Grants (AIG) online procedure via the new Community Grants Program. The process as follows:

- Each year there will be \$20,000 available for projects. This year only there will be \$40,000 available for projects as it was carried over from unspent funds last year.
- The AIG will open once per year with an opening and closing date and will be required to submit an acquittal.
- For-profit businesses can apply but have to match the funds on a dollar for dollar basis.
- The AIAC Chair and committee will review applications and make a recommendation to Council for final approval.

Ron Finneran moved the motion in general agreement of the Access Improvement Grants. The move was seconded by Jenny Robb. A majority of the AIAC agreed.

Anthony Basford will advise the AIAC when the Access Improvements Grants round will open.

1:40pm Keith Tull left the meeting.

8 Other Business

Disability Inclusion Action Plan Update

Simon Schweitzer distributed a hard copy of the final document to the AIAC.

Community Project Proposal Application Form

New Action: Jenny Robb recommended that expert advice on access be included as part of the Community Project Proposal Form for example an Occupational Therapist. John Grady will consider this as part of the Project Proposal Application form review.

9 Closure and next meeting

Due to time constraints it was decided that the major works and projects updates to be provided to the AIAC via the minutes.

The meeting was declared closed at 2:10pm. The next meeting is to be held on the 13 November 2017.

10 Post Meeting Updates

Beach Access at Dolphin Cove

Council is currently working with community representatives to identify common principles for management and access of the North Tura/Dolphin Cove reserves. As part of this process the status of beach viewing platform access is being reviewed.

Merimbula Intersection Landscape Plan

Public comment was sought on the Merimbula Intersection Landscape Plan recently. Ron Finneran and Felicity Gates have met with the project officer on site to work through access issues.

Coastal Accessibility Plans

Council has resolved to revisit the Short Point Plan to review the design and access paths and features of the plan. The resolution specifically referred to consultation with the AIAC.

Merimbula Main Beach Access

Assisted access to Merimbula main beach has been installed based on the design principles of work done at Pambula Beach.

Eden Wharf Update

Council staff met the new Director of Infrastructure Projects from Crown Lands in regard to the works schedule for the Wharf extension. This meeting was primarily about timing of works and project status update. Council is also facilitating a review of the Snug Cove Master Plan looking at the who precinct's (public and private land) development.

Future Council Projects

This was an opportunity for Council staff to provide updates on major projects. These will be provided on a regular basis.