

Minutes

A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 13 November 2015 – 10.00am
Wangapeka-Heaphy Room, Tasman District Council

Present

Cr Judene Edgar (Chair), Sarah Downs, Bettina Koessler, Helen Brown, Russell McGuigan (Tasman District Council), Cr Eric Davy, Marg Parfitt (Nelson City Council), Kirstie Thorp (MWH Global), Mike Stevens, Kaye Halkett, Gill Clayton (Association of Blind Citizens – Nelson Branch), Paul Richardson (Blind Foundation), Simon Horrocks (Independent), John Harwood (Hearing Association), Tracey Perry (Halberg Disability Sport Foundation), Linda O' Dea (Greypower)

Apologies

Krista Hobday, Chris Allison, Marg Parfitt, Ruby Aberhart, Brian Say, Annette Nistor

1. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 14 August 2015

MOVED John Harwood
SECONDED Eric Davy
CARRIED

Judene advised that this would be the last meeting for Bettina and Sarah who have both left their roles within Council to pursue other career opportunities. Judene thanked Sarah for the hard work and enthusiasm she has for advocating accessibility and the role she has played in being a voice for the forum within Council. She will be greatly missed.

2. Matters Arising – Action List

- Judene to follow up with CCS Disability Action in relation to the number of cards which are within the region.
- There is still an outstanding issue with the Richmond library steps. They require a further reflective strip to be added. Judene will follow up with relevant Council staff.
- Simon, Ruby and John met with Dugald Ley to discuss the Engineering standards review. Simon said the discussion focused on the two Council's aligning their standards more closely and also standards applied to new subdivisions.
- Wheelchair availability list is yet to be collated. Kaye suggested that once collated, that this is passed onto the information centers as well as Council customer service centers. Judene to follow up on this.

3. Correspondence

Nil

4. Queen Street Reconstruction

Russell McGuigan, the Council's Programme Delivery manager advised that the reasoning behind the reconstruction of Queen Street was driven by an upgrade of the utilities infrastructures which run under the road. A video was shown providing a brief overview of the project. The project is still very much in a planning phase, and the A4A forum members were given the opportunity to provide their feedback. The main points of the discussion are summarised below:

- The road will be narrowed to slow traffic down, which may result in the loss of car parking, but will allow for a 4 metre wide footpath, including a 1 metre wide 'buffer zone' for items such as sandwich boards and bike racks.
- It was suggested that roundabouts would be constructed at the gateway entry points. There was some concern expressed by the advocates for the visually impaired in the group, as roundabouts can be very tricky to negotiate.
- It was noted that bus routes would need to be taken into consideration. Council staff are meeting with Nelson City Council next week to discuss this further.
- Wayfinding – it was noted that this should form an integral part in the planning of the project.
- Crossing points – good thought needs to be put into the location of these i.e. the proximity to popular locations.
- Curbing – it was noted that options are being looked into which will remove the 'step' in the curbing.

The forum was encouraged to contact the Council should they have any further feedback or comments. These can be forwarded onto Robyn Scherer: robyn.scherer@tasman.govt.nz

5. Accessibility Issues at Saxton Field

Cr Davy raised an issue with regards to access to the disabled toilets at the Saxton Oval Pavilion. There is an issue with the fact that when the Pavilion is closed, there are no other disabled toilets available for public use. He suggested that the two Councils need to work together to plan to build a disabled toilet at ground level, which is still accessible to people when the pavilion is closed.

It was suggested that the area be audited by someone with accessibility difficulties so that any further issues can be picked up on and solutions sought.

6. Nelson City Council Updates

Marg provided an update on the following:

- NBus – route enhancements are just around the corner for the Stoke area. This will include new routes on Nayland Road and the Ridgeway. These will start being utilised from 05 December 2015.
- Accessibility Parking on Trafalgar Street – more accessibility parking is planned for Trafalgar Street in the near future. Watch this space.

7. 'Out and About' active travel and pathway-based recreation policy – feedback from information session

There was an information session held by Nelson City Council on Friday 23 October to discuss the 'Out and About' Active Travel and Pathway based recreation policy which the Nelson City Council has recently adopted.

Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council will continue to work together to encourage people on the correct usage of shared pathways.

8. General Business

(a) Meeting Dates 2016 – The following dates were suggested:

- Friday 19 February
- Friday 13 May
- Friday 12 August
- Friday 11 November

Invite to be sent out following the circulation of the minutes.

Meeting closed: 11:55am

Action List

Action	Who	When
Accessibility Parking Cards – Judene to contact CCS Disability Action to ascertain how many people in the Nelson/Tasman region have one of these cards.	Judene Edgar	Next meeting
List of Wheelchairs available for public use – Judene to investigate wheelchairs available for public use and get a list through to local information centers and Council customer service centers.	Judene Edgar	Ongoing, likely 2016
Richmond Library Steps – the stairs require a further reflective strip to be added. Judene to follow up with appropriate Council staff	Judene Edgar	ASAP
Meeting invites to be sent out for the coming year (2016).	Robyn Scherer	Before next meeting