

# Minutes

## A4A Forum Accessibility for All

Friday 9 June 2017– 10.00am  
Council Chambers, Tasman District Council

### Present

Cr Dana Wensley, Cr Dean McNamara, , Chris Pawson , Megan Bell (Tasman District Council), Deputy Mayor Paul Matheson (Nelson City Council), Mike Stevens, Gill Clayton, (Blind Citizens - Nelson Branch), John Harwood (Nelson Hearing Association), Simon Horrocks (Independent), Ruby Aberhart, Donna Smith, Amanda Stevens (DeafBlind Association), Pam Colman (Greypower)

### Apologies

Marg Parfitt, Jamie McPherson, Dwayne Fletcher, Krista Hobday, Kaye Halkett, Heather Walker, Chris Allison, Paul Richardson, Kate Malcom, Sarah Holman, Jeff Robinson

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### 1. Welcome and Introductions

### 2. Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 10 March 2017

MOVED Ruby Aberhart  
SECONDED John Harwood  
**CARRIED**

### 3. Matters Arising – Action List

- **List of wheelchairs** –Still a work in progress. Ruby advised that the tyres of the wheelchair at the mall were flat. A letter is to be sent to the mall manager advising of this.
- **Mobility taxis in Motueka** – Postal services out for tender again which could mean some movement in the right direction. Cr Wensley will continue to have conversations with the Motueka Community Board and update at the next A4A meeting in September.
- **New Zealand Disability Strategy** – hard copies were distributed to members. Outcome five deals with accessibility and will be an agenda item at the next A4A meeting.
- **Sandwich boards** - This has been moved to Environment and Planning (E&P - Maxine Day). Cr Wensley will write a letter to E&P about the importance of the issue.
- **'Good Access = Good Business'** – Cr Wensley gave a brief introduction about the work that the A4A Forum gets involved with at a meeting organised by Richmond

Unlimited about the Queen Street Upgrade. Look at revising checklist to encourage local businesses to get involved.

#### **4. Correspondence**

Cr Wensley has drafted a letter of thanks to be sent to Judene Edgar

#### **5. Submission – Queen Street 30kmh proposal**

Amanda Stevens advised the group that the hearing in the Council Chambers on the 8 June 2017 provided a good summary and hearing of the submissions.

#### **6. Cycling of Footpaths**

Mike Stevens presented the Blind Citizens New Zealand (Nelson Branch) position on the proposal to have cyclists on footpaths. There were eight points for discussion that highlighted the fact that people should feel safe to use the footpaths and that even young children should not be able to cycle on footpaths unless there is a designated cycle lane.

Amanda Stevens emphasised the point that the only pedestrian refuge are the footpaths, and that people need to be encouraged to get out and about. The footpaths are already hard enough to negotiate without even more traffic on them.

It was agreed that that Plunket should be invited to attend these meetings to provide their view on these matters.

An invitation will also be sent to the new consumer representatives on the health board to provide information on what workshops are available to mobility scooter users, as they also pose a threat to pedestrians in terms of safety. A discussion followed in regards to having yearly licenses for mobility scooter users, as peoples health can change so rapidly.

This issue can also form some of the discussion around Outcome five of the Disability Strategy which will be an agenda item at the September meeting.

#### **7. ‘Good Access = Good Business’**

Gill Clayton presented feedback on the current brochure on behalf of the Blind Citizens New Zealand (Nelson Branch).

Gill emphasised the importance of how the information would be delivered to businesses, and suggested that it needs to be more ‘techno-savvy’, simple, and ‘punchy’ in order to appeal to business. Having a good website would mean that it can be updated easily, the information is ‘live’, interactive and can be measured.

Gill pointed out the website ‘Be Accessible’ has nothing linked to Nelson businesses, and Richmond is not even an option on it.

Amanda Stevens suggested having simple suggestions for business such as ‘look at the customer when talking to them’, and other hints that can make their business more accessible.

Members agreed it would be good to organise a combined meeting with the Tasman District Council, Nelson City Council, Richmond Unlimited, Our Town Motueka, Nelson Business Trust and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss getting business actively involved.

## **8. Queen Street Upgrade – Update**

Cr Wensley presented an update on behalf of Jeff Robinson.

The update presented the design for features on top of the street, referring to the design for outside the Richmond Library as an example.

Members were concerned about the design of the benches (which have already been made) and asked for confirmation of the design.

The location of mobility scooter parking was also discussed. Ideally, members wanted parking at the front of the library, but as there is to be a sculpture installed at that location, parking will be at the back of the Richmond Library. This is proposed to be next to the ramp, in a 'safe-zone' from other traffic.

## **9. Mobility Scooters – Charging facilities**

Pam Coleman (Greypower) led the discussion on mobility scooter charging stations throughout the region. Pam is in the process on gathering information on the best place for these facilities to be.

The plug units cost around \$200.00, and then around \$0.20 for 15 minutes of charging. There is one located at a café in Brightwater and in Tahunanui. Greypower is in the process of liaising with NCC about possible locations.

Deputy Mayor Matheson advised he would get in contact with Pam so that these facilities could be included in the street design for Stoke.

## **10. General Business**

**AA Senior Driver Course** – Ruby Aberhart shared her experience of undertaking the AA Seniors Driving Course, which is free for AA members over the age of 74. She advised members that this is an excellent course and it should be shared with the Positive Aging Forum, and also could be shared in the 'Mudcake and Roses' publication.

<http://www.aa.co.nz/drivers/fully-licensed-drivers/aa-senior-driver/>

**Barrier Audit - NCC public toilets** - Donna Smith advised that she has been engaged by the Nelson City Council to carry out a 'barrier audit' on all the public toilets in the Nelson City area. Donna asked for members to send through any comments members have about these toilets through to Megan Bell who will collate and pass back to Donna.

**Symptoms of a heart attack** - Deputy Mayor Matheson discussed the issue of men not ringing 111 when they may be having a heart attack. This information comes from the Heart Foundation. The message needs to be circulated that it is ok to call 111, and how to recognise the symptoms of a heart attack.

**Meeting closed 12.05pm**