

Access & Inclusion Advisory Committee

8 May 2017



Minutes

HELD AT Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre

Present

Ron Finneran OAM	Felicity Gates	John Grady (BVSC)
Graham Carmody	Michaela Pascolutti	Jason Deller (BVSC)
Rosemary Oates	Francis Pearce	Jeff Tipping (BVSC)
John Reynolds	Jenny Robb	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Colin Dunn	Jennifer Russell	Katrina Berenguer (BVSC)
Sue Thomas	Andrew Woodley Acting Chair (BVSC)	
Nathan Johnston	Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)	

1 Welcome and apologies

Welcome to the newly appointed community members of the Access & Inclusion Advisory Committee (AIAC).

That the apologies submitted by Chris Sparks, Ian Macfarlane and Cr Robin Bain for their inability to attend the meeting be accepted.

2 Committee introductions

Ron Finneran OAM	Former Chair of committee Background - Paralympic Sport
Rosemary Oates	Former community committee member Current nurse for general practice Background Aged care/Dementia
Sue Thomas	Former community committee member
Colin Dunn	Former community committee member Current member of Rotary/small business Background retired teacher
Keith Tull (BVSC)	Manager Planning Services Profile Development Applications, Strategic Planning & Heritage
Jeff Tipping (BVSC)	Manager Health, Building & Compliance Profile Construction projects, Health and Regulatory Services (Rangers)
Andrew Woodley (BVSC)	Acting Director Community, Relations & Leisure/Director Planning & Environment

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Jason Deller (BVSC)	Manager Strategy & Asset Services Profile roads, footpaths, walkways and local traffic committee
Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)	Manager Community, Culture & Information Profile Libraries, Aboriginal Liaison, Regional Gallery & Halls
John Reynolds	Former community committee member Current volunteer Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust, Lumen Christi, Edge FM, Sports & Recreation Ground Committee Background retired from Bega Cheese 25 years
Graham Carmody	Former community committee member Background former owner of Harbourview Hotel, Bermagui 20 years
Jenny Robb	Current President of Eden Chamber of Commerce, member of Sapphire Coast Tourism committee, member of Eden Wharf Committee Liaison Committee and owner of two small tourism businesses
Felicity Gates	Current employee of Guide Dogs Australia Background pets therapy and aged care
Jen Russell	Current CEO Tulgeen / Riverside Nursery / day inclusion program Intellectual disability advocate
Michaela Pascolutti	Current employee of Sapphire Support Services. Developed Access for All Application.
Frank Pearce	Background Aboriginal studies/former lecturer. Best practice vocational training
Katrina Berenguer (BVSC)	Executive Assistant – Community, Relations and Leisure
John Grady (BVSC)	Manager, Leisure & Recreation Profile parks, sportsgrounds, leisure facilities
Nathan Johnston	Former community committee member Current employee of Nardy House / online business for musicians

3 Committee Guidelines/Meeting procedure

Simon Schweitzer advised that the committee has been formed under Section 355 of the Local Government Act. Some of the roles and responsibilities of the committee are as follows:

- Strategic level committee and an advisory body relating to Council business
- Members provide and seek feedback for advice on various matters and new projects
- Members are the eyes and ears in the community
- Provide recommendations for the Access Improvement Grants (process to be finalised)
- Disability Inclusion and Access Plan to be adopted by the end of June 2017
- With the AIAC approval community members can advocate on behalf of the committee
- Meet quarterly on the second Monday of the month

4 Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Simon Schweitzer advised that he will be distributing a copy of the draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) to the committee by email to seek feedback prior to the plan going on public exhibition for 28 days from the 17 May 2017. After feedback has been received from all parties the draft DIAP will then be presented to Council to be adopted as a commitment to achieve what is set out in the plan and submitted to LG NSW.

New Action: Simon Schweitzer to email out draft DIAP to seek feedback from the AIAC from mid May 2017 – mid June 2017. Any feedback should be emailed back to Simon Schweitzer and copied to the AIAC so everyone has an opportunity to comment. Simon will also collate all feedback and send back to the AIAC when finalised.

The role of the AIAC will be to monitor the implementation of the DIAP. Council will be required to report back to LG NSW every 12 months on the progress of the commitments and the Plan will then need to be reviewed every 4 years. The aim of the DIAP is to monitor statutory requirements and have consistency across NSW.

5 Pambula Beach Access

Colin Dunn raised the issue of there being no pathway from Lumen Christi to the Pambula Beach access road into the surf club area (distance approximately 100 metres). He advised that pedestrians are currently required to use the road as a pathway and is particularly dangerous at peak tourism time. He also advised that an official letter about this issue was sent by him to the Mayor.

Jason Deller advised that this area has been recognised as a connectivity issue and that it is scheduled to be upgraded in due course with the long term program of works.

John Grady advised that the access issue was identified in the Pambula Beach Accessibility Plan that was adopted by Council late last year. The plan is yet to be funded but is a good plan to gain external funding.

New Action: John Grady to distribute a copy of the Pambula Beach Accessibility Plan to the AIAC.

Ron Finneran asked if there was any way the local service clubs and Pambula Beach Surf Club can work with Council to advance this work?

Jason Deller advised that it would be a substantial amount of money to implement and it is currently unfunded. The pathway would need to be properly designed.

Colin Dunn suggested to convene a meeting of the groups to discuss further.

Jenny Robb advised that tourism funding should be considered as it is a popular tourist area.

John Grady advised that a community project proposal would need to be submitted to Council to outline the scope, design work and steps to move ahead.

Ron Finneran requested that signage be installed to warn drivers of the risk.

New Action: Jason Deller advised that at the next Local Traffic Committee he would recommend that the speed be reduced to a 50km zone noting that it is scheduled to be upgraded in due course with the long term program of works.

6 Other Business

Jenny Robb asked if the Snug Cove development sits within the AIAC profile. Keith Tull advised that it is Crown Land and the AIAC profile best covers Council projects, facilities and services.

Felicity Gates reported that she felt there was no connectivity in Bega for pedestrians to get to Coles from the main town centre. She recommended that refuge islands be installed on a few key points.

Jason Deller advised that a refuge island is estimated at approximately \$50-\$100k and is not a cheap temporary solution.

Andrew Woodley advised that the Bega CBD Masterplan identifies accessibility issues that includes the Clock Tower area. Works required to improve accessibility and amenity in the area estimates at \$5-\$10 million, so funding is an issue that the AIAC will face.

New Action: Katrina Berenguer to send a link of the CBD Landscape Masterplans for Bega, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula to the new community members.

Andrew Woodley distributed a hard copy of the Action Items and Outcomes Register carried forward to the AIAC to continue from the last Committee.

New Action: Ron Finneran requested that due dates for action be added as an additional column to the Action Items and Outcomes Register.

2:05pm Michaela Pascolutti and Jennifer Russell left the meeting.

7 Access Improvement Grants

Andrew Woodley advised that the AIAC will be making recommendations to Council for the \$20k allocated for the Access Improvement Grants.

New Action: Community members to seek ideas from the community and bring it back to the AIAC to discuss, prioritise and make recommendations.

2:10pm Nathan Johnston left the meeting.

8 Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

It was decided that due to a number of new committee members and also absent members that the election of Chair and Deputy Chair be considered at the next meeting to allow time to consider. Andrew Woodley put to the meeting that Ron Finneran be interim Chair until the next meeting when a Chair and Deputy Chair is decided by a vote.

The motion was moved by Jenny Robb and seconded by John Reynolds. All voted in favour.

New Action: Any committee member interested in putting their name forward for Chair or Deputy Chair of the AIAC advise Katrina Berenguer before the next meeting.

9 Closure and next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting be held on the 14 August 2017. All members agreed by a vote of hands.

The meeting was declared closed at 2:30pm.