

Minutes

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 24 August 2018– 10.00am
Council Chambers, Tasman District Council

Present

Cr Dana Wensley (Chair), Cr Dean McNamara, Drew Bryant (Activity Planning Advisor – Transportation), Brylee Wayman (Policy Advisor), Sarah Holman (Policy Advisor) and Robyn Scherer (Executive Assistant) (Tasman District Council);

Cr Stuart Walker, Marg Parfitt, Rachel Large and Scott Tambisari (Nelson City Council);

Ruby Aberhart, John Harwood, Simon Horrocks, David Cliff, Ivan Geeves, Moira Archer, Anne-Marie Fowke-Stayner (independent members);

Chris Allison (Health Action Trust);

Jane Murray (Policy Advisor – NMDHB, Public Health Service);

Pamela Coltman, (Greypower)

Mike Stevens (Blind Citizens New Zealand)

Kate Malcolm, guest

Apologies

Amanda Stevens, Kim Howell, Ron Burt, Kaye Halkett and Cr Paul Matheson

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cr Wensley invited everyone to introduce themselves to the meeting participants.

2. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 16 February 2018

MOVED – John Harwood
SECONDED – Pamela Coltman
CARRIED

3. Chairs Report (Cr Wensley)

Cr Wensley presented her report and asked that it be taken as read.

MOVED – Ruby Aberhart
SECONDED – John Harwood
CARRIED

4. Total Mobility (Marg Parfitt, Nelson City Council)

The roll-out of the new Ridewise total mobility cards has gone smoothly with all members having now received cards. Paper vouchers are not being accepted by transport operators any more – unless they are out of town vouchers from places that don't operate Ridewise. Nelson/Tasman total mobility members travelling out of town should check that their destinations use Ridewise cards before departure and if not request out of town paper vouchers from Nelson City Council.

In response to a question from Ruby Aberhart about why we don't promote the scheme and if there was sufficient budget for it, the funding is set through the Regional Land Transport Programme and then the councils Long Term Plans. Some growth was projected and the figures do increase over time taking into account the aging demographic. The fund is sufficient at present – given the subsidy cap and current demand. The limited nature of the fund is the reason why we don't "advertise" the scheme – we are confident that people who need it will hear about the opportunity to apply through medical practitioners or through membership of support groups.

5. Nbus (Marg Parfitt)

The revised timetables came into effect on 1 August which saw the reintroduction of the Stoke loop and some extension to weekend services between Nelson and Richmond. New low-floor buses are operational on the city services, meaning all buses are now wheelchair friendly (unless there is an emergency breakdown which may necessitate replacement bus that is not).

The Stoke loop routes were developed in conjunction with stakeholders and the routes operate at off peak (Supergold) times only. They pass major retirement villages. There are three loops in one hour all starting and finishing in Stoke – Marg circulated a handout.

Feedback was received indicating that some people were not comfortable with the Hail and Ride concept so at Greypower's suggestion the council has purchased small flags for free distribution to bus users. These will be available shortly.

Nelson City Council is about to engage a consultant to carry out a survey on barriers to bus use. Information gathered will inform the public transport review scheduled for next year. Tasman District Council has been invited to participate in questionnaire development and the survey will be carried out across both Nelson and Tasman areas.

Electronic ticketing on Nbus has been further delayed. Testing of the system did not progress as well as hope and it will be 2019 before we see this in Nelson.

Free bus services are being provided for the All Blacks game on 8 September 2018 including wheelchair friendly buses to get people there.

6. Paxsters

Nelson City Council has reconsidered the use of Paxsters – this was originally deferred pending the outcome of the trial in Hamilton City; that trial is now completed and no real issues were identified. Based on that, Nelson City Council is recommending that Paxsters be allowed to operate on Nelson footpaths for a two year trial with some exclusion zones, eg where streets are too narrow, close to schools, rest homes or busy CBD areas.

In response to a question, Marg said she will ask NZ Post if the Paxsters are required to make a sound as they progress on the footpath.

In response to a question, Marg noted that at the moment Paxsters have exclusive permission to operate on footpaths from NZTA (under national legislation). She noted that pizza deliveries or other courier providers are not allowed to operate on the footpath. Also, electric bikes are not allowed on footpaths, shared paths or on the road. Mobility scooter, invalid carriages are allowed on footpaths.

Marg agreed to circulate the report to Nelson City Council to A4A members – this will be considered at their meeting on 20 September 2018.

The meeting further discussed the Paxster issue and noted concerns such as:

- congestion of 4xwheel vehicles on the footpath; and
- pressure on current footpath issues;

Chris Allison queried whether the trial in Hamilton may not be directly relevant to this region which has one of the fastest growing populations in New Zealand.

Cr Wensley asked whether the use of electric vehicles fits with Tasman District's current focus on promoting active transport. The perception of risk for those with visual or hearing impairment may contribute to "loss" journeys which do not get recognised in audits.

Chris Geeves suggested that NZ Post are dominating the postal scene and gaining a competitive advantage. He noted that a number of post boxes are being removed and this is an issue for our elderly population; we need to put the squeeze on NZ Post, if they are getting advantage in one area, to provide a level of service in another.

Ruby Aberhart spoke about the use of motor bikes to deliver DX post. Marg Parfitt noted that DX have not asked for permission to use the footpaths and they should not be using them to make their deliveries.

Marg Parfitt noted that Nelson City Council will be regularly monitoring the Paxster trial and she is happy for an A4A member to be involved in Council meetings with NZ Post. In response, Cr Wensley proposed that two members represent A4A at these meetings.

Action – Volunteers to contact Cr Wensley or Marg Parfitt

Action – Tasman District Council to develop a policy for electric vehicles on footpaths

Action – Tasman District Council staff to provide a report to A4A on the Hamilton City Council survey and how the issue of Paxsters folds into the Active Transport policy.

Cr Walker commented that NZ Post has a genuine desire to ensure they are responsible. They recognise the issues that concern people. NZ Post are deliberately choosing staff with the right attitude to drive the Paxsters. He suggested that we need to accept that they are genuine in their brief to be good users of the footpath.

Pamela Coltman queried if the councils kept any record of accidents on footpaths. She is aware of two accidents, in one a woman broke her arm. Marg advised that they are only report if the councils are made aware of the accidents.

Action: Pamela to provide more information on the particular incident to Marg.

7. Development of Tasman District Council's Age-Friendly Policy (Brylee Wayman)

Brylee circulated two documents. She noted that the aim of the age-friendly policy is to address the opportunities and challenges of our aging population. The policy is currently being drafted by staff, it will then be workshopped with the Council prior to public consultation.

Brylee reported that accessibility has been raised by a number of people. The main issues raised so far are transportation infrastructure, transport services, public toilets, parks and reserves, Council buildings and facilities, communication methods and housing.

The meeting discussed the definition of Accessibility as circulated by Brylee. After some discussion the meeting agreed to adopt the United Nations which is:

Definition from [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#), ratified by New Zealand in September 2008.

Accessibility: to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life by taking appropriate measures to ensure they can access, on an equal basis with others, the physical environment, transportation, information and communications, and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas.

Ruby passed on her thanks to Brylee and Sarah for their hard work on developing this policy.

8. Transportation Updates (Drew Bryant)

Land Development Manual – Drew spoke to a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Transportation section of the draft Nelson-Tasman Land Development Manual.

Ivan Geeves suggested that the minimum widths of footpaths should be 1.8m so that people in wheelchairs and pedestrians can pass one another. He added that this is a growing issue with the aging population. In response, Drew encouraged Ivan to put in a submission to the Land Development Manual.

Rachel Large and Scott Tambisari left the meeting at 11.20 am.

Marg Parfitt spoke about footpath cross falls which are built to satisfy pedestrians. She also noted that the cross falls means that cars need to slow down when entering properties across footpaths.

Active Transport Strategy – Drew spoke to a PowerPoint presentation outlining Tasman District Council's active transport strategy. He noted that the council is keen to gain feedback and people's concerns before staff start writing the strategy.

Simon Horrocks noted that the survey questions do not provide for people who are in wheelchairs. In response, Drew agreed to update the survey and send the link to Simon. Drew noted that the survey will be available until the end of October.

Richmond and Motueka Parking Strategy – Drew provided a brief overview of Tasman District Council's parking strategy.

In response to a comment about one-way streets that would allow parking on both sides of the road, Cr Wensley noted that the Council is not encouraging more cars into the town centre; instead the focus is on more active transport.

9. Nelson-Tasman Community Transport Trust – Kate Malcolm

Kate Malcolm spoke about an alternative public transport model which is operating in Canterbury where the Trust owns a vehicle and uses volunteer drivers and a booking system. This provides an alternative transport option for people in outlying settlements. The service can be kept affordable because you don't have to pay for a driver. Drivers are police-vetted and require a medical

certificate to show that they are fit to drive. The concept is similar to the Wrinklies bus which operates in Golden Bay.

Kate said that a group of local people are interested in setting up a trust and are currently seeking trustees. Once the trust is set up the group can then apply for funds. Kate asked for A4A support for this initiative.

Pamela Coltman suggested that Greypower may be able to help with a van and driver.

Action: Pamela and Kate to talk to each other.

Action: It was agreed that a letter of support would be provided from A4A.

MOVED – Ruby Aberhart

SECONDED – Anne-Marie Fowke-Stayner

CARRIED

10. General Business

- Ruby spoke about emergency contact cards which had been widely distributed several years ago. She asked why these hadn't been updated. Pamela Coltman suggested that privacy concerns probably mean that the card option is no longer valid.
- Mike Stevens spoke about the new bus stop on Queen Street. He noted that the bus stop had clear sides and trip hazards and some form of treatment should be provided to help guide people around it. In response, Drew Bryant noted that an independent safety audit is being carried out on Queen Street and there will be a number of changes made to address issues.
- Road Safety Liaison Role (Megan Bell) – Megan explained her new role and asked that any safety concerns be directed to her. She urged the members that if they had any specific items to report to the Council such as trip hazards or other physical issues that can be fixed by the contractor, that members call the Council's main number and ensure a customer service request is logged. This will ensure that you will get a response. Marg Parfitt noted that Nelson City Council is recruiting an equivalent role to Megan.
- Removal of mobility car parks in Queen Street – Ivan asked that consideration be given to the provision of mobility parks in Queen Street, including mobility taxi points and options for companion parking.

Action – Cr Wensley to discuss with Jamie McPherson.

The meeting closed at 12.15 pm

Action	Who	When
Email Richmond Mall: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• new floor very slippery	Cr Wensley/Megan	Before next meeting

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> noise levels – can lower quite easily. Retrofit (add to barrier free document) 		
Letter to be sent to Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council regarding supporting changes to the building code to include 'universal/lifetime design' of housing.	Cr Wensley	Work in progress
Review A4A 'Terms of Reference'	Cr Wensley	On agenda for next meeting
Mobility car parks in Queen Street – Drew Bryant to follow up with Ivan, Pam and Ruby	Drew Bryant	Report to next meeting
Letter of support for proposed Nelson-Tasman Community Transport Trust	Cr Wensley	Table at next meeting
Volunteers for meetings with NZ Post regarding Paxsters	Marg Parfitt Simon Horrocks Mike Stevens Chris Allison	Those interested to contact Marg or Cr Wensley
Circulate Hamilton City Council report on Paxsters to A4A members	Robyn Scherer	ASAP
Accident on Nelson footpath – Pamela to report details to Marg Parfitt	Pamela Coltman	Work in Progress