

Access Advisory Committee

09 March 2015



Minutes

HELD AT BVSC Chambers

Present

Cr. Tapscott	Colin Dunn	Simon Schweitzer (BVSC)
Ronald Finneran (Chairman)	Nathan Johnston	John Grady (BVSC)
Jennifer Dessens	Anthony Basford (BVSC)	Gary Louie (BVSC)
Chris Sparks	Jeff Tipping (BVSC)	Katrina Wright (BVSC)
Beck Minear (Ability Links)	Paul Lunniss (BVSC)	

1. Apologies

Rosemary Oates	Leah Ogden	Graham Carmody
Lyndon Lewis	Sue Thomas	Keith Tull (BVSC)
Peter Newton (BVSC)		

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved on the motion of Colin Dunn & Jennifer Dessens.

That the minutes of the previous Access Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting held on 15 December 2014, be taken as read.

3. Business arising from last meeting

3.1 Beach Site Projects by John Grady

Bruce Steer Pool Update

- In the process of defining scope for access to the water and considering amenities, pathway links, rock wall, parking and upgrading picnic facilities. Subject to funding, access to the water is the highest priority for the AAC.
- Key stakeholders – AAC, Bermagui Chamber of Commerce, regular swimmers group and broader community. After key stakeholder groups sign off, the tendering and procurement process can begin.
- Council staff is in the process of applying for grant funding.
- Timing – construction commences July 2015.

Pambula River Mouth update

- Main priority is to overcome access to the beach and upgrade the amenities. Survey work has been completed regarding the technical aspect of upgrading the pump station. Signage and layout of carpark is also under review.
- Ron Finneran noted that access to the water's edge is preferable. He also noted that the new picnic tables are not a good accessible design.
- Key stakeholders – AAC, Pambula Surf Club and broader community.
- Timing – construction will commence post Easter 2015.
- Ron Finneran nominated to delegate Chris Sparks on this project while he is on leave.

Bar Beach update

- Project includes pathways from carpark to BBQ area and rock wall retention.
- Ready for construction post Easter 2015. Final plans to be distributed with minutes.

Beach Street update

- Project includes inclusion of ramp along rock wall from town centre to bridge and also from the town centre to the war memorial. Includes wheelchair access to the waterfront and also accessible terraced seating.
- Timing – construction is underway and pathway should be completed by the end of March 2015. If there is a shortfall on funding landscaping may not occur but as a minimum turf will need to be laid.
- Gary Louie advised the AAC that Council is currently negotiating modification with NSW Fisheries regarding the permit for the rock wall to include the stairs. Council has had to engage a sub-surface conditions report which will determine the stair arrangement. Best outcome is to construct the stairs under the current permit.

Action: Gary Louie to advise the AAC of the outcome of the NSW Fisheries decision on the Beach Street permit to include the stairs by end of April 2015.

3.2 Barriers Register/Inclusion Action Plan

Barriers Register and Inclusion Action Plan are still a work in progress. Anthony Basford believes that a lot of items can be assessed through the CRM process.

Simon Schweitzer advised that Council has the capacity to engage a consultant to develop an Inclusion Action Plan.

Chris Sparks advised that he has some consultant contacts that would be beneficial.

Action: Simon Schweitzer to develop an expression of interest brief to create an Inclusion Action Plan by the end of April 2015. Brief will then be distributed to the AAC for comment.

Sub-Committee Work Groups

Ron Finneran proposed that the sub-committee work groups should be established based on the areas that the members live. They are:

Area	Nominated Committee Members
Bermagui/Cobargo	Sue Thomas & Graham Carmody
Tathra	Chris Sparks
Bega	Nathan Johnston
Candelo/Bemboka	Jennifer Dessens (to be confirmed as Jennifer does not live near these towns)
Merimbula/Tura Beach	Rosemary Oates
Eden/Pambula	Colin Dunn

Each nominated committee member will be the Council point of contact for their area in the first instance. The committee members are also responsible for information gathering to feed back to the committee.

It was **resolved** to take a vote on the establishment of the proposed sub-committee work groups and it was unanimously agreed.

Merimbula Telephone Pole

Gary Louie advised that the mobility access around the pole in Main Street, Merimbula was presented at Council on the 25 February 2015. It was resolved that Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute a Deed of agreement with the Society of St Vincent De Paul Pty Ltd owners of Lot 284 DP 17033 and Spencer Ventures Pty Ltd owners of Lot 1 DP 334085 to rectify a footpath mobility access issue on Main Street, Merimbula.

Ron Finneran advised that he has requested the Customer Relations department of Essential Energy by letter for financial support to contribute to the costs. He has not received a response to date.

3.3 Council Works Programs & Works on Council Land

Action: The Project proposal form for community groups/service clubs to be reviewed by John Grady and ready to review by the AAC at the next meeting.

John Grady did note that the benefits of formalising this process will be beneficial so that other areas nearby the proposal can be linked or assessed at the same time.

Action: Ron Finneran requested Anthony Basford to forward him a copy of the current Project proposal form in its draft form.

It was agreed that when the document is finalised, Council will advise the community by a media release and also post on the BVSC website. Should also consider advising the service clubs and Rotary groups of the new form.

Bega Clock Tower Intersection

Nathan Johnston's presentation and request to improve the safety of the intersection on the corner of Gipps & Carp Streets, Bega was discussed at the Local Traffic Committee meeting on the 4 February 2015. It was found Council is unable to move forward to a recommendation as there is no easy solution to the issue.

Cr Tapscott noted there are larger projects being undertaken with the improvement of parking and traffic in the Bega CBD so this issue will still be considered as part of that larger project. It

was also noted that the heritage issues with the clock tower have to be taken into consideration.

3.4 Eden Marina Project

Action: Katrina Wright will forward Ron Finneran the details to request to be a stakeholder of the new Eden Marina Project.

3.5 Volunteer Inductions

Action: Simon Schweitzer to organise Lyndon Lewis, Chris Sparks and Leah Ogden to complete their volunteer inductions.

3.6 Grant Availability

Council do have staff monitoring grant opportunities but any AAC member is encouraged to forward any new grant opportunities through to Katrina Wright for further investigation by Council.

3.7 Pambula Beach Accessible Toilet

Gary Louie was able to reinstate the toilet available for use on the 23 December 2015.

4. New Business

4.1 Presentation from Beck Minear

Beck Minear presented an overview of the role and services of the newly appointed NSW Ability Link Co-ordinators. Beck Minear is responsible for Bega & Bombala areas. A copy of the presentation is attached.

4.2 Sub-Committees reports/updates

Tathra

Chris Sparks wanted to note that the new facilities at the Tathra Caravan Park were disappointing regarding accessible options. The only option for accessible facilities was the most expensive option. Chris Sparks enquired to Jeff Tipping if it is possible to incorporate accessibility into DA plans. Jeff Tipping advised that it is not a legislative requirement and that Council is unable to pursue. It was agreed by the AAC that it is a missed opportunity for a good business plan.

Action: It was agreed that Jeff Tipping would send a letter to the Local Government department on behalf of the AAC to request a legislative change to the Caravan/Parks to include accessible facilities and copy Sapphire Coast Tourism.

4.3 Review of Action Items & Outcomes

Updated document distributed to AAC includes Desired Outcomes column as per previous discussions. All completed items appear at the end of the document highlighted in yellow. It is important to note that this document is only intended for the AAC and not for general public use.

Action: Katrina Wright to distribute this document 2 weeks prior to the meeting to be attached with the Agenda.

4.4 Major Works/developments Projects Update

Tura Beach

Anthony Basford distributed the new draft plans for the Tura Beach Library. The plans are not approved or finalised but it will give the AAC a good sense of what is proposed. It was noted that the

large carpark to the North of the Library and also the downstairs section of the building is not included in the scope of the project.

The main point of access will be on the Southern side and it is proposed to have accessible pathways from the Eastern car park to the main entrance.

Action: Chris Sparks requested Anthony Basford to investigate the possibility of an accessible car space located outside the Library entrance running parallel to the road.

Imlay Street Eden CBD

Gary Louie distributed plans to be reviewed by the AAC. It was noted that Options B or E are the most preferable options due to pedestrian safety.

Action: Ron Finneran and Colin Dunn will meet Gary Louie at the Eden CBD on Thursday 12 March 2015 at 8:30am to discuss the plans and provide feedback.

The timing for tender on the project is the first week of April 2015 with construction due to start 11 June 2015.

4.5 Lake Curalo Walk Project Eden

Colin Dunn would like the AAC to add this project as an ongoing agenda item so that the committee can monitor its progress.

Cr. Sharon Tapscott advised that it is the responsibility of Council to complete the project and that a co-ordinated approach is required by all community members. Part of this project relates to the pathway being constructed over personal land which requires negotiations with the land owners.

Chris Sparks left the meeting at 1pm.

John Grady added that three bridges need to be built in this project and they all require ground investigation for foundation design.

A public information session that will provide information on this project for all parties involved will be held late March/early April. An invitation will be circulated to the AAC to attend this meeting.

5. General

Accessible Parking Enforcement

Jeff Tipping asked the AAC for feedback regarding non-compliant cars parking in accessible car spaces.

It was agreed by the AAC that it was an ongoing problem especially in holiday season.

Jeff Tipping advised that if there are some concerns about monitoring, the Council rangers can do targeted patrols if required. From February 2015 the rangers will begin to undertake patrols in the undercover car park at Sapphire Marketplace Bega.

Action: Jeff Tipping to organise an awareness campaign across the shire regarding non-compliant cars parking in accessible car spaces, this will include mothers with prams and seniors. Update to be provided at the next meeting.

Acknowledgement – Late Ian Delwood

On behalf of the AAC Ron Finneran would like to acknowledge the passing of Ian Delwood. Ian Delwood was a former Chairman of the AAC and achieved outstanding work over many years.

Ron Finneran has sent a card on behalf of the AAC to his wife Jan Crawford to offer condolences and to wish her all the best for the future.

Bus Shelter – Change of Design

Graham Carmody advised that the Bus Shelter design needed to include a gable roof to improve weather proofing.

Gary Louie advised that a consultant has been engaged to make the changes to the design and will cost approximately \$1,200.

Chairman on Leave

Ron Finneran is on leave from the 16 April 2015 until the end of June 2015. Chris Sparks in his capacity of Deputy Chair will formally take the role as Chair for the period of Ron's leave.

6. Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 1.30pm.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 1 June 2015. It was decided that the next meeting be held at Club Bega.