

Minutes

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 18 May 2012 – 10.00am
Wangapeka/Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council

Present

Judene Edgar (Tasman District Council) (Chair), Donna Smith (CCS Disability Action) Kaye Halkett (Association of Blind Citizens), Ruby Aberhart (Nelson/Tasman Positive Ageing and VCC), Mike Tasman-Jones (Tasman District Council), Sarah Downs (Tasman District Council), Simon Horrocks (Independent), Karen Brookes (Golden Bay Community Board), Marg Parfitt (Nelson City Council), Liam Butler (Support Works), Paul Jennings (Dry Crust), Krista Hobday (Tasman District Council, Minutes), Phil Hilleard (Tasman District Council), Chris Choat (Tasman District Council) and Mike Stevens (Association of Blind Citizens).

Apologies

Marion Edwin, Brian Say, John Harwood, Adrian Humphries and Wendy Wadsworth

Judene Edgar welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Donna Smith for chairing the February meeting in her absence.

Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 10 February 2012.

MOVED Donna Smith
SECONDED Ruby Aberhart
CARRIED

1. Tasman District Council – Printed Material

Kaye Halkett summarised the issues that sight-impaired people have with modern printed material such as *Newsline the Mag*. In particular, colours and contrast along with font size make the material difficult to read. *Live Nelson* is much clearer.

In response Paul Jennings noted that Council relies on advertising revenue to help with publication costs of *Newsline the Mag* and advertisers want eye-catching material, not just black and white.

Chris Choat said that *Live Nelson* is expensive to produce – three times the cost. He is open to experimenting with colour and matt finish in Council publications.

Ruby Aberhart reminded the meeting that Tasman has a significant percentage of older people who don't have computers and rely on written material.

2. Recycling Bins

David Stephenson is responsible for solid waste at Tasman District Council.

David is aware that the recycling bins and rubbish bags hindered access and were the two main issues in terms of accessibility.

The contractors are instructed to ensure that footpaths are kept clear so if anyone has any problems with this they should contact Council directly and the message will be passed on to the contractor.

Kaye Halkett noted that the main issue is where there is no grass berm. She would prefer that bins and bags were placed on driveways so they didn't hinder access.

David noted that this could pose a legal issue for the contractor entering private property – he will follow up and advise regarding this issue.

In general there are issues with bins in Hunter, Oxford, Crescent and Waverley Streets.

David advised that Council is looking at a bylaw which will look at how subdivisions are built in terms of grass berms next to the footpath and next to the road.

3. Correspondence

From Chief Executive, Marlborough District Council regarding accessibility car parks being painted blue – they are investigating.

To Nelson City Council – Congratulations on painting accessibility car parks blue and for making attendance at World Cup games for people with accessibility issues.

From Tasman District Council regarding tables and chairs on footpaths. Council investigating "licence to occupy" options but understand that these are not consistent across the region. The Village Cafe have been told not to place their tables and chairs by the door.

4. Accessibility tour of Takaka CBD

Three groups experienced the use of wheelchairs, zimmer frames, walkers and crutches on a tour of the Takaka CBD. Issues noted include:

- Drinking fountain – difficult to use
- Public toilets – issue with entry on to tiled area, plenty of room inside
- Concrete joins in footpaths and slope to gutter
- Letter boxes outside Take Note
- Issues with crossing Commercial Street
- Difficult to get into Wholemeal Cafe
- Issue with access to Council offices – needs automatic sliding door
- Issue with site of ramp when exiting Library
- Footpath crossfall shocking, different gradients
- Ramp into Sprig and Fern not good
- I-site – toilets outside OK but would not want to go down ramp from I-site without assistance
- No accessible trolley for wheelchairs at Fresh Choice – this is being raised with the Manager
- NBS EFTPOS – too high and no shield

5. Richmond Accessibility Tour – Outcomes

Sarah Downs, Ruby Aberhart and Kaye Halkett have developed an action list – this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Judene suggested that the group should write to the Minister of Building & Construction (Maurice Williamson) outlining the issues identified by the CBD tours and invite him to look at these issues when he is next in the Nelson-Tasman region. Judene will write letter.

6. Accessibility Map

Donna Smith advised that Nelson City Council would not be producing the accessibility map due to cost restraints. However Marg Parfitt noted that accessibility funding that had initially

been taken out of Nelson City Council's Long Term Plan was now reinstated and there is an opportunity to reproduce the map in partnership with Tasman District Council. This would enable both Motueka and Takaka to be included.

There was some discussion about what should be included on the maps and whether two maps were necessary. It was agreed that because the maps are designed for people with accessibility issues the group should get feedback from mobility car park holders before taking this item further. Also talk to Plunket about what information they circulate about stork parking, baby changing areas etc. Marg to action.

Donna will advise numbers of mobility car park holders to Marg.

Marg also noted that in the meantime the current map is available on the Nelson City Council website.

General Business

Beach Road, Richmond – Donna noted that the footpath is inaccessible because of the lamp posts in the wrong position. The road is wide so there is an opportunity to widen the footpath. It was suggested that Donna attend the next Engineering Services Committee meeting on 19 July to and raise this issue at the public forum.

Bouquets

Donna reported that she had received an email from the Special Olympics asking for a second chair to be installed at the ASB Aquatic Centre. The current chair has been so popular that it has drawn in more athletes to use the pool facilities.

Donna also contacted Nelson City Council regarding the site of a rubbish bin in the Buxton car park. Council responded quickly and the bin is now situated in a position where it does not block access.

It was also noted that the cut downs in Sundial Square for the accessibility car parks is very user friendly.

Accessibility Checklist

Sarah to distribute via email and get feedback and comments. Judene will then finalise the list. Discussion around where to launch the checklist suggested that businesses that "lead by example" should be used to assist. It was agreed that suitable businesses in Takaka, Motueka, Richmond and Nelson need to be identified – Karen, Donna and Sarah to action.

Future of Accessibility for All Forum

Donna noted that the forum has been very positive and proactive and she wants that to continue. It was suggested that an email seeking feedback on the forum – what works, what doesn't – would provide guidance on where the forum goes in the future. Judene and Donna to action.

Age 2 Be Expo

Liam thanked Mike Tasman-Jones for organising a very successful Age 2 Be expo.

Meeting closed.

Next meeting Friday 10 August 2012

Actions

Action	Who	Timing
Richmond Accessibility Tour – Outcomes – Discuss action list at next meeting	All	
Placement of bins and bags on driveways so they don't hinder access – follow up with contractor	David Stephenson	ASAP
Write to Maurice Williamson re accessibility issues	Judene	ASAP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility map – investigate options • Advise number of mobility car park holders 	Marg & Sarah Donna	ASAP ASAP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility Check List – to be finalised – Sarah to email to members for final input. Judene to finalise • Identify suitable businesses to assist with launch – Takaka, Motueka, Richmond and Nelson 	Sarah & Judene Karen, Donna and Sarah	ASAP
Email members to seek feedback on forum – what works, what doesn't	Judene & Donna	ASAP