

Access Advisory Committee

07 December 2015



Minutes

HELD AT Club Bega

Present

Ronald Finneran OAM (Chairman)	Sue Thomas	Toby Schaefer-Darling (BVSC)
Chris Sparks	Cr. Tapscott	Katrina Wright (BVSC)
Jennifer Dessens	Anthony Basford (BVSC)	Paul Lunniss (BVSC)
Rosemary Oates	Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)	Peter Newton (BVSC)
John Reynolds	Jeff Tipping (BVSC)	
Nathan Johnston	John Grady (BVSC)	

1 Welcome & Apologies

That the apologies submitted by Graham Carmody, Colin Dunn, Lyndon Lewis and Keith Tull 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 14 September 2015, be taken as read.

3 Business arising from last meeting

3.1 Archiving the Barriers List

Sue Thomas requested that the following items for Bermagui be addressed:

- Bermagui Medical Centre – **Action:** Keith Tull to follow up DA consent and design for suggested remedies to the issue with the camber of path to the front door.
- Bermagui Pharmacy – **Action:** Anthony Basford to send a letter to the owner outlining the access issues by next AAC meeting.
- Bermagui Surf Club – **Action:** John Grady to arrange to meet with Sue Thomas on site regarding the issues with the accessible toilet.

Rosemary Oates requested the status of the accessible toilet at Tura Beach. **Action:** John Grady to clarify when the toilet is due for renewal/future status from the Asset Management Plan.

It was agreed by the committee that the Barrier List be archived. Any future barriers or issues can be notified to Council by using the Snap, Send, Solve application for smart phones or can be raised at the committee meetings via the sub-committees reports/updates.

3.2 Spencer Park

Ron Finneran requested remedial action to change the picnic tables and also the swings. He thought it was a lost opportunity to not replace the swing with a multi-use swing.

Works were done to replace the existing defective swings. The work was not intended to be an upgrade of the equipment. Staff will be mindful to look for opportunities to improve access where practical.

Cr. Tapscott advised that there is a difference between replacement and upgrading equipment. Council staff are not authorised to upgrade equipment without proper authority.

Ron Finneran thought that if Council are unable to upgrade the equipment, a process could be put in place for outside organisations to upgrade the equipment, if given the opportunity. Possibly via the Community Project Proposal process.

4 New & Other Business

4.1 Update on LG NSW's Disability Inclusion & Liveable Communities Forum

Toby Schaefer-Darling introduced himself as the Place Based Officer for Bega, Tathra, Bemboka and Candelo. Toby attended the Forum on the 9 November 2015 and distributed a hard copy of the presentation. For further information, below is the link to the website:

<http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/reforms/developing-the-nsw-disability-inclusion-plan/disability-inclusion-action-plans>

He advised that every Council in NSW will be required to have an Inclusion Action Plan by July 2017. The four key areas are:

- Attitude and behaviour;
- Liveable Communities;
- Employment; and
- Systems & approaches.

Every Council will need to decide on which approach to take when implementing the Inclusion Action Plan, they are:

1. Integrated Strategic Plan processes/CSP delivery plan
2. Separate stand alone

For further information, below is the link to the guidelines:

<http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/file/0004/322366/NSW-DIAP-Guidelines.PDF>

Anthony Basford asked if any funding would be available from the NSW Government to support the resources required to develop the Action Plan. Toby advised that no additional funding had been made available.

4.2 Review of DA approval conditions for local business renovations

Jeff Tipping advised that legislation does not allow Council to enforce upgrading accessible facilities unless the work involves refurbishment of the existing facilities or works proposed change the building classification.

Given that this issue is being raised regularly, Jeff suggested that he could prepare a report to Council regarding this issue and investigate options on providing incentives to businesses to improve access such as a reduction in fees, providing awareness flyers when applying for a DA or promoting business owners who take positive steps towards providing improved access for the community.

Ron Finneran agreed and moved this motion which was seconded by Sue Thomas and Rosemary Oates.

Action: Jeff Tipping to prepare a report to Council regarding possible options on providing incentives for business owners that improve access over and above what is legally required.

Action: Keith Tull to advise Sue Thomas if a pharmacy is classified as an essential service for accessibility purposes.

4.3 Review of standard outdoor furniture design

Paul Lunniss and John Grady presented the committee with design options for the layout and standard approach for picnic tables to be used by Council and community groups.

John Grady advised that with a table length of 2.1 metres and a 1.5 metre apron at either end the concrete slab required is quite large. Need to consider two types of design options:

1. Absolute minimum standard, allowing 1 metre apron on each side.
2. Desirable standard, if conditions allow.

Action: John Grady and Chris Sparks to work together and agree on a final version for the standard outdoor furniture design. Circulate final version to the committee members for final comment and agreement.

4.4 Sub-committees reports/updates

- Bermagui - Sue Thomas had nothing to report.
- Tathra – Chris Sparks reported that Tathra Beach House has a new accessible unit available. Also contacted Tathra Caravan Park regarding non-accessible cabins and business was open to feedback.
- Bega – Nathan Johnston had nothing to report.
- Candelo/Bemboka – Jennifer Dessens had nothing to report.
- Merimbula/Tura Beach – Rosemary Oates wanted it noted to compliment all of Council staff for their efforts throughout the year. Ron Finneran wanted to second that motion and wanted compliments to be passed to Council staff from the Access Advisory Committee.
- Eden - Cr. Tapscott reported that the Eden CBD works are going very well. Great initiative from an Eden retail business owner altering the footpath to a three way accessible entrance.

4.5 Major works/developments Project updates

- Paul Lunniss reported that the concrete pathway on Quondola Street, Pambula will be completed by the end of January 2016.

Access Advisory Committee Minutes – 7 December 2015

- John Grady advised that Council has engaged Spire Consultants to do the initial work for Short Point, Bruce Steer Pool and Pambula River Mouth. This will include onsite listening posts at these locations over the holiday period where feedback and ideas can be communicated. These dates will be promoted by media release.

Ron Finneran stated that Bruce Steer Pool was the priority project for the Access Advisory Committee.

It is anticipated that plans will be completed by April, 2016.

- John Grady advised that Bega Park works are underway and will be completed before Christmas. Ford Park had to be deferred until February 2016 to avoid the playground becoming a work site over the holiday period. Rotary, Touched by Olivia and The Primary Club have been notified of the delay.
- John Grady advised that Pambula Beach works are close to completion.
- Anthony Basford advised that the Littleton Gardens car park and road will be sealed within a week.

4.6 2016 Strategic Planning

Anthony Basford proposed an extra ordinary meeting to be held in February 2016 for 1 hour to discuss and workshop strategic planning for 2016.

All members of the committee agreed.

Action: Katrina Wright to circulate proposed dates to the committee with the minutes of this meeting.

5 Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 1:15pm.

6 Next meeting

The next extra ordinary meeting is to be held in February 2016. Further details to be advised.