

## **Accessibility for All Forum Minutes**

**Friday 2 June 2023 – 10.00 am**

**Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond**

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**Present:** Malcolm Saunders (Chair), Councillor Campbell Rollo (Nelson City Council), Councillor Glen Daikee (Tasman District Council), Mike Stephens (Blind Citizens Nelson), Roger Curry (Blind Citizens Nelson), Karen Wilson (Blind Citizens Nelson), Maureen Keogan (Grey Power), Pam Coltman (Grey Power), Sally Mottram (Nelson City Council), Bill Rice (Tasman District Council)

**Apologies:** John Harwood, Jane Murray, Marg Parfitt, Mitchell Rhodes, Elizabeth Dooley, Elizabeth Perrone, Amanda Stevens, Kate Malcolm

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### **1. Welcome, introductions and apologies**

Mr Saunders, Chair, welcomed everyone to today's meeting and asked that they introduce themselves and the organisation they represented.

### **2. Streets for People Project**

In regard to various project meetings, Pam said there needs to be other groups involved ie blind, deaf people especially in the initial planning meetings. She attended a recent Champion Road meeting and noted there is no provision for seating on the plan. She said the plan for the reserve at Olive Estate is fantastic.

Councillor Daikee said he would bring this matter up with the Reserves and Facilities team.

Mike said the seating at Saxton Field is great.

### **3. Transport Choices**

The new bus service is due to kick off on 1 August 2023.

Councillor Rollo said a hearing panel is meeting on 16 June at Nelson City Council which is made up of three elected members. He said he would circulate the proposals of where the new bus stops are going to be.

Karen said maps are no good for blind people so a word description of the route and where the bus stops are, would be extremely helpful.

Bill said Tasman District Council can provide route information – staff are still working on locations of the bus stops. Nelson City Council will also provide the Nelson bus route information. Please see link here but bus routes for Nelson and Tasman: [eBus - Nelson Tasman's new and improved bus service | Shape Nelson](#)

Karen talked about screen readers for laptops and phones – screen readers can only read texts and not images (they cannot read PDFs) so that is a huge amount of information on Council websites that a lot of the population cannot read.

Sally said there are many organisations that do not know that the A4A exists and would like to be invited. She will send a list of organisations/members to Melanie Ellis to be invited to the next meeting.

Councillor Daikee said he would follow up with Tasman District Council's Communications Manager about putting a reminder of meetings in Newline.

Roger said there is a worldwide company called Eutopia who complete audits on accessibility options on websites. He suggested both councils should have a look.

Karen said communications is a minefield worldwide and it comes back to the person who wants the information.

Sally said 38% of people would prefer to read something than find it on the websites.

Karen said the A4A Forum dates do not appear on the Nelson City or Tasman District Council websites or noted in fortnightly newsletters.

The Forum would like the meetings changed to Mondays instead of Fridays. Melanie to action. There was a suggestion of having six meetings a year instead of four.

#### **4. Public transport contract and services coming in August 2023**

No update.

#### **5. An expo for cycling equipment for disabled ratepayers**

Cr Rollo said there's an expo currently happening in Auckland displaying a range of bikes that different users can use.

Bill said there is a limited amount of funding that could be made available through the Tasman District Council Community Grants Scheme – applications close on 31 July. Link here: [Community grants - grants from rates | Tasman District Council](#)

The Tasman District and Nelson City Councils Community Partnerships team said this could be incorporated as a summer activity or Bikewise month in February.

Karen said currently there is no policy where micro mobility is allowed to move. Bill said we are waiting for the legislation from Central Government which will cover this but it is taking a long time.

## 6. General Business

Malcolm said the velodrome at Saxton Field is one of the most used parks in the district and it's a wonderful asset.

Councillor Daikee said there is support around having a look at an inclusive and accessible playground in Richmond. Malcolm said there is quite a big area by the Saxton Velodrome that could be utilised. Roger suggested engagement with the disability groups before any decisions are made.

## 7. Matters arising

Elizabeth Perrone wanted to address a comment made in the last meeting regarding Mobility Parking and its application. Unfortunately, Elizabeth couldn't make the meeting however, sent an email that was received late, as follows "Correction on a mobility parking issue raised by a lady at the last meeting. It was said that the mobility parking permit required the permit holder to be the driver. This is NOT the case. It is required however, that the permit holder be present and exits the vehicle for the time that the mobility parking space is used (in conjunction with the permit being on display in the vehicle of course)."

**Next A4A Forum date is Monday 28 August 2023 and then Monday 4 December – meeting invites to follow.**

The Chair Malcom Saunders thanked everyone for their input into the meeting.

Meeting closed at 11.03 am.