

Access Advisory Committee

01 June 2015



Minutes

HELD AT Club Sapphire, Merimbula

Present

Chris Sparks (Acting Chairman)	Rosemary Oates	John Grady (BVSC)
Colin Dunn	Anthony Basford (BVSC)	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Jennifer Dessens	Johnathon Pyke (BVSC) on behalf of Jeff Tipping	Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)
Graham Carmody	Peter Newton (BVSC)	Katrina Wright (BVSC)
Lyndon Lewis	Paul Lunniss (BVSC)	

1. Apologies

Cr. Tapscott	Nathan Johnston	Jeff Tipping (BVSC)
Ronald Finneran (OAM)	Sue Thomas	

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved on the motion of Jennifer Dessens & Chris Sparks.

That the minutes of the previous Access Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting held on 9 March 2015, be taken as read.

3. Surf Life Saving NSW – Pambula Community Inclusion Project

Meredith Harrison from Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW) presented the Pambula Community Inclusion Project. It is a State Government funded project and three areas have been chosen for the pilot sites:

- Nobbys Beach (Newcastle);
- Bondi Beach; and
- Pambula Beach.

SLSNSW is offering a small grant program for businesses and not for profit organisations that are working to make their community inclusive of people with disability. The program is specifically focussing on the inclusion of people with a disability within & around the beach environment of Pambula Beach but open to other areas within the Bega Valley. There are 5 x \$20,000 grants and 10 x \$10,000 grants on offer. Closing date for applications is 9am Monday 29 June 2015. Project implementation must be completed by April 2016. A hand out was given to the AAC with further details.

Meredith advised that she is convening a Community Advisory Committee for the local implementation of the project – the first of which is to take place at Merimbula RSL on Wednesday 3 June at 6.00 p.m. All AAC members are welcome but need to RSVP with Meredith directly.

Action: Chris Sparks requested that Meredith Harrison forward a media release to the local radio stations so that community groups are fully aware of this opportunity.

Rosemary Oates wanted to note that this is a great opportunity to make Pambula Beach a best model for other beach locations.

SLSNSW would like to enter into an MOU with Bega Valley Shire Council regarding a mutually beneficial initiative at the Pambula Beach precinct. Under the funding agreement with Family and Community Services the Community Inclusion Project is to be completed by June 2016.

John Grady advised that it is important to define the project with SLSNSW to ensure that Council have the resources required.

Resolved on the motion of Chris Sparks and Rosemary Oates.

That the AAC encourages Council to enter into an MOU with SLSNSW for a mutually beneficial initiative at the Pambula Beach precinct.

Action: John Grady to meet with Meredith Harrison this week to discuss and clearly define a project at the Pambula Beach precinct that is mutually beneficial to both parties.

4. Business arising from last meeting

4.1 Awareness campaign across the shire regarding accessible car spaces

Campaign will be implemented in July 2015. It is intended that officers will use local media and Council website for promotion but will also introduce a surveillance blitz throughout the Shire in August 2015 of public accessible parking spaces.

4.2 Tura Beach Library

Jennifer Dessens asked if it was possible to have an accessible car space in the northern entrance (shopping centre side).

Anthony Basford advised that the car park is owned by the shopping centre and that negotiations were in place to investigate this option.

4.2 Support legislative requirement to incorporate accessibility into DA plans

Jeff Tipping sent a letter to the Department of Planning & Environment on the 5 May 2015 on behalf of the AAC requesting them to implement legislative requirements to caravan parks and camping grounds to provide improved and equitable access. Copy of letter distributed to the Committee.

Action: Jeff Tipping to advise outcome of this request at the next AAC meeting.

4.3 Volunteer Inductions

Action: Lyndon Lewis and Chris Sparks due to complete on the 4 June 2015.

4.4 Draft Project Proposal Procedure for Community groups

A draft Project Proposal procedure and application form for Community groups was distributed to the AAC for review. The draft procedure is also still being reviewed by Council officers. Once finalised, the procedure will be presented to Council for approval.

Action: AAC to review the draft Project Proposal procedure and form for community groups and provide any feedback or comments to Katrina Wright by 30 June 2015.

Noted that Chris Sparks would like the checklist to include that accessibility has been addressed.

4.5 Inclusion Action Plan

Action: Simon Schweitzer to develop an expression of interest brief to create an Inclusion Action Plan by the next meeting. Brief will then be distributed to the AAC for comment.

4.6 Beach Street ramp/stairs

The proposed access ramp has been approved and constructed. There is no decision by NSW Fisheries until the detailed design of the proposed stair structure is provided. The design and construct tender for the stairs is going out this week in conjunction with other Beach Street works.

NSW Fisheries have indicated that their preference is to construct the stairs under the current existing permit *pending* provision of the final design details.

Rosemary Oates wanted to note that she believes the project results is a fantastic result and she has received positive feedback.

5. New and other Business

5.1 Review of Action Items & Outcomes Register

It was agreed that the Action Items & Outcomes register is a useful tool for the AAC to monitor progress of the AAC. All completed action items will be moved to the completed section at the end of the document for record purposes.

5.2 Sub-committees reports/updates

No area updates were submitted.

5.3 Major Works/Development Projects updates

- **Tathra Headland (Simon Schweitzer)**

Presented a hand out of the proposed route for the Tathra Headland shared pathway. The majority of the proposed pathway would be accessible but will be a challenge towards the end of the pathway where the slope would be difficult to achieve. If Council choose to go ahead with the project, community consultation process will proceed any final design.

- **Lake Curalo Walking Trail (John Grady)**

Final stage of the Lake Curalo walking trail should be completed by late September 2015. An environmental report of the area was required and the instability of the wetlands had to be given consideration to ensure correct footings are used for the pathway. A section of the final pathway is on private land and an easement needed to be finalised.

Colin Dunn asked if access to the beach from the Northern end of Eden Cove could be incorporated into the final stage of the Lake Curalo walking trail.

John Grady advised that the parking access to the foreshore trails was identified in Stage 2 of the approved development masterplan, at the cost of the developer.

Action: Keith Tull will investigate the Eden Cove master plan and advise the AAC of the approval requirements in relation to access trails by 30 June 2015.

- **Ford/Bega Park (John Grady)**

Inclusive playground project at Ford Park, Merimbula in conjunction with Touched by Olivia Foundation, and Bega Park are due for completion in September 2015.

- **Civic Centre/Littleton Gardens (Anthony Basford)**

Civic Centre is currently being internally fitted out. There will be two accessible lifts which includes a lift from the seating in the main auditorium to the stage. The auditorium has different seating options and does not have any permanent seating. Council is still considering management options. Due to officially open on the 4 November 2015.

Chris Sparks offered to pass on information to Simon Schweitzer regarding new technology from Easy Living Home Elevators which is essentially stairs that converts to a lift that could work well in that area.

Littleton Gardens next stage is extending the grassed areas and redesigning the car parks. To improve access to the library and gallery the level of Zingel Place needs to be slightly increased.

- **Bar Beach/Pambula River Mouth (John Grady)**

Bar Beach work is commencing this week. Access to the tables and pathways will be improved. Chris Sparks offered to meet with the contractors in the next 2 weeks.

Pambula River Mouth final plans were handed out to the AAC. Plans include the following:-

- ramp down to the beach;
- new amenities building;
- new pathway to table and chairs;
- improvements around Stormwater;
- remarking parking spaces; and
- landscaping.

Action: AAC to review the plans for Pambula River Mouth and advise Katrina Wright if you have any issues/comments as soon as possible.

- **Kiss' Lagoon (Paul Lunniss)**

Chris Sparks advised that the AAC was not notified of this project. He raised the issue of why only one table is accessible, when there is an opportunity for two tables.

Paul Lunniss advised that this could be rectified as these tables are hand crafted by his team members which allows more flexibility with design.

Anthony Basford advised the AAC that with the attendance of senior Council staff from across all sections of Council current projects can be raised and discussed at this allocated part of the agenda.

- **Bruce Steer Pool (John Grady)**

Still waiting for NSW Sport and Recreation grant funding assessment. Once approved the project will move to community consultation phase.

- **Bega Recreational Ground/Pambula Sporting Complex (John Grady)**

Working on a Master plan project for both facilities. The project will involve broad community consultation and involvement is encouraged.

- **Short Point Pathway (John Grady)**

Project design and consultation planned for early 2016.

- **Bega Regional Hospital (Peter Newton)**

Commencing final stages of the new Bega Regional Hospital. A pathway will be constructed from the roundabout to Howard Avenue.

- **Gipps Street, Bega Pedestrian Blisters (Peter Newton)**

Pedestrian blisters crossing at Gipps Street, Bega located out the front of Target will be converted to a zebra crossing as part of the Town Centre redevelopment.

- **Bermagui Town Centre (Peter Newton)**

Currently looking at creating an accessible car space in Bunga Street or Lamont Street, Bermagui. Probably close to the café near the service station entrance.

5.4 **Bendigo Bank Community Grants (Lyndon Lewis/Colin Dunn)**

Advised that community grants are available from Pambula Bendigo Bank. Closes midnight 30 June 2015. Looking for more substantial projects approximately \$20,000-\$30,000 that are shovel ready.

Action: Send any Bendigo Bank community grant project ideas to Katrina Wright by Friday 26 June 2015 to collate and forward to Lyndon Lewis/Colin Dunn.

5.5 **Wheelchair Sports NSW (Chris Sparks)**

On behalf of Sue Thomas she wanted to raise the possibility of running a wheelchair basketball roadshow in September, 2015. This could run in conjunction with National Disability Week.

The road show is run by wheelchair sports NSW. They bring down enough wheelchairs for two teams to play each other. It is essentially a team building exercise which breaks down barriers. The idea is to get everyone in and playing a new sport together, which is great for a team building exercise. Everyone gets a go in the chairs and playing basketball.

All members of the AAC agreed that it was a good idea.

5.6 **Barriers List**

The AAC reviewed the document and agreed that it was a valuable tool to focus on specifics in their allocated areas. The document is currently out of date and needs to be updated.

Action: AAC community members to review the Barriers List document and provide amendments and updates from their allocated areas to Katrina Wright by 30 June 2015. Require more detailed description of the issue/barrier on some items.

5.7 **AAC Vacancy**

It was noted that Leah Ogden has resigned from the AAC.

As per the AAC guidelines the Committee must notify Council of the vacancy and will advertise the vacancy in the local newspapers and on the intranet. Any interested persons will be asked to complete a nomination form for approval by Council.

Action: Katrina Wright to arrange an advertisement/internet notice in the local newspapers by 30 June 2015 advising that a vacancy exists in the AAC.

Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 12.20pm.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 1 September 2015. It was decided that the next meeting be held at Club Bega.