
MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 JULY 2016 IN ORCHID TRAINING ROOM, CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, BRIDGE ROAD, NOWRA COMMENCING AT 4:01PM.

The following members were present:

Clr Findley - Chairperson
Clr Kitchener
Clr White
Clr Tribe – left 4.58pm
Chris Mitchell
Bill Deaves
Nola Stephens
Arthur Ball – arrived 4.05pm
Jackie Kay
Alex Collins – Vision Australia
Theo Bagou – via teleconference
Martin Uptis – General Managers Nominee

Others present:

Jeannie Greeg – Observing
Ray Massie
Colin Wood
Alan Blackshaw – arrived 4.07pm
Helen Waterhouse – arrived 4.30pm

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Clr Gash, Mel Gorman, Stephen Fornasier

1. Additional Item – Acknowledgement of Country

Clr Findley opened the meeting and acknowledges the Aboriginal land owners, elders past and present.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOTION:

Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee held on Monday 11 April 2016 be confirmed.

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

3. Additional Items Progress on Issues from the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee Minutes April 2016 File 1228E

Note: Arthur Ball – 4.05pm

MOTION:

Moved: Consent

Note: Alan Blackshaw arrived 4.07pm

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Committee's delegated authority from Council, that Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee receive this report for information.

File Number	Added to Action Table	Issue	Outcomes	Reports or Comments
28441E	September 2015	Photo recently posted on Council's Facebook page about special matting placed on the beach to enable wheelchair users to access the water.	<p>The Holey Belt is an affordable option on certain sites like our network of boat ramps including quiet coastal bays. An option is to combine this with a disability wheel chair at each surf club. We have started this with chairs at Mollymook & Culburra. The size of the Shoalhaven and limited resourcing makes achieving an equitable result very challenging. Cost is the main consideration to roll out of more mats. Coast and Estuaries are reviewing the need for matting and will keep the SACC advised of progress.</p>	<p>Holiday Haven have installed a Holey Belt access at Huskisson Resort Following the gift of a beach wheelchair. Callala Beach community has requested upgrade of equitable access at the Callala Beach Ramp.</p>  <p>Ray Massie advised he is waiting for confirmation from Greg Westlake for the meeting to go ahead, there have been large ocean swells which have changed the shape of beaches. He is in the process of determining how to respond.</p> <p>Residents at Callala Beach indicated that they would like a beach wheelchair. There is not a city wide plan at this time.</p> <p>Report back in regards to Callala Beach Status.</p>
52530E	June 2016	River Festival Public	Council staff request the	Shannan Perry-Hall

		Access and Transport	River Festival event organisers to investigate a shuttle bus option from the Nowra CBD area for access to the event.	<p>from Council Tourism Team will raise this with the committee at the next River Festival meeting 18/7/16.</p> <p>Nola Stephens advised that Gareth Ward MP stated it is Councils responsibility to apply to the State Government for funding.</p> <p>Alan Blackshaw will follow up with Shannon Perry-Hall regarding the issue of Council applying for State Transport Funding for a Bus Shuttle Service at the River Festival.</p>
5603E	June 2016	Winter Wine Festival accessible options.	Council request the organisers of the Winter Wine Festival to update their website and brochure to clearly display the accessible wineries.	<p>Website displayed accessible wineries online. Shannan will discuss updating brochure with organisers.</p> <p>Nothing has changed for this year's festival Jackie Kay was on the website and downloaded the brochure. There was no mention of access facilities.</p> <p>Shannon Perry-Hall be invited to attend the next meeting to advise what she has done to improve the brochures.</p>
30050E	June 2016	Nowra Pool Café Accessible Table	No access ramp to the table and chairs at the café.	<p>Access ramp is included in this year's financial budget.</p> <p>Alan Blackshaw will follow up and report back on the pool access ramp.</p>

51204E	June 2016	Event Access Workshop	Workshop will be hosted for Council and other groups, later in Year by Paul Nunnari, Manager Event Access and Inclusion from the Strategic Communications, Dept of Premier & Cabinet.	<p>August 2016 date yet to be negotiated.</p> <p>There are two workshops. The initial workshop 16 August 2016 is aimed at Council staff. The second workshop is a public workshop to be held 22 August 2016. The workshops are run by University of Technology and the Department of Planning.</p> <p>Alan does not have further details on the second workshop.</p> <p>Jackie Kay and Alan Blackshaw will work on an email to send to cover all issues for the event operators to University of Technology.</p>
1228E	June 2016	Letter of Thanks – Karen Denny	Council to send a letter to Karen Denny thanking her for the commitment to the Committee and her knowledge and help to the community.	Letter sent to Karen.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4. Additional Item – Opportunity Council Planning For Accessible Access Points for Beaches File

Clr Tribe advised it is better to look at a whole city wide approach.

There is a need to differentiate between independent access or assisted access in wheelchairs. It is preferred to have independent access.

Colin Wood suggested looking at main beaches close to tourist points first. Members thought that a gold standard should be sought first. Disabled access is required to be dignified.

Clr Tribe advised she would like to see equity across the Shoalhaven.

The Committee was advised to consider the most cost effective approach that is beaches that have some access initially rather than no access to begin with. From there a Policy could be created for any new access points that are built.

Colin Wood advised there will be some beaches that the “gold standard” is unattainable e.g. The beaches that are highly active and have sand being moved, the access has to be maintained by a volunteer.

The wheelchair access mats at Mollymook Beach are not adequate as you cannot push a chair on it. It was advised this is due to the compacting of the sand being problematic there and a number of considerations need to be taken into account.

Ray Massie advised that if the Access is to the water and not access to the beach is difficult as the water changes day to day and therefore the shape of a beach changes. The ocean boat ramps design structure for access boats and cars could possibly be used for wheelchairs. From an asset management view that is the only view that has access into water with resources for example space, maintenance, parking and toilet blocks that are all continually upgraded to the current standards. These are clusters of facilities that would suit everybody.

Colin Wood suggested the following way forward:

Step 1 – Conduct a survey

Step 2 – From the carpark to a view point of the beach and access to the accessible facility Step 3 – The terrain along the beach and the access be addressed e.g. which different mats - underlay and permanent? or if a mat is placed down as required?

Colin restated it is best to have a holistic approach throughout the city area, concentrating on one north, one central and one south first.

Note: Helen Waterhouse arrived, the time being 4.30pm.

It was advised that the Return 2 Sport Association a reintroducing people with disabilities into various sports, they are coming up with ideas worldwide and new innovations.

Colin Wood suggested that patrolled beaches and working with patrolled times could be a starting point, in case of trouble situations.

MOTION:

Moved: Consent

RECOMMENDED that Council do an initial audit on Greenwell Point, Huskisson, Mollymook Beaches and Callala Bay in regards to establishing accessible access points and consult with the Disabled Surfers Association (Gerroa).

CARRIED

5. Additional Item – Garside Road Mollymook Beach Footpath File

Clr White advised that Council is currently looking at the grade of Mitchell Pde, Tallwood Ave and Bannister Head Road. As the footpath needs to around the round about it will not be on Garside Rd Mollymook Beach. The footpath of Tallwood Ave Mollymook Beach is coming.

6. Additional Item – Scenic Drive Nowra Footpath File

Nola Stephens advised that the footpath that starts in Bridge Rd along Scenic Dr towards the pool area up to the hospital is significantly high and therefore is not possible to access in wheelchairs on the left hand side of Bridge Rd, under the bridge is the only way which is the longer way around.

MOTION: Moved: Consent

RECOMMENDED that footpath access be improved along scenic drive, Nowra from Bridge Rd towards the pool area up to the hospital.

CARRIED

7. Additional Item - Disability Inclusion Action Plan File

Alan Blackshaw provided flyers on the Disability Inclusion Action Plan that Shoalhaven City Council is developing. Council has engaged a consultant, Jenny Bray. Jenny Bray has been visiting formal organisations and groups. Shoalhaven City Council will be conducting workshops with members of the community to gain ideas of what should be included in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan. How do we make things as inclusive as possible?

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan will hopefully be finalised by November 2016.

Jenny Bray has advised Helen Waterhouse that she does want to meet with the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee, potentially at the end of August.

Drafts of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan will be distributed to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee so that members are kept up to date as they come in.

Helen Waterhouse advised there is a Tourism Workshop also being provided to the Community and Tourism have advised Helen Waterhouse that they are seeking a wide selection of people to attend. Helen will attach to the minutes further information.

MOTION: Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that the next of the Access Committee meeting be held late September/October 2016.

CARRIED

8. Additional Item – United Nations World Tourism Day File

Thursday 27 September 2016 is United Nations World Tourism Day. The theme is Access For All. Jackie Kay has arranged an event which is a short cruise along Jervis Bay with afternoon tea which is sponsored by Shoalhaven City Council. Invitations will be extended to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee. All events are registered on the website and this event is the only registered event for Australia so far.

9. Additional Item – Car Parking Code and Car Parking Standard File

Arthur Ball has completed a course on Access Consulting and completing Access Audits by developing a Control Plan. Arthur Ball enquired whether there is a reason that the Car Parking Code and the Car Parking Standard are not aligned.

Colin Wood advised that issue is under review at the moment.

Note Clr Tribe left the meeting the time being 4.58pm

Colin advised that Council is seeking for alterations and additions to major buildings to be above the standard.

MOTION: Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that a Report be brought back to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee on the progress of the Development Control Plan Chapter 18 (Car Parking Codes).

CARRIED

10. Additional Item – Accessible Carparks File

MOTION: Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that a report back to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee on the possibility of an accessible car park to be included for:

- a) the 45 degree parking area at Graham St Nowra (near the public toilet);
- b) Merro Rd Bomaderry (near the pub).

CARRIED

11. Additional Item – North St, Nowra – Pedestrian Crossing File

MOTION: Moved: Consent

RESOLVED that Council assess the pedestrian impact of the new development in Graham St on the pedestrian crossing and report back to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

12. Additional Item – Access to the Ceruli Building, Huskisson File

The difficulty of access to the lift was discussed in relation to the Ceruli Building (Chinese Restaurant) in Huskisson. There is a small sign out of sight which advises to call the restaurant to gain access. Colin Wood advised Council is seeking legal action at the moment and cannot advise more than that at this time, however will report back to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee at their next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.18 pm.

Clr Findley
CHAIRPERSON